Welcome to this week’s edition of the Valley View

Education Week is a great time to find out more about kindergarten programs and government schools and the many opportunities they offer to Victorian children. From 20-26 May 2012, kindergartens and government schools will open their doors to parents and their communities through information nights, open days, student displays, performances and other special events that showcase their programs and achievements.

At BVPS we always look forward to Education Week as we see it as an opportunity for us to further engage parents and families in the learning of their children. In coming editions of The Valley View we will share some information on our education week activities that promise to be both fun and educational.

We readily recognise that families are the first and most enduring influence on a child’s development and play an important role in a child’s learning. Developing strong skills in reading, writing and maths is critical to ensure your child’s success in early learning and beyond. I have included some helpful suggestions on how you as the parents can assist in improving your child’s learning.

1. Share rhymes and songs and encourage your child to join in.
2. Save safe cardboard and household items for your child to build with. Ask your child to describe what they are building.
3. Have a dress-up box for your child to use for imaginative play.
4. Listen to your child and respond to their ideas with questions and ask for more information.
5. Write down your child’s stories as they tell you and encourage him or her to read it back to you.
6. Point out and talk about letters and words all around you. For example, on cereal boxes, car number plates, signs.
7. Cook simple things together. Read out the recipe, talk through what you are doing.
8. Join a toy library and choose toys together.
9. Look at junk mail and talk about the things for sale.
10. Provide materials and create a writing/drawing table or area.
11. Talk about family photos and histories.

Source: DEECD, 201 Literacy and Maths tips for your child

As some of you may have heard, unfortunately we had a ‘break-in’ in Learning Neighbourhood 2 last night at 10:10pm. We have video footage of two young male suspects as they rode into the school on their scooters at the time of the crime. The police are now obviously involved have managed to lift several promising fingerprints which will no doubt help them in their investigation. The offenders managed to cause some significant damage to the learning space in their 5 minute spree. We will be assisting police in their investigation. If you have any information about this crime please contact the school office.

Until next week,
Andrew Jones
Learning Neighbourhood 1

It has been a short week but a busy one in L1N. The Poetry Writing Club has started with acclaimed author and educator Barry Dickens. This program will compliment the Literacy program and offer new and exciting ways to writing and experience literature. The students all enjoyed the Auskick clinic on Thursday, they were able to practice their kicking and catching skills and played some great games with four experienced Auskick trainers.

All students are thoroughly enjoying learning about mini beasts and small creatures. Thanks to Tyrone who brought in some slaters from home which are now happily living in our Learning Neighbourhood. We encourage other children to bring their own little creatures in for the other children to see, however the creatures need to be in a closed container with a few air holes.

We are currently organising an excursion connected to our Enrichment topic to occur in late May. Your child will be receiving more information about this exciting event in the coming weeks.

There are many Students who have not yet returned their Premium Reading Challenge and Food Tasting and Cooking consent forms. Please return these ASAP to your child’s home group teacher.

Next Tuesday’s specialist: The students in grade Prep have Art. The students in the Laughing Lions group have Music and the students in Amazing Ants have PE.

Reminder: Book Bag order form and payment, art smocks, tissues, head lice hair check.

Laugh, Read, Count.
Learning Neighbourhood One Team.

Learning Neighbourhood 2
This week in L2N we have reflected on what ANZAC Day means and why it is an important day on our calendar. We have taken the time to think about the people who have fought for our country and how proud we are to live in Australia.

In Literacy this week, the students are exploring a variety of text types, including information texts. Persuasive texts continued to be the focus of our writing sessions. Some students have distinguished between facts and opinions and they have attempted to include facts and opinions in their own persuasive texts.

The learning in Numeracy sessions this week has involved multiplication and shapes. The students have focused on using a range of strategies to complete problems and explain how the problems were solved.

During our Enrichment sessions, Plants in Action, the students have explored broad beans seeds. Some students used magnifying glasses to assist with describing the dry and soaked broad bean seeds. The creative side of our students have come to the fore with the making of paper daffodils to add to our Neighbourhood display.

Physical activity has been a big feature in L2N this week. It continues each Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, rain, hail or shine. During Term 2, the students in 3/4 C will be participating in tennis lessons each Friday on the basketball court. 3/4S and 3/4F will have their tennis fun in terms 3 and 4. We might discover the next Roger Federer or Kim Clijsters! On Friday 23rd of May, 18 of our L2N students will represent BVPS at the cross country events at Westmeadows. We wish all the students in L1N and U3N all the best for their events.

Reminder: Home readers should be read each night and returned to school the following day. Maths homework will be handed out each Friday and is to be returned to their Maths teacher by the following Thursday.

Learning Neighbourhood 3 Team

Learning Neighbourhood 3
This week in the world of L3N, students are observing and recording the decay of daily foods and fast foods such as Mac Donald’s for their enrichment topic. Students investigated the conditions of microorganisms in the foods and will continue to do so over the coming weeks.

AFL

We are excited to announce that the Jacana Football Club will be running an after school AFL program here at the Broadmeadows Valley Primary School Oval every Thursday day. The sessions will be run by a mixture of experienced and developing coaches and it will be available to all students from Prep to Year 6.

Students will be asked to pay $20 to sign up for the whole term and they will receive an AFL Auskick pack valued at over $160.

Students can register on the night and we will be kicking off next week on Thursday 3rd May at 3:40pm

Mother’s Day Stall

The Parents and Friends will be holding a Mother’s Day stall on Friday May 11th. Start saving your pocket money so you can buy a lovely gift for mum on this day. Items will cost between $2 and $10.

Times for the grades to buy will be announced at a later date.

Jacana FC / AFL Auskick Program

Chris Rose has lost his jacket. It has his name on it. If your child has accidentally taken the wrong jacket home, could you please return it to the school.
Breakfast Club Maths Project

Costco
Last Friday, the 20th of April, four students from Mrs Cecchini's maths group were picked to go on a trip to Costco with Ms. Bianco. The students were Christopher, Nikita, Marli and Lexy. We were going to buy groceries for our Breakfast Club. In maths we had been studying money and adding totals. We also used calculators, especially the Memory function to help us add up the cost of the groceries.

Costco was located in the Docklands. We all thought it was a great way to start a new semester of maths. We had to estimate how much money we were spending and how much the total spending would be.

It was a great day and on the way back to school we stopped and had lunch with Ms. Bianco.

Thanks Ms. Bianco for taking us out shopping with you!

By Lexy and Marli.

Valley Kids Playgroup

Valley Kids Playgroup is on the lookout for new parents and their children to join the group.

It's on every Tuesday and Wednesday mornings 9.00am – 11.00am in the Playgroup Room at the Early Learning Centre. The sessions are timed for parents to drop school aged children at school then come over.

Valley Kids offers friendship, active play and a range of fun experiences for adults and children aged from babies to pre-school.

Enrolment forms are available at the school office, or meet with Sam Yehia and the group over at the Early Learning Centre, Johnstone St.