PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

INTRODUCTION OF ONLINE PARENT PERMISSION FOR EXCURSIONS
The online world is rapidly becoming the norm and the next step for our school is the introduction of online parent permission for children to attend excursions. We hope to start with this next week, with parents being notified by email in advance of the excursion, and will contain a link which provide direct access to the parent portal on Sentral and where you will be required to tick the appropriate approval box. We understand that there may well be teething issues with the introduction of a new procedure. Should you have any queries or issues please do not hesitate to contact our office staff who will be pleased to assist you.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS
We will be conducting our first school council meeting for this year on Monday 18th February 2019 in our conference room from 7.00pm. Following this meeting, as the Returning Officer for school council, will be conducting the school council election process in the following 4-week period. We will have a number of parent representative vacancies and DET (staff) representative vacancies too. Please give consideration to nominating for one of these parent vacancies. School council serves a most important role in policy and direction. Please do not hesitate to contact any of our school councillors, including me – we will be only too pleased to provide you with information about the role of a school councillor and how council operates. Please feel most welcome to attend our next school council meeting as an observer if you wish – I do ask that you contact our office staff in the event that you will be attending so as to allow us to make suitable arrangements.

Continued...
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ’s)

Q. How will I be notified regarding forthcoming excursions if the school doesn’t have an email address for me?

A. Don’t worry – we will pick this up when we are emailing parents in the coming weeks and will contact you.

QUOTABLE QUOTE

‘A pebble thrown into a pond creates a ripple just as a rock thrown into a river makes a splash. Then what?’

Henry Grossek

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 12th February       Student Information Discussion Meetings
Wednesday 13th February    Student Information Discussion Meetings
                            (Bookings via the parent portal from 10am on Monday 4/2/19 &
                            close at 10am on Tuesday 12th February 2019)
Tuesday 12th February       Book Fair
Wednesday 13th February     Book Fair
Thursday 14th February      Book Fair
Monday 25th February        2019 Swimming Carnival Trials
Friday 8th March             Curriculum free day
Monday 11th March           Labour Day public holiday
Thursday 14th March         School Photographs

NOTICES DUE BACK

Friday 8th February         2019 Swimming Carnival Trials

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.
SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL
Already we have noticed a number of children arriving at school well before the school starting time of 9.00am. A reminder to parents that the best time for their children to arrive is between 8.45 and 8.55am, when the teaching staff are on duty supervising the yard. Some students are also remaining in the school grounds until late in the afternoon. Parents are reminded that the yard is supervised by staff between 3:30 and 3:45pm after school. Students in the playground outside supervision times are at risk. If it is necessary for children to be at school either early or late, then parents should consider enrolment in the OSHC Program or make other arrangements.
If for any reason your child has not been picked up by 3:45pm they will be directed to the front office area where they must wait until they are collected. These measures are not meant to cause any inconvenience, they are for the safety and security of all of our students. Children are welcome to play on their allocated playground when they arrive at school in the morning, or if they are waiting to be picked up after school. They should not be playing on the playgrounds of other levels during the hours of teacher supervision. (8:45am to 3:45pm) Parents are welcome to supervise their children playing on the other playground areas outside these hours. Staff on duty have been instructed to enforce these rules with students during their yard supervision times.

DOGS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS
It is great to see many families taking advantage of the nice weather and walking to school with their children. We remind all families that if you are walking with a dog, please remain outside the school grounds with your pet. We don’t allow dogs to be on the school grounds for the safety of all children and parents. If you do tie your dog up, please ensure that it is well away from a school entrance and our students still have safe access to our school grounds.

CHESS CLUB
Our Chess club is due to start on Monday 11th February. The chess club is run by a professional chess player who teaches the students a range of strategies regardless of whether they are a beginner or more experienced chess player. They learn how to play chess in a fun and engaging way and make new friends at the same time. Chess is great for developing thinking and mathematical skills, resilience, persistence and strategies. All students are able to join the chess club. The program runs for 8 weeks this term during lunchtime and costs $120. If you would like your child to participate, please sign them up via the link: http://ku.zone

MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT
Meet the teacher nights are on Tuesday 12th February 4pm – 8pm or Wednesday 13th February 4pm – 6pm. If you haven’t booked in a time to meet your child’s teacher, we encourage you to do so unless you have already met your teacher at another time. Bookings can be made via the parent portal: https://sentral.berwicklodgeps.vic.edu.au/portal. This is a good opportunity to share information about your child with their teacher.

BOOK FAIR
Our annual school book fair is on Tuesday 12th February, Wednesday 13th February and Thursday 14th February after school in the library. Students have visited the book fair with their class teacher prior to the event and will be bringing home a ‘wish list’ this week. This is a great opportunity for students to select their own books and enjoy reading for pleasure. We thank parents in advance for supporting our book fair. A proportion of the sales is given back to the school in ‘books’ for the library.

SAFER INTERNET DAY 2018
Tuesday 5th February was Safer Internet Day. This global event is held annually to promote the safe and responsible use of digital technologies, for children and young people. Our students are regularly reminded about the safe use of computers, in their ICT lessons at school. Parents are encouraged to visit the government e-safety website for information and ideas of how to further educate our children in safe practices when using on-line networks. https://www.esafty.gov.au/
Mr Kelly has developed a safety online website “Web Smart Kids” for teachers and parents. This is a great resource and we encourage parents to have a look. https://www.websmartkids.net/.

Continued...
KIDS ROAR

Kids Roar who ran four sessions for our Prep students last year and a session for our grade one students are running a workshop for interested parents and teachers. See details below:

Protective Behaviours & Responding to a Disclosure Workshop

In association with SECASA and Monash Health for teachers, educators and education support staff

Date: Wednesday 27th February
Time: 4pm – 6pm
Venue: Berwick Grammar School, 80 Tivendale Rd, Officer
Cost: $40

Topics include:
- Protective behaviours education
- Sexual abuse
- Consequences of child sexual abuse
- Child sexualised behaviours – normal v concerning
- Grooming
- Stages of grooming
- Responding to a disclosure

Book at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/protective-behaviours-responding-to-a-disclosure-workshop-tickets-55611720152

Places are limited so book early!

The KidsROAR team are looking forward to working with students, parents and teachers again in 2019 to achieve our mission of keeping kids safe and reducing their vulnerability to abuse.

Sandra McCrum and Angela Maskery
Join the Chess Club!
Build friendships as you build mental muscle

“I love chess club because it’s not just playing chess. We learn different ways of playing chess and find out what chess masters do. We also get bragging rights for being the best chess player in the family!”

Thomas, grade 3/4

Enrol now:
www.ku.zone
CASEY/CARDINIA
INTERSCHOOL CHESS COMPETITION

Take up the gauntlet and show us your best mental jousting moves!

DATE AND TIME:
Friday, 29th March 2019; 9:15am - 2:00pm
Division: Primary

VENUE:
Berwick Primary School

REGISTER HERE
https://tornelo.com/chess/orgs/ku/events/casey-cardinia

How to register
Already have a Tornelo account linked to your school?
Yes - click on the link above
No - please email us at events@kidsunlimited.com.au

Your students are welcome either as a school excursion or accompanied by parents
$24 per student

Upcoming later in 2019
Want to enter a tournament and test out your skills?
Please click link below to see our full calendar of interschool events

Tournament enquiries please email us at
events@kidsunlimited.com.au
call Tim at 0421 164 677

More information on interschool chess
kidsunlimited.com.au/interschoolchess
Welcome back to 2019!
It has been a very hot and dry summer but our school gardens are all looking ok. As I write this, it is lovely to hear the sound of rain on the roof! Our gardens are all in much need of a good soaking rain!

COMPOSTING:
This week our grade 4 students started our composting program across the school. For those who don’t know, each grade has a compost bucket and all food scraps are placed in this and emptied into the community garden compost bins daily. This has cut down on the amount of waste going into our general rubbish bins and it is also creating compost for the garden. Students often enjoy discovering the worms who work in the compost to break down all the food. A compost is a really easy thing to start at home. Find an area in your garden where you can set up a compost. You don’t need to buy a compost product, you can even just have a pile on the ground. Worms will move in and out of the soil to eat the food scraps. If after a week or so, there are no worms, you can buy ‘compost worms’ from Bunnings. You can use recycled timber or other materials to make a structure to house the compost. Ideally, two or three compost bays are great. Start filling one, and then move to the next one and so on. Once your compost system is up and running, you can keep filling one, rest one and utilise the compost within your garden.

Another way to compost if you don’t have room for larger compost bays is to use some large diameter PVC pipe about 50 cm to 1m long. Bury one end in your garden and you can put a cap on the top end. You can place compost directly into this and the worms will break the food scraps down into compost. You do need a few pipes to take most families compostable scraps.

What can you put in the compost?
All fruit and vegetable scraps, most other food scraps including egg shells, coffee granules, and tea leaves, torn up paper, egg cartons, and grass clippings can all be composted. Other garden clippings ideally need to be small in diameter or shredded prior to adding to the compost. Meat scraps and bones are best placed into the rubbish bin.

WHAT TO PLANT NOW?
February and March are still quite warm and productive months in the garden. You can sow broccoli, brussel sprouts, carrot, cauliflower, lettuce, onions, radish, turnip, silver beet, leeks, cucumber, beetroot, oregano, parsley, chives, Pak choy, kale, coriander, cabbage and many more vegetables at this time of the year.

Happy Gardening,
Mrs McCrum
The next P.F.A meeting will be held in the staff room on Monday 18th February 2019 straight after the assembly.

Welcome to the BLPS Parents & Friends Association

COME & JOIN IN!

The PFA is a friendly and relaxed group. Meetings are held during the school day and young children and babies are always welcome. There’s coffee and sometimes cake too!

Come along if you have fundraising or project ideas or if you just want to meet new people or learn more about the school.

We’re here to help parents connect and share ideas, to fundraise, run fun activities and to help improve the school’s programs and facilities.

TO JOIN, fill out a PFA Membership Form at the school office or just come along to the next meeting - our meetings are always advertised in the school newsletter.

5 great reasons to join our PFA!

01
WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE
We help to provide resources that our teachers and students need to do their best work

02
WE RESPECT YOUR TIME CONSTRAINTS
There’s no never-ending time commitment here - an hour or two each term really makes a difference

03
WE HAVE FUN
We achieve a lot, and not everything we do is easy. But we don’t take ourselves too seriously, and we enjoy ourselves as we go

04
WE ARE WELCOMING
To us, there are no ‘outsiders’. We couldn’t be happier to have you onboard!

05
YOUR CHILD BENEFITS
When parents get connected to the school, children feel more comfortable. We try to make school a little more fun too!
CSEF FUNDING

“Application forms for 2019 CSEF payment **ONLY** need to be completed by those families who are new to Berwick Lodge Primary School, have new enrolments in 2019 (eg: new siblings started in 2018) or there is a change in family circumstance (ie: change of name or concession card number). **All other families do NOT need to submit an application if you applied in 2018.** The school will submit this application on your behalf. If you are unsure as to whether you need to apply or not, please do not hesitate to contact us via the school office on 9707 1766.”

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

If you applied for the CSEF at your child’s school in 2018, you do not need to complete an application form in 2019 unless there has been a change in your family circumstance.

You may need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- new student attendance, your child has started or changed schools in 2019 or you did not apply in 2018.
- changed family circumstances, such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2019.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the CSEF visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
You're invited to our Scholastic Beach Book Fair.  
_Catch the Reading Waves!_

Berwick Lodge is turning into fun sun-drenched, sand-filled, shark-infested beach full of hot books, where students can catch the reading waves!

**When:** Tuesday 12th, Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th February

**Time:** 3:30 - 5:30 pm Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th  
3:30 - 4:30 Thursday 14th

**Where:** BLPS Library BER Building  
Students will visit the book fair with their class prior to its official opening to browse the treats on offer and to complete a "wish list".

Every purchase earns rewards for our school.

Thanks so much for your support  
Bree Collinson and Trish Luke
We still have many Asthma Plans and Allergic Reaction Plans outstanding. These forms must be returned immediately to ensure the safe wellbeing of your child. If you have misplaced your form, please call into the office for another one as they must be signed by your doctor and medication must also be handed in.

Canteen News!

Canteen is open on Monday, Wednesday & Friday.

There is a new canteen list for 2019 on the Parent Portal and also on the website so please take the time to look at this as some of the prices have increased.

Secondhand Uniform Shop!

Our second-hand uniform shop will be open on Friday 15th February 2019 from 3.30pm - 3.45pm.

The PFA committee will be meeting to organise the opening dates for the rest of the year and will advertise this in our newsletter soon.
Ballet, dancing, gymnastics, acting, singing, confidence, coordination

Come & try for free!

Contact Sue:
0407 056 801 / sue@regencycalisthenics.com.au
www.regencycalisthenics.com.au
NEW COURSE IS DUE TO START ON FRIDAY 22ND MARCH 2019.

CLASSES START TERM 1 - 2019
BERWICK LODGE P.S
ENROL NOW!

Supporting the community who are returning to Work.

Singies, Mums and Dads are you interested in studying:
• Certificate III in Education Support (Teacher Aide) - CHC30213
This is a nationally accredited course with state funding

All our adult classes are in between school pickup and drop off times.
9:30am-2pm, 1 day per week for 23-25 weeks.

TAmums will support you though your Job prep unit.
This is a community initiative with the help of our Industry expert our Principal at
BRR and TAmums, 5 years in the making to create a multi-skilled teacher aid.

Please follow us on facebook for updates and more info on this course.
https://www.facebook.com/Multi-Lifed-Teacher-Aides.877151738318635/

‘This training is delivered under Victorian and Commonwealth Government funding.
We encourage people with disabilities to access government subsidised training’

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – TEACHER AIDE COURSES

We are very proud to announce that our popular Teacher Aide courses are delivering very good job outcomes for students. Our close working partnership with schools has enabled us to tailor courses to the specific needs of schools in this area. Three prominent education recruitment agencies are providing employment opportunities for our graduates. This is great news and is testimony to the quality of our courses which will multi-skill you in three different areas of employment in schools as a teacher aide – working directly with students supporting their learning, office administration and sickbay duties. We are confident that our courses will give you an edge over applicants for teacher aide positions. Furthermore we will provide you with guidance, following completion of your qualification, to maximise your chances of employment – firstly with the three education recruitment agencies with whom we are already working and in general.
Welcome 2019!

A very warm welcome back to everyone, and a special welcome to families new to the school and our program. We are excited to have you all with us for Term 1 and beyond.

We know how busy yet fulfilling being a parent can be, especially at this time of the school year… that’s why we are here to help! We look after children in the crucial times before school, after school – and between terms too. Our care programs are well-rounded, meaningful and affordable, based on 30 years of experience. Most importantly, while your child is at school and in our care, you know that they are safe.

Register Your Child Now
To attend our care, you must register your child. You can register an account with us at pp.campaustralia.com.au/account/login. Once registered, it’s easy to make bookings and manage your booking options online via our parent portal. If you have an irregular schedule and think that you may need to make changes often and last minute, our Gold Account option provides you with the flexibility to book or cancel up to two hours prior to each session. If eligible, to help you with the cost of child care, you may be entitled to receive the Australian Government Child Care Subsidy.

Program Details
For more information about our programs and fees, you may visit our website www.campaustralia.com.au. If you prefer to speak to us, you can contact our exceptional Customer Care Team that is available to support our families 24 hours a day, 7 days a week - except for National Public Holidays. Alternatively, you’re welcome to visit us in service and chat with our qualified Educators about the Camp Australia program at your child’s school.

We look forward to seeing you and your family soon!

From the Team at Camp Australia

Coordinator:  
Phone:

Safety • Meaningful • Innovative • Leadership • Education
we make kids smile
COMMUNITY ADVERTISING

Friendship Day!

Term 1 is all about making new friends.

For many children, starting school may also involve starting Outside School Hours Care. This major milestone is an exciting time for many children and their families, but we also acknowledge that it can also be an uncertain time as well.

This is why we’ve created Friendship Day, so we can encourage and support children to form friendships right from the start of the school year.

Come and join us on Friendship Day. Children will get to unlock their likes, share their stories and take part in engaging group activities to help them create and celebrate new friendships.

When - Thursday 14th February 2019
Where - Your child’s school OSHC room.
How to register - You must be registered to attend. Registration is FREE!

You can register an account via our website pp.campaustralia.com.au/account/login. Once registered, it’s easy to manage your bookings online via our parent portal. Select the Thursday 14th February 2019 and secure your child’s spot for Friendship Day. We always recommend making your bookings in advance.

If you would like to learn more about how we operate our OSHC service, please visit before or after school and Rachel the Program Coordinator, will be available to answer any questions.

If you prefer to speak to us, you can contact our exceptional Customer Care team that is available to support our families 24 hours a day, 7 days a week - except for National Public Holidays.

We look forward to celebrating friendship with you!

From the Team at Camp Australia

Safety • Meaningful • Innovative • Leadership • Education
we make kids smile
BLACK SATURDAY
10TH ANNIVERSARY

Remembering the Tragedy of 2009 and Celebrating the Aussie

Saturday 9th February 2019
10.00am

Amberley Park Shopping Centre
Cnr Seebeck Drive and Ormond Road Narre Warren South
Memorial Park Bench Area — Opposite IGA

All members of the community, family, friends, bereaved, volunteers are invited to come along to reflect on how far we have come since the Black Saturday tragedy.
A special memorial Ginkgo Biloba Tree will be planted behind the Memorial park bench which will in future provide a sheltered spot for members of the community to sit and reflect.

Special thanks to Hampton Park Community House, Seebeck Developments and Affirm Welding for their support
Net Set GO
Narre North Foxes Netball Club

PROGRAM DATES: Monday afternoons
18th February – 17th June

LENGTH of PROGRAM: Term 1 and 2, 2019

TIME: 4.15pm Mondays

AGE GROUP: 5-10 years old, suitable for both girls and boys

COST: Netball Victoria Registration $66
Program Cost $100, participants receive a Netball Victoria Participant pack & Narre Foxes Drink Bottle

WHERE: Kalora Park, Fox Road Narre Warren North 3804

Net
For ages 5-6 and teaches fundamental motor skills through dance, music and game

Set
For ages 7-8 and focuses on refining fundamental motor skills and introducing modified netball matches

GO
For ages 9-10 and focuses on developing netball specific skills through modified netball matches

Net Set GO is a fun, safe, social and active program for girls and boys aged 5 to 10, providing kids with a positive introduction to netball and teaching them the basic skills

For any questions or more information, please email Narre Foxes Net Set Go Coordinator Mel Allen on foxesnetball.netsetgo@gmail.com or call 0425862495