Good afternoon BVPS and welcome to the end of another very productive week.

As I walk around our school site, I can’t help but thinking how fortunate we are to have such a marvellous local environment to learn within. The well-landscaped gardens, native trees and manicured outdoor learning space provide vibrant learning activation points such as the kitchen garden and wetland.

Teaching children about the natural world is not just a nice thing to do - it is vital for the future of our children and the future of all life. Children are naturally curious and open to learning about nature, but in an increasingly urban society we often need to consciously create opportunities to help children bond with nature and learn about the environment.

These days, learning about nature is inextricably tied up with learning about climate change and other environmental problems. Climate change is now the subject of much concern and discussion amongst adults, and is often the subject of alarming and catastrophic news reports in the media. These problems are large, complex to understand, and have the potential to bring up strong feelings like fear, anxiety, frustration, anger or despair in our children particularly.

Sustainability at BVPS involves fostering a community that is educated and cares about the environment, implementing hands on, sensory learning experiences for enlightenment and wonder of the natural world. As part of Broadmeadows Valley Primary School’s environmental commitment we will endeavour to practice and promote Waste Wise initiatives, energy efficiency, reduce water usage, increase biodiversity in the school gardens and encourage community practice in sustainability. We will also include a Sustainability unit of work in our bi-annual Enrichment topics and also in all ‘Key Learning Areas’. We will encourage community participation in all projects undertaken, as well as, invite parents with expertise to help maintain and improve our school environment.

All people within the BVPS community will be informed and responsible for playing a role. The various committees, including Waste Wise will be responsible for keeping records and reporting on the outcomes and progress of each program to the whole school community, through monthly Newsletters and local media. The parties involved will provide reports to staff and School Council outlining the goals, aims, costing, savings and other issues relating to the above programs. Each of the programs will be subject to annual review by the school staff, students and the mighty BVPS School Council.

I encourage you to have conversations with your children about how their learning is currently connecting to the environment and the various activities that they participate in that builds understanding as to how they can make a difference to OUR environment.

In other news... I would like to thank LN3 and LN2 for their participation in the 2015 NAPLAN. We are confident that the information from this assessment program will inform certain aspects of our teaching and learning approach moving forward. It may already have.

Have a great weekend,
Andrew Jones
Newsletter LN1

In Enrichment this week students have chosen a topic from our Inquiry into Wild Weather. These include tornadoes, cyclones, thunderstorms, floods and bushfires.

Last Friday the wonderful BVPS Parent Ambassadors organized a very yummy Mother’s Day Brunch. It was great to see such a turn out of mums and nans enjoying the delicious food and of course, our students were very excited and proud to see them there!

Math's Slide 100 is a very useful app being used in Numeracy groups this term. The app is available at the App store – it is free to download, but will cost $2.49 for full access. Be warned... it is highly addictive!

Just a reminder – some examples of our students learning are available for you to see on our amazing BVPS website - http://www.bvps.vic.edu.au/. Take some time to check out our weather reports, stories and songs!

Next week is Education Week and we would love for our students and their families to get involved, intrigued and inspired by maths. Watch out for your invitation to our 'Crack The Code' Family Fun afternoon, which will be held on Thursday at 2.30pm in LN1.

Until next week...

Jodie, Cyndi, Marija, Amy, Jamielee and Wendy

Newsletter LN2

A fantastic week five in LN2! We are all scientists in LN2. As week 5 comes to a close, everyone in LN2 has had the opportunity to conduct investigations into all areas of science. Last week we explored Chemical Science and tested different materials and considered their possible uses in the real world.

This week was Biological Science and we were able to look at life cycles and observe the features of living and non-living things. Plants were the feature of one experiment around life cycles. However the show was clearly stolen by two new additions to our neighbourhood. Two goldfish enjoyed their celebrity status as we filmed them and observed their behaviours.

In Numeracy this week, we have been looking at how we can use our knowledge of arrays to solve division problems. We are also investigating the link between multiplication and division. So many interesting links we are finding and helping us to solve problems with ease.

Our year 4's have had the opportunity to flex their creative muscles by composing poetry in literacy this week. You are likely to read some wonderful poetry and engaging narratives over the next couple of weeks in LN2!!!
**Newsletter LN3**

This week the Grade 5s completed NAPLAN. The teachers said they were so impressed with how focused the students were and for putting in so much effort.

Interschool Sport is back this week. BVPS have a Rugby, Netball, Handball and Soccer team ready to go. The first opponent is Campbellfield Heights at home, so come on down and support.

LN3 is attending an incursion next Thursday about science. It is called Fissics. All the students are really excited and can’t wait to see smoke, fire and other explosions.

Finally, Grade 6s are reminded to bring back their High School transition forms. They must be handed in by Friday next week. Make sure you don’t forget.

We finally convinced the LN3 teachers to give us a break from persuasive writing. We finally finished our last piece which was a free choice. Everyone has noticed and talked about how much better our writing has gotten and we look forward to continue to write informative writing in many different ways. You could hear a pin drop in LN3 during iRead. Everyone loves it and loves having a choice on what they are reading. We are going to learn about how to make inferences, but to do that first we need to start with making connections with the text in different ways.

Everything is getting measured in LN3. Students are using hands, feet, pencils or anything else to measure. We know that these are informal units. We have been using measuring tapes, rulers and trundle wheels to measure things more accurately. Maths has been fantastic and everyone is learning lots!

Every Friday, 8 students work with Ben in the garden. We have been helping him with planting, feeding the chickens, watering the plants and mulching the garden. We have learned so many different things with Ben. We look forward to seeing his face every week.

That’s all the latest news in LN3!

Madi and Renee

**Calendar Term 2**

**Family Maths Afternoon**

Thursday 21st May

2.30-3.30pm

‘Crack The Code’

Family Fun Afternoon Thursday at 2.30pm in LN1.

LN3 is attending an incursion Fissics next Thursday

**BVPS CAR PARK**

We would like to remind parents not to park in the BVPS CAR PARK to drop off or pick up their children from school. This car park is for the staff of BVPS, HCSC and the SDS. It has very limited parking for the three schools.

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**

Broadmeadows Valley Primary School photos will be taken on **Wednesday the 3rd of June**. Photo envelopes will be sent home with the students next week

**Birthdays**

Mennathalia A
Mother’s Day Brunch!

Some photos from our Mother’s Day Brunch! This event was organized and planned by our Parent Ambassadors group. Our mums & nan’s enjoyed the pancakes, cakes and other food made by our volunteers. BVPS value and appreciate the work that our mothers put into this great event. We thank you for all your support.

Family Maths Afternoon

Parents are invited to come and join the Learning Neighbourhoods for a fun maths afternoon!

Thursday 21st May
2.30-3.30pm

Lots of maths activities, games and puzzles with prizes to be won!