Dear Parents and Friends of BSW,

What an exciting time at BSW! There has been a constant stream of students lining up at the front gate to board the buses for the swimming program. As they clutch their swimming bags tightly, they eagerly anticipate the first big splash into the swimming pool. It sounds like lots of fun, but it is also part of a valuable 10 day intensive swimming program run annually at BSW. All swimming abilities are catered for in small groups accompanied by qualified instructors. Parents and teachers often report back to the school the improved swimming abilities and confidence of many students over that short period of time.

Monday 24th August will be a curriculum day for BSW. The focus will be Student Well Being and ICT. Staff will commence their first professional development module for KidsMatter, including analysing the data from the recent survey completed by the BSW community and identifying future directions for our school. In ICT we will continue to develop the Class Digital Learning Journals, including incorporating comments/feedback from the broader community. We will also continue work on implementing eSmart.
focussing on cybersafety. With digital footprints becoming increasingly large, cybersafety is always a paramount component of our ICT program.

This week Cathy Jessop spent a day at CERES working on the first ResourceSmart School module. We are pleased to say that the hard work of the whole community has helped us to complete 96% of the module. We can see evidence of this all around the school. Students are arriving with rubbish free lunches, recycling boxes are been used for paper, and emptying of the skip has gone from weekly to fortnightly to name only a few.

The enthusiasm generated here has spread to our huge annual event-the BSWPS Twilight Fete. In the past we have had 6 key areas of responsibility, including Food & Beverages, Entertainment, Things to See & Buy, Sponsorship & Prizes, Operations & Equipment and Public Relations & Communications. This year a 7th key area, sustainability, is to be added to the responsibilities of the fete committee. Ways we can begin to work toward a ‘Zero Waste Fete’ will be the key focus.

Please read the attachment in the newsletter to find out how you can be part of helping our Fete be the biggest and best yet!

Yours sincerely,

Judy Harrington

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**DO YOU HAVE A CONCESSION CARD?**

**Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)**

If you hold a valid means-tested Centrelink concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be 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 will be $125 for primary school students.

**How to apply**

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

**Closing Date**

You should lodge a CSEF application form at the school **by 18 September 2015**. Late applications cannot be accepted.

For more information about the CSEF visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

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**CURRICULUM DAY**

There will be a Curriculum Day on Monday, 24th August. This is a pupil free day. Childcare will be available only if there are enough participants. There is an enrolment form attached to this newsletter. Please complete and return by August 13 at the latest.

Cost is $51.00 for the day.

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**Lost and Found**

**2015 AFL Football Card Album**  
Last Friday (7th August) Eamon Connell’s AFL album went missing from the bag area in the library entrance. It didn’t have his name written on it and may have been mistakenly taken. If found please return to the school office.

**Lost something**  
Sometimes it may take a couple of days for lost items to make their way to lost property.
We urge those receiving hard copy newsletters to switch to our digital version available on our website:


Have a funny, gross, or weird story about your life to tell? Here’s a comp for you!

How would you like to win $1000 cash, a signed set of the My Life series and $1000 worth of books for our school?


Competition closes 31st of August 2015

The Fete Committee is starting to prepare for our Twilight Fete in 2016. Our fete has grown hugely over the past few years. As every parent would know, the funds we raise are critical to the school and go to providing a range of resources and up keep for our school.

Following on from our recent “Find out about the Fete” meeting, here is more information for those parents who were not able to make it.

Our Fete Committee currently consists of 6 members, who each look after a specific area to do with the fete. Please see the chart below for these areas.

This year, we’d like to add a new area of responsibility. Sustainability will be the seventh key area focused on working with fellow fete committee members, stall coordinators and the school to think about all the ways we can begin to work toward a ‘Zero Waste Fete’.

Vacancies - we need new co-ordinators
Importantly, in the interest of succession planning for our very successful fete, we need people to join the Fete Committee as joint co-ordinators for several key areas.

These co-ordinators will join the Fete team, working alongside the existing co-ordinators and being mentored by them for the 2016 Fete. A list of all vacancies and the fete committee structure can be found on page 4.
The Moreland School Holiday program information and enrolment forms will be available for the September/October School Holiday Program from **Friday 7 August, 5pm**, bookings will close on **Friday 21 August 2015**.

Forms are available from:
Local Primary Schools in the municipality;
Council’s website and;
Citizens Services Centres – Monday to Friday between 8.30 am to 5.00 pm.
  - Coburg Offices, 90 Bell Street, Coburg
  - Brunswick Offices, 233 Sydney Road, and
  - Glenroy, 796N Pascoe Vale Road, Glenroy

Please note that the School Holiday Program will **NOT** be running from Brunswick South West during the next school holidays, due to works being carried out in the school grounds. The nearest SHP will run from **Brunswick South Primary School** – 56 Brunswick Rd.

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**Collingwood Basketball Club**

**Interested in playing Saturday basketball?**

**Girls & Boys Under 8 – Under 20**

**Register online at:**

[www.collingwood.basketball.net.au](http://www.collingwood.basketball.net.au)

New players welcome

Players must register and pay by **16th August** to ensure a place in a Summer team

Enquiries: Megan Rouse 0417 106 490

manager@collingwoodbasketball.com.au
A good friend enthusiastically told me how he was looking forward to spending a few days away on his own with his two kids, aged 10 and 13. He was feeling quite chuffed.

He was having some ‘dad time’ with his kids.

Good on him!

He was doing some memory building & relationship building, as well as having some fun.

He told me that he was aware that his kids were getting older and he knew such opportunities were diminishing.

Gone are the days when the only relationship many men had with their kids was through their wife. She would explain him to the kids (‘Your dad’s very busy but he would love to see you play sport but he can’t make it.’) As well, she’d keep him up-to-date with the children’s lives.

Blokes, it seems, are valuing the time they spend with their kids on their own.

Or at least the dads I mix with are. Spending time alone with kids is a great way to build confidence in dads.

And the kids usually just love it.

Mothers can play a role here by not getting in the way if their husband or partner wants a little time alone with kids. (Most mums I meet welcome this!)

Children usually associate their fathers with activity. When I ask children to tell me about their dads they usually talk about the things that they like to do together with their dads. Playing, walking, fishing, wrestling...the list goes on.

It’s through shared activity and involvement in kids’ lives that dads build frequent father points. It’s hard to build good connections with kids when you are not there!

Don’t wait until adolescence

These relationships are best built in childhood, when kids just love their dads to bits and want to be around him. It gets trickier in adolescence, but having shared interests developed in childhood gives you a connection point during these sometimes-turbulent times.

Dads also benefit from spending time with their kids. Most health scales state a healthy relationship with their children is a predictor of good health and longevity for men. I’m not sure where the health benefits come from, but I suspect there is something relaxing and de-stressing about getting into a child’s space. There is a big kid inside most men just bursting to get out.

These days we take parenting pretty seriously and it’s easy to forget that one of the fundamentals of raising kids well is to spend some time in your child’s space, doing stuff, or not doing stuff, whatever the case maybe.

So how are your (or your partner’s) Frequent Father points going? If they need some topping up then you can start by doing something together that the kids enjoy. Having a bit of fun together is the best place to start.

Author’s note: Sole mums can take these ideas on-board to have a NO RULES weekend with your kids, where you have a change of routine and activity that can give kids the chance to see you in a different way.