

Principal's Report | – 2

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

- * ONSITE RETURN
- * SENBAZURU CRANE PROJECT
- * PARENT OPINION SURVEY
- * SUNSMART
- * WATER BOTTLES
- * CORONAVIRUS
- * ENROLMENTS FOR 2021

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@edumail.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**

Diary Dates

Footy Dress Up Day
Thursday 22nd October

Book Week @ EBPS
Mon 26th - Fri 30th October

Book Character Dress Up Day
Thursday 29th October



East Bentleigh Primary School

Bignell Road
East Bentleigh 3165
Phone: 9570 3525 Fax: 9579 0205
Email: east.bentleigh.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

15th October 2020

Term 4 / Week 2, Issue 1

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.

Principal's Report - Maria Shearn

Hello everyone,

The last few days have been very happy ones for the staff as our school site once again comes alive to the sounds of happy children. Whilst we have noticed a heightened level of anxiety in some of our students, the prevailing feeling was one of joy at once again being with their friends and teachers. The image of excited preppies running towards their teachers and friends on Monday morning is one I will fondly remember. Watching our seniors need to recalibrate their muscle memory in moving towards their first days in their brand new classrooms was also pretty special.



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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

Onsite Return

Thank you to all parents who have helped with being mindful of arrival times in order to minimise congestion and heeding my advice to socially distance and move on quickly. Sadly this hasn't been replicated in the 3 afternoon pick-ups so far. Whilst I understand the need for human interaction, I have noticed far too many parents chatting for extended periods, often unmasked and not socially distancing after school.

Another issue of concern is the issue of mask wearing by the adults around the school. I have had many emails from concerned neighbours and school parents about the high number of non-mask wearing parents. A small number of parents have advised me that they have exemptions due to various reasons, despite it now being unlawful not to wear a mask in our state. As an asthmatic myself I understand all too well the challenges of wearing a mask, however I will still do it willingly as part of my social contract to others. I know many other parents and staff feel this way too.

As a courtesy to all other parents and staff, and in line with DET advice I would like to remind any parents not wearing masks to say goodbye to their children at (or before) the gate and refrain from coming on to the school site at all.

I thank you all for your consideration in adhering to this advice. I would prefer not to have any more unpleasant interactions in front of your children. Every decision we make here is in the interests of your children and all families.

A reminder also that as a result of parent feedback, and to avoid multiple pickups and congestion, younger siblings will be kept in their rooms until 3:30pm each day, at which time their older siblings will pick them up and leave via the school gate together. I ask that parents factor this in to their pick up routines to minimise unnecessary waiting around.

Senbazuru Paper Crane Project

I wonder how you are all going with the whole school project **Senbazuru** - a group of one thousand paper cranes tied together by strings, which was initiated by our student leaders during remote learning? I have reprinted the instructions below. It would be wonderful to have many paper cranes find their way to school when we return - a beautiful visual symbol of hope.

- How to create the crane - go to the link <https://origami.me/crane/>

- Size of paper needed is 15cm x 15cm

- Students can use any type of paper that they can find around the house (it doesn't have to be origami paper)

Sam has provided a box (located outside the office) in which to put all of your creations.

Please bring them to school as soon as you are able to. Thank you to Leela, Ethan, Reuben, Michael and Sam for your contributions. I look forward to lots more to fill our box.



Parent Opinion Survey

The annual Parent Opinion Survey has been sent via email to all families. It is open for response until Friday 13th November. I encourage all families to give us your feedback. Thanks in anticipation.

SunSmart



A reminder that now all students are back onsite, all children are required to a SunSmart hats for recess and lunch breaks, as well as all other outdoor activities. Uniform order forms are available on our website. You may email or send an order to school with your child. Orders for hats are processed daily.

Water bottles

A reminder that every child is required to bring a water bottle to school. ALL bubblers have been roped OFF in order to comply with COVID-safe practices.

Coronavirus

Coronavirus (COVID-19) information can be found on the Department of Education website, which will continue to be updated: <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>

Enrolments 2021

DET continues to advise us that schools will not be able to hold on-site tours. A virtual tour is available on our website.

Enrolment forms and information may be found in the Parent section on our website. We will be running Prep Orientation differently from previous years when we have been able to invite children and parents on-site.

Information will be emailed directly to families who are enrolled to commence Prep in 2021. Our virtual transition programs are currently being planned for Term 4.

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





EAST BENTLEIGH PRIMARY SCHOOL'S



Footy Fun Day

Dear Parents/Carers,

On **Thursday 22nd October** we will be holding our Annual Footy Day.

Due to COVID restrictions we will not have a coin line this year.

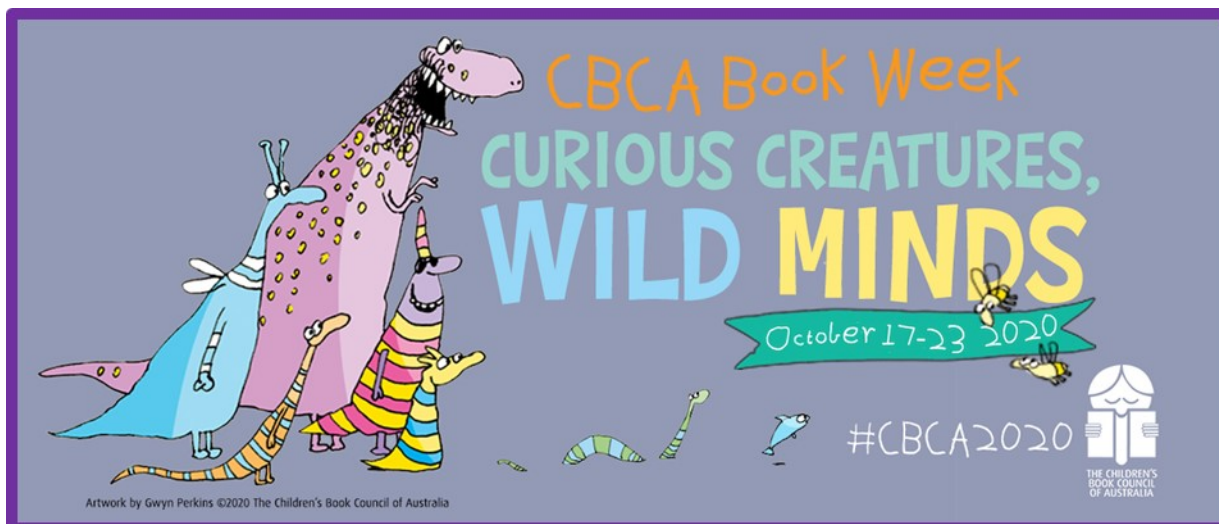
Children are encouraged to dress in their favourite footy teams colours: -
BLACK and YELLOW is my preference but I am positive we will be seeing
lots of RED/WHITE and BLACK or just BLACK and WHITE.

If you follow another code – Soccer or Gridiron then dress in those colours.

Regards

Sue Jackson, John Seary and the House Captains.





Dear Parents & Carers,

This year '[Book Week](#)' will be celebrated at EBPS - the week after CBCA 2020 – **26th -30th October**. This is due to having a Footy Day before the Grand Final holiday next week.

The children will be immersed in many wonderful literacy activities throughout the week – culminating with a dress up day on **Thursday 29th October**. This year we won't be holding a book parade for the whole school though the children will celebrate with a special parade in their own classroom.

Children are to bring [their favourite book](#) to share with their class and to come [dressed as their favourite book character](#).

The Literacy Team

East Bentleigh Primary

'Bring Your Favourite Book'



INSIGHTS

Encourage kids to occupy themselves



A child's ability to fill in their own time and cope with moments of boredom are important independence skills to develop. Children have less practise at keeping themselves occupied than those of past generations. You have many jobs as a parent, but constantly entertaining your child, should not be one of them. These ideas will help:

Invite them to keep themselves busy

When your child tells you that he or she is bored they are bringing you a problem to solve. Boredom is your child's problem, not yours. If this happens, encourage your child to keep themselves busy by asking questions such as "How can you keep yourself amused?"

Make a list

If your child is stuck for ideas make a list of activities that they can refer to when they're bored. Include a variety of activities such as creative tasks, performance tasks, crafts, sports, indoor and outdoor games, music activities, reading and helping. Place the list in a convenient place with easy access and visibility.

Make a boredom buster jar

Cut up a list of boredom busting activities and place them in a jar. When your child is stuck for an idea to keep him or herself amused invite them to select an activity from the boredom buster jar. Ask your child to add enjoyable activities to the jar over time.

Encourage plenty of green-time

Today's children spend more time in front of screens, and less time outdoors than those of previous generations. Not only is time spent in natural environments refreshing, relaxing and rejuvenating, but it's also a wonderful way for kids to relieve boredom. Encourage your child to spend some of their free time outside in natural environments to promote good mental health and develop their confidence.

Help find their interests

If your child struggles to keep him or herself occupied, consider helping them identify a hobby or interest that they enjoy. Often finding that one activity a child loves or excels in makes a huge difference to their self-esteem and wellbeing, and can become the driver for future career choice.

parenting * ideas

Build in downtime

A trait common among healthy families is the propensity for everyone to enjoy spending downtime or unstructured time together. It's during downtime that parents and children share activities together, which promotes better relationships and helps children's informal learning.

Most children when given unstructured time will rise to the occasion (even after some complaining) and will find interesting things to do. By encouraging them to find something "to do", other than filling their time with screen-based activities, you are promoting a fabulous life-skill in your kids.



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.