



# Barwon Heads Primary School

## Family Newsletter

No. 2 Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2009

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### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### FEBRUARY

Thur 12 <sup>th</sup>	House meetings - 1.30pm Swimming Trials – Kardinia Pool 4.00pm
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	Casual Dress Day of Bushfire Appeal – gold coin
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Information Sessions this week
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup>	Preps at home School Council A.G.M. – 7.30pm
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup>	School Picnic – River Park – from 5.00pm (proposed)
Tues 24 <sup>th</sup>	Pancake Day Easter Fair Committee 7.30pm
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup>	Preps at home
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup>	Clean Up Australia Day for Schools

#### MARCH

Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Preps at home
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup>	Barwon Zone Swimming Competition
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	Labour Day Holiday
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Fair Committee 7.30pm
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup>	Preps at school School Council – 2008 Annual Report
Thur 19 <sup>th</sup>	5/6 Soccer Lightning Premiership
Tues 24 <sup>th</sup>	Gr 3-6 Swimming Program commences (8 sessions)
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup>	National Ride2school Day
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup>	Surf Awareness program commences (4 sessions)

#### APRIL

Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Last day Term – 2.30pm dismissal
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup>	Art works arrive
Thur 9 <sup>th</sup>	Art Show Launch
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup>	Good Friday working bee – a.m.
Sat 11 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Fair – 10.00am

#### Term Dates 2009

<b>TERM 1</b>	Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb ~ Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> April
	<i>Easter Fri 10<sup>th</sup> April ~ Mon 13<sup>th</sup> April</i>
<b>TERM 2</b>	Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> April ~ Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> June
<b>TERM 3</b>	Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> July ~ Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> September
<b>TERM</b>	Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> Oct ~ Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> December

## **VICTORIAN BUSHFIRE TRAGEDY**

As you are no doubt aware, devastating bushfires have ravaged Victoria over last weekend in many areas of our state. Over 400 different fires have affected many Victorian communities and our thoughts are with those who have been affected with property loss or the injury/death of family members, friends and neighbours. The sheer size of the devastation has meant that we all know of someone who has been affected either directly or indirectly by the fires. Our thoughts are also with the 3 Primary School communities destroyed in the fires. They are Marysville PS, Strathewen PS and Middle King Lake PS.. Understandably, this is devastating for these communities.

We have already been approached by many parents asking how they can support those affected. After speaking with the Red Cross and the Bushfire Appeal organisations the best thing our community can do is to donate money to the appeal to allow them to purchase the necessary equipment and resources families in need require. Appeal groups have been inundated with clothing, food and bedding and the best help we can provide is money so the Red Cross can get what it needs most.

As such, our school will support the appeal with donations being able to be made at the office at any time. **This Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> Feb, will be a casual 'out-of-uniform' day for a gold coin donation (or more) for students and we will make a trail of gold coins around a map of Victoria on the asphalt to help kick off our help. Our Junior School Council will lead this and we hope you will support it.**

On a more positive note can we acknowledge the fantastic work that emergency volunteers have done, and continue to do, on behalf of communities in danger.

## **Parent Information Sessions**

Information sessions for parents on school programs will take place on **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February**. These sessions are designed to inform parents on the makeup of programs and what requirements are for each level. Teachers will explain their aspirations for 2009 and leave time for questions. Individual interviews may take place after these sessions **if** required. A sheet outlining these sessions is included. A reply slip should be returned if attending by Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Feb.

## **2009 Student Booklist Payments**

On Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 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 urgently on 52542324. We still have a number of families who have not paid their booklist fee for 2009 and we ask it be done as soon as possible please. Reminders will go home this week. Payments can be made at the general office at any time.

## **2009 Easter Fair**

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

**Easter Fair Committee Meeting – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm**

## **Our Newsletter via email**

Our newsletter is available via email. If you would like to receive an electronic copy please email the school email address(on name plate or website) and we will put you on the list. It is our hope to go fully electronic in 2009 and help our carbon footprint.

## **School website update – [www.bhps.vic.edu.au](http://www.bhps.vic.edu.au)**

Our thanks to Leanne Koster for her work to update our school website. The new version is lean and sharp and gives up to date information about our school, access to policies and permission forms and newsletters. Thanks Leanne. See Leanne K. for any web based design you require.

## **New Basketball Rings**

Thanks to Andrew McKinnon for his help in putting up the basketball rings on the new court area. Thanks also for donating the nets. They look great and are already being fully used by students.

## **2009 New Preps**

The transition of our new prep group continues and they have made a great start to the school year. A reminder that Preps do not attend school on Wednesdays until the long weekend in March and please note your interview times for Wednesdays.

## **School Council Elections**

The election process is underway and we require 2 nominations from the parent community for 2009-10. Nomination forms are available from the office. Nominations close Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February. There will be no committee meetings prior to our February School Council meeting.

## **School Uniform**

Please make sure children have full uniform every day – casual clothes including board shorts and printed T-shirts are not permitted. Our uniform policy reinforces this and we would appreciate your help and support for what is generally an excellent standard. A copy of the policy is on the school website.

## **School Buruwang - alternative play area**

Our school offers students an alternative to regular play with our 'Buruwang' (Koorie for island) in the MP Room at lunch time. This quieter, more passive play includes drawing, board games and lego. If you have any games or equipment we can use please send it along and we can use it for those who would like some alternative play.

## **2009 School Captains**

Congratulations to our student leadership group for this year. They are Captains, Tom Wood-Burgess and Jenna Whitlock, with Vice Captains, Ben Considine and Emily Jackson. We look forward to their input.

## **'Mathletics' Numeracy Support Program**

We will begin using the Mathletics numeracy software program very soon as a trial this year for all students in 2009. An information sheet accompanies this newsletter which explains more about the program.

## **Grade 5 Netbook Program**

A brochure helping explain the exciting mini notebook program for grade 5 students will go home this week with Gr 5 students.. More info for Grade 5 families will follow over the next few weeks.

## **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 6<sup>th</sup> 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.

<b>EVENT</b>	<b>10 YEARS</b>	<b>11/12 YEARS</b>
Freestyle	1:00	55 secs
Backstroke	1:08	1:05
Breaststroke	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 12<sup>th</sup> 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



# **IT'S NOT OK TO BE AWAY**

Regular attendance at school is of paramount importance to a child's learning. Blocks of time away, days missed here and there, and consistently arriving at school late can all have detrimental effects on a child's learning. Regular learning provides building blocks for the future. Regular attendance is essential to make sure learning is not disrupted.

## **Why 'It's Not OK to Be Away'**

Students who stay away from school:

- miss the introduction of new work
- miss revision
- miss important testing
- fall behind with their learning
- develop disjointed home-reading routines
- may lack confidence and feel embarrassed because they cannot do the work the class has been studying
- feel left out from class discussion when they have missed a special class activity and cannot do the associated work
- miss celebrations and special activities
- can develop a poor attitude towards attending school believing 'I won't miss much if I'm not at school'
- find learning becomes disjointed and difficult

## **Why 'It's NOT OK to be Late to School'**

Latecomers:

- miss out on talking to their class teacher before school
- miss out on playing with other children before school
- miss out on organization time, for example getting their workbooks and pencil case from their tub and setting up their table for the day
- miss out on roll marking, lunch orders being sent to the canteen and taking money and notices to the office
- miss out on hearing what's happening for the day
- are often unsure about what they have to do in the lesson
- miss out on valuable learning time
- find learning becomes disjointed and difficult
- distract other students when they arrive

Sometimes students stay at home for reasons that are not really acceptable if they do not have an otherwise excellent attendance record. For example:

- the student's birthday
- too tired to come to school because of a late night
- staying home with a sibling or parent who is sick when other arrangements could be made
- staying away for the whole day when an appointment is booked for a short time in the morning or afternoon
- weather conditions, for example too hot

First term in the early years of schooling is of particular importance as this is when many important foundations are laid. These foundations are then built on through the year. A child who is absent during this crucial time may experience difficulties adjusting and catching up with the learning they have missed. So please be mindful of this when planning your family holiday.

## **Scholastic Book Club**

For those new to our school, Scholastic provides our school families with the opportunity to purchase high quality books at discounted prices, with the convenience of ordering through your school.

Barwon Heads Primary receives credits from your purchases, which are then used for new items for the library or for classroom resources.

Without Scholastic & your support we couldn't provide the quality we currently have.

Please look through the brochures you will receive with today's newsletter, & if you wish to place an order, please do so by next Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February, sorry for such short notice, but hopefully this prevents it from being put aside at this hectic time of year. You will find great ideas for gifts as well as some good buys to keep everyone reading.

If you have any queries, please call me on - 0411 203138 or catch me at school, thanks Kylie.

## **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 [oceangrove@contours.net.au](mailto:oceangrove@contours.net.au)

### **Meditation Classes**

*Guided Meditation to relax. Allow calmness and new energy.  
Tuesday Evenings 2 classes 7pm or 8pm \$10.00per class.  
Youngins Class Tuesday 5 – 5.45 ages 6 – 16years  
Facilitator – Kerryn Efanow Phone 52543260*

### **Barwon Heads Junior Netball**

#### **SIGN ON**

**WHEN: Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February**

**WHERE : Barwon Heads Primary School (Asphalt area)**

**WHEN: 5:30pm**

**For more information please call:**

**Simone Wallace 0438215647**

**Anna Oliver 0407860433**





BARWON HEADS PRIMARY SCHOOL NO. 1574

# PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS February 2009

Dear Parents,

As part of the school's reporting to parents program we will hold our

## Parent Information Sessions on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

The sessions will be presented by the class teachers and give parents a run down of curriculum delivery and support programs in their areas for 2009. Aspects of literacy and numeracy, integrated studies, specialist programs and general expectations will be discussed.

There will also be time to meet the teachers and for questions. Sessions are as follows:-

<b>Level 2 (Gr 1/2) - 6.00pm – 6.30pm</b>	<b>Rm 5 Mrs Everett</b>
<b>Level 3 (Gr 3/4) - 6.45pm – 7.15pm</b>	<b>Rm 14 Mrs Stephenson</b>
<b>Level 4 (Gr 5/6) - 7.30pm – 8.00pm</b>	<b>Rm 8 Mr Burdess</b>

At the session parents will be provided with a hard copy of the information for that area. This is a parent session and child minding will be available in the MP Room if required. If you have concerns or confidential information that you believe the class teacher should know please arrange for an individual interview with them as soon as possible. To make sure we cater for numbers could you please complete the return slip by way of r.s.v.p. by Friday 20th February to the class teacher.

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### BARWON HEADS PRIMARY SCHOOL NO. 1574 PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS 2009

#### Students

name.....Grade.....

I (We) will be attending the parent information sessions on  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February for Grade 1/2 3/4 5/6

Names .....

.....  
***Please return to class teacher no later than  
Friday 20th February  
Thank you***



Dear Parent,

Your child's class will soon be using Mathletics. Mathletics is a web-based learning program, which integrates home and school learning via the internet. Mathletics covers K- Year 12 Australian Maths Curriculum and is currently used in over 1300 Australian schools, with more than 40,000 students accessing our site every day.

**The benefits of Mathletics include:**

- Students are engaged and motivated to learn.
- Mathletics is adaptive, it responds to your child's individual strengths and weaknesses.
- Students instantly know if they are on the right track and can work through the curriculum at their own pace.
- Animated support guides students through concepts. It is like having a maths tutor 24 hours a day.
- Live Mathletics fosters a stimulating and exciting on-line learning community.
- Creates the perfect link between home and school, results can flow seamlessly.
- Weekly parent emails allow you to monitor your child's progress.
- Proven improvement results – please click on **View improvement results** on our website for a survey of 1.1 billion questions
- Teachers can view your child's progress and adapt their work accordingly

**Working at home**

Your child will have 24 hour access to Mathletics through the use of a username and password. To gain the greatest understanding of how Mathletics can benefit your child, we encourage you spend time looking at the program with your child. Please see the Guides link on the Website (bottom of home page)

The absolute **golden rule** of Mathletics is to **do each activity 3 times!**  
Why? Practice=Improvement!

**Our 3 step strategy** in the Curriculum area if they get a question incorrect

- 1) Use the correct answer shown to try and figure out where we went wrong
- 2) Go to the Support? area for help and it will teach you with different examples of the concept
- 3) If you still don't understand the concept write the activity topic in your book and ask the teacher

**To view Mathletics:**

1. Visit [www.mathletics.com.au](http://www.mathletics.com.au)
2. Ensure pop-ups are enabled for our website
3. Select sign-in and enter your child's details.



