



Principal Report

It has been another lovely week at school and the children have all settled in well to what is soon going to be Week 10 and then our final finishing week. Some may say the term has gone so fast, others not so fast! The most important thing is that we are seeing so many happy faces and engaged students.

This week Rowan will be spending some time filling in at Hurstbridge Primary School where he will be needed for a short stint. Now everyone can take a deep breath, because under no circumstances does this mean we will lose him. Rowan is here to stay and as much as we would love to lose his terrible Dad jokes, that won't be happening any time soon!

This week we had our first online Prep Information Night. It had the highest attendance of any Prep Information Night since our commencement here. This is such a credit to the community, the teachers, the staff and the students. The other day as I wandered down to the back carpark to greet the students, I mentioned to one of our school leaders how much I had missed his beautiful smile and morning greetings. He responded to me by saying, "You don't know how much I have missed this place, the teachers and everyone really." A short stroll further along the path and we find a little prep who is feeling a little unsure being comforted by our other school leader. She was down at her level, helping and reassuring her until I arrived. We have a great school, our student's voices speak volumes and if every child leaves the school with compassion and the ability to be difference makers like these students then we can hold our head high and know that we have made a difference.

Some exciting developments are underway in the school holidays and we hope to have some smiling faces on the return to school. We will be starting our sensory play garden which will slowly evolve and eventually include a bigger sandpit, some tunnels, a digging area, some wet play and other exciting additions. We had a group of parents from school council who worked hard to gain a grant for this project and design the garden. We send a big thank you to everyone involved and look forward to seeing it completed.

Steiner inspired

Learning with Head Heart & Hands

This term we have worked hard on implementing a consistent approach to behaviour management at our school. As a result of this we have seen increased parent engagement in solving school concerns, stronger teams forming to look through the eyes of the 'Kids do well if they can' model. We would like to thank all parents for their support in making Briar Hill a great place to be. If we have concerns at school with behaviour, students may bring home a reflection sheet. This is a time to connect and reflect with your child. Please do not shame your child in any way, rather talk about their learning and how it may look better next time. You may be interested in to watch the work of Dr. Ross Greene who is an amazing childhood behaviour focused psychologist. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jvzQQdAL-Q>

Bouncing back or bouncing forward..... The Covid period has been a time of positive self-reflection for some and we have certainly felt an incredible shift in our school. I attended a personal development session last week for Assistant Principals and it gave us some time to really think about the things we would like to hold on to and let go of. I have to say the best and most beautiful part of the Covid-19 process that I can take away would be the settled classrooms and the beautiful uninterrupted morning circles. The value of morning circle can be truly seen through the connectedness due to the the way the children enter the rooms and begin their day. It helps to have settled corridors so that when the children enter the room they are ready to start the day. The children who are anxious at the gate are settled by the time we do the walk to the classroom. So my question to our community of parents, is how can we hold the value of such a positive, smooth start as we welcome parents back into the school when Covid restrictions are over? We have been discussing this with many parents at the gate and gaining feedback. All students arriving on time has been a big part of this, however no parents in the hallways stops some children feeling anxious too. We would love feedback around this as we make some positive decisions to help our students have the wonderful, settled starts they are having. I am sure we can all work on this for the best student outcomes.

Here is a beautiful photo of what happens as we turn the corner and walk through the front door. After 10 steps these are the happy faces of our students. They really are doing an amazing job. We always create a space of happiness and laughter. This group of students have been running a shop for me and I get beautiful lattes one day, I have a sports shop the next and this was the clown shop! It is so nice to see how quickly they can take their worries away!



As a matter of safety could we please ask that all parents please drive slower than the 40km at pick up time. We know it is hard to get through, however we will wait for any parent running late. If you could please park your car and meet your child at the gate and then move on quickly it will help with congestion. At the front gate there is more of an opportunity to pick up at front and continue to drive on. The back area is a bit more congested and needs parents to stop, get out of their cars and meet their child.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend and we look forward to welcoming you all back for Week 10.

Bridy Fitzpatrick
Assistant Principal

Tuckshop Reminder

This week in the Tuckshop Nat will be serving:

- Vegetarian Fried Rice
- Teriyaki Chicken and Vegetarian Fried Rice
 - Scones with Jam and Cream
- Vegan Scones with Coconut Cream
 - Corn on the Cob

Just a reminder that all meals need to be pre-ordered and pre-paid via the school office. Get your order in for this week by 9am Monday!



2020 Winter Festival Format

In 2020 our Winter Festival will take a different form, due to the restrictions on public gatherings. This year we have developed an alternative format which provides an opportunity for the whole school to celebrate in a unique way and continue to honour the established traditions and rituals for Class 6 students.

Class 6 students will participate in a modified ceremony of the 17th June. This will be filmed and uploaded to Seesaw or an unlisted YouTube Channel.

On the night of the Solstice, Sunday the 21st June, we encourage families to gather together, light your lanterns and follow a suggested program that we will send home. This includes singing, watching the Class 6 performance, going for a local walk, then off to bed,.

We would love to have some photos of your family experience and send them to: patterson.janet.j1@education.vic.gov.au

We will be compiling them in a special commemoration of 2020 Winter Festival

Reminders

School Laptops

A reminder to those families who borrowed a school laptop during Home Schooling, can you please return it to the school office ASAP.

Library Books

We are asking for all library books borrowed prior to Home Schooling to please be returned to the library. We would like to perform a stocktake of our current books. Please note that books borrowed by your child that are not returned will incur a fee as we will need to replace the books.

Home Readers

We seem to be missing quite a few home readers. If you have any school readers at home, that you borrowed prior to Home Schooling please return them to Leila in Prep or Michelle in the office.

Thankyou's

A HUGE thankyou to Bunnings Eltham for donating hand sanitiser, cleaning products, toilet paper, disinfectant wipes and disposable gloves!

Dates to Remember:

T 2

16th June

Tuckshop

18th June

Winter Festival for class 6

26th June

Last Day of Term 2.30 Finish

T 3

13th July

9am School returns for Term 3

