DATES TO REMEMBER

27th July   Japanese Lunch Day
28th July   Japanese Students visiting Gr 5 Debating
29th July   Scotsburn Debating
3rd August  Scotsburn Ecolinc
9-10th August Grade 5 Sovereign Hill (Gr 3)
12th August  Grade 1 Ecolink 1RS & 1CA
17-18th August Grade 3 Camp (3KA, 3DS & SCB)
17th August  Grade 1 Ecolink 1HM & 1SC
18-19th August Grade 3 Camp (3NS & 3JB)
25th August  SCHOOL CONCERT
26th August  SCHOOL CONCERT
29th August  Gr 6 Biolab (6KG & 6BB)
31st August  Gr 6 Biolab (6PW & 6JM) Gr 3 Ecolinc
5th September  SCIENCE DAY Buninyong Kinder Visit
6th September  Scotsburn Gr 4-6 Biolab Buninyong Kinder Visit
8th September  Buninyong Kinder Visits
9th September  Grandparents Day (9-11am)
12th September  Grade 3 Ecolink
14th September  Celebration of Learning Mt Helen Kinder Visit
16th September  Last Day of term 3

SCHOOL CONCERT

Tickets

We’d like to remind everyone that concert tickets go on sale from August 1st. Tickets will be selling for $22. There is just the one price, with no concession rates or variations related to seat location. Tickets will be sold online.

To access the tickets go to: www.trybooking.com and search for Buninyong Primary School.

Ticket sales will be strictly limited to 4 tickets per family, which is necessary for us to make sure all families get the opportunity to purchase at least a few tickets.

Tour of Founders Hall

On August 17th at 4pm we have a tour of our concert facility, Founders Hall at Federation University. Whilst this tour is primarily for staff, it does present the opportunity for any parent who has an anxious child to come along and help familiarise their child with the venue. If you would like to take up that opportunity, please send a message through to Bernie.

PARENT SURVEYS

A reminder that parent surveys were posted out to a number of families in the past few days. If one appeared in your mail box, please take a little time to complete and return it.

All responses are anonymous – surveys are not opened at school but are sent off to Melbourne for processing.

For your responses to count, surveys must be returned by Friday, July 29th.
On Monday night we welcomed Damien Coats to school Council. Damien has taken up a casual vacancy that was created when Nadine Miller resigned her position. Damien comes with lots of relevant experience and is well placed to make a strong contribution as a member of school council.

This week our results for the 2016 Student Attitude to School (SATS) surveys became available. These surveys are conducted with grade 5 & 6 students in all state schools each May. The results are always very interesting and provide a window into the thinking of our students. The students respond to a number of questions within the key areas of:

- **Student Relationships**
  - Classroom Behaviour
  - Connectedness to Peers
  - Student Safety

- **Wellbeing**
  - Student Distress
  - Student Morale

- **Teaching and Learning**
  - Learning Confidence
  - School Connectedness
  - Stimulating Learning
  - Student Motivation
  - Teacher Effectiveness
  - Teacher Empathy

We spent quite a bit of time discussing and interpreting the results. Overall the results are very encouraging for the following reasons:

- The scores are generally trending upwards and we are now up with the average across the state.

- This is particularly the case with the Teaching and Learning elements, which have lifted significantly. The Teaching and Learning targets we set ourselves in this year’s Annual Implementation Plan have been achieved, despite those goals being set deliberately high. There are many factors at play, but we’re thinking the key reasons behind this include:
  - A strong focus on improving teaching and learning with staff.
  - Increased levels of consistency across classrooms.....a clear sense of what we do and how we do it.
  - Our teachers improving their capacity to assess where students are at and pitching work at the level of need.
  - Our intervention programs lifting the performance and confidence of a number of students needing additional support.
  - A sharper focus on connecting students to their learning..... making sure they understand what they are learning, what success looks like and providing them with quality feedback along the way.

- We have reason to believe the same will occur in the areas of Student Relationships and Wellbeing in the coming 12 months as a result of core student wellbeing related initiatives which are still quite new to the school (eg, our fortnightly B+ Themes, Family Group sessions, etc). We didn’t meet our targets for 2016, but there is a clear improvement trend.

Our girls’ sense of classroom behaviour, connectedness to peers, student distress, learning confidence, school connectedness, stimulating learning, student motivation and teacher empathy were lower than other girls across the state. The difference is not drastic, but is worth noting and exploring. We speculated as to why that might be, but agreed that the best thing is to ask the children directly.....this is something we’ll be doing in a range of informal forums over the coming weeks.

At the meeting we also spent some time looking over a Social Media policy, that Scott McGlynn had drafted for us. This raised quite a bit of interesting discussion and an updated version of this policy will be considered at our August meeting.
Vision Australia Ballarat is seeking a volunteer to work in a Preschool, one morning a week during school terms, to assist a child who is blind or has low vision. Do you enjoy interacting with young children, are great working in a supported team environment and have a few hours to spare? This exciting role could be for you. You will be able to help and guide when it’s required but also to attend to the other children in the room. You will receive a detailed induction and training before you start volunteering.

For further information please contact Michelle at Vision Australia on 5337 4555 or email volunteer@visionaustralia.org

Japan Tour 2017

A detailed letter will be sent home this week to our grade 4 & 5 students, outlining the anticipated itinerary, estimated costs, etc.

An information session will then be held on Wednesday 27th July, 6-7pm in the B.E.R for interested students and parents to find out more and ask questions relating to our proposed 2017 Japan Tour.

Angus kindly offered his gold coin donation for the disco to another student who had lost theirs and was very upset. Well done Angus.

Angus Gunn – 3NS

Jeans for Genes

Friday 5th August

Wear denim.

Gold coin donation.
ICAS Success
This year students have had the opportunity to take part in some extra assessment opportunities to test their knowledge in a number of curriculum areas. We have recently received results from the Science Tests with the following achievements:

- Candace Mauseth – Distinction Award
- Erin Almeida – Credit Award
- Ron Mauseth – Merit Award

Each of these students have received a certificate and detailed report for their efforts.

These are fantastic results with all students achieving above average results for their age group.

We look forward to receiving further testing results in the coming weeks.

Reading Toward Success
Well done to Gabby and Aurelia on completing the Mini Lit course. These students have been working hard with other students from Year 1 on strategies to develop a greater understanding of reading. They have been working hard with Ms Joy at school and their parents at home. They were awarded a book to celebrate their success.

VCOP the Big Write
Our second Big Write session was a great success once again with students engaging in the writing process. A huge thank you to families for supporting the Talk Homework, which is allowing students to come prepared with some ideas for writing.

Below is a reminder for all of us to remember the processes for Talk Homework.

Talk Homework is designed to:
- Help students think about ideas before taking part in the Big Write session.
- Encourage parents to share strategies and the thinking involved in writing.
- Foster the enjoyment that writing can offer.

Parents role in Talk Homework:
- Ask to see the writing prompt that has been sent home from school.
- Organise some time in the nights leading up to Thursday to discuss the writing prompt.
- Share some ideas about the writing prompt.
- Share some strategies, based on VCOP, that will help improve their writing.

Please note that the Talk Homework is not designed to have students complete the writing task at home. It is simply a chance to discuss ideas to use in the writing session at school.

The next Big Write session is on Thursday 4th August with the Talk Homework being sent home the Friday before.
WORLD SNAKE DAY INCURSION
This year's Snake Day was certainly hands on! Simon from the Ballarat Wildlife Park brought in a variety of scaly animals for us to look at and hold. "I really enjoyed the snake visit. I learnt a lot about snakes: what they look like, their habitat and their diet. We even got to hold the snakes! Every school should do this so they can learn a lot like I did. They can learn it’s amazing to see a snake and to learn how they’re are endangered so we can help them." Alice Lepair.

TREE PLANTING AT UNION JACK RESERVE
Due to the weather, our tree planting has been rescheduled for later in the term.

SPARE MATERIAL NEEDED
SC3 are looking for some green, white and yellow material for their VCOP bandanas. If you have any spare material (any shade and patterns are ok), can you kindly hand them to Ms Morris.

PHOTO COMPETITION
Entries and payment need to be given to Mr O'Loughlin (on memory stick or XD card for him to copy) by Wednesday 27th July. The only cost involved is $7.50 for the mat that the photo will be attached to.

EVACUATION DRILL
Next Wednesday, we will have another practice evacuation drill. 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.

PARENT OPINION SURVEY
You may have recently received a parent opinion survey in the mail. Please take the time to fill it in as the survey results are extremely beneficial in helping us to determine how best to meet the needs of our students and the community. If you require any clarification with the survey, please drop in and see Shaun.

JEANS FOR GENES DAY
Friday 5th August is Jeans for Genes Day. It would be great if all students could wear their jeans on this day and bring along a gold coin to donate to this wonderful cause.

MS READATHON
The Scotsburn students will receive information this week regarding the MS Readathon. It would be great if all families could support their children with this throughout the month of August.

ABC AWARDS
P/1 – Amelia Huybens
2/3 – Jackson Lyons

TERM 3 - ROTATION ROSTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Cooking (Miss Wood)</th>
<th>Team Building Activities (Ms Morris)</th>
<th>Landcare/Gardening (Mr O'Loughlin)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st August</td>
<td>Group 3 Jodie Menhenett</td>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>Group 2 Vicki Plier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th August</td>
<td>Group 2 Liz Lucas</td>
<td>Group 3</td>
<td>Group 1 Laura Conroy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TERM 3 - LUNCH ORDER ROSTER
Lunch orders need to be collected from The Buninyong campus at 12.40pm.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Parent Helper</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28th July</td>
<td>Faith Vallent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th August</td>
<td>Kate Martin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TERM 3 - IMPORTANT DATES & EXTRA CURRICULAR EVENTS
- 29th July - South St Debating
- 1st – 31st August - MS Read-a-thon
- 3rd August - Grade 4-6 Ecolinc Outreach
- 5th August - Jeans for Genes Day
- 9th & 10th August - Grade 5 – Sovereign Hill
- 17th & 18th August - Grade 3 Camp
- 24th August - Book Week Dress up Day
- 25th & 26th August - School Concert
- 5th September - Science Day
- 6th September - Grade 4-6 Biolab
- 8th September - Gr P-6 R.U.O.K Day
- 9th September (9-11am) - Grandparents Day
- 14th September - Celebration of Learning
- 16th September - Term 3 Finishes
- 3rd October - Term 4 Starts
GENERAL INFORMATION

It’s week 3 and time is flying! Our student leaders are busy organising assemblies, assisting with the concert and very soon will be planning their grade 6 graduation in mid December. Lot’s going on in the coming weeks, including; Grade 3 camp, expressions of interest for the Japan trip in 2017 and the school concert. Fun times ahead!

Evacuation Drill — Week 4

Please be aware that we are running an internal evacuation drill on Wednesday 3rd of August.

If you have any concerns please contact Josh Ebbels.

The Connection—Mind your body

The Connection is a documentary featuring world leading experts in mind body medicine and remarkable true stories of recovery. It proves we have more to say about our health than we thought possible.

www.THECONNECTION.tv

MADE Museum—2.30pm til 4.30pm on the 31st of July
Tickets available at www.eventbrite.com.au

PLP INFORMATION

Each week we need a Parent Liaison Person to help organise support for our canteen.

PLP’s this week are from Paige Gibson’s classroom: Georgie McQuie

B+ Program Fortnightly Theme—Emotional Intelligence

This fortnight we will be concentrating on teaching our kids about Emotional Intelligence. If you can discuss / explain all the different types of emotions at home and help your child identify what each emotion looks like it will really support what we aim to teach in class. Thanks

The next whole school assembly and family group activity will be on the 5th of August —all welcome.

Mindfulness session in the nice warm BER at lunchtime this Friday……come along!
A big thankyou to those who have taken interest and sought to help us find the missing time capsule at our Buninyong Campus. A number of leads have come in, nearly all pointing us towards an understanding that the time capsule was buried beside the original flag pole. This includes reference to the fact that the time capsule was buried for 50 years, not 30 as we had thought. Never the less, we’d like to find it now for safe keeping….and then to be opened in 20 years time.

We have found the foundations of the original flag pole and had a dig around it, but without luck. We’d love to find a photo of the time capsule being buried, to give us the confidence to dig in a particular spot and maybe go a little deeper. Please keep spreading the word to those who you think might be able to help us solve the mystery. We will keep you posted.

Can you guess what this is? Do you know what it is used for? There are some on display at the office if you’d like a closer look!

Write your answer, name & grade; put in the box at the office by Thursday 11am.

Everyone who enters 10 or more times for the year will receive a prize!

CONGRATULATIONS LILY BRAAM

who guessed last week’s answer—a gyoza (dumpling) maker
**STARTS:** Thursday the 28th July

**Where:** Federation University

**Who:** Any 5-10 year olds

**Ballarat District Anglers Association**

**2016 Annual Kids “Come & Try’ Fishing day**

**Sunday 18th September 2016 at Victoria Park, Ballarat**

The fun starts at 10am at the small lakes in Victoria Park and finishes with the BBQ at approximately 1pm.

It’s BYO fishing gear, chairs and energetic kids! All of the rest is provided free, including some environmentally friendly non-worm smelling bait!

This year, along with the free show bags for the early birds, we’ll have trained volunteers from Fishcare, a sumptuous free BBQ, lots of hungry trout and a Fisheries Education Officer and their Freshwater Education Van.

If you require any additional information or have any questions about the day, please email Chris Doody on chrisdoody@bigpond.com or ring 0428304004.