THANK YOU
I have been absent for the past fortnight on personal leave. It’s great to be back and my thanks are extended to Sandra Mc Crum for her excellent leadership of our school in my absence.

ADVICE FOR UNEXPLAINED STUDENT ABSENCES
As of next Monday we will be implementing the new DET Notification of Student Absences Guidelines. Parents and guardians will be contacted via an sms message from us informing them that their child is absent on that day if we have not received notification of their child’s absence by 10.00am. Parents and guardians are then required to contact us with an explanation via the Parent Portal on Sentral, a phone call to our office staff or by letter to their child’s class teacher the next day.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ’s)
Q. What happens when students leave their bikes or scooters at school overnight?
A. We relocate the bikes and scooters from the bike shed to the main building for safe keeping. We do this because were we to leave the bikes in the bike shed overnight, even though the bike shed would be locked experience tells us that the likelihood that the bikes and scooters would be a target for vandals is very high. Incidentally, we have noted an increase in the number of bikes and scooters being left at school overnight recently. We do remind the children that they should be riding home on their bikes or scooters rather than leaving them behind and escorting every child to the bike shed after school is impractical and shouldn’t be necessary. Relocating them to the main building overnight is quite most inconvenient and your support in following up with your child on this would be greatly appreciated.

QUOTABLE QUOTE
‘Discontent too often needs little temptation’  
Henry Grossek
DIARY DATES

Monday 21st May -
Wednesday 23rd May  Grade 5 Camp - Sovereign Hill

Wednesday 23rd May  BLPS Open Night 6 - 8pm

Wednesday 30th May -
Friday 1st June  Grade 6 Camp - CYC City Camp

Wednesday 6th June  Step into Prep information evening 7pm

Thursday 21st June  State School Spectacular rehearsal

Wednesday 18th - Friday 20th July  Prep - Grade 2 Swimming Program
Wednesday 25th - Friday 27th July  Prep - Grade 2 Swimming Program

Thursday 16th August  State School Spectacular rehearsal

NOTICES DUE BACK

Friday 18th May  Prep - Grade 2 Swimming program
Tuesday 22nd May  Grade 6 Open Night School Tour Guide

HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER?

Please ensure you let the school office know if you have changed address or updated mobile phones with new numbers. This information alleviates stressful situations for students when they are ill and we cannot contact parents.
WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY – FRIDAY 18th MAY

Tomorrow is National Walk Safely to School Day. This is an annual national event when all Primary School children are encouraged to walk and commute safely to school. Families who live too far away to walk are encouraged to park their car away from the school and walk part of the way to the school. It is important to encourage healthy habits in our children from a young age and modelling safe behaviours when travelling to and from school is a great idea. We should support our children to develop the vital road-crossing skills they will need, as they become mature pedestrians. Walking helps reduce car dependency habits that are created at an early age and difficult to change as they become adults. It also reduces the level of air pollution created by motor vehicles and lessens traffic congestion around the school. The Junior School Council is encouraging everyone to recognise this day by wearing active clothing and a gold coin donation will go towards supporting our sponsor child Amira.

OPEN NIGHT – WEDNESDAY 23rd MAY 6pm – 8pm

We welcome all families to attend Open Night next Wednesday evening and enjoy looking in classrooms, talking to teachers and sharing activities with your child. There will be art activities, Zance, radio show, mindfulness activities, musical instruments to play, games to challenge students, Chinese activities and many more things to enjoy. Our grade 6 leaders will be available to take families on tours. We invite everyone to come and see our wonderful school.

NAPLAN

This week our grade 3 and 5 students completed NAPLAN. NAPLAN is a snapshot on the day of students learning in Literacy and Numeracy. NAPLAN does not measure how great they are achieving in the Arts, Science, and Humanities or how kind, responsible and friendly they are with their peers, all of which are an important part of children’s learning development at school. We value and promote all qualities and abilities across our school and always encourage our students to do their best and celebrate all achievements. Results for NAPLAN will be available later in the year.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Andrew Drake, a dad at our school for updating our advertising signs for both Step into Prep and Open Night. We appreciate all assistance families give to the school.

GRADE 5 CAMP

On Monday, our grade 5 students will head off to Ballarat for their two night camp. We look forward to hearing about their wonderful experiences at Sovereign Hill upon their return on Wednesday.

E-SMART

As our students are using more digital technology at home and at school, it is important to be very careful about what information they are seeing and making sure that the students do not give out personal information.

Personal information that should not be given out includes:
· Full names of themselves and family members
· Home Address
· Phone numbers
· Date of birth
· Passwords

Students are also reminded to not go onto websites or programs that they are not familiar with. If they do come across these programs while online, they are advised to ask any parents or teachers for help. Thanks to Mrs. Maloney for this e-smart report.

Sandra McCrum and Angela Maskery.
Walk to School day

Walk to school Day

On the 18th of May, it is National Walk to School Day. We would like all students to bring a gold coin donation to support our Sponsor Child, Amira and wear your sport clothes. Make sure it’s sun smart though! Students will play games with their buddy grades throughout the day.

Where:
When: 18th May 2018
Who: All grades P-6
Why: To raise funds for Amira

~D ~ JSC ~ EVENT ~
CommBank’s School Banking program is available at your school.

Ensure your child starts two great journeys at once.

For more than 85 years, the School Banking program has been providing a fun, interactive way for Australian children to learn about the value of money and smart saving. As your child’s school participates in School Banking, CommBank also provides your school with fundraising support.

To be involved, all your child needs is a Youthsaver account. They can then make regular deposits at school on School Banking day and be rewarded along the way with our exciting Rewards Program. They can also keep track of their savings and more with the CommBank Youth app, available to download from the App Store.*

Get ready for your child to meet the Dollarmites and start saving with School Banking when they start school.

To find out more about the program, visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking
Three ways to open a Youthsaver account for your child.

1. Apply online at commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

2. Log on to the CommBank app (if you bank with CommBank)
   Head to the menu on the top left corner, select ‘Products and offers’, then ‘Bank accounts’ and ‘Student and youth accounts’, scroll down to ‘Kids’ and tap ‘Open account’.

3. Visit any CommBank branch

What you’ll need

We will need to see personal identification for you and your child. You can use a birth certificate, passport, driver licence or citizenship certificate.** If applying in branch, please bring along your child’s birth certificate and/or any applicable Court Order to help us identify you as the parent or legal guardian.

Your child will receive a Dollarnites deposit wallet when you open a Youthsaver account in branch, or in the mail if opened online or via the CommBank app. They will use this wallet to make their School Banking deposits.

Things you should know: *The CommBank Youth app is available to download on any iOS device 9.0+ from the App Store. Your child will need a NetBank client number and password to log on to the app. You can set this up when applying for a new account. Existing customers simply visit a CommBank branch with identification for you and your child’s birth certificate, or if you can see your child’s account in your NetBank or CommBank app, visit commbank.com.au/youthsav and follow the steps.
**The Bank will accept one of the following documents as acceptable identification on its own. Please note citizenship certificate can only be used as identification in branch. Birth certificate or the birth extract issued by an Australian state or territory. Birth certificate issued by a foreign government, the United Nations (UN) or an agency of the UN. Citizenship certificate issued by the Commonwealth. Citizenship certificate issued by a foreign government. Note: if written in a language not understood by the person carrying out the verification, the document must be accompanied by an English translation from either a translator at the level of Professional Translator (or above) currently accredited by the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI) or another accredited translator who currently holds an equivalent accreditation. NAATI is the Australian government owned National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters. Where a parent/legal guardian is a signatory to the child’s account, they are required to be identified to the acceptable identification standard.
As this advice has been prepared without considering your objectives, financial situation or needs, you should, before acting on this advice, consider its appropriateness to your circumstances. Full terms and conditions for the Youthsaver account are available at commbank.com.au and should be considered in any decision about the product. If you have a complaint in respect of this product, the Commonwealth Bank’s dispute resolution process can be accessed on 13 22 21, Commonwealth Bank of Australia ABN 49 123 23 3 124. ADV3066 010118
**Literacy News**

**Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge**

The Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge is now open and Berwick Lodge PS is excited to be participating.

The Challenge is open to all Victorian children from birth to Year 10 in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development. It is not a competition; but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by 7 September 2018.

Children from Prep to Year 2 are encouraged to read or ‘experience’ 30 books with their parents and teachers. Children from Year 3 to Year 10 are challenged to read 15 books.

All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and can choose to have their name included on the online Honour Roll. If you would like your child’s name to appear on the Honour Roll, please sign the P-2 or 3-6 forms distributed this week and return it to school.

To read the Premier’s letter to parents, view the booklists and for more information about the Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge, visit: [www.education.vic.gov.au/prc](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/prc)

**Mark Carthew**
BLPS Literacy Coordinator
“Being raised in greener neighborhoods may have beneficial effects on brain development”

A report titled “Being raised in greener neighborhoods may have beneficial effects on brain development” has been published on the science daily website. The new study shows for the first time that exposure to green space during childhood is associated with beneficial structural changes in the developing brain. The study conducted showed that children who attended schools with higher outdoor greenspace had a greater increase in working memory and a greater reduction in inattentiveness than children who attended schools with less surrounding greenness. To read the whole study report please follow the link:

https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/02/180223100626.htm

WANTED: Timber sleepers for garden boxes.
Do you have any timber sleepers that you no longer require? We are planning to replace some of the garden boxes in the community garden and require timber for the box edges. If you know of a business that may be able to assist or if you have some you no longer need, please come and speak to Mrs. McCrum.

Happy Gardening,
Mrs McCrum

PFA News

Thank you

A big shout-out to all the parents who came along to help-out at last week’s Mother’s Day stall! We had over 30 parents on hand to organise the class groups, label gift bags, manage the stalls and clean up, and together we put on a really fun and well organised event for the students. The stall was also a lovely informal opportunity for parents to meet and connect – there were lots of laughs from the grown-ups too!

A special thanks to the awesome PFA team (Jade, Kellie, Mel, Hannah, Nicky & Colleen) for all their work planning the event, preparing the gifts and running around on the day. An extra big thanks goes to the fabulous office staff who sent out forms, received payments and juggled schedules to make the event happen. This year the Mother’s Day stall raised over $900 for the school!

At our next PFA meeting on Monday 18 June @ 9:30am (after morning assembly, in the staff room) we will start to plan the Father’s Day stall. All parents are welcome! If you enjoyed helping out at the Mother’s Day stall or have any ideas or feedback about it, it would be great to hear from you!

See you there.

Christine
PFA President
OSH and what it means to Camp Australia

Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) can be a vitally important program for children and families who need affordable care. OSHC makes it possible for parents to work or attend to other commitments, secure in the knowledge that their children are being cared for by qualified educators in a safe and supportive environment.

All OSHC services must meet the stringent requirements set out in the Education and Care Services National Act and Regulations, as well as the National Quality Standard. This ensures that the OSHC curriculum enhances learning and development outcomes for each child, specifically in relation to their identity, connection with community, wellbeing, confidence as learners and effectiveness as communicators.

But that doesn’t mean that every activity or program should be scheduled. Having already spent the day in a classroom, kids need some space to explore their own interests – sports, craft or cooking – rather than being taught more information (unless there’s homework your child needs help with!).

At Camp Australia, we know that the time spent at OSHC is a time for possibilities. Every session is guided by the children’s interests and reflects their dreams and imagination.

It’s a time to form friendships outside their immediate classmates, to grow and learn, or to try something new. All the programs at Camp Australia are offered onsite, so your kids can leave the classroom and be playing soccer, eating a healthy snack or learning how to play a board game within minutes of the bell ringing.

Our program also promotes cooperation, support and respect. The stakes may not feel as high as they do in school. As a result, they may be more willing to try new things or start a conversation.

Program details

We’re here to make Outside School Hours Care the best experience possible for your child.

To find out more about our program, view fees and to register visit www.campaustralia.com.au

From the Team at Camp Australia
COMMUNITY ADVERTISING

Officer Pony Club!

Interested in joining a Pony Club? At Officer Pony Club we provide a great day out for you and your pony/horse. Come and experience the fun and exciting things to do with your pony/horse which includes: Instruction, games, cross-country, and much more. Come and see our club on the first Sunday of every month (excluding January), you are more than welcome to "come try & ride" to see if you like it. Memberships are now available.

Riders of any age & ability welcome.
Address: Brown Road Officer.
Inquiries Diane Pogger, 0414 311 128

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Styling Avenue are a property styling/staging business located in Berwick and happy to service neighbouring suburbs.

We have the expertise and resources to transform your home to create a wonderful 1st impression and present it at its best. We can help you prepare your home for sale to achieve the best possible price in the shortest possible time. Research shows that the majority of buyers shortlist the properties to visit via the internet. Therefore it is important that your home presents well in photographs to attract as many potential buyers as possible. Both Cluttered and empty homes make rooms appear smaller. The right furniture choices and placement can make all the difference when it comes to attracting potential buyers. At Styling Avenue we are not about showcasing our furniture or styling skills but we use both of these elements to showcase YOUR property.

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Carolyn Mehr

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