

Principal's Report | - 3

This week in the Principal's Report the following topics are covered:

- * Mid Year Reports / Interviews
- * Eurythmy Spiral
- * Mid-Winter Lanterns - ID
- * Bentleigh Farmers' Mkt
- * Enrolments 2022
- * Congratulations
- * Over the holidays



East Bentleigh Primary School

Bignell Road
East Bentleigh 3165
Phone: 9570 3525

Email: east.bentleigh.ps@education.vic.gov.au

24th June 2021

Term 2 / Week 10, Issue 5

BREAKFAST CLUB IS HERE!

8:15-8:45am

in new Performing Arts
Centre (PAC)

*If your child has allergies—
please email*

jane.ross@education.vic.gov.au
before they attend.

SCHOOL VISION:

East Bentleigh Primary School provides a rich, inviting, child-focused environment ensuring that all students feel safe and stimulated. Our students are able to achieve their full academic, creative and social potential, equipped for the challenges of lifelong learning. Students develop into healthy and confident individuals, actively contributing to the world in which they live.

At East Bentleigh Primary School we are committed to child safety.

Reporting Student Absences

**Please remember to let the
school know by 9am if your
child will be absent.**

**Please call or email the school
office on Ph: 9570 3525 Email:
east.bentleigh.ps@education.vic.gov.au**

**You must also provide a
reason for the absence so that
we can accurately record it.**

****A signed note by you is also
required - to be handed to the
class teacher for each
absence. Thank you**

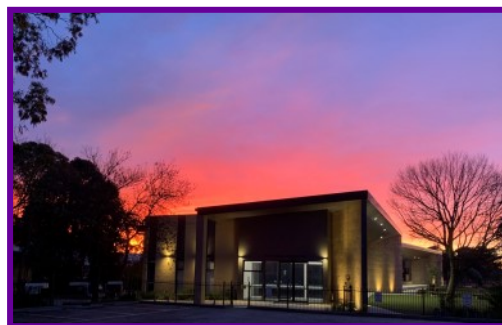
Principal's Report - Maria Shearn

Hello everyone,

I hope that this message finds you all well as we make our way to the end of Semester 1, another disrupted one due to our continuing efforts to learn to live safely with this COVID pandemic.

Whilst we in Victoria appear to have nipped it in the bud with the most recent outbreak, we only need to look to our north to see and hear what is happening in Sydney when an outbreak takes hold. I certainly hope that the measures put in place by the NSW health authorities are successful.

Please see this stunning photo taken by Faye's dad Stewart and sent to me by mum Julia, of the magnificent sunrise earlier this week. Isn't Mother Nature spectacular? Enjoy.....



Diary Dates

Final Day Term 2

Friday 25th June

Early Finish @ 2:30pm

**Bentleigh Farmers' Market
- Saturday 26th June 8am-12:30pm**

**First Day Term 3
Monday 12th July 8:50am**

**Year 5/6 Orienteering Excursion -
Thurs 22nd July**

**EBPS House Athletics Day - Year 3-6
Fri 6th Aug**

**Hooptime Basketball Year 5/6 -
Fri 20th Aug**

**Life Education Van - Mainstream &
Steiner Yr 5/6 - Thur 2nd to Tue 7th Sept**

Mid-Year Reports/Parent Teacher Interviews

I would like to congratulate our dedicated staff on their efforts in getting this round of reports together so efficiently despite the interrupted term due to COVID lockdowns.

I would remind everyone that the most important part of the report remains the comments written by your child's teacher as they will focus on what your child can do and then give some ideas and strategies for future goals and improvements. As we have always said in our reporting package, education is growth, but all children do not grow at the same rate, nor in the same way. I would ask that you always keep this in mind when reading any report.

When reading the reports before signing them, I find my favourite part is reading the student comments or reflections. These give me a fantastic insight into the health of our teaching and learning programs and are a strong indicator of the levels of engagement our students have in the programs their teachers deliver. From the simple yet poignant often one line statements from our preppies who are just starting out, to the almost essay like quality of some of our Year 6 reflections, they are a joy to read, some making me laugh out loud and others bringing a tear to my eye.

Continued next page.....



East Bentleigh Primary School acknowledges Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognises the continuing connection to lands, waters and communities. We pay our respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and to Elders both past and present.

Principal's Report - Maria Shearn

One of the less enjoyable aspects of reading the reports however is the alarmingly large number of our students with quite unacceptable absentee rates. Whilst I am aware that some of our children are dealing with some significant health issues (I am not speaking about them), there are still too many children missing way too much school for unacceptable reasons which is having a significant effect on their learning and social development. I encourage you to read the attendance table carefully and if your child's attendance falls in the unacceptable range, make a commitment to improve this next semester for the sake of your child.

Thanks again to staff for all their hard work in getting these reports together and being so available to speak to you. I know it is always a busy time and I appreciate their professionalism and commitment.

Thank you to all those parents who took the opportunity to speak to their child's class teacher earlier this week at the mid-year parent teacher interview held via Webex due to on-site COVID restrictions. Teachers have reported fewer parents taking up this opportunity this year. If for whatever reason you missed out on making a time with your child's teacher, please send them an email to arrange an alternate time.

Whilst class teachers were conducting these interviews on Monday afternoon this week, the children enjoyed an afternoon of Tabloid Sports in the beautiful winter sunshine. Much fun was had by all.

Eurythmy Spiral

After missing many of the special events our school traditionally holds in Term 2, what a pleasure it was to sit in and observe this special annual event with 2 classes earlier this week, held after the winter solstice, the shortest day of the year.

This very simple festival involves the children walking through the spiral, lighting a candle which they then placed lovingly around the spiral to welcome the light. Many thanks to our Eurythmist Kate Graves and our piano accompanist Josef. It was a lovely experience.



Continued next page.....

Principal's Report - Maria Shearn

Mid-Winter Lanterns- 1D

Although we were unable to hold our annual much loved mid-winter festival this year, many of the junior classes still made lanterns to honour this time of the year. I was lucky enough to be serenaded by Class 1D earlier this week as they were going out to do their very own winter walk with their lanterns. They sang beautifully and their artistic talents were evident in their beautiful lanterns. They were very proud of themselves. Class 6A students also participated in the 'bringing of the light' to classes this year with their beautiful singing and fabulous violin accompaniment from Nami. Thank you all.



Bentleigh Farmers' Market

A reminder, that our next Bentleigh Farmers' Market will be held this Saturday, between 8am and 12:30pm on our school oval. The weather forecast is for a coolish morning with perhaps a light shower, so I encourage you to come along, support our school's fundraising efforts and grab yourself some of the freshest produce in Victoria. Please remember to bring your mobile phone so you can check in via the QR code situated at each gate. Anyone without a phone will be asked to complete a paper attendance sheet. At the time of writing this report we are very light on for volunteers. Please contact Heidi if you are able to help..

Enrolments 2022

We will be starting our 2022 planning in earnest when we return next term, so if you have not yet submitted your new prep enrolment form to the office I encourage you to do so as soon as possible so we can determine numbers of classes etc. If you know of anyone from outside our school wishing to enrol, please remind them to do the same.

Congratulations

Manuel Adonis our school cleaner became a grandfather for the third time earlier this week when his daughter Dayana gave birth to Leo Penelope who came in at 3.5kg. Mum and Leo are both doing well.



Finally

Whilst we have tried to maintain a 'business as usual' approach here at EBPS there have been some unavoidable, sometimes unwelcome changes to how we usually, (or would like to), do things; such as asking parents to continue to wear masks (even outside), to protect the health of vulnerable students and staff; limiting access to learning areas and asking parents to move on quickly after drop off and pick up at the end of the day.

We sincerely thank those parents who have been so cooperative and understanding with these changes. There is nothing we love to see more than children and their parents enjoying our school facilities after school so these changes have been difficult for us to enforce as well.

It makes it all the more difficult than it already is when we receive unpleasant feedback and downright opposition to these requests. Whilst everyone has a right to their own beliefs about both the pandemic and the actions of governments, as Principal of this school I have a duty of care to both the students and staff at this school, something I take very seriously. I will not take any chances with the health and wellbeing of these people and I would expect others to do the same. I don't ever want to be put into a position where I regret that I didn't do enough to protect students and staff.

Once again I thank the vast majority of you who are understanding of the reasons for these changes and hope that next term will bring a deeper understanding and empathy from others.

Over the Holidays

Have a great break everyone. I wish you lots of warmth, rest and relaxation so you can come back fresh and eager for the adventures the new term will most certainly bring.

A reminder that school will finish at 2:30pm tomorrow and Term 3 begins on Monday 12th July at 8.50am.

Until next time.....Maria Shearn - Principal



Parent Information

VICTORIAN HIGH ABILITY PROGRAM

Jonah, Bas and Pearl were selected for the Victorian High Ability Program (VHAP) because of their high score in writing for NAPLAN. The VHAP consisted of 10 lessons, one per week, all about different topics including archtype characters, comedy and the hero's journey. At the end of the lesson Jonah, Bas and Pearl thoroughly enjoyed the VHAP and are hoping that they can do it again next year!

Written by Jonah (Pearl & Bas also helped)



BREAKFAST CLUB IS HERE @ EBPS

New Term 3 Winter treats also available -

Porridge, Baked Beans on toast, Spaghetti on toast

(if you arrive on time at 8:15am)

From 8:15-8:45am in the new Performing Arts Centre (PAC)

All students are welcome

****If your child has allergies - please email jane.ross@education.vic.gov.au before they attend.**

Jump Rope for Heart!



Congratulations to the all those students and families who have raised money for the Heart Foundation this term. **So far we have raised \$2772.**

Top 5 Fundraisers

-
1. Grace C-D – PM - \$975
 2. Bodhi.S -2D - \$209
 3. Charlie.W – 3/4S \$209
 4. Tamsin.H – 1/2M - \$204
 5. Alice.B – 1/2L - \$200
-

Please note that fundraising will finish on Sunday. All prizes will be delivered to school during Term 3.

Thanks
John Seeary
PE Teacher

Maths at EBPS



Maths Talent Quest

The Maths Talent Quest is back. If you love your maths and would like to show your interests, why not enter the school maths talent quest competition. The Maths Talent Quest is a state-wide competition run by the Mathematical Associate of Victoria (MAV). It comes in two parts. A school level talent quest with the strongest judged entrants admitted to the state-wide completion. All participants receive a MAV talent quest certificate.

The Aim

To connect maths to real world situations and promote the understanding that maths is all around us and a part of everyday life.

Who can enter?

Entries are welcome from Foundation to Year 12. Entrants can be individual, groups (of no more than 6) and classes. So even if you are not doing a class entry you can work on something by yourself or with some friends and enter.

How do you enter?

Talk to your teacher and let them know you are entering.

When do I have to enter by?

All entries are to be handed to Laura Siu (class teacher for 3/4S) by the end of **Friday 23rd July**.

How will the entries be judged?

The entries will be judged using the same criteria as the state-wide competition - see link below.

What will my project look like?

Please refer to the link on our website (below) for information on how your project may look.

Want to enter but can't decide on a topic?

See the inspiring titles to prompt your ideas from MAV - see link below.

<https://www.eastbentleighps.vic.edu.au/>

Remember all entries to Laura Siu by the end of Friday 23rd of July.

Good luck, I look forward to seeing your entries!

Laura Siu - Numeracy Coordinator



Literacy @ East Bentleigh PS

Reluctant Readers



Teachers have just completed mid-year parent teacher interviews and one question that parents often ask is how to encourage their children to read for enjoyment at home.

At times students may 'switch off' from reading even though they are competent readers who can decode text efficiently and have sound comprehension of what they read.

With the school holidays next week the attached article gives some timely advice on ways to gently encourage your children to read.

<https://www.betterreading.com.au/news/how-to-get-them-hooked-motivating-reluctant-readers/>

Jill Griffin & Amanda Kershaw - Literacy Coordinators

Wellbeing @ EBPS

Kids need to relax and let off steam over the holiday break. It's healthy for kids to swap some of that screen time for green time. Here are some fun ways to help this happen.

Make Mud Pies – Playing with mud is a wonderful sensory activity for the developing child. A classic old-school nature activity for kids!

Bird watching - Bird watching is a fun, outdoor observation activity. What type of birds live in your area? Which are most common? Can you draw them?



Bug Hotel - Make a bug hotel using twigs, bamboo and terracotta pieces and other things you can find around your house, shed or yard.

Skipping stones – Learn how to skip stones. The best skipping stones are smooth or flat on both sides. Bit of trial and error and practise and you'll be world record material.

Tree climbing - is an outdoor activity that has many benefits for the developing child, only under adult supervision of course. We don't want anyone coming back to school in plaster!

Explore a Shore – Take the time to explore a seashore, lakeshore, river shore, billabong, or creek shore. Compete in a shore scavenger hunt. What can you find?

Hug a Tree – A fun outdoor activity for all ages. Did you know that the forestry service in Iceland has even encouraged people to hug a tree for five minutes to combat feelings of loneliness and isolation? So, go on a day trip, or just give some love to your local, woody friends.

Roll Down a Hill – Rolling down a hill is excellent for the developing sensory system.

Backyard obstacle course - Use your imagination and everyday household items to help kids develop sensory skills, as they navigate their course blindfolded.



Rock art- search for fun and interesting rocks to paint and decorate.

Rain play- get outside in your gumboots and waterproof coats and run and splash in the rain.



Nature art – Collect natural objects, flowers, leaves, seeds, rocks etc, to make a beautiful nature mandala.

Colour wheel scavenger hunt - Go to a hardware store and collect paint swatches to make a colour wheel. Go on a walk and try to find something to match each colour on your colour wheel.

Take a listening walk – take a walk around your neighbourhood and take note of every sound you hear. Can you beat a pre-set target number of sounds.

Fairy garden - Find an old plant pot and plant it up with seeds and cuttings, wishing stones and trinkets, to make a fairy garden.



Backyard camping – Set up a tent in the backyard for a night or two. Problem-solve how to stay warm, what to eat and what activities to do.

Stargazing – On a clear night get outside and turn your gaze towards the stars. Can you find the Southern cross, the Pointers? What else can you see?

Have a restful and safe holiday, filled with fun, fresh air and joy.
We look forward to seeing you back energised and ready for term three.

parenting * ideas

INSIGHTS

Help kids tap into their inner resources



My first parenting mentor, Maurice Balson, author of *Becoming Better Parents* constantly reminded parents, "If you want your child to be resourceful you need to put them in positions to develop their resources."

Balson's resourcefulness message is just as apt today. Coping with change, dealing with small losses, handling rejection and overcoming disappointment are the types of experiences that build a child's or young person's inner resources.

Developing resourcefulness is the appropriate approach to take when considering the disruptive impact that coronavirus is having on kids' lives. A child who is struggling to come to grips with the changes brought about by the pandemic initially needs an emphatic, supportive approach. They also need encouragement to tap into their inner resources to help them manage the hard times. The following strategies will help develop your child or young person's inner resources.

Give them a chance to be resourceful

Harry, age 10, often leaves his lunch at home. His father, who works from home, won't take forgotten items to school. Harry either misses lunch or persuades his friends to share their lunches with him. Either way, when Harry leaves his lunch at home he's forced to rely on his emotional or physical resourcefulness to get by. And he does.

Catch them being resourceful

A child's behaviours that gain a parent's attention generally expand. Highlight a child's good manners, acts of kindness or honesty and you're more likely to get a repeat of those behaviours. Positive parental recognition is a high motivator for most kids. To encourage your child's resourcefulness, focus your attention and positive comments on acts of resourcefulness and resilience they exhibit.

Encourage creativity

Sylvia, age 13 walked to school each day, saving her bus fare to spend on clothes that were out of reach of her parents' budget. Sylvia found a way to overcome her money problem in her own way. Children and young people usually come up with very creative solutions when they're allowed to own their problems.

Develop coping skills

Kids rely on their coping skills to help them manage their emotional states when life throws them curve balls. Build your child's set of coping skills through direct teaching, modelling and discussion. Humour, distraction, relaxation, exercise, play and thought-distancing are some of the more common coping skills kids can use to help them tolerate their difficult feelings.

parenting*ideas

The resourcefulness a child develops when they experience adversity doesn't desert them when life returns to normal. It waits in the background, ready to be drawn upon again when hardships, frustrations and difficulties come their way.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's an award-winning speaker and the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation*, and the bestselling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. Michael is a former teacher with 15 years experience, and has 30 years experience in parenting education. He also holds a Master of Educational Studies from Monash University specialising in parenting education.

Newsletter



EXTRAORDINARY HOLIDAY ADVENTURES

Bookings now open for Mission II

www.campaustalia.com.au/rocketeers

Join Mission II and receive your free mission patch and booklet.



A message from your Coordinator
Congratulations to all children and families for completing term 2! It's been another full-on term and we're ready for the next. Holidays being next week we have a lot of local Holiday Programs ready to be booked into and enjoyed. Coatesville, Gardenvale and Hughesdale Primary Schools are all great services offering Rocketeers these holidays. These holidays we are offering excursions, incursions, cooking and more!

What happened in OSHC last week

Over the past week within our service at East Bentleigh Primary School, we have painted Australian animals, used new natural resources to make 'fairy homes' with and done some cooking of yummy cake to have for afternoon snack. I look forward to seeing you next term!
- Steph & Camp Australia team

It's free to register

To attend our program, you must register your child. You can register an account with us at pp.campaustalia.com.au or by downloading our Camp Australia smartphone app from the Apple App Store or on Google Play. Once registered, it's easy to make bookings and manage your account.



Activities coming up

- Magic week
- Pokemon crafts
- Olympic week
- End of term party

What's on the menu

- Homemade pizza
- Milo
- Vegemite scrolls

Visit our blog

New articles are added each week for parents and cover various topics to help families.

[Visit our blog](#)

Your OSHC.

www.campaustalia.com.au



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