Hello everyone,

I know I say it in every newsletter, but it is the end of another very full week of learning at BVPS. The long weekend was certainly enjoyed by everyone I spoke with but it becomes a distant memory and the focus for us here at school is about student achievement and how best to improve this. The focus of teacher learning in every neighbourhood is varied and directly links with the needs of the students; however as a whole school we are investigating the most efficient and powerful way to use our data. It is with this in mind and to support the work in our Annual Implementation Plan that sees us working closely with an Assessment expert by the name of Michael Francis. Michael will work with us to professionally develop our understanding about the best use of data and how to maximise its impact for student learning. Michael is a retired principal and has had a very interesting career working in Africa, Cambodia and throughout our country. He works closely with and supports the work of Professor Patrick Griffin who holds the Chair of Education (Assessment) at the University of Melbourne and is Director of the Assessment Research Centre. It is an incredibly privileged opportunity for us to be working with Michael and we look forward to sharing with you the outcomes of this learning.

As you know NAPLAN testing is conducted annually and these tests are conducted Australia-wide for students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9. They are a “snapshot” of how a student achieves on that 40 or 50 minute test on the test day. As parents would be aware, this may or may not be an accurate assessment of a students’ overall achievement. At school, we conduct a number of assessments throughout the learning to give both parents and teachers a more accurate view of how each student is learning. Teachers and students are responsible for setting goals and by working together they are able to determine what the student is ready to learn in order to make progress. Collaboration between teachers encourages the use of assessment data and teams are able to determine the interpretation of this data to inform and plan for student learning.

NAPLAN testing will be conducted on the following dates:

10th May
Language Conventions & Writing

11th May
Reading

12th May
Numeracy

At BVPS we are committed in ensuring that our students are adequately prepared to successfully participate in this testing. Our regular program of learning enables our students to apply their skills in a range of learning experiences. NAPLAN testing is just one example of this.

Today we hosted our inaugural ‘New BVPS families’ morning tea. We would like to take this opportunity to formally welcoming our new families to our beautiful school and thank them for making a very positive decision in their child’s education.

Have a great weekend, see you all bright and ready for learning in Week 4.

Regards Carmela
**LN1**

The last few weeks in maths we have been learning about measurement. We explored measuring different things around the learning space using different items as the unit of measurement – students measured tables with pencils and their feet with unifix blocks. Even Mr Tovey volunteered to be measured! We also compared heights with our classmates and talked about whether we were shorter or taller than a partner.

“We are learning about measuring. I measured Mr Tovey with the unifix blocks and he was 92 unifix blocks long.” – Ninorta

“We measured the whole table using teddies. We had to put them in a line from one side to the other. It was 98 teddies long.” – Blaine

Until next week,
Amy, Wendy, Cyndi, Jamielee and Rob.

**LN2**

Week three may have been a little shorter in duration, but we managed to cram in a whole lot of learning!

We were very excited to welcome Miss Rosie back to the team and keen to show her how we are developing our story telling skills in Literacy.

We have been using a simple format called FIRST, NEXT, THEN, LAST, to plan our own stories and summarise the stories of others. This has helped to focus our wonderful ideas and really think about what the key parts of a story are.

A fun idea to try at home is replacing bedtime stories with verbal stories told using this format. Your child can teach you how to do it!

Sarah, Nicole & Rosie

**LN3**

What a week! LN3 students had to complete the ‘Attitudes to School Survey’ this week providing the school with information about how they see the school, how they see themselves within the school and how the school can better cater to them. It was fantastic to see the students take the survey seriously as the teachers use this information to make changes to their
practice. Camp notes went out to all the students this week. We would love for all the students to attend camp. If you have any questions, please come in and speak to any of the teachers in LN3.

In writing this week, students have been using graphic organisers to write their narratives. The students have really enjoyed the process, writing descriptive settings, providing their readers a strong picture and understanding of their characters and creating really exciting and engaging problems and solutions for their narratives. The students are all proud of their work and have enjoyed sharing their work with their peers. All the teachers have been impressed with the students’ progression in their writing.

In Maths this week, students have been playing dice games to build their understanding of place value. Students have been introduced to new fluency games that have been supporting our work in place value while developing basic number facts and applying them to bigger numbers. Students are encouraged to play ‘Sumdog’ at home to reinforce the work we are doing in class.

In Reading, students have been working on the QAR strategy ‘Think and Search’. This strategy focuses on students’ ability to comprehend what they are reading by using different parts of a text to answer questions. This strategy is a difficult process which is why teachers have been providing different learning experiences using different text types with ranging difficulty. Ask your child to explain the QAR strategies and how it helps with their comprehension.

Finally, we want to congratulate the BVPS football team for their efforts today at the footy gala, congratulate the students who have volunteered to join a lunch time Maths club and all the students for making all the Pre Service Teachers feel welcomed in LN3. The Pre Service teachers have been impressed by the positive attitude and behaviour that is prevalent in LN3.

Have a great weekend
LN3

### Save the Date!

11-12pm, Friday 6th May
**Mother's Day Brunch**
(this year in the Multipurpose Hall)

### Mother's Day Stall

Friday 6th May
Multi Purpose Hall
Gifts $1 - $5

### Conversational English classes

Fridays 9.15 - 11.15am in "The Hub" (LN1)
FREE!

Child minding available

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### Calendar

**Term 2**

**Every Friday**
Conversational English

**PHOTO DAY**

**WEDNESDAY**

**4th MAY 2016**

**Friday 6th May**
Mother’s Day Stall
Mother's Day Brunch

**Birthdays**

Maram H
Samad W
Savio S
Brylee G
Labeeb A
Marvena G
Reminder to all Families

School Levy is now being taken at the office and must be paid in full by the 27th of February. Financial assistance may be available to parents if they meet the criteria. Contact the office for more information. 9309 4066

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. Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or contact the school’s general office on 9309 4066 for more information.

State Schools’ Relief Prep CSEF uniform support

Program background
As part of the Victorian Government’s Affordable Uniform Program, every Prep government school student who is a recipient of the Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF) automatically qualifies for a uniform pack voucher. Each year, State Schools’ Relief (SSR) provides tens of thousands of children with school clothing, shoes and other essential items. For the first time SSR has received government funding so that it can help more families needing financial assistance, and ensure no one is left behind.

Eligibility requirements for CSEF can be found at www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Our Valley Café is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8.00-10.00am. Come and meet Skye, our barista Skye can teach you how to make coffee too!

School Banking Day Reminder

Don’t forget that Tuesday is School Banking day and students should bring in their weekly deposit. For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a silver Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for an exclusive School Banking reward item in recognition of their regular savings habits.

Thank you for supporting the School Banking program at Broadmeadows Valley Primary School