FULL SCHOOL ASSEMBLY FRIDAY

Lyn’s Lines

Last Friday as you are aware the school had a curriculum day where the staff was guided by an experienced consultant, Geoff Barclay, to provide us with strategies to reflect on our current practice in answer to the following questions.

- What did we set out to achieve?
- What did we achieve?
- What factors supported or inhibited our success?
- Where might we focus future effort?

Process for Our School Review

As mentioned in previous newsletters Bittern Primary School is in a year of review, our review is a priority review where strengths are celebrated and areas for improvement are identified. The review is designed to reflect on current practice and with support from accredited reviewers and a Senior Education Improvement Leader appointed by the region prepare guidelines for the future planning of the schools direction over the next 4 years. Prior to the review process the school is required to reflect on their own practice and prepare a self-evaluation report to be presented to the review team.

Ongoing self-evaluation

Great schools regularly evaluate their progress. They pause to reflect, undertaking a thorough analysis of the available data to reflect on how well the human, financial, physical and information resources of the school have been deployed to achieve the goals and priorities in the school’s strategic plan.

Good self-evaluation is a powerful process of engagement. It empowers the whole school community – students, parents and carers, teachers and the community more broadly – to participate in a process of reflective practice. It uses an inquiry model to arrive at a shared view of the school’s strengths, achievements and future needs.

The self-evaluation is a significant opportunity for discussion, consultation and feedback across the whole school community, with an opportunity for active contribution and leadership from students, staff and parents.

Days of Review

An independent review team, accredited and contracted by the Department, will be assembled to undertake an intensive analysis of the school’s performance. The team will be responsible for:

- developing the terms of reference, how we go about our review and the roles and responsibilities of the review team
- undertaking the fieldwork, visits to the school, interviews with parents, students and staff, and
- providing a written report and feedback to the school and the Department based on a thorough diagnosis of the factors inhibiting the school’s improvement.

School Council

Thinking of joining school council?

WE NEED YOU

There are several vacancies on the school council for parent representatives. You are welcome to nominate yourself or someone else can nominate for you. Forms are available at the front office.
Watch out for the stampede as you come through the door!!!

The Australian Government believes that school communities benefit when parent engagement is a key part of school planning and improvement processes. We want local communities to have a greater say about what happens in their schools.

Research shows that active and successful involvement of parents in schools makes an important contribution to student success.

You can support your child’s education in a number of different ways. From reading with your child to joining a parent group such as the fundraising group or becoming a school council member, there are a range of opportunities that families can consider.

In all states and territories in government and non-government schools there are a variety of parent organisations. Joining a school council is a direct way you can influence and have a say in the way your local school runs.

COMING ON - YOU KNOW YOU WANT TO!!

THE NATIONAL YOUNG LEADERS DAY

For Primary Schools

Today both myself and the student leadership team are at the Melbourne Convention centre are participating in a motivational leadership conference. Watch this space for the students’ thoughts and feelings about their experience in the next newsletter.

BITTERN PRIMARY SCHOOL IS TURNING

1916 100 2016

A year of celebration!!!

Bittern is celebrating its 100th Birthday this year with exciting events and happenings. We are currently hunting up old photos of the school to look at our humble beginnings and where we are at currently. Many existing parents have also been students of Bittern PS and could possibly have photos of interest. If you would like to bring in your old photos we can scan them and return them to you straight away. Thanks for your support.

DO YOU KNOW ANY OF THESE STUDENTS?

ICY POLES

Icy poles are back for Term 1.

PLEASE NOTE: Every newsletter day is icy pole day at lunchtime. Icy poles will sell for $1.00
**PAYMENT OF SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS**

Those parents who did not pay any Essential Items payments on book pick up day are advised that full payment is now **OVERDUE**. Without these much needed funds, our school cannot proceed with full school programs. Your co-operation is much appreciated.

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**BIRTHDAY WISHES**

16th March – Kannon Donnelly
18th March – Cayden Neivandt, Harvey Logue
20th March – Sophie Easton
21st March – Millie Aiello
22nd March – Lincoln White
23rd March – Joel Charleston
24th March – Abbie Kraulis
26th March – Jason Cannon

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**PANCAKE DAY**

Our “Pancake Tuesday” was a great success. I think the students enjoyed a special treat for morning tea. We raised $500 for our school. Thank you to all the parents who donated ingredients for our pancakes. The only thing that we needed to purchase was the milk. A huge thank you to Brenda Lanigan, Karen Scatchard, Fiona Witt and Bec Andrews for their help on the day. Between them they whipped up and cooked 270 pancakes. Huge effort.

*Kim Schneider*

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**Wanted Rubber Backed Picnic Rugs**

If anyone has a rubber backed picnic rug that is not being used, it could find a new home at school! I need 8 picnic rugs for children to sit on at recess and lunch time so that they can play games, do jigsaws etc.

Any rubber backed picnic rugs would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks

*Linda Owen*

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**Please do not park in the school staff car park. It is dangerous.**

Children are not allowed to be in the car park at any time. Please do not walk your children through the car park either. Please park at the front or back of the school. If there is no space when you arrive please drive around the block and wait for a space. Our car park clears very quickly so please be patient. It is a good idea to organise a meeting place with your child so that they know where to wait for a few moments if you are held up getting a car park.

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**CSEF APPLICATIONS**

If you are the holder of a current pension card or health care card, then you are eligible to apply for this government payment for your child/ren. For more information on eligibility, or to complete an application, please call into the school office. You will need to present your valid HCC or pension card.

Please note that you need to re-apply each year.

*Most families who previously received the Education Maintenance Allowance will be eligible for this payment ($125 per child).*
HASTINGS BLUE LIGHT DISCO

There have been some significant changes from last year

1. New Venue – The disco will be held at the Hastings Community Hall, 3 High St Hastings (next to the library)
2. New age group – Primary School Age Only so that’s all kids Prep to Grade 6.
3. New time – 6pm to 8pm (No pass outs – doors are closed and the kids cannot exit the building until 8pm. Parents/Guardians must be in attendance at 8pm when the doors open to collect their children)
4. New Entry Price $6
5. Fully stocked canteen selling hot dogs, dim sims, drinks, popcorn and fairy floss. Glow Stix items also available for purchase.

Moonlit Sanctuary

Easter School Holidays dates:

Week 1. Tuesday 29th March-Friday 1st April 10am – 4pm
Week 2. Monday 4th –Friday 8th April 10am – 4pm
Cost: $65.00 per day or $175 for 3 days
550 Tyabb-Tooradin Road, Pearcedale

Phone: 59787935
Open daily between 10am and 5pm

DON'T FORGET HOT DOGS THIS FRIDAY
HOT DOGS!!
Hot dogs will be available this Friday, at a cost of $2.50.
If you would like your child/ren to purchase a hot dog, please complete the order form and return it to school this Friday, together with the correct money.

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<tr>
<th>HOT DOG ORDER FORM</th>
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<tr>
<td>I would like to order _____ hot dogs @$2.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAME: _________________ GRADE: ___</td>
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<td>Please find enclosed $________________</td>
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HOT DOG ORDER FORM

| I would like to order _____ hot dogs @$2.50 |
| NAME: _________________ GRADE: ___ |
| Please find enclosed $________________ |

Free Social Tennis at Bittern Tennis Club

Every 1st Thursday in Month
This Thursday 3rd March 7.30PM start
Beginners to advanced welcome.
Ring Trevor--0425939560
Social networking tips for parents

Social networking is a great way to keep in touch with friends and family as well as meeting new people with similar interests and hobbies. Here are some tips to follow when you feel your child is ready to begin engaging with social networking sites like Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter:

- If you haven’t already got an account, set one up so that you can understand what your child can and can’t do as well as learning how to adjust the privacy settings. You can use fake information if you aren’t comfortable using your own.
- Make sure your child is old enough to use the site. Sites like Facebook and Instagram require users to be 13 years or older.
- Tell your child to keep their passwords a secret otherwise other people may log on and pretend to be them. It is important that you know your children’s password however.
- Advise your child to set their account to private so that they will only interact with people they know in real life and aren’t approached by strangers.
- Encourage your child to think carefully before they post any information online. Things they post on social networking can have an impact on them even after they delete it and long into the future.
- Help your children to set up their location services on their device so that they aren’t broadcasting their location to strangers.
- Remind children to be careful when making new friends online as some people may not be who they say they are and ensure your children never arrange to meet an online friend unless accompanied by a trusted adult.
- Make sure you know how to report inappropriate content on social networking sites and show your child what they should do if they come across anything inappropriate.


Walk to School

The successful 'Walk to School' program will once again occur on the last Friday of every month. We meet at the Bittern station at 8.30 on the last Friday of the month and walk to school together. This is a great way for parents, students and teachers to participate in a whole school event and have a ‘get to know you’ chat along the way. OUR ONLY ‘WALK TO SCHOOL’ THIS TERM WILL BE THURSDAY 24TH MARCH WHICH IS THE LAST DAY OF TERM.
Crib Point District Swimming Team - Go Team Bittern!

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<td>Freestyle 50 metre</td>
<td>Mia Treloar - 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Emma Piotrowski - 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Hazel Burford – 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Colby Whee - 3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Lachlan Jessulat – 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Riley Frewer – 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Backstroke 50 metre</td>
<td>Mia Treloar – 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Emma Piotrowski – 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Hazel Burford – 3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Colby Whee – 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Flynn Taggart – 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Riley Frewer – 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Br’S’stroke 50 metre</td>
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<td>Paige Treloar – 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Amity Moncrieff – 3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Lochlan Earle</td>
<td>Lachlan Jessulat – 3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Luke Darcy – 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Butterfly 50 metre</td>
<td>Charlotte Mur – 3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Emma Piotrowski – 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Hazel Burford – 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Taj Palser-Chapple - 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Tyler Whee – 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freestyle Relay 50 metre</td>
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<td>Chloe Schneider - 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Charlotte Mur</td>
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<td>Chelsea Thompson</td>
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<td>Tom Bowring</td>
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<td>Medley Relay 50 metre</td>
<td>Kirra Cox</td>
<td>Amity Moncrieff - 3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Hazel Burford</td>
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<td>Luke Darcy - 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Chelsea Thompson</td>
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<td>Br’S’stroke</td>
<td>Riley Frewer</td>
<td>Luke Darcy - 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Freestyle</td>
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<td>Tom Bowring</td>
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Congratulations to our District Swimming Team who placed 3<sup>rd</sup> overall in the Small Schools section. Although we have not got anyone moving through to the Zone division, our students were fantastic ambassadors for Bittern Primary and themselves; every one of them trying their absolute best, actively supporting and encouraging each other and having a ‘fun’ time as well. I was especially proud of their efforts, as they should also be of themselves.

Thank you to Mr Lewis who travelled with the students and supervised them, ensuring everyone knew where they were going and what was expected of them for the day.

It was also wonderful to see so many of our parents and grandparents also supporting us and cheering us on. What a fantastic community we have at bittern PS.

Mrs Simone McDonald
PE Coordinator
Be alert to symptoms and signs of measles

Following the Victorian Chief Health Officer confirming an outbreak of measles in Brunswick and East Brunswick, including cases at a primary school, it is timely for all early childhood services to be alert to the symptoms and signs of measles.

Measles usually begins with a fever, sore throat, red eyes and a cough. A rash typically develops around three to seven days after the first symptoms, generally starting on the face and then spreading to the rest of the body.

If a child becomes unwell at your service, isolate the unwell child from other children and send the unwell child home as soon as possible. Advise the parents of the child to seek an assessment by a medical practitioner.

Early childhood services are required to contact the Department of Health and Human Services immediately on 1300 651 160 if the service is aware a medical practitioner suspects measles in a child at the service.

Do not exclude other (well) children or adults or alert parents or display signage unless directed to do so by the Department of Health and Human Services.

Early childhood services are required to keep immunisation status information for each enrolled child with enrolment records. In the event of a disease outbreak this information is used to quickly identify and exclude children who may be at risk.

Staff are advised to check their immunisation records for evidence of two doses of measles-containing vaccine. Adults born between 1966 and 1985 may have received only one dose of measles-containing vaccine and require one further dose to complete immunisation. Those born before 1966 were likely exposed to measles when they were growing up and will therefore be immune.

**Actions Required**

- Early childhood services should be aware of the symptoms and signs of measles and should encourage any family with a child showing symptoms – such as fever and cough and rash - to telephone their medical practitioner to arrange an appointment as soon as possible advising that measles may be the cause.
- Ensure systems are in place to collect and record the immunisation status of each child, and retrieve this information in the event of an outbreak.
- Staff who are unvaccinated or unsure of their vaccination status may like to consider visiting their GP to discuss immunisation.

**Additional Information**

Review Section 6: Exclusion following a disease outbreak of the [Immunisation Enrolment Toolkit](#) distributed to services in December 2015.

The most common type of immunisation status certificate is an Immunisation History Statement from the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register (ACIR). Parents can request a statement from ACIR at any time by phoning 1800 653 809 or visit Medicare online. Brochures providing further detail about obtaining ACIR statements are included in the Immunisation Enrolment Toolkit.

A Better Health Channel [measles fact sheet](#) and [Frequently Asked Questions](#) about the measles outbreak in Brunswick are available.

**Carol Kelly**
Executive Director
Wellbeing, Health and Engagement
Parents are reminded that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students.

Parents and guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs.

Student accident insurance/ambulance cover policies are available from some commercial insurers, and can be obtained by school councils on a whole-of-school basis, or by parents/guardians for individual students.

Private property brought to school by students, staff or visitors is not insured and the Department does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage.

Important Notes

Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. As the Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property students, staff & students should be discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.
Mornington Peninsula Shire
WET Novice Swimming Carnival

Celebrating 40 years at Crib Point Pool
Saturday 19 March 1pm to 3pm
Stay after the carnival and join in the fun activities

Represent your School
$13 per Competitor

Entries open to all local students

Saturday 19 March 2016
Starting Time: 9.30am

Held at Crib Point Swimming Pool
Governors Road, Crib Point
5983 9672 or 1300 850 197

Food and Refreshments available

Celebrating 40 years at Crib Point Pool
Saturday 19 March 1pm to 3pm
Stay after the carnival and join in the fun activities
Mornington Peninsula Shire
WET Novice Swimming Carnival

DATE: Saturday 19 March 2016
COMMENCE: 9.45am
Warm-up 9.30am
VENUE: Crib Point Pool, Governors Rd, Crib Point
COST: $13 per Competitor—Includes max 6 events (relays no charge)

Boys Girls

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Distance</th>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Medley (OPEN)</td>
<td>100 metres</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freestyle (11 &amp; under)</td>
<td>100 metres</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freestyle (12 and over)</td>
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<td>Backstroke (8 &amp; under)</td>
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<td>Backstroke (9 &amp; 10 yrs)</td>
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<td>Backstroke (15 yrs Over)</td>
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<td>Butterfly (8 &amp; under)</td>
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<td>Butterfly (13 &amp; 14 yrs)</td>
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<td>Butterfly (15 yrs &amp; over)</td>
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Boys Girls

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<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Breaststroke (8 &amp; under)</td>
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<td>Breaststroke (11 &amp; 12 yrs)</td>
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<td>Freestyle (15 yrs &amp; over)</td>
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<td>Fr Relay 4 X 25 mts Open</td>
<td>100 metres</td>
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Points will be given for each swim with a trophy being awarded to the winning school

Conditions of entry
1. Age as of 19 March 2016. Date of birth is to be stated on the entry form.
2. Ribbons will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd Placegetters. In multi age events ribbons will only be awarded to the overall winners, not each age group.
3. Please use the tear off strip provided to enter. Entries after the closing date may not be accepted. Entry details below.
4. The organisers reserve the right to alter the sequence of events or to cancel events where insufficient entries have been received.
5. Swimmers must report to the Marshalling Area 3 events prior to their event.
6. All events will be swum on a time trial basis, conducted under the rules of Swimming Victoria inc.
7. There is an entry fee of $13.00 per swimmer which must accompany the entry form.
8. Entry times that are submitted on the entry form will be displayed in the event program to enable competitors to measure their improvements on the day.
9. Entry to pool for warm-up is at 9.30am.

ENTRY FORM – Mornington Peninsula Shire WET Novice Swimming Carnival 19 March 2016

NAME: ___________________________ BIRTH DATE: _______________________ AGE: (as at 19 March 2016)

ADDRESS: ___________________________ PHONE: ___________________ Email: ___________________ MALE / FEMALE

SUBURB: _______________________________ POST CODE: ________ SCHOOL: ___________________________

PARENT WILLING TO ASSIST ON THE DAY: YES / NO Name: ____________________ Phone: ________________
ENTRIES CLOSE: Thursday 17 March 2016  9PM

POST ENTRIES TO: OR IN PERSON TO:
Meredith Bowers Pelican Park Recreation Centre
Pelican Park Recreation Centre 2 Marine Parade
2 Marine Parade Hastings
Hastings
VIC 3915 Vic 3915

Enquires: Meredith  1300 850 197

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event No</th>
<th>Entry Time</th>
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W.E.T
Skills 4 Life