Good afternoon BVPS - always a pleasure!
It is very hard to believe that next week is the last week of term 3. Hasn’t it just flown by? I would like to remind everyone that next Friday being the last day of school, there will be alternate timetable and students will be dismissed at 2:00pm. There will be no whole school assembly.

It has been a very successful year of learning at BVPS. Schools like ours use a range of both formal and informal evidence to advise us as to how the school is progressing. NAPLAN (The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy) involves students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 from all states and territories in Australia and is overseen by each school. The program will assess their skills in four areas - reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, punctuation and grammar) and numeracy.

![NAPLAN GROWTH](image)
The graph above plots the state mean NAPLAN growth in year 3 to year 5 against the learning growth of students at BVPS over the 2 year period 2012 – 2014. So for example, in Reading at BVPS, the mean growth was 100 NAPLAN points compared to the state of Victoria with a mean growth of 78 NAPLAN points. We attribute this high performance to high quality teaching and strong home/school partnerships.

When you encourage and support your child to be a curious and active learner, your child experiences learning as fun and rewarding. They learn to love learning! And that’s the key to becoming a confident and involved learner.

Confident and involved learners enjoy exploring and experimenting. They meet challenges and take risks. They learn that it’s okay to fail and that they can get help when they need it. As they get older they realise that working with others sometimes gets better results than doing things alone!

A confident and involved learner persists. The child who can’t do a somersault at first, but tries again and again until they succeed has learned the importance of not giving up.

**So how can I support my child to be an active and involved learner?**

- You are your child’s first and most important teacher. Your child learns first through relationships with you and others in the family. The opportunities and experiences that you give your child are therefore critical.

- Give your child many and varied opportunities for play – time for your child to play alone, with friends and with you. Give your child periods of uninterrupted play that allow them to create, build, discover and imagine. Sensory play – i.e. touching and feeling lots of different surfaces and materials, is especially important.

- Older children will begin to take initiative as learners by asking questions when needed and attempting small projects and as they grow they will experiment with ways of expressing and communicating ideas and feelings to particular audiences or for particular purposes.

- The most important learning for young children happens through everyday experiences. It doesn’t require specialised classes or expensive toys, water and sand can offer hours of opportunities to learn and play for children.

- If you set out to teach a new skill like drinking from a cup or learning to use scissors, repeat the experience so that your child has the chance to practice.

- Encourage and support your child to be curious and to ask questions. Encourage them to use their imagination and to solve problems. Together, use books and the internet to help them find answers.

- With older children, encourage them to extend their thinking: Why do you think that happened? How can we fix that? Predict what would happen if...?

- Encourage older children to use informal measurement units like hand-spans and pencil lengths to make, describe and compare measurements of length, area etc.

- Encourage and support your child’s interests. Children learn at different rates, in different ways and at different times.

**Warm regards,**
Andrew Jones
**LN1 News!**

We had a wonderful celebration of learning this week, with so many students sharing at the Three Way Conferences. A big CONGRATULATIONS to them and a big THANKYOU to the many family members that attended. The three way conferences are a critical part of our student's learning and we were very proud of the job our students did in talking and presenting their work.

This week we continued to learn about Spanish Festivals and the types of things you would expect to see there. The students have been highly engaged and excited working in their various groups to organise the LN1 part of the BVPS 'Fiesta de Espana'. Groups are preparing dances, food, decorations, costumes, music and entertainment. **If you are able to HELP in anyway please see your child’s teacher.**

Any time you step into LN1 during writing time you will see our student’s fully engaged in the learning, this is because they LOVE to write! It is such a joy to watch their ongoing development. Miss Marija and Miss Black’s literacy groups celebrated the ‘International Talk like a Pirate Day’ and below are some examples of the student’s writing about the experience.

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**I like wearing my hat. We made the hats in the prep’s room. We sang a pirate song. We went outside for a treasure hunt.**

-Cobe Grade 1/2 B

**Shiver me timbers everybody. My name is Captain Black. Can you help me?**

We are in the prep suite and you can’t help me because you guys aren’t real pirates yet! You have to make a hat if you want to be a pirate. You made it! Now you can find my booty!

-Bilal Grade 1B

On Monday we made hats inside. It was the best. We put feathers on them. I was happy. We were singing pirate songs inside. I loved it, it was the best. It was fun. We found chocolate outside. Then we walked the plank.

-Pasitale Grade 2P

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**Learning Neighbourhood 2**

Such a busy week with learning taking place on so many levels... We have had students learning from students, parents learning from students and that’s just the start of it...

Our investigations and the planning of BVPS’s Spanish Fiesta are well under way. Students broke off into mixed groups across LN2 & LN3 and have started their inquiry into their chosen area of Spanish culture and lifestyle. Everyone began their inquiry this week with ‘entusiasmo’ (enthusiasm). We cannot wait to see what they come up with.

In literacy this week, we have been activating our schema’s and planning to compose our food reviews. We have been learning about how we use our schema and clues in a text to help us make inferences. In writing, we have considered the language of reviews and thinking about how we are going to describe the delicious Spanish food we shared in week 8.

Numeracy has been moving at full throttle, we have been using out place value odometers to build on our place value knowledge. Everyone who joined us for our student led conferences would have had the opportunity to see the odometers in action. We cannot wait to hear about the ones being made at home. J
We hope that all of our fathers, grandfathers, uncles and other special people who joined us for the Father’s Day Breakfast enjoyed the spread that was set up last Thursday. It was a very successful morning and we are looking forward to it growing even bigger next year!

Learning Neighbourhood 3

During week 9 Term 3, LN3 students were required to make a Prezi for our ‘Student-led Conferences’, to present our Term 3 learning to our parents. On Friday, our netball open team and rugby team made it to the District finals. All the students played with passion and did their best in their final interschool sport event for the year! Next Thursday, will be the ‘Hume Cup’ which will be held here at our school. We encourage all parents to come along and support students as they battle it out in football and netball against other schools around the district.

Students this week learnt about description and how it is used in different text types. We are excited to learn about a different area and In the next couple of weeks, LN3 will be learning about cause and effect, problem and solution and compare and contrast in multiple text types. We encourage parents to remind their children to use the new installed app “Raz Kids” to help your child with their reading, so they can improve.

Our main focus in writing will be reviews, which we will be starting in week 10. Students during this time will be using their “Writer’s Notebook” to let their imagination run wild and on Wednesday students were given an image and where we had to complete a writing piece about the picture in given time in any way we liked.

LN3 and LN2 have been working together to create the “Fiesta de Espana” Spanish festival for our enrichment topic. Students had the choice of Arts, Culture, Food or being a Grand Designer.

Wow! what a week it’s been for both the students and the teachers, we all thank you and wish you a very happy weekend.

By Tassnim & Vongai

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.

Calendar

Term 3

Hume Cup & Special Lunch Day
Date: Thursday 18th, 2014
Times: From 9.15am - 3.00pm

Friday 19th
Last Day Of Term 3
For Students
Finish Time 2.00pm

CAMP
Coonawarra Camp deposit & payments are now being taken

Birthdays
Jayden M
Vincent D
Tele F
Eman O
Brodey B
Reem
2014 HUME CUP
Netball/Football Gala
Sausage Sizzle

Thursday 18\textsuperscript{th} September
Broadmeadows Valley Primary
Dimboola Rd Broadmeadows
11am – 2pm

Halal Sausages- $2.00
Cup of cordial- 50cents
Fruit Salad cup- $1.00
Cupcakes- $1.00
Choc chip Cookie- $1.00

On Thursday 18\textsuperscript{th} of September some of our grade 5/6 students will be participating in a netball and football round robin against 5 other schools. All money raised will be going towards getting sport uniforms for the grade 5/6 Interschool Sports. All parents are welcome to come down and support this amazing event!!