CALENDAR

Fri 27 Mar 2.30 Last day of Term 1 (early pickup—2.30pm)
Mon 13 Apr First day of Term 2
Wed 15 Apr 7pm Reading & Writing Information Night Prep Parents
Wed 29 Apr School Photos
Thurs 30 Apr 9.30am Information Session for 2016 Preps + school tour
Thurs 30 Apr 7pm Information Session for 2016 Preps

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Dear Parents and Friends of BSW,

Surely not the end of term already!

Unfairly, learning is easier for confident learners. Their very confidence gives them an advantage. They know they can learn; they recognise their achievements; they see setbacks as temporary, something they’ll overcome.

I want each student at BSW to have this advantage, to recognise his/her learning achievements, social, emotional, intellectual, creative and physical, to be a confident, courageous learner. BSWPS’s Value Statements include, “...We value self acceptance and the courage to learn, grow and realise one’s potential.”

You can help. Your child started the 2015 school year less than nine weeks ago. I encourage you and your child to remember some of the term’s achievements. Important gains are so quickly forgotten.

“I can ride my bike without training wheels.”
Max Leversha

“I can write bigger sentences and totally write them properly.”
Ruby Ruse

In Thinking About My Learning In Our Classroom Phuc Le wrote, “I’m good at making flags that represent our school.”

For Me and my friends Adeline Hutchinson wrote, “When Leo is sad I help him when he is hurt. We play tiggy.” Amelie Adams wrote, “...
When Olivia gets it she does not want to be it so I say tag me so she does.”

JS teacher, Cathy Jessop, told me about her students learning to use a ruler, e.g., long lines need pressure in the middle of the ruler.

AGM & Language Forum  Many thanks to the more than fifty people who attended Monday’s AGM and Language Forum.

The snapshot of School Council’s work during 2014 was a valuable reminder of the wonderful support that BSW always receives from its parents. Together we are “Another Great State School”.

The Language Forum provided information about learning Italian and Chinese. As you know, Maria Lyon, our Italian Teacher, put the case for learning Italian and Viola Chen, who teaches Chinese through science to Preps and Year 1 students at Overnewton College, put the case for Chinese. Past students, currently in Year 10 at Brunswick Secondary College, Harry Wilkinson and Grace Tointon, spoke respectively about their Italian and Chinese studies.

As you know, early next term all parents will be surveyed to indicate their preference for either Italian or Chinese language to be introduced in the Junior School. School Council will consider the data and then make a decision about the language to be taught at BSW. Whatever the outcome, the children currently studying Italian will continue to do so.

In the meantime, please read How Languages can boost your child’s brainpower which is on page 9 of this edition.

Best wishes for a wonderful school holiday and Easter break.

Yours sincerely,

Louise Chocholis
Principal

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**Weekly Collective Nouns:**

- A siege of cranes
- A bask of crocodiles
- A murder of crows

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**LOST PROPERTY**

Lost property will be emptied at the end of term 1 (27th March)

Please make sure that you have collected anything belonging to you.

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**NO SMOKING**

on this premises and within 4 metres of entrance

PENALTIES MAY APPLY
Tobacco Act 1987

New smoking bans at school entrances

From 13th April 2015, smoking will be banned within four metres of an entrance to all primary and secondary schools in Victoria. (Smoking within the school grounds is already banned.) A similar ban will apply to Victorian childcare centres and kindergartens.
Re-enrolments were due last week. Please pay by Thursday or the names will be deleted from the list and places given to students on the waiting list.

Grab a bargain! Vouchers and KeepCups for sale

There are still a few vouchers and KeepCups left over from the fete. Please contact the School Office if you'd like to purchase one of these:

- A voucher for 5 coffees at McIvers North, and a KeepCup. Value $32, buy it for $18

All proceeds to the school.

School Photo forms have gone home today.

Orders can be made online or returned to the office by the 29th of April.

Sibling portraits and spare forms are available at the office.

Any Year 6 student considering applying for the SEAL program needs to register by 1 May. They can register on www.mountalexandercollege.vic.edu.au/enrol/seal-program-registration/
WOW!!! What a day Monday March 16th was! I felt quite anxious that morning, trying to prepare myself to sit in front of the School assembly and watch my locks get shaved off!

Once I took my seat, the scenes that unfolded before me were incredible and a true testament to our School Community. From the sea of crazy hair to the varying facial expressions on the students in front of me, these are memories that I will never forget!

A big thank you to everyone who participated in Funky Hair Day and to the SRC for running the day! Together we raised a final total of $419, an amazing effort!

Thank you to the team from Hoopla Salon (www.hooplasalon.com.au) for dedicating their time to the cause and a heartfelt thank you for the many kind words I have received from the many staff, students and parents who have approached me over the last week! It was been truly overwhelming and humbling.

To date I have raised $3,829 and am very determined to hit the $4,000 mark so if you wish to donate there is still time, simply go to my profile - http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/amandafrittolini

Post shave with my awesome helpers (left to right)- Zoe Peck (Caroline/Lucy’s class) and Jean Land (Barb’s class)

Thank you for your help Zoe & Jean!!!
WORLD’S GREATEST SHAVE

Our grade 3 & 4 students put pen to paper and wrote about the World’s Greatest Shave at BSW!

Visit the grade 3 & 4 classes’ Digital Learning Journals to read more (coming soon) –

Here are a few samples of their work –

CRAZY HAIR DAY

On Monday the 16th March Amanda participated in the World’s Greatest Shave. She shaved her hair to raise money for the Leukaemia Foundation (Leukaemia is a type of cancer). Altogether she raised $3700. She shaved her hair in front of the whole school at assembly and to give her support we made our hair super funky. My hair was green on the top and I had a bit of gold on the sides. I also spiked up my hair. Hairdressers from the Hoopla Salon came and shaved her head. One person from the junior school and the senior school were lucky enough to hold her hair. Those two people were Jean and Zoe. I think that Amanda is very brave.

Noah 3/4C

On the 16th of March, Amanda, our office lady, shaved her hair for the Leukaemia Foundation. The Leukaemia Foundation helps support people with blood cancer. Amanda raised $3700. Jean and Zoe got to hold Amanda’s hair. The lady shaving Amanda’s hair was called Jade. Jade was from the Hoopla Salon. It was also crazy hair day for our school. I dyed my hair different colours and did a weird ponytail at the back. I think it was a really awesome day.

By Kate 3/4D

World’s Greatest Shave!

On the 16th March 2015 crazy Amanda shaved off most of her hair! A hair dresser called Jade generously took some time off her hair dressing work so she could come to Brunswick South West Primary School to shave Amanda’s head.

To celebrate her humble hair, everybody from our school wore a crazy hat or they tried to make their hair as crazy as hers!

Abby 3/4C

On the 16th March Amanda’s hair was shaved off by people from Hoopla Salon. It was for an amazing cause. Amanda raised $3700 dollars for the leukaemia foundation. Leukaemia is a cancer that grows in the blood, because it grows in the blood it is very hard to catch. Amanda works at the office and is very nice. At assembly it was a crazy hair and or hat day. Most of the teachers dressed up. The main hairdressers name was Jade. There were two helpers. One from the Junior School and one from the Senior School. Jean was from the Senior School and Zoe was from the Junior School. I had my toy monkey tied on to hat with rubber bands.

Elijah 3/4D
Masterpiece Collection

Kay’s Class

I like to play on the computer.
I like to play with the Duplo. Alanda

Gun man is fighting a baddie.
I play Cops and Robbers at school. Ethan

I am playing Cops and Robbers.
We are wearing our sun hats. Petar

I am playing at the Big Kids Playground.
I am on the little slide. Samuel
**Masterpiece Collection**

**Kay's Class**

I am showing my fossilized tree root at school.
I found it on the beach.
I am wearing my flower skirt so I drew flowers. Emma

I drew a school. I am reading a book. Asli

I like playing at the Big Kids Playground.
I like climbing up the rope. Pierre
Learn music
here at school

Come and join in the fun of learning to play keyboard, guitar, violin, cello, here at Brunswick South West Primary School.

Creative Music for Schools conducts a music program here at school each week.

Small group classes or one-on-one lessons give children an excellent grounding in music where they will learn to read music and play their chosen instrument.

Tuition costs from $16.20 per lesson and enrolments are now being accepted for limited places in term 2.

Interested parents should call Angela during office hours on 9818 2333.

www.creativemusic.com.au

Become a Brunswick Dragon

The Brunswick Dragons are urgently looking for more players born in 2006 and 2007 to come and play with us in 2015, we are just a few players short in our Under 8 and Under 9 teams. The Dragons is a supportive, friendly and family-oriented club and a great place to learn and play footy. The competition we play in, the YJFL, is a progressive and inclusive league which:

- adopts modified rules for Under 8s, 9s and 10s in order to encourage and protect all players, and
- has a competition for every year level which ensures that your child is playing with children of a similar size.

We welcome all kids who would like to play AFL (no prior experience required). If you are interested, please contact Jan De Gier (0450196888) or Kylie Moreland (0439180275).

Basketball Clinics

March / April School Holidays

- Beginners, Experienced & Representative
- 30th March – 1st April, 9th – 10th April
- 7 years+

Beginner Programs

- Saturdays commencing 18th April
- Aussie Hoops 5 – 8 years at 9am & 1.30pm
- Mini Ball 7 – 10 years at 10am & 12.30pm
- Tuesdays commencing 21st April
- Little Stars 3 & 4 year olds 4.20, 4.55 pm
- All Star Hoops grades prep – 3 at 4.30pm
- Mini Ball grades 3 – 6 at 5.30pm

Access for All Abilities

- Saturdays commencing 18th April
- 11.15am – 12.30pm
- For children 6 – 16 with special needs

For more information and to register go to www.collingwood.basketball.net.au
Enquiries: Megan Rouse 0417 106 490

DAREBIN FALCONS

Grade 6 Girls...Darebin Falcons wants you!

Come and play soccer, make friends, get fit, have fun!

We are looking for girls turning 12 in 2015 for our Under 12s team. Come by yourself or with a friend. Training is Thursday 5-6pm at A H Capp Reserve, Halwyn Cres, Preston and games on Sundays.

For more information contact Jasmine on soccer@falcons.org.au or phone 0422 991 687.
Learning another language is an exciting experience for young children. While they have fun discovering new and unusual ways of expressing themselves, they also exercise and strengthen their brains. That is why the Victorian Government is putting young children first in its plan to revitalise languages education.

The best time to start learning a language is early in life, so from 2015, all government schools will provide languages education for Prep students. By 2025, languages education will be universal from Prep to Year 10.

No matter what your child’s ability, research shows that learning another language can:

**Stimulate brain development**
Learning another language helps develop essential areas of children’s brains. It also helps them to think more creatively, connect ideas and solve problems more easily.

**Significantly enhance English literacy skills**
Learning another language means more than just memorising lists of words. Languages all use different systems. Children automatically compare and contrast the system of the new language they are learning with English. This gives them an insight to how English works, which accelerates their ability to read and write.

**Improve memory, concentration and numeracy skills**
Learning another language strengthens children’s memory for sequences and their ability to concentrate and build connections.

**Improve overall performance at school**
Learning another language is associated with excellent, long-term academic results. Studies show that in the world’s highest-performing school systems, all students in all year levels learn one or more languages.

**Encourage respect and understanding of other cultures**
Learning another language sparks children’s curiosity for other cultures. It opens their minds to different ways of living and promotes harmony and respect in the schoolyard and beyond.

From 2015 children starting Prep will be able to learn a language throughout their schooling.

This commitment, made in *The Victorian Government’s Vision for Languages Education*, recognises that learning another language is crucial to preparing children for our increasingly globalised and multilingual jobs market.

Remember, learning any language – whether it’s Italian or Indonesian, Punjabi or Portuguese – helps children to become better thinkers, better communicators and better global citizens.

Starting early will put your child on-track to proficiency in another language, ready to seize the world of opportunities that this brings.
Lost in concentration

It’s more challenging than ever to be present with our kids, and so easy to get lost in concentration on a device. Here are 5 tips to really impact and make the most of every opportunity you have with your kids.

I can’t help but admire my young colleague Sonia, mother of a 4-year-old boy and a seven-year-old girl. She is an avid user of social media and other electronic devices, but she is disciplined enough to set them aside when she is with her kids. Sonia chooses to focus her attention on her children, so she limits her use of communication devices to the times when she is alone – which she admits is less often than she’d like.

Electronic devices such as tablets and mobile phones are ever present. They are heaps of fun, the source of so much knowledge and a great way to stay in touch with others. The flip side is that their hypnotic effect is powerful so that frequently all our concentration is directed at them rather than our kids. When this happens you’ll more than likely miss some wonderful opportunities to really impact your child.

When you are fully present you can:

1. Build their language
   Recently, I saw a mother walking side by side with a young toddler playing a simple language game. She would make a sound with her mouth and her young son would mimic her. She changed or added to the sounds and her son tried to replicate the sounds. This is language building at its most natural and finest, and wouldn’t have happened if this mother was on the mobile phone rather than being present with her child. Whether you are with a toddler, primary aged child or a teen the language building opportunities are endless. You just have to focus on the one you are with and let things happen naturally.

2. Teach your children about their world
   Most children are naturally curious and will ask lots of questions. “Why do dogs bark?” “Why is the sun round?” “Where do babies come from?” Yes, some are simple, some are hard to answer and some you are just not ready for. But it’s through these simple interactions that you become your child’s first and most important teacher. My hunch is that most kids will stop asking these questions of you if your attention is focused elsewhere, such as on a mobile phone or other electronic device.

3. Impact their thinking
   Influential British educator Charles Des Forges says, “If you want to influence your child’s thinking then you need to talk to him. If parents want more influence then they need to talk more to their children.” According to Des Forges it’s through the conversations that parents have with their children that they impact the way they think, as well as influence their values. Nothing kills personal conversation with a child or young person like a mobile device.

More on page 2

4 Build relationships

Relationships are built through common interest, good intent and respectful behaviour. I can think of no better reason for being in the moment with your child than the opportunity it presents to build some common interest and rapport. Time spent giving attention to your child is like putting money in the bank for the future. You never know when you are going to withdraw some of the deposits that you’ve made, so it’s reassuring to know that you’ve made plenty of deposits of goodwill to draw on, particularly in the tricky teenage years.

5 Build memories for you

As a parent of adult children I now treasure the memories of times I was fortunate to have spent with them as young children. It’s strange how these memories resurface at the most unexpected time. Recently, I was in a supermarket and I remembered the time when I enthusiastically asked my youngest, who was three at the time, to get the box of cereal with the big red K. Off she went feeling all important and returned with a triumphant smile armed with a box of dog food. “Thanks darling. Nearly!” was my reply desperate not to quell the enthusiasm to help that only a three year old can have.

Yes, there are million memories such as this available to parents who are willing to focus attention on the children rather than be distracted by the lure of communication devices.

As a parent you have competing demands on your time, and the allure of communication technology can be overwhelming. However, as Sonia is so aware, the time for parents to really impact on kids is limited so you want to make the most of every opportunity you have with them.

The key to positively influencing your kids, building strong relationships and building enough fond memories to last a lifetime is to make sure that your mind is where your body is and be fully present when you are with your kids.

Michael Grose