**Principal’s Message**

We hope the commencement of the 2016 school year has been a happy and successful time for your children and family. As I walk around the corridors and visit classrooms, I see teachers and children eagerly engaging in learning and dedicating time and discussions towards the important task of creating a respectful, work orientated and enjoyable classroom community. Teachers have planned a challenging and enjoyable term of work, and Sprout and OSHC are busy providing excellent service to children, parents and carers. The following details are included to assist you with further understanding the ongoing life of our school.

**School Council Big Brekkie**

Monday 8th February at 8.00am. Children are invited to a welcome brekkie organised by members of School Council. There will be pancakes, fruit salad and muffins to enjoy. This event is organised to celebrate the start of the school year, welcome new children and to enjoy a morning treat together!

**Sprout**

Please see the document, ‘Welcome to Sprout 2016,’ sent home last week by Kris Bidenko, the coordinator of Sprout canteen. A copy is available at the office. It sets out the enrolment, philosophy of the canteen operation, how lunches are organised, details the menu, an ingredients list to the food you are sharing. We ask that you attach picnic rugs and drinks. We ask that you attach

**Outside School Hours Care**

BNWPS OSHC program provides care for children before and after learning programs. The OSHC team provides opportunities for children to develop socially, physically and creatively through fun filled play activities. See a brochure at the office entitled ‘Outside School Hours Care’ which sets out enrolment and fee details, and information about bookings, meals and snacks, child wellbeing, parent/staff communication. Some days are booking out under the increase in student population and the current licence agreement which sets maximum numbers attending.

**Office Procedures**

Please see the note entitled ‘Some reminders from the office’ sent home this week. It sets out information about uniform sales, forms and notes, contact details, medications, late arrivals/early departures, school fees and family accounts. A copy of this document is available from the office.

**Year Level Information**

Parents and carers will soon receive a detailed information newsletter. This will outline the teaching and learning content planned for Term 1, general information detailing how parents can assist with their child’s learning, organisational information about take home reading and other home-school related details, any contributions required by teachers for classroom art & craft activities, and Twitter contact information.

**Parent Teacher Interviews Tuesday 23rd February**

The initial parent/teacher interviews give teachers the opportunity to share with parents how each child has commenced the school year. Preliminary impressions about your child’s attitude and work habits will be shared, along with any initial concerns and areas needing attention. This is also a time where helpful information from parents can be shared with their teacher. Notes will soon be sent home giving parents the opportunity to nominate a time for interview between 12.30 and 7.30pm on this day. This is a student free day. This means no school for students during the day.

**International Food Night Wednesday 9th March**

This is a school community social event commencing at 6.00pm. You are invited to bring a meal to share with other school families. It can be a meal representative of a cultural cuisine from your family’s background or just a home favourite. Please bring chairs, picnic rugs and drinks. We ask that you attach an ingredients list to the food you are sharing.

**Home/School Communication**

There are two formal parent/teacher interview times across the year in February and June. Written reports are issued at the end of each semester. Parents are of course welcome to contact their child’s classroom teacher or specialist teacher if they have a significant concerns or questions. Please arrange a time to meet with your child’s classroom teacher at a time which is mutually suitable, when there is a specific need. Assistant Principal, Hannah Reid, and I are available to meet with parents for further discussions about these issues, or for concerns related to whole school matters.

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**Current Notices**

- Local Excursion form: 28/1 to each child
- Photo Permission form: 28/1 to each child
- Sprout Menu: 28/1 to each child
- Parent Charges: 29/1 to eldest in family
- 2016 School Planner: to each family 29/1
- Foundation Grade class letter: 28/1
- Sprout Menu: 28/1 to eldest in family
- Photo Permission form: 28/1 to each child
- Local Excursion form: 28/1 to each child
- 2016 School Planner: to each family 29/1
- Foundation Grade class letter: 28/1
- Sprout note, sent 1/2 to eldest in family
- 5/6 Excursion note sent 1/2, please return urgently
- Sprout note, sent 1/2 to eldest in family
- “Meet and Greet Evening” notice: 3/2 to eldest in family
- Emergency Management Planning note, sent to eldest in family on 3/2
- Reminders from the Office, sent to eldest in family on 3/2

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**Next Community Assembly Performance is by Unit MM on 12 February 2016**
STUDENT FREE DAYS
The Department of Education and Training permits schools to take 4 student free days each year for planning and reporting processes. There is no school for children on these days. For 2016 these days are as follows:
- **Wednesday 27th January** - Initial staff planning day at the start of the school year
- **Tuesday 23rd February** - For teaching staff to schedule initial parent/teacher interviews
- **Tuesday 14th June** - For teaching staff to schedule midyear parent/teacher interviews
- **Monday 31st October** - Report preparation time. This day is the Monday before the Cup Day holiday.

HATS & SUNSMART
Our Sunsmart policy requires the wearing of a broad brimmed hat or legionnaire style cap until the end of April, and later in the year when the sunny weather returns. Please ensure your child attends school with a suitable hat and a top which covers up exposed shoulders.

FAMILY MEDICAL AND AMBULANCE COVERAGE
Parents and guardians are reminded that DET (Department of Education and Training) does not provide personal accident insurance, ambulance cover or personal property insurance for students or parents. Parents and guardians of students who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any related medical costs.

PARKING AROUND THE SCHOOL
Our school has grown over the last few years and we now have more families wanting to drop off children in the morning, and collect them brimming with new knowledge and skills in the afternoon. This has led to considerable congestion in traffic around the 9.00am drop off, and 3.30pm pick up times. Thanks to all those children, parents and staff that are able to ride or walk to school. This makes a considerable difference to the number of cars seeking a parking spot at these times. If driving is your only means of transporting children to our wonderful school, we ask you to consider the following:
- Please don’t park across a neighbour’s driveway if you can’t find a vacant parking spot near the school.
- There is parking in Wakes Street on the western boundary of the school, or in Zeal Street, a block south of the school. This involves a short walk for drop off and collection.
- Please don’t park in the middle of Culloden Street waiting for your child to come out. It’s illegal, dangerous and very frustrating for other drivers wanting to travel down this road.
- Don’t park opposite the school and call your children to cross the road to enter your car. The possible consequences of children running across the road unsupervised are unthinkable!

Thanks for your assistance, patience and consideration in making our school and local neighbourhood a safe and happy destination for travel.

NUT AWARE: ALLERGIC REACTIONS TO NUTS
Brunswick North West Primary is ‘a nut aware school’. Some students may have a severe reaction known as anaphylaxis when exposed to nuts. These students have a medical action plan to manage this intolerance. This plan has been authorised by a medical practitioner and directs the staff to use an injector known as an EpiPen if required.

As a result we ask you to consider the following:
- Not providing loose nuts and/or food with nut additives such as peanut butter when preparing snacks and lunches for your own children to eat at school.
- That you discuss with your child the importance of NOT sharing their food with others.
- Please remind your child not to share drink containers and/or eating utensils.
- If you are providing cakes, biscuits etc for a classroom special event, please provide a list of ingredients.
- Advise your child’s classroom teacher in advance if you are providing a cake for the class to celebrate a birthday. This allows for an alternative to be provided for any student with a known allergic condition.

More information about anaphylaxis can be found at [www.allergyfacts.org.au](http://www.allergyfacts.org.au/)

Trevor Bowen
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE
In order for us to learn effectively, a number of other factors need to be "Just Right". If we consider a widely used framework of Maslow’s hierarchy of needs, it is posited that we as individuals need such things as safety, shelter, relationships and self-esteem (to name a few) before we can strive for self-fulfilment through avenues such as education. Meeting these needs within a school environment is often quite different to home and this is at the core of our First 10 Days Program.

As a whole school community and over a number of years, we have developed our own set of values and our own ‘starting school program’ that we know strongly reflects our school’s beliefs and approach to life and learning. Every class spends a portion of each of the First 10 Days exploring our school’s values, our Rights & Responsibilities, role-playing conflict resolution, identifying our personal needs and wants, exploring systems within the school and even getting to know our school pets! Your child may come home with terminology such as “Circle Time”, “3-Step Tell” or “5 Safe People” and I would encourage you to explore these ideas further together with them (I found “5 Safe People” to be such a wonderful concept that I have adopted it in my adult life!). If this is not your first year at BNWPS, you’ll likely have heard this all before; however I would still implore you to revisit these ideas with your children, as perspectives change and relationships develop in a number of ways – so your child’s 5 safe people of 2015 may not be the same this year!

Another fascinating discussion for you might include exploring what our school values mean to you as individuals and families. Values can be a tricky concept for young people, with individuals bringing their own definitions or ideas of what that value might look like in everyday activities. Describing times when you have been resilient or the importance of integrity will provide you with a shared language to utilise when discussing behaviours (those we want to encourage and to discourage!) and most importantly, it will help set your child up for a successful year of learning.

Hannah Reid
Assistant Principal

COMMUNITY COOKING CLASSES!
Kicking off Tuesday 9th Feb at 9.30am -11.30am in the OSCH kitchen (adjoining multipurpose room) we’ll be making sushi and rice paper rolls! Come along to be inspired, get to know others and enjoy some collective cooking and tasting as well as sharing your own knowledge and favourite recipes. All welcome, including any little people.

For term 1 we will be focusing on summer lunchbox ideas, simple midweek meals and health conscious Easter treats.

Please contact Justine Moir for more info or to save yourself a spot on 0425 340 536 or moir_mail@yahoo.com

Term 1 Dates: • Feb 9, 16, 23 • Mar 1, 8, 15, 22

MESSAGE
We will be focusing on summer lunchbox ideas, simple midweek meals and health conscious Easter treats. Please contact Justine Moir for more info.
Hello Everyone,
The Sprout menu will be up and running in full next week, thank you for your patience.
I now have gluten free bread available. Please add $1 to the cost when ordering a gluten free sandwich or toastie.
Thank you to all the parents who have expressed their interest in volunteering at the canteen. I am still looking for someone to volunteer on a Thursday, so if this interests you and you are able to commit to 2-3hrs every second week, please email me at sproutcanteen@gmail.com.
Lastly, Sprout is now on twitter! You can follow us on @bnwps_Music.
Warm regards,
Kris

MUSIC NEWS
Hello and welcome back to what will be another brilliant year of music making here at Brunswick North West Primary School.
We are extremely fortunate to have the support of leadership, staff and parents in cultivating a commitment to Music Education that caters for all students in our community.
Our weekly Music Classroom lessons immerse students into a world of creativity, skill development and appreciation while engaging students with co-operative learning, sharing and using an enquiry based approach to understand how music has developed and will continue to develop alongside historical and social change.
BNWPS will be participating in The Boite Schools Chorus later this year and from term 2, there will be an opportunity for the musicians in our parent community to share their knowledge and skill of music with the school.
We have a wonderfully diverse music tuition program at the school which offers private and group lessons learning keyboard, guitar, violin, recorder, drum-kit/percussion, saxophone, clarinet and voice. There will be a music concert for students who learn an instrument at school near the end of the year. If your child is interested in learning an instrument, please email me at kane.luke.t@edumail.vic.gov.au and if you would like to ask any question feel free to contact me at kane.luke.t@edumail.vic.gov.au
Alternatively you can ask at the office or contact the Music Tutors directly at the following emails.

DRUM KIT/PERCUSSION
Chris Lewis     celewssau@yahoo.com

RECORDER
Fiona Walters     fionawalters@keypoint.com.au

GUITAR/KEYBOARD
Lloyd Anderson     lloyd@themusicpatch.com.au

GUITAR/KEYBOARD
Denis Phelan     denisphelan@gmail.com

VIOLIN
Carrie Webster     carrie.a.webster@gmail.com

SAXOPHONE/CLARINET
Lauren Mullarvey     lauren_mullarvey@hotmail.com

VOICE
Isabelle Hungerford     bellehungerford@gmail.com

I am looking forward to another great year of music and please feel free to send me an email or come in and see me before or after school by appointment on 93846424.
Luke Kane @bnwps_Music

CAMP SPORT & EXCURSION FUND (CSEF)
School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.
CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.
If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.
The annual CSEF amount per student is: $125 for primary school students and $225 for secondary school students. HOW TO APPLY Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
Applications are open until 24 March 2016.

RECOMMENDATIONS AT BNWPS
2016 BEGINNER ENROLMENTS
In 2016 instrumental recorder lessons will again be offered during school hours at BNWPS. The recorder program aims to help parents provide their children (year levels 1-6) with an opportunity to learn a musical instrument. If you may be interested in applying to enrol your child in a beginner group lesson, please pick up an information sheet from the School Office.
Students in Year 1 at school are an ideal age to commence recorder lessons in groups. Learning in groups is an enjoyable way to begin instrumental music studies and is particularly suitable for younger students. Lessons started on Tues 2 Feb. Happy music making!
Fiona Walters, Recorder Tutor
Woodwind lessons for 2016
Flute, clarinet, and saxophone lessons will commence with Lauren Mullarvey on Wednesday 3rd Feb and run for Terms 1 and 2, until Ceri Hale returns from maternity leave to resume the lessons in Term 3. Thank you to those who have already enrolled for lessons, Lauren will be in touch to confirm details shortly.
There are still some spots available for other interested students, for further information and to enrol, please collect an enrolment form from the office and respond ASAP.
Ceri Hale and Lauren Mullarvey

REMINDERS FROM THE OFFICE:
- If you have changed your phone number, address or emergency contact details, or if there are changes to medication or medical conditions please advise the school office straight away so we can update our records.
- Please ensure we have Ventolin/spacer for your child and an asthma plan should they have asthma.
- If you require your newsletter to be sent via email, please supply your email address to the office. Please note your child will not receive a hard copy if you choose this option.
Many thanks!

BIRTHDAYS
30 JAN  Jae-Leah CM
       Willow AL
1 FEB    Alice LK
3 FEB    Heidi CC
Kaaren if you are interested. always welcome – please speak with Fiona or in the Multi-purpose Building. New Committee Members are Meeting for 2016 is scheduled for Monday 8th of February at 6pm.

OSHC enrolments for 2015: Please remember to get your enrolment forms in as soon as possible so we have time to process them (ideally 7 days notice before your child’s first attendance). Please refer to the OSHC Parent Handbook for details of booking types and charges.

Permanent bookings and Permanent booking changes must be in writing via email and please make it clear when you wish your bookings to start.

Casual bookings and Casual booking changes – Please contact OSHC staff via phone – 0478 836 264 – to make casual bookings. Alternatively, you can call the school office on 9386 4624. Please do not email casual changes.

Student Free Day: Tuesday 23rd February: We are planning to run an OSHC session for this day from 7:30am to 6pm, which will be $60 for the day (eligible for CCB/CCR) and will include breakfast, lunch and snacks and a range of different activities (No screen time). Places Are Limited. Please let us know ASAP if you would like to book care for this day, so we can start arranging staffing and activities. Bookings for the Student Free Day All Day OSHC must be made by Friday the 20th of February.

OSHC Staff: We have a number of staff working here at OSHC: Fiona (Co-ordinator), Kaaren (Admin), Andrea Marshall (Assistant Co-ordinator) and our fabulous team of Educators: Steve, Liam, Brianna, Sean, Michael, Mahaelia, Christina, Nick, Beverly, Liam and Claudia.

Fiona’s availability has changed this year – she will only be working between Monday and Thursday. Andrea Marshall will be Acting Coordinator for Fridays. Andrea will also be supervising morning shifts on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays – Fiona will be available in her office on those mornings. If you have any questions about the OSHC program, please feel free to speak with either Fiona or Andrea.

Contacting OSHC: To contact OSHC, speak to the OSHC staff directly, phone on 0407 830 233, or e-mail us on: oshc.brunswick.nw.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

OSHC Committee Meeting – Our first OSHC Committee Meeting for 2016 is scheduled for Monday 8th of February at 6pm in the Multi-purpose Building. New Committee Members are always welcome – please speak with Fiona or Kaaren if you are interested.

HELP OUR HENS!
How would you like to eat the freshest possible eggs all weekend long while helping your school? Well, you can by signing up to help look after the hens over the weekends. It’s easy, it’s often funny and totally rewarding.

Sign up in the hallway behind the office and Linda from 5/6 will take you through the necessary steps if you are not familiar with our chooks.

Thank you!

HELP REQUIRED!
PLANT AND PRODUCE MARKET
Our first Plant and Produce Market for 2016 is on 19 February at 3.30pm after assembly in the undercover area. It is a way of fundraising for our school.

There will be baked goods and Jams and some craft items. If you are able to bake and/or help we would appreciate it very much.

All baked goods can either be dropped into the office on Friday morning or to the actual stall in the undercover area anytime from 3pm onwards.

For any questions please see Maryam on 0425 757 438 or maryam@netoverdrive.com.au

FRENCH CLUB
Supportive, stimulating and fun learning environment with native -speaking local teacher.Awesome preparatory experience for future high school French language learners. Children of all ages and experience welcome.

French Club has moved to Wednesdays for 2016. We have a couple of spots available for Term 1. Wednesdays 3.45-4.45pm (Library)

Contact Jim 0432 719 034 jim.callahan@lcfclubs.com.au

SCHOOL BANKING DAY REMINDER
There will be account opening on Tuesday 23 February at 3.30pm. There will be information about school banking on February 19th at the school assembly.

Don’t forget that Thursday 11 February is the start of School Banking and students should bring in their weekly deposit each Thursday.

For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a silver Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for exclusive School Banking reward items in recognition of their regular savings habits. There are 2 new items released each term so be sure to keep an eye out for them!

Thank you for supporting the School Banking program at Brunswick North West Primary.

Exciting new Term 1 rewards with an Outback Savers theme are now available, while stocks last!

INTERESTED IN PLAYING NETBALL?
GET INVOLVED IN A GREAT SPORT!
St John’s Netball club have teams in Under 9, 11, 13, 15, 17 and open and looking for new players.

ST JOHN’S NETBALL CLUB REGISTRATION NIGHT FOR 2016 IS ON FRIDAY 5TH FEBRUARY, ST JOHN’S UNITING CHURCH HALL, CORNER OF BUCKLEY ST AND MT ALEXANDER RD. ESSENDON, FROM 4.30 TO 6.30PM.

Please contact saintjohnsnetball@gmail.com or visit our webpage at www.stjohnsnetball.com.au

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