A reminder that the school newsletter can always be accessed from our website at www.buninyongps.vic.edu.au

TERM 1, ISSUE 3

17th FEBRUARY, 2016

17th February
Prep Rest Day
Gr 4-6 Compulsory BYOD Evening #1
Boys Tennis
Gr 6 Leadership Day

18th February
PLP Meeting #1 (2:30 - 3:30)
Gr 4-6 Compulsory BYOD Evening #2
Girls Tennis

22nd February
Parent teacher interviews Meet and Greet
STUDENTS DISMISSED AT 1:00PM

24th February
Prep Rest Day

26th February
Family Groups Start

29th February
Preps Start Full-time

3rd March
Preps get to know you day (3:30 - 4:30)

4th March
Lunchtime Live

7th March
Earth Ed - 4MM & 4SD

9th March
Earth Ed - 4JT & 4AC

11th March
School Sports 3-6
Donegan’s Farm Gr 1

14th March
LABOUR DAY - NO SCHOOL

15th March
District Sports 3-6 / PUPIL FREE DAY

16th March
Grade 4 Camp #1 (Anglesea 16-17th)

17th March
Grade 4 Camp #2 (Anglesea 17-18th)

18th March
PLP Meeting #2 (2:30 - 3:30pm)

21st March
Earth Ed - Grade 6 (2 Classes)

22nd March
Earth Ed - Grade 6 (2 Classes)

23rd March
Prep Teddy Bear Picnic

24th March
LAST DAY OF TERM, 2:30PM DISMISSAL

EARLY DISMISSAL
1:00PM
MONDAY 22nd
FEBRUARY

Gr 4 - 6 Compulsory BYOD Evening
Wed 17th and Thurs 18th February
6:00 - 8:00pm

MEET AND GREET
MONDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2016

The Meet and Greet evening is less than a week away. This
event has been designed to help us further understand the
learning needs and strengths of your child/children. This
information will support teachers in their planning, but also allow
communication processes to be set up between home and school
should the need arise. These meetings are just with you, the
parent/guardian and teacher….. Students don’t attend.

Bookings opened last week and will close at 5pm this Friday
19th February.

Thanks to the families who have taken the time to make an
appointment for their children. It is recommended that bookings be
made early this week to avoid disappointment in missing time slots
that suit your availability.

All instructions on how to book an interview are included in this
newsletter on page 10.

214 STUDENTS HAVE BOOKED AN INTERVIEW – ONLY 453
STUDENTS TO GO!!

To assist families in preparing for the session, the following
prompts could be used:

What would you like us to know about your child?
How has your child settled into the new school year?
What are your child’s strengths and areas of need?
What interests does your child have?
Are there any medical, social or family issues that we
need to discuss or have changed from 2015?
How does your child/ family approach homework?

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL STUDENTS FINISH AT THE
EARLIER TIME OF 1pm ON THIS DAY.

It is a timely reminder to ensure alternative pick up times are
organised in advance.
Why do we conduct assessments at the start of the year?

During February your child will be undergoing some assessments at school. These are important elements in ensuring we fully understand your child. Together with information gathered through observations and communication with home and past teachers, a clear picture about their learning needs can be established.

These ‘Start of Year’ assessments are conducted in a supportive environment and on a 1:1 basis. Should your child worry about these sessions, you can help by talking through the concern and modelling a positive mindset that focuses on the process undertaken rather than the outcome. You could even discuss the strategies you have used during assessments in the past.

You may have heard the term ‘Formative Assessment’ used from time to time. This information allows teachers to ‘form’ a plan for each student to help them reach their potential.

Ways in which Buninyong P.S teachers collect information:

- Observations in and outside the classroom
- Formal assessments – An assessment schedule that runs through the year outlines the assessments each year level is required to complete
- Parent meetings – Meet and Greet, 3 Way Conversations, Learning Celebrations and Parent Teacher Interviews
- Student Self Assessments
- Pre-testing – assessments that take place at the beginning of a new concept
- Behaviour records
- Student conferences

By combining all this information, teachers are able to clearly identify the needs of your child and formulate a plan to help meet their potential.

Should you wish to discuss concerns or celebrations about your child’s learning please make an appointment with their classroom teacher or myself.

Parent Liaison Program

Any parent interested in becoming a PLP or continuing in their role as a PLP please contact Josh Ebbels (Ebbels.joshua.r@edumail.vic.gov.au) or your child’s classroom teacher direct. Regular meetings will be held, twice per term discussing many aspects of school life such as; volunteering, fundraising, general information, reporting, school data results and other important information. This year the meetings will be open to all parents interested so please keep an eye on the school newsletter.

Meetings for Term 1 – 18th February and 18th March both at 2.30 – 3.30pm in the staff room.

We are low on numbers in the Grade 4 to 6 area
BYOD REGISTRATION EVENINGS - FEB 17TH AND 18TH

A courtesy reminder that we are holding our compulsory BYOD registration evenings for parents with students in grades 4-6 THIS WEEK (the 17th or 18th of February between 6 and 8pm). At these evenings, we will go through the following topics:

- Examples of how the devices are used at school (and what the kids are telling us about their use).
- How you can best support your child at home and best practices in managing their usage.
- The school’s expectation of use at home.
- Connecting your child to the school network.
- Connecting your child to their filtered school email account.
- Connecting your child to their Google Drive (online storage of work) account.
- Cybersafety resources and risks.
- The school’s ICT Acceptable Use Policy and Consequences.

Please note: you will need to attend only one of these sessions with your child before they can bring their iPad to school.

If you cannot attend, please try to send a grandparent or carer (if possible) so that they can communicate the necessary information to you.

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

This Friday 19th of February

Grade 6 Teams are being announced and badges will be given out. If you can come along to this assembly the kids would truly appreciate it.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Every term we are required by the Department of Education to conduct a lockdown / evacuation drill. This Thursday, the 18th of February, we are planning an offsite evacuation as part of our drills.

We will be assembling at Royal Park in Buninyong just before recess, marking the role and awaiting the all clear from ADMIN before returning to school. The evacuation will be thoroughly discussed with your children in class prior to the day.

If you have any concerns please contact us.

Ruby Johnson

Ruby saw another prep crying in the playground and left her own group of friends to go and ask that girl to play with her. Well done on showing kindness and compassion Ruby!
Welcome to the Buninyong Wellbeing News. Each week there will be information for parents, children, teachers and the community relating to all things wellbeing. Our first insert is going to be based on our new B+ program at Buninyong Primary School. So far we have been busy developing our Family Groups (P-6), reviewing and upgrading our assemblies and the B+ student team have planted the seed with relation to Gratitude walls in our classrooms. All of our new little preppies have settled in well and all of our grade 1-6 students have started off extremely positively. One of the main components of our B+ (Buninyong Positive) program has been adapted from the Positive Education framework—seen below.

A few ideas to think about and discuss with your children at home:

1. Do you have a growth mindset? Discuss the differences between the two.
2. Discuss the power of YET!!

THEME OF THE FORTNIGHT
RESPECT
**CITY OF BALLARAT**

The City of Ballarat has recently contacted schools in our area and let us know that Police will be monitoring road safety in and around schools in the next few weeks. They will be focussing on speed, obeying road rules and parking so please take care in school zones. Please feel free to contact Amy Boyd on 5320 5570 from the City of Ballarat if you have any concerns.

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**MIDLANDS DISTRICT AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION**

Dear Parents,

Just a reminder that The Midlands District Amateur Swimming Association will be hosting two swimming events for Ballarat and district schools this term.

The Nine and Under 25 Metre events will be held at Ballarat Aquatic Centre 25m Pool on Wednesday 24th February 2016, starting at 7pm. Students can compete in freestyle and backstroke races.

The Primary Schools 50m Events and Relays will be held at Eureka Aquatic Centre in Stawell Street, Ballarat, on Sunday 21st February 2016, commencing at 10.15am, with a warm-up at 9.45am. Students can compete in freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly races, as well as the chance to be in a relay race.

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**FUNDRAISING/CONCERT TEAM**

Each year we establish a Fundraising Team made up of parents and staff. The major task for that group is to organise the Fete or Concert.…our major fundraiser for the year. Obviously it’s the concert we are focussing on this year. At School Council last night we discussed a couple of other options which the Fundraising Team might coordinate or help with, but there will be more information about that down the track.

If you are interested in being a member of our Fundraising Team for this year, please let us know. Give Bernie a call if you’d like more information before committing. The first meeting of the Fundraising Team will be on Wednesday, March 2 at 3:45.

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**EATING LUNCH AT SCHOOL**

From time to time we are asked about eating arrangements for students at school and thought it worthwhile explaining how this works.

All classes stop and spend at least 10 minutes eating lunch together. In some areas, such as our BER building, more than one class may sit together to eat. After 10 minutes a bell sounds and children are free to head outside. Those who haven’t finished are fine to stay a little longer if the teacher is staying, which is often the case if there is more than one more teacher in that area.

Those children who have not finished their lunch by the time the teacher leaves have the option of taking their food outside. Those eating out of a lunch box are welcome to take that outside and when finished can pop the lunch box in a tub outside the classroom, back on the classroom steps or inside the classroom door…depending on the arrangement made by the teacher.

Teachers will encourage children to eat their lunch and give them the opportunity to do so, but if your child is coming home on a regular basis without eating their lunch, make contact with their teacher and discuss how the problem might be overcome.
School Council Report

School Council met for the first time in 2016 on Monday night. A highlight of this meeting was welcoming David Young to our School. The Council is looking forward to working with Bernie, Josh and Dave throughout the rest of the year.

The Council received an update from Bernie on emergency management planning and particularly bush fire readiness planning on extreme or code red days. There were no policies formally considered.

Fundraising was also considered with an exploration of several options to increase this activity at the school. The fundraising sub-committee will be meeting shortly to consider our options in greater detail.

The main item at this meeting was the presentation of the 2016 school budget, which had been deferred from 2015. While originally facing some challenges a sound budget has been developed for 2016, however as we look forward to future years, the Council will need to work with School Management to ensure the sustainability of the many programmes at Buninyong that we all value. The budget was approved after a lengthy, but enlightening discussion.

As part of both the budget approval and general financial reporting it was noted that the level of payments of school fees and year level charges was considerably less than in previous years. These payments support important additional programs including Mathletics, Spelling Mastery and Reading Eggs. If you have forgotten to pay, or are planning to pay these charges please do so promptly, or phone Bernie for a chat if you need more information. At the moment upwards of $20,000 is outstanding and ultimately may have to be diverted away from other School activities to cover this shortfall.

Let's all work to make 2016 a great year of learning in Buninyong!

Darren Holland
darren.holland@gmail.com
School Council President.
SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

As of today, we are calling for nominations for parents to join School Council. Official notice of this appears below. We have four parent member vacancies for a two year term. If you would like to join School Council, just pop in and collect a nomination form which is available at the General Office and must be completed and returned by Thursday, February 25th. If you are unable to make it in to the office, please call and we can send a nomination form home.

If nominations exceed available positions, a ballot will be conducted from March 3 to 10. We will let parents know how they can participate in that ballot if one is required.

We ask you to please consider joining School Council and playing a part in shaping the direction taken by our school. The role is most satisfying as councillors get to see their ideas put into practice and have a positive impact on students, teachers and parents in our school community. Parent members are critical in providing School Council with a parent perspective.

No experience is required, just an interest in the education of your child/ren and other children attending our School.

The commitment is not huge - just one meeting per month (3rd Monday of each month). Meetings start at 7:00pm and finish between 8:30 and 9pm. If you would like more information, give Bernie a call.

Schedule 4 Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Buninyong Primary School.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00 pm on Thursday February 25 2016. If required, a ballot will open on March 3 and close at 4.00 pm on Wednesday 10 March 2016.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Category</th>
<th>Term of office</th>
<th>Number of positions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2016 to and</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD employee member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2016 to and</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.
Celebrating Safer Internet Day

Last Tuesday was Safer Internet Day and the Grade 4-6's took part in a number of Cyber Safety activities to help learn about the ways in which we can be safe online. Brendan Everard from the Victorian Police kindly gave up his time to come and talk to the class on the type of information that is safe to share online and the importance of knowing who it is that you are speaking to online. A big thank you to Brendan for his time and expertise today. After Brendan's visit, we were excited to take part in an e-Safety Webinar, run by the Australian Government Office of the Children's e-Safety Commissioner. We were able to listen to the presenters and contribute our thoughts and answers through the live chat.

Parent Helper Program

Our Parent Helper Program last week was a great success. Important issues such as confidentiality and how best to support teachers in and outside of the classroom were covered. A morning tea followed which was a great chance to catch up and also welcome our new parents. If you missed the morning and would like to help at Scotsburn this year, please drop in to see Shaun to grab a handout.

Hockey Clinics

Last Wednesday, the Ballarat Hockey Association visited us to run hockey clinics. The students had lots of fun learning and practising their skills. Thanks very much to Deb Ms Hunter for organising the clinic and to the coaches that came along.

Seed Collecting

Last Friday, the students participated in our annual seed collecting. We made our way to Ogilvy's Lane and picked a large variety of seeds. Special thanks to Phil Allen from the Leigh Catchment Group for offering up his time along with the parents that came along to help out. We look forward to propagating the seeds over the coming months.

Welcome Picnic

Our welcome picnic was a great success. Ms Hunter organised some fun activities and it was great to get our families getting out and being active together.

Lunchtime Club

This week we started 'Lunchtime Club'. The kids had a great time chatting and playing with lego. Special thanks to Tamara for initiating this great program.

Clean Up Australia Day

On Friday 4th March we will be playing our part in Clean Up Australia Day. The students will be cleaning up around the outskirts of the school property. Please feel free to come along and help from 2pm if you are available.

Evacuation Drill

This Thursday, we will have our first evacuation drill of the year. We practice this once each term to ensure that all of our students and staff are aware of what to do in an emergency such as a fire. It would be a great idea to chat to your child/children about the importance of listening to the teacher’s instructions and staying calm. This will help to ensure that the children all understand why we practise these important processes.

Spelling Mastery Parent Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group A</th>
<th>Group B</th>
<th>Group C</th>
<th>Group D</th>
<th>Group E</th>
<th>Group F</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shaun’s room</td>
<td>Old building</td>
<td>Claire’s room</td>
<td>Shed</td>
<td>Shed</td>
<td>Shaun’s office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shaun</td>
<td>Kim (Tue/ Wed)</td>
<td>Sharon (Thur/Fri)</td>
<td>Naomi (Tue) Natasha (Wed) Kate (Thur) Laura (Fri)</td>
<td>Claire Brisbane</td>
<td>Bianca (Tue) Jodie (Wed) Catherine (Thur) Catherine (Fri)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Buninyong Village Market

On Sunday 28th February (9am-1pm), the Scotsburn campus will be running the BBQ at the market. This is a great opportunity for us to make some money that will then go towards improving the school grounds. If you can help for an hour between 9am-1pm, please drop in and see Shaun. We are looking for 3 volunteers per hour.

(Continued on page 9)
Fish Tank
Students were handed a note to take home on Monday explaining where we are up to with the fish tank. We look forward to seeing our new swimming friends in the tank very soon!

Cooking Program
Our cooking program is now in full swing. In the past, the cooking program has been possible due to parents paying $30 per year to fund it. This year, the $30 is now included in your child’s school fees. In order for us to continue to provide such a wonderful program, please ensure that you have paid any outstanding school fees ASAP.

Monday Rotations
Our next rotation for Term 1 will be on the 22nd Feb. Our groups will be doing the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>PARENT HELPER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18th Feb</td>
<td>Marita Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th Feb</td>
<td>Natasha Lepair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd March</td>
<td>Naomi Moore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th March</td>
<td>Rebecca Blackburn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th March</td>
<td>Faith Valent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th March</td>
<td>Nikki Chapman</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TERM 1 - Lunch Order Roster
Lunch orders need to be collected from The Buninyong campus at 12.40pm.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Cooking (Mrs Murphy)</th>
<th>Team Building Activities (Ms Morris)</th>
<th>Landcare/Gardening (Mr O’Loughlin)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22nd Feb</td>
<td>Group 2</td>
<td>Group 3</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amber Coleman</td>
<td></td>
<td>Naomi Moore</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LENGTHS OF STEEL
If anyone has 2 lengths of steel (4.8m each approx), we would be able to use them to strengthen our chook run. Please let Shaun know if you can help.

Term 1 - Important Dates & Extra Curricular Events
- 22nd February: Meet & Greet – (1pm Finish)
- 28th February: Buninyong Village Market
- 1st March: National Ride to School Day
- 4th March: St John’s First Aid Course
- 11th March: Gr 3-6 Sports Day
- 14th March: Labour Day Holiday
- 15th March: Gr 3-6 District School Sports / Pupil Free Day
- 19th March: Buninyong Village Market
- 24th March: Term 1 Finishes
- 11th April: Term 2 Starts

School Community Code of Conduct
In 2014 we developed a Buninyong School Community Code of Conduct as a means of setting clear and consistent expectations for all members of our school community (students, parents and staff) around communication and positive behaviours.

With respect to relationships, our school community is well placed and we’d like to keep it that way……the School Community Code of Conduct reminds us all of the role we play in achieving this.

A copy of the School Community Code of Conduct is attached to this week’s newsletter mail out and also appears on the school website. Please take the time to read and familiarise yourself with this document.

ICT Acceptable Use Agreement - Please Sign and Return
Attached to this week’s newsletter is our school’s ICT Acceptable Use Agreement for how children use computers and technology at school (Teachers also be sent home a hard copy with your child last week). If you have not already done so, we ask that all parents take the time to read over this carefully and to then discuss the key points with their child(ren). The aims of the agreement are to keep our children safe when using ICT equipment and resources. When finished reading, please return the signed agreement form only to your child’s classroom teacher. Please keep the agreement at home for reference.
Dear Parents,

For our Parent/Teacher Meet and Greet sessions we will be using our ONLINE BOOKING PROCESS. All the details are listed below.

**BOOKINGS OPEN FROM WEDNESDAY 10th FEBRUARY**

**BOOKINGS CLOSE FRIDAY 19TH MARCH**

**Parent/Teacher Meet and Greet Date:**

**MONDAY 22nd FEBRUARY 2016**


**STEP 2.** Enter the EVENT CODE into designated box.

**EVENT CODE:** WXHNN

Parents...

Booking interviews is as easy as 1 - 2 - 3:

1. **Enter your details**

First enter your name, your student's name(s), and your email address.

2. **Choose teachers**

On the next page, pick the teachers you want to meet.

First select the subject or year, then choose from the list of teachers.

3. **Choose times**

Then you'll see a timetable showing when your chosen teachers are available. Simply click on the times that suit you.

Once your booking is complete, the details will be emailed to you.
On Tuesdays and Fridays in term one, we will be selling frozen treats at the canteen. We’re hoping our team CAN make a difference each term by sharing any profits to support projects within the school and wider community. Window sales only (no ordering), bring your coins to the canteen during the first half of lunch. Remember to put your wrappers in the bin please!

**Items for sale:**

**FROZEN FRUIT SEGMENTS** 50c
(Seasonal...1/4 orange, pineapple ring, watermelon slice)

**ZOOPER DOOPERS** $1

**FROZEN YOGHURT** $1.50
(Bulla 97% fat free / reduced sugar)

*Flavours include Strawberry, Passionfruit, Raspberry, Mango & Wildberry*

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**Do you have a Health Care Card or Pension Card?**

If you have either of these cards you may be eligible for the C.S.E.F. (Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund). This is an amount of $125.00 per year per child to be used exclusively for camps, sports and excursions.

Applications are available from the office. If applying please bring a copy of your card. All applications are verified through Centrelink. This amount will be paid during the month of March.

**This needs to be applied for every year**
Buninyong Primary offers classroom music classes to all students. In addition, parents have the opportunity to sign up students to learn a musical instrument. Instruments available to learn in 2016 are: Guitar, Keyboard, Drums, and Trumpet. This program run as an optional extra and parents must cover all lesson fees.

Research shows that there are considerable social and emotional benefits for students who learn a musical instrument and it can help improve coordination and academic achievement in other areas.

Please note that students are taken from their classes for music lessons. Every effort is made to make sure this causes as little disruption to student’s learning as possible. If you are concerned about how this might affect your child, please talk to your classroom teacher about their suitability before signing up for music lessons.

All students should have an instrument at home to practice on. The individual teachers can help you to organise purchase or hire if required.

If you would like more information and to enrol your child to have lessons please contact the music teacher directly on the numbers listed.

**John Woods** - Drums - 0427 185 736

**Roger Shultz** - Keyboard - 0418 358 078

**Clive Meddings** - Trumpet - 0409 333 890

**Gregory Storer** - Guitar - 0439 035 465