

Valley View

Good afternoon everyone and welcome to this weeks edition of the Valley View.

Schools have a very important role to play within the community - and not just as a place to help students to develop skills such as reading, writing and arithmetic. Another very important responsibility of any good school is to support the development of social and personal attributes such as resilience, cooperation and responsibility. Schools and teachers often refer to these aspects of the program as Student Wellbeing.

Student Wellbeing suggests the provision of a healthy, supportive, safe and secure environment that promotes the physical, social and emotional wellbeing of each child. It encourages students to develop meaningful relationships, to build strong levels of personal resilience, to act in a responsible way and to feel connected to the school experience and the school community including teachers, peers, parents and members of the wider community. At BVPS we believe that Student Wellbeing is an essential element of a school that demands high standards of student learning.

For example recently, our school launched the **Peer Mediation Program**. The Peer Mediation Program

aims to reduce incidences of bullying by providing a school environment that is positive, caring, safe and friendly. Peer Mediation enables students to resolve low-level conflicts using their peers as mediators. Mediation opens up the communication channels allowing the disagreeing students to discuss their problems and come to a resolution with the guidance of the mediators.

The program aids in the development of improved skills in:

- Communication,
- problem solving,
- conflict management and;
- increased co-operation within the community.

The BVPS Peer Mediators are out and about in our central play space, offering a visible and supportive presence. The Mediators have indicated that they are enjoying their role and the responsibility that comes with it. Other students, particularly younger ones, like interacting with the mediators and having a student-focused process to support positive play.

Our school regularly evaluates its performance in all aspects and the area of Student Wellbeing is no exception. Our Wellbeing data suggests the following:

- Student Wellbeing at BVPS is consistently at or above the state mean
- Students at all grade levels feel safe within the school environment and have a strong connectedness to school
- There a generally high levels of student morale compared to other Victorian schools

We also acknowledge that the following areas require further attention:

- Raising the connectedness of students to their peers and;
- improving student attendance.

We envisage that the Peer Mediation Program will complement what we're already doing to make sure that BVPS remains a healthy, safe and happy school.

Please be advised that there will be two curriculum days on the 26th and 27th of June.

The last day of school for term 2 will be Wednesday the June 25. Students will be dismissed at 2:30pm.

**Kind regards,
Andrew Jones**

LN1 News

Grade 1/2s have been busy drafting, editing and publishing their information books about chickens this week, all in anticipation of the 'Celebration of Learning' day scheduled for Monday 23rd June. One of the big challenges some of our students face is formulating questions as prompts for their information writing, eg. What do chickens eat? The students are now becoming more confident with this type of format.

Preps listened and enjoyed being read the big book 'In My Backyard' and had lots of fun role playing and performing what they like to do in their own backyards this week. This turned in to a great guessing game as others tried to guess what they liked to do. They then went on to write about their favourite backyard activities. This is a great example of how to connect reading, oral language and writing to ensure the student's learning is rich and meaningful.

The grade 1/2s have all participated in play dough making this week as a learning experience and possible prompt for their Writer's Notebook session. Each week students write in their personalised Writer's Notebook, choosing what they would like to write about. The students seem to really enjoy having a choice over their writing and so many of them love to share this writing with the whole class and their teachers. Please feel free to come in to LN1 any time and ask your child to show them their Writer's Notebook.

Our chicken inquiry is continuing with students pondering and working through a range of problems to solve if we are to have chickens at BVPS. The idea is exciting for the students, but the reality of what we need to do is starting to come to the fore as students begin to work through the things we would need to house and keep chickens.

We look forward to meeting parents and caregivers at next week's Parent

Teacher conferences and thank all the parents who returned their notes promptly. Wednesday is still a school day for students and LN1 students will be working with specialists and a range of support teachers whilst home group teachers are talking to parents. See you then!

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

Learning Neighbourhood 2

Small Ways to Make a Big Difference

Our Action Teams for enrichment are preparing some amazing inquiry projects, where they are thinking about small ways they could make a big difference. Their knowledge about how we can work together on sustainability of biodiversity is growing quickly. Come in and have a look at our 'We Need Your Help!' wall in front of the art room in LN2 to see some of the learning being presented.

'To read? Or not to read? That is the question!'



In reading, we have been investigating how asking questions, before during and after reading, helps us understand what we are reading. When you are all reading at home, write down some questions starting with '***I wonder...***'

But wait... There's more!



Our fence around our vegetable garden is taking shape and everyone loved having a go at using some power tools! We are still looking for some awesome home recipes that we could create, at school, using some of the veggies grown right here at BVPS!



Only two weeks until the end of term! Plenty else is happening in LN2, ask your child to take you on a tour of the neighbourhood before or afterschool. Don't forget that parent teacher interviews are happening next Wednesday! You would have received an appointment time this week, you will be greeted by Nathan who will provide you with some information and direct you to your child's teacher.

Nathan Gage, Nicole Cromie, Krystina Simpson, Rob Pain, Nicole O'Meara, Karen Larkin.

Learning Neighbourhood 3

We hope everyone enjoyed the long weekend! This week we teamed up with Hume Central who took us out to their wetlands and showed us some of the micro-organisms in the environment. They then took us to their science labs and showed us how to use a microscope properly so we could see close up all the different micro organisms we found. It was a really fun morning, a big thank you to Selen from Hume Central and the year 8's for preparing the lesson for us. It was our first home game in interschool sport this week. It looks like all the practicing has paid off as all teams played exceptionally well. A reminder to parents that we have our interviews next week, please make sure you come along so your child can share their accomplishments. As mentioned last week Mr Claybourne's interviews will be delayed until week 2 of term 3 as he will be away.

In reading, this week we have looked at the first stepping stone of reading fluency. We have looked at the importance of phrasing to help gain meaning and flow in what we are reading. Students can now identify what phrasing is, how it helps with their fluency and how they still need to phrase, even though there may not be any punctuation. 'Fluency: The Final Frontier' is our new progress chart and will be displayed in the neighbourhood. Make sure you have a look at it when you visit during our parent teacher interview night.

In writing, students have been finding and reworking their favourite pieces for the term. Students have been following a process of revising, editing and publishing new pieces of work to present at the Open Day of Learning. This semester we have been amazed by the development and progression of student writing in all the genres. During writing sessions students have also completed a collage of their favourite pieces of work, reflecting on what they have enjoyed, achieved and most importantly thinking about where to next!

In maths, students have continued to develop their understanding in division and tessellations. Understanding halves, inverse of multiplication, algorithms, finding remainders and dividing by 10, 100 or 1000s may be some of the skills that your child may have learnt during our division sessions this week. Students have been using iPad programs to show their new understandings. Students have created tessellations using regular polygons and by creating irregular shapes as Escher created. As the tessellation unit draws to a close, students will finish off term 2 learning about reading maps and understanding location.

In Enrichment, We are finishing up our third part of our survive and die unit which has been based around micro-organisms. To finish off the term, students will now have the opportunity to develop their own questions on a topic regarding plants, animals or micro-organisms. Students then will think about the school and think of a way to use their findings in a way that will have a lasting impact at BVPS. Have a great weekend!

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 16

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

Wednesday 18 Student Parent Teacher conferences Prep-6

Parent Teacher
Interviews for
students in
1/2C and 5/6C
will be held
early in Term 3.



Thursday 19

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

If anyone has found a green
Auskick football at BVPS with
the name **Zane** on it could they
please return it to the office.
Thank you

Birthdays

Tyrone E
Aliyah H
Dakota D
Rawan H
Israa E
Brendan J
Carol K
Parssa H



Notice Board



Term 2 Fundraiser

What: Dress up as your favourite character from a book, movie, cartoon or TV show

When: Thursday the 19th of June, 2014

Why: To raise money for the State School's Relief Fund

How: Gold coin donation

Be creative with your costume, have fun and make a contribution to a great cause!



centrelink

Centrelink Information Session

Do you have questions about Centrelink entitlements & payments but don't have time to visit the office or wait in a queue? Centrelink staff are visiting the school to provide a friendly session to answer any questions you might have.

THURSDAY 19th JUNE

2.30pm-3.30pm

Music Lab

Meet at reception