



NEWSLETTER

8th Issue of Term 3 2018 – Thursday 6th September 2018

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

5 th – 7 th September	3/4 Camp Wednesday 5 th - Friday 7 th September to Waratah Bay.
Monday 10 th September	Bike Ed Grades 3 to 6. Please remember to bring your bikes // Student Led Reporting
Tuesday 11 th September	Student Led Reporting
Thursday 13 th September	F/1 Cultural day at Kurnai College
Tuesday 18 th September	Information Evening for Prospective New Families in the main building, Rooms 2 & 3 from 5.30pm to 6.30pm. Children welcome and light refreshments provided.
Friday, 21 st September	House Competition Spelling Bee // Last day of Term Dismissal
Wednesday, 24 th October	School Council // State Chess Final // Regional Bike Ed
Monday 5 th November	Pupil Free Day // Staff Professional Development

From the Principal

Student Led Reporting

Pink notes have been returned today confirming times. Every effort has been made to accommodate appointment times. Please see me if there is a problem. For those who have not returned a form, it is not too late to book a time.

Extra Curricula Activities

The teachers at Boolarra Primary School believe that education is more than learning to read, write and adding up. We are committed to providing a variety of opportunities so all of our students have the chance to shine. This week several students competed in the Regional Athletic Sports held in Newborough. I was very impressed by the standard of competition and our students should be very proud of their efforts and skills. Well done to Ethan, Jordan and Blaze who competed on the day and to Aleasha who qualified.

Last Thursday, I accompanied eight students to compete in the Bike Education Challenge. Once again, Boolarra Primary School students demonstrated that their skills and knowledge are up there with the best. We finished third and was only six points behind the winning school. Considering some of the tasks our students completed were scored out of ten, we were only beaten by a short nose. Our team has qualified to compete in the State Finals. These students practiced in their own time and are fabulous

role models for our school community. Well done Indily, Lana, Carly, Jackson, Bella and Claire. Special mention to Sophie and Alex who were both presented with Encouragement Awards. Alex was the second highest scoring boy.

Attitude to School Survey

We have recently received results from the Student Attitudes to School Survey. This is used to help inform us of the perceptions of students (Years Four to Six) towards learning, our school and their peers. Almost all areas have shown improvements.

Student voice and agency is one of our lower areas with 62% of students making positive responses to the survey questions and 30% of responses were neutral. We have been working on this throughout 2018. Some of the positive actions we have put in place are the increase in the duties of our school leaders. We are running House Competitions more frequently; at the end of this term, we will hold a Spelling Bee. Our House Captains organise and run this event. Captains have been leading fortnightly practice sessions for their Houses. Students have been more involved in their learning by setting and/or knowing their learning goals. Next week we will be holding our second Student Led Reporting Conversations. Students select the pieces they wish to showcase and will report on how this shows learning progress and/or goal achievement. It is pleasing to note that 90% of our students believe that their teachers have high expectations. Another strong area

was attitudes to attendance. I would like to thank the community for instilling this attitude in our children; they understand that it is important to attend school. Having the support of our parents is greatly appreciated by all staff.

An area of concern was around respect. We will look further into this by having discussions with our students so we can understand how they feel and what they are experiencing. Once we have a better understanding of our student's opinions we will work with them to develop an improvement plan.

Behaviour

The teachers have been developing clear guidelines with respect to behaviour. This is still a work in progress although, we are well underway. Last term, we gathered student's ideas and expectations around our values. We discussed the roles of everyone in maintaining a safe and orderly learning environment.

This term, teachers have developed agreed behavioural support guidelines that outline processes so all staff have a common approach. If a student does not follow our behaviour expectations in the yard, they will firstly be given a warning; further misconduct will result in completing a rethink sheet inside. If the student does not change their attitude and behaviour, the student will be withdrawn from the yard and have supervised play inside. If a student uses physical aggression, they will be immediately exited from the yard, parents will be notified and they will have supervised inside play for five days. We are committed to improving communication between home and school. Parents will be notified if their child is regularly completing rethink sheets.

Social Media Use

Facebook is a modern method of communication that has many benefits, but also some pitfalls. Recently some people have used this platform to air concerns they have on matters to do with the school. If a parent has a problem with the school or teacher please follow our procedures. Firstly, approach the teacher concerned as misunderstandings can often be quickly and easily cleared up. If the matter needs to be taken further, please discuss the matter with me. If parents are still not satisfied, go to the department with your concerns.

As a community, we do not need to agree with each other, however we do need to show each other respect. Comments written on social media can very quickly get out of hand. Disparaging comments made on social media can lead to immense stress, and can result in legal proceedings of defamation. The person or school being discussed does not need to be named. If readers can put together the information and piece together the facts to work out who is being spoken about this can lead to charges of defamation. If you would like further information on this topic, please follow the link below:

<http://www.essentialkids.com.au/education/school/primary-school/parents-warned-about-defaming-schools-or-teachers-on-social-media-20180111-h0gq6y>

PARENT OPINION SURVEY

The Parent Opinion Survey closing date has been extended. If you have been selected, please complete the survey, as we will use the information to inform future decisions. The closing date has been extended to Sunday 2 September 2018. Parents can submit completed online surveys until 11:59pm Sunday 2 September 2018.

Susan Duncan

Students of the Week

F/1 Ruby – Ruby is a responsible and resilient learner. She does not let other students distract her and she works hard to stay on task and improve her skills.

2/3 Harrison – For your great attitude to maths and especially your perseverance with maths this term. Keep up the good work. Well done!

3/4 Claire Patrick— For doing tasks with enthusiasm. In all tasks your kindness and helpfulness is appreciated by all.

5/6 Alira – For joining in with class discussions even when she is not sure. Keep up the great work.

School Website

Please have a look around at our website and see what we have been doing. You can see our newsletters and we are putting notices on the website. If you need to reprint a notice for excursions or camps, please do so.

Eggs for Sale

There are fresh free-range eggs for sale at the office. \$5 a dozen with \$2 from every dozen going to Junior School Council for the money they are raising for a new set of soccer nets.



Happy Birthday



Ruby McNamara – 3rd September 2018

Logan Richards – 8th September 2018

Thanks



- To all of the parents who come in to discuss what they like and areas for improvement with Mrs Duncan.



Community News



Energetic Gymnastics

Get ready for the Ninja Kids Challenge on Saturday 15th September at Traralgon Sports Stadium. The search is on for the fittest and toughest. Children from age 5 to 17 are invited to race against time in our Ninja Kids obstacle course. Cash prizes and vouchers up for grabs in all age groups. Register online for \$5 energeticgym.com.a