Hello Broadmeadows Valley
P.S.

Those of you that have been up to school this week would have seen the redevelopment of the space near the entrance to Learning Neighbourhood 2. This relatively small plot of prominently positioned land has for the most part been greatly underutilised due to the surface and the lack of shade in summer and shelter in winter. The plan has been to create an area for students, parents and other community members to congregate in pleasurable and central surrounds. This area will be called the Valley Café. We readily recognise that although the school environment - the buildings and facilities - are currently well appointed and in good condition, unless we maintain the current assets we have and continue to build and optimise other spaces, we risk losing the privilege of having one of the very best schools in Victoria. The same theory is extended into the learning and teaching environments - and not just the physical space, but the professional and social interaction that is the foundation of what a school is. Developing teacher quality is the aspect of school improvement that is most important to student learning and achievement. The professional workforce at BVPS is constantly engaged in professional learning and knowledge building. In fact, we have built our entire curriculum and teaching structures around the notion of professional learning for teachers. This way we ensure that every member of the BVPS learning community is a learner – even the teachers!

The partnership between the home and BVPS plays an important part in your child’s education. Positive communication and confidence are critical factors in supporting this relationship. Teaching and learning works best when parents and teachers talk to each other and work together to solve any problems.

If you do have a concern or complaint we encourage you to make contact with your child’s Homegroup Teacher or Neighbourhood Leader to discuss the matter. These are the people that know your child best. You may wish to talk about the problem with the Learning Neighbourhood team by telephone or you can make an appointment to meet allowing time to discuss the issue in detail. At BVPS we find that most problems can be solved this way.

Plan what you will say so you can clearly explain what the problem is. You might want to make some notes to help you. Have some ideas about how the problem could be resolved realistically. Working with your child’s teacher can clarify the situation and identify various ways your concerns can be addressed.

If you need an interpreter, Lindy or Jen in the office can help to arrange this – please ask beforehand.

Staying calm and clear about your concern helps you and school staff to discuss the situation and settle on an option or resolution that supports your child’s education. If you still have a concern after talking to your child’s teacher or if your concern is about the conduct of a member of staff or another aspect of the school that is impacting on your child, you may want to speak to the Assistant Principal, Ms Carmela Bianco or even me.

Carmela and I need time to discuss your concern with relevant personnel; however we will keep you updated on the progress of your enquire. Please note that all enquiries or concerns are managed by BVPS in accordance with the parent complaints policy and processes of the Department.

Have a great week.

Andrew Jones
LN1 Bugs Alive News!

We welcome Sarah Cusworth to the LN1 team this week, whilst Wendy Cecchini is off traveling through Italy with her family during her long service leave. Sarah will be in 1/2C for the remainder of this term and is already a great new addition to our neighbourhood.

This week we had our ‘Minibeasts Wildlife’ incursion. Students were able to consolidate their understandings of the needs of living things. The students were fully engaged and enjoyed the rich experience of touching, holding and viewing many strange and wonderful creatures. Although this was an incursion that focused on our enrichment curriculum, the rich vocabulary added to the learning of literacy.

Today we are going to learn about mini-beasts. We will find out about bugs, spiders and insects.

- Gurshift (1/2G)

My favourite animal was the cockroach, this one was bigger.

-Sidra (Prep)

Some mini-beasts. The slug was watery and the slug doesn’t have a shell like a snail. My favourite mini-beast was the stick insect. The rainbow beetle was also my favourite. – Sladjana (1/2B)

I held the stick insect on my hand. It was pointy.

-Jo Jo (Prep)

The mini-beasts were so fun, they were cool. The spider was my favourite because it was big.

- Quinton (1/2C)

Currently our students are investigating the question ‘Can BVPS have chickens?’ The students are taking this inquiry question very seriously, considering all the needs of chickens and ways our school could meet these needs. The thinking, wondering, questioning and problem solving taking place in LN1 at present is very rich, because the learning relates to real life!

Jodie, Daniel, Amy, Marija, Paula, Jamieleee, Sarah and Laura.

Learning Neighbourhood 2

In enrichment, our thinking is broadening as we start to explore and consider the things that we can do for the sustainability of biodiversity. Students were able join a biological area of study and will embark on some investigations, ‘where the sky is the limit’.

Be prepared to hear all there is to know about being a mammologist, herpetologist, entomologist and aquatic biologist.

Literacy

Literacy has been heating up as we finalise our persuasive arguments and begin to delve into information reports. The information reports are going to support our studies in enrichment and will be learning about animals. In reading we are going to be looking at how asking questions helps our reading.

Maths

In maths, we are learning multiplication and division through stories and creating arrays. We are finding multiplication in many areas of our world including picture story books, gardening and shopping. What maths stories can you find together at home?

Nathan Gage, Nicole Cromie, Krystina Simpson, Rob Pain, Nicole O’Meara, Karen Larkin.
Learning Neighbourhood 3

We are over half way through Term 2! The year has been flying and the kids are being exposed to new and different learning every day. This will be our last week of interschool practice before the games begin next week. We are inviting all parents to attend our round two matches against Coolaroo South at BVPS. The games begin at 9:30am. Thank you to all the parents that have come in and visited the teachers at LN3, asking for different strategies and ideas on how they can help their child improve in all areas of their learning. It means so much to the teachers that you are taking an active part!

In reading this week we are almost at the end of hill climb on our inference hill. Students have been making inferences about characters, settings and significant events in different texts, using the clues from group and individual readings to help gain a stronger understanding, make better predictions and conclusions, and work out the bigger ideas and themes within the text.

In writing, students have been editing and revising their narratives. They have been trying to include their reading concepts into their writing to make their narratives have more depth and more excitement for the reader. Students have been editing each other’s work and giving their peer advice on how they could improve their stories.

During enrichment this week we have continued our ‘Survive or Die!’ unit. This week the focus has shifted to animals. Students have learnt what animals need to survive in their environment and what things they would need to adapt to another environment. Today, students had their first taste of microorganisms as they got to taste different moulds and bacteria using a POE chart. It has been great to see the student’s so excited and engaged during our enrichment lessons.

In maths students have continued to develop their understanding in division, area and perimeter. Next week LN3 will begin its unit on tessellations, symmetry and the rotation of shapes.

Have a great weekend!

Learning Neighbourhood 3
Luke Cripps, Jan Vella, Rosie Strateas, Marty Claybourne and Clinton Youlden

Healthcare Card
Eligibility Date: 28th Jan 2014

EMA Period 2
Eligibility date: 14th Jul 2014

Closing date for parents to lodge EMA application forms: 1st Aug 2014

Only applicable to families who have not lodged an EMA form at the beginning of the year.

Calendar
Term 2

Monday 2
Active After School Program Rugby
3.30pm—4.30pm Preps-3

Wednesday 4
School photos 9am

Thursday 5
Active After School Program Rugby
3.30pm—4.30pm Grade 4-6

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Broadmeadows Valley Primary School photos will be taken on Wednesday the 4th of June. Photo envelopes have been sent home with the students. Family envelopes will also be available at the office from this time. Photos will start at 9am on the dot so please make sure your children are on time and in full school uniform. Thank you.

Birthdays
Ario G
Mason G
Sharni W
From The Environmental Leaders

We’re wanting to have a really clean environment. We want our school yard to be clean so we can play and walk around without rubbish stuck to our feet. Rubbish in our school yard makes people think we don’t care about our yard, our school or our environment.

We want everyone to have PRIDE in our clean yard and our school and our beautiful playground.

So please don’t drop any papers and when we have whole school clean up please try and pick up as much as you can and if you want to earn a raffle ticket there are spare plastic bags in the sick bay. If you ask any of the six Environmental Leaders to get you a plastic bag, then we will do this so you can pick up a bag of rubbish and get a raffle ticket for a prize in the raffle ticket draw at Friday Assembly.

Also we have noticed people walking in the garden beds and we are asking you to walk on the path and not through the gardens.

We are thinking about a plan if there continues to be lots of rubbish in the yard. The plan is if kids are eating and taking wrappers outside then they are going to have to sit in the shade near LN1 while they are eating and put their wrappers away in a bin before going to play. We don’t want to have to do this but we have to have a rubbish free yard.

We are also having a nude food day on Tuesday next week and coming up soon will be a nude food week. Bring all of your food and drinks to school on Tuesday 3rd June in take home containers.

THANK YOU!

Amber, Taylor, Harris, Jemiah, Humza M, Sierra