



Barwon Heads Primary School

Family Newsletter

No. 1 Wednesday 4th January, 2009

Phone: 5254 2324 Fax: 5254 3073 Web: www.bhps.vic.edu.au
After School Care Phone 5254 1322 Email: barwon.heads.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY

Wed 4th	Preps do not attend school
Thur 5th	School Council Election Process begins
Fri 5th	Whole School Assembly
Tue 10th	Easter Fair Committee Meeting 7.30pm
Wed 11th	Preps do not attend school School Banking begins
Thur 12th	Swimming Trials – Kardinia Pool 4.00pm
Wed 18th	Preps do not attend school School Council A.G.M. – 7.30pm
Mon 23rd	School Picnic – River Park – from 5.00pm proposed
Wed 25th	Preps do not attend school
Fri 27th	Clean Up Australia Day for Schools

MARCH

Mon 9th	Labour Day Holiday
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APRIL

Fri 3rd	Last day Term – 2.30pm dismissal
Thur 9th	Art Show Launch
Fri 10th	Good Friday
Sat 11th	Easter Fair

Term Dates 2008

TERM 1 Wednesday 28th January ~ Friday 3rd April
Easter Friday 10th April ~ Monday 13th April

TERM 2 Monday 20th April ~ Friday 26th June

TERM 3 Monday 13th July ~ Friday 18th September

TERM Monday 5th October ~ Friday 18th December

School Times

School starts 9.00am (Music at 8.55am)
Session 1 – 9.00-11.00am – Literacy block
Recess 11.00-11.30am
Session 2 – 11.30-1.30pm – numeracy block
Lunch 1.30-1.40 supervised eating - 1.40-2.30pm
Session 2.30-3.30pm

Please note that if your child is late to school for any reason you are legally required to sign them in through the office please.

If you require them during the day they also must be signed out and signed back in if returning.

Welcome to 2009

A very warm welcome to all families for the start of our 2009 school year. The holidays reinforced what a great place our community is with great weather for getting out and about. The extreme heat we experienced last week was very timely with students still on holidays.

Our school Newsletter is the official communication between school and home – if it's happening at our school – it's in the NEWSLETTER!

Our Newsletter will go home every **WEDNESDAY** in either email or hardcopy format with the eldest in the family, so please look out for it and take time to look over it. All major events are listed on the front calendar.

Welcome to all the new families starting with us: Adams-Pritchard, Barsby, Benson, Brady, Croker, Eddy, Goldie, Grimaud, Irving, Koumis, Lamperd, Lardner, Millear, O'Halloran, Reid, Shier and Wright.

Welcome to our new members of staff: Ms Jane McClelland – Grade 3-4M and Sue Scott – After School Care

Welcome back to all other members of staff as well. We have had 3 days of professional learning and preparation time for 2009 and we are keen to start work with students.

Preps for Term 1 Welcome!

Our preps have settled in well and are already adjusting to school life. Preps will not attend classes on Wednesday's until after the long weekend in March (Labour Day) to give added rest during their start and also allow teachers to conduct detailed testing of all students to establish parameters for instruction. Parents will receive an appointment time soon. All Preps have received a bag of goodies and a hat for school.

Student Booklist Fees and Education Maintenance Allowance

We ask that fees be paid by the end of this week please – Friday 6th February.

If you are eligible for Education Maintenance Allowance you can collect and application form from the office. You will need a valid health Care/Concession Card to claim the EMA

Please note applications close on Friday 27th February no late applications will be accepted.

Thank you

Thanks to all families who have paid their fees. On Monday due to a power problem we lost some information from our computer, if you paid your fees on Monday using EFT could you please contact Tracy on 52542324. ASAP Thank you.

Easter Fair

The school's major fundraiser is on Easter Saturday, 11th April – get involved and help out. Information updates are attached to today's newsletter.

Easter Fair Committee Meeting – Tuesday 10th February at 7.30pm

After School Care

Our after school care program has kicked in with a new coordinator, Sue Scott. Sue will be finding her way and we wish her all the best. After School Care operates Monday to Friday from 3.30pm – 6.00pm

Enrolments are open and places are limited. Returning families must have cleared all 2008 accounts in arrears.

Parent Permissions and Agreements

Thanks to those families who have returned the permissions and agreements – well done! Can we ask that these be returned tomorrow or Friday please so we can begin school programs out of the school.

School Lunch orders.

These start today and a menu will sent home as soon as it becomes available. To order a lunch please write your child's name and grade on an envelope including the lunch required and enclose the correct money.

School Picnic

Our annual picnic is proposed for Monday 23rd February from 5.00pm at the river park. More info to follow.

Tissues Please

To help with spills and sniffles in the classroom can all students to bring a box of tissues for the classroom. Thankyou.

Grade 5 Mini Notebook Trial

The Premier, Mr John Brumby, announced yesterday the grade 5 students in our region will take part in a trial of mini notebook's (Netbooks) over 3 years. Students will be offered their own personal notebook in a leased agreement with the majority of cost met by the school and regional authorities. This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to optimise their learning through 1:1 interface with their own notebook. Lot's more info to come including cost's, etc.

Barwon Zone Swimming Championships

2009 BARWON HEADS PS TRIALS – Thursday, February 12th @ Kardinia Pool

The **Barwon Zone** Swimming Championships involving schools in the Geelong and Colac District are being held at Kardinia Pool on **Friday, the 6th of March**. The age groups competing are 10 years, 11 years and 12/13 years. Children are able to compete in the following events Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke, Butterfly and relay teams provided they meet the set qualifying times. They can enter two individual events and one relay.

EVENT	10 YEARS	11/12 YEARS
Freestyle	1:00	55 secs
Backstroke	1:08	1:05
Breastroke	1:15	1:12
Butterfly	1:20	1:10

- To select a squad, children need to be timed in their chosen events.
- Only two children can be nominated for each event in an age group.

Trials have been organised for Thursday, February 12th at Kardinia Pool at 4:00 - 4:30pm.

Please meet Mrs Sing at the shallow end of the pool.

Families are asked to make their own transport arrangements.

Whole School assembly

Our assembly id held each Friday at 3.15pm and is great way to finish the week by celebrating all the great things that go on. Parents are welcome to attend and we do ask to please keep toddlers with you and to switch off your mobile please.

Icy poles for hot days

Icy poles are available for students at lunch times on hot days. These are colourless icy poles. If you would like your child to have an icy pole please send \$2 to school and a voucher will be issued entitling 8 icy poles to them.

Please mark envelopes with money clearly.

Community Notices

WANTED: URGENTLY Barwon Heads Auskick Coordinator for 2009

A new Coordinator for BH Auskick is needed urgently for the 2009 season. After a number of requests to our 2008 email database, we have been unable to find a volunteer(s) to take on this role. **Unfortunately, if we do not find a Coordinator it is likely BH Auskick will not be held in 2009.** Please, if you are interested or would like to discuss the role further, contact me on 52542890 or 0422 376472 asap. Steve Harrison

Barwon Heads Soccer Club Registration

Registration day is on Thursday 12 February from 5.30 to 7.00 at the Barwon Grove Golf Club, behind the Fire Station on Sheepwash Road BH. Registration is for all players Junior and senior boys and girls.

For further information contact Chris Cuff on 52553475 or email ocean Grove@contours.net.au

School Council Elections

The first meeting of the 2009 school council is scheduled for Wednesday 18th February at 7.30pm
Prior to this meeting and beginning today is the call for nominations for school council following the retirement of some current members. We would like to fill these vacancies ready for the February meeting.
The following members of school council have completed their 2 year term and we declare their positions vacant (retiring members are free to re-nominate)

Parent representatives – Craig Wood-Burgess.
Michael Frahm
Carolyn Neale.
Sylvia Starc.

DEECD representatives - Cathertine Olsen.
Maureen Cross.

On behalf of the school community can we please thank these councillors for their input. Nominations for the parent/community rep positions are now called for and are open from today until Tues 17th February.
Nomination forms are available from the office on request. An information sheet about school council is attached below.

Appendix A: School Council Elections – Information for Parents School Council Elections 2009

What is a school council and what does it do?

All Government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

There are three possible categories of membership:

A mandated elected Parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not employed at the school.

A mandated elected DEECD employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

An optional Community member category. Its members are appointed by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members. The term of office for all members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider standing for election as a member of the school council encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future. ***What do you need to do to stand for election?***

The principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council where their child is enrolled.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election.

You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do

Consider standing for election to council this year

Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact the principal for further information.



Easter Fair 2009



Newsletter No 1. February 4th

Easter Fair Information for All Families

**Be part of our main Fundraiser for 2009.
This is an open invitation to help!**

Part of the community nature of our school involves the running of our annual Easter Fair, this year on Easter Saturday, April 11th from 10.00am - 3:00pm.

This year will be the 29th annual Easter Fair incorporating the Sheepwash Classic Fun Run and Art Show. The Easter Fair is our only major fundraiser for the year where we use funds raised for important school projects. Over the last few years we have redeveloped playgrounds, installed air conditioning to classrooms, upgraded computers and technology and extended meeting facilities. This year's profits will go on payment for the new basketball court and playground development around the asphalt area.

Leading up to the big day we have a busy Easter Fair Committee organising entertainment, sponsorship, raffles, food, stalls, art show and the fun run.

Every year we seek sponsorship from many sources through local and regional businesses. The School is very appreciative of the fantastic support we receive each year. If parents work in an area or company that might be willing to sponsor our Fair, in any way, could you please contact the school.

Entertainment on Fair day will be very exciting, so encourage your friends to come along and take advantage of the friendly atmosphere, fantastic food and great



entertainment for the whole family. We have rides for the kids, an animal nursery, lucky tubs, face painting and much more.

The Easter fair takes a lot of work to set up and **a working bee** takes place on Good Friday from approx 9:00am. Tents, marquees and stalls are set up ready for the next day, food is prepared, bottles labelled and the work is usually over soon after lunch. If you can give a couple of hours it would be greatly appreciated. If you are able to help out, please respond to our roster in a couple of weeks.

Easter Fair 2009 – Saturday April 11th



The **Sheepwash Classic Fun Run** kicks off the day on Saturday at 10:00am. Organisers and helpers have been busy setting up the course since early morning. The run is 8.0 km for adults and short for juniors. It is an integral part of the fair because people come along to watch the start and finish of the race and also come into the Fair, buy food and look around. The runners are important because they usually have a rest and have something to eat and drink while the presentations are made. Previous years have seen guests including Steve Moneghetti, Lee Troop and Billy Brownless which has been a terrific boost for our Easter Fair.

Market Stall holders begin to arrive early setting up their stalls. They are expected to arrive by 9:00am as the driveway is closed off for the Fun Run. If you would like to have a stall please contact the school.

The Art Show kicks off with a launch on the Thursday evening before Good Friday with an 'arty party' for adults to preview the artwork and is open all day Friday and Saturday. Held in the Multi Purpose Room it has been a tremendous success but also needs helpers to help set up, man and take down.

Preserves and Cakes are a great part of our Fair. If you would like to prepare jams and produce in advance or help out with food tents and other stalls, please let us know. If you can make preserves we need the date and list of ingredients. We can supply jars for you. This is also a great way to help out and meet other parents in the school community in an informal atmosphere. Check the School Newsletter for updates or contact the school.

That's a little about our Easter Fair in a nutshell. We hope it brings a little of what Easter Fair is about - a big co-operative, concerted effort by the school and local community to raise important funds for the direct benefit of students at our school.

Keep a look out for updates about our Fair in each weekly Newsletter this term.



Can you help??? We would love to include you as part of the wonderful band of helpers. Please give it some serious consideration – the more that help, the easier it is for all.

If you are able to help please contact Bev Park 5254 2507 / 0438 344 765 or Maureen Cross at school – 5254 2324.

**The next meeting of our Easter Fair Committee is
Tuesday, February 10th 7.30pm. Come along and get involved.**

Easter Fair 2009 – Saturday April 11th