Dear Parents and Friends of BSW,

May is a busy month for community events, Mother’s Day stall, quarterly working bee, Education and National Reconciliation Weeks, Family Breakfast and School Council AGM. PLEASE, put these dates in your diary and join us. The School News is the main way to find out what each of these mean for you and your child.

This Saturday’s Working Bee  Your help is needed to make BSW look its best. Any time you can volunteer between 10 am and 2 pm will be greatly appreciated. In addition to the regular maintenance tasks of sweeping, clearing drains, pruning, working in the Kitchen Garden . . ., special projects will include moving compost and toppings which will be delivered, bench construction and planting in the JS courtyard and painting the JS Girls’ Toilet. This is an ambitious list so the coordinating team is hoping for many, many volunteers. If possible,
bring your own tools, especially wheelbarrows and loppers/secateurs.

Casey O’Farrell, the parent who coordinates the catering wrote: The plan is to have a variety of soups for lunch. We are looking for people to make a pot of your favourite, or else try an experiment!

Kids, in the morning we will make some scones to go with the soup.

If you are able to make some soup, please let Casey (0431 057 911) or Michelle (0448 053 388) know so we can make sure we have lots for everyone.

Lunch will be provided at the new time of 1 pm. As usual, the class with the most adults at the working bee will win the Golden Gardening Trophy and a surprise gardening award. To ensure that you are in the count for your child’s class, sign in at the hall.

Family Breakfast, Wednesday, 18^th^ May This annual Education Week event is to:
- have a fun, community celebration of education at BSW, and State Education
- thank all our volunteers
- especially acknowledge those parents of Year 6 students who have been outstanding volunteers and who will be leaving our school at the end of the year

Please read Sarah Berry’s notice in this edition. Your help is essential for the success of this event. I was surprised to read, “Most of the tasks are straightforward and will take less than an hour.”

School Council AGM will be Monday, 23rd May, at 7 pm in the Library. Come and hear SC’s 2015 report and this year’s plans. I’m excited by what follows at 7:30 pm. Our speaker will be Janine McIntosh, Choose Maths Program Director from the Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute. I hope each family will have a parent at this event. In the meantime, follow the link https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TWBL7DX and complete our one minute survey which is open to all adults. The survey will close at midnight next Thursday, 12^th^ May. The results will be shared in the School News the following week.

Learning a second language Here’s another of the quotes which were decorating my office on my return from China.

“One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way” - Frank Smith. I plan to publish them over the next few weeks and then give them a new life by displaying them in the library.

Elizabeth Honey, Australian author and illustrator Unfortunately, too many meetings clutter my diary. However, two weeks ago, I had a marvellous lunch conversation for about an hour with Elizabeth Honey. Since then, I’ve revisited and read a number of her books and my bucket list has another entry, the Bologna Children’s Book Fair.

Elizabeth Honey with Louise Chocholis, Principal.

Amanda Frittolini, our Business Manager, told me that 45 and 47 Stella Street and everything that happened was one of her favourite books when she was in primary school. The sequel, Fiddle-back, is now on her reading list.

Curriculum Day Please note, our last curriculum day for this year will be the first day of next term, Monday, 11^th^ July.

To all BSWPS mums, my very best wishes for a wonderful Mother’s Day and year.

Yours sincerely
Louise Chocholis

Principal
FAMILY BREAKFAST

Hi all,

We are organising the Education Week Family Breakfast. It's on Wednesday 18 May (that's in two weeks) from 8:15am – 9:00am. We hope as many families as possible can make it to the breakfast, as it's a great opportunity to meet the school community – and it's a lot of fun for our kids.

We are looking for volunteers to help make the breakfast a success. A volunteer roster has been set up online – just enter your email and then choose a job.

Here's the volunteer roster link: [http://vols.pt/5XLzpF](http://vols.pt/5XLzpF)

Most of the tasks are straightforward and will take less than an hour. Please help us out by signing up for a job today.

Thanks!

Sarah Berry

MOTHER'S DAY STALL

Mothers Day Stall
is (tomorrow) May 6th.

Junior School
9:15am—1:00am

Senior School
12:00pm—1:00pm

BPAY

If you have or intend to pay your 2016 School Fees via BPAY and wish pay a voluntary contribution, please ensure you complete & return the payment slip enclosed with your statement to the Office as soon as possible.

Y6–Y7 TRANSITION

Year 6-Year 7 Transition forms are to be returned by Friday 13th of May. It is important to note that I cannot pass on any of the 'Request for Placement' forms until all are returned. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Thankyou
Meg Densley
Grade 5/6 teacher
BSW ROCKS

I can hear the bell!

Would you like to hear yourself when the bell rings in the morning or at break times? Well you can! Record yourself playing your favourite song on piano, guitar or any other instrument, or record yourself singing your favourite song.

These recordings will become the music that is played for the school bell.

Please send all recordings to Anya in room 14.

NAPLAN

NAPLAN will be held next week for Grade Threes and Grade Fives on the following dates:

- Tuesday 10th Language Conventions & Writing
- Wednesday 11th Reading
- Thursday 12th Numeracy

Today your child should have brought home an information sheet regarding NAPLAN.

Remember, NAPLAN tests are just one part of the school program and you do the best you can on the day.

Some tips to help you do your best:
- Have a good night’s sleep
- Have a good breakfast
- Be at school on time

Ashley Whitehead
NAPLAN Co-ordinator

NATURE NEWS

Over the last few months I have been finding an occasional small skink in my garden next to the school.

All have been shy and well hidden and I only discovered them when I accidently disturbed their hiding places in the mulch in on my garden.

They all appeared to be Weasel Skinks, a species which the reference book 'Melbourne’s Wildlife' (an excellent book, which I highly recommend) notes is common in eastern suburban gardens. Interestingly, our daughter in Pascoe Vale also seems to have these little lizards in her garden as well.

The book says these lizards lay up to four eggs each in a communal nest.

The other common lizard around here is the little Marbled Gecko, an excellent climber which is active at night and often seen out hunting, especially in warmer weather. They lay two eggs per clutch.

Lizards are very helpful, eating lots of insects. Neither are poisonous or dangerous, so be pleased when you see them rather than scared. Unless they’re in a place where they may come to harm, just leave them be. If you do need to move them, pop a clear container over them, slide cardboard gently under them and transport the lizard to a safe place. If you try to pick them up by hand, they will become very scared and drop their tails, which is not good for the lizard as it then has to grow a new one!

Jan Flack
Have you applied for the Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)?

Parents are reminded that if you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for the CSEF. 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
- $225 for secondary school students

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the CSEF website. **Applications close 3 June 2016.**

For more information and to download flyers in 13 different languages: Arabic, Burmese, Cantonese, Dari, Dinka, Karen, Mandarin, Persian, Somali, Sudanese, Tamil, Turkish and Vietnamese, please see www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
We have 4 to 5 under 10 spots and really want another 3.
We have the second under 8s team and can now take another -> 10 - target 6 more.

Is your Lollipop person the sweetest?

School Crossing Supervisor of the Year Award

As part of our commitment to the ongoing safety of your students, School Crossing's Victoria together with your local council is looking for the 'Supervisor of the Year 2015/2016'.

There are seven regions across the state. A winner will be selected in each region and the overall winner will be selected from the regional winners. The winner of the 2013/2014 Supervisor of the Year was Marlene Holden from the Kingston City Council. School Crossing's Victoria would like to enlist your help to boost this years nominations.

It is our goal to reach as many parents, residents and school staff as possible by involving them in the nomination process. We encourage all road users to think about, and reward, the active role the Supervisors play in the safety of their children.

Your support of this program will help ensure your Crossing Supervisors are shown the appreciation they deserve.
Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge

The Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge is now open and Brunswick South West Primary School is excited to be participating.

The Challenge is open to all Victorian children from birth to Year 10 in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development. It is not a competition; but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by 9 September 2016.

Children from Prep to Year 2 are encouraged to read or ‘experience’ 30 books with their parents and teachers. Children from Year 3 to Year 10 are challenged to read 15 books.

All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and can choose to have their name included on the online Honour Roll. If you would like your child’s name to appear on the Honour Roll, please sign the attached form and return it to your school.

To read the Premier’s letter to parents, view the booklists and for more information about the Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge, visit: www.education.vic.gov.au/prc

If you would like your child’s name to appear on the Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge online Honour Roll, please sign this form and return it to your child’s teacher.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Definitions: Department refers to the Victorian Department of Education and Training, Person refers to the child/adult listed below in the consent declaration.

1) Privacy Protection
The Department takes its privacy obligations seriously and any personal information collected or used by the Department will be handled in accordance with the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic). This law sets out what we must do when the Department collects, uses, handles and destroys personal information. Personal information includes personal details such as an individual’s name and school that could be used to identify an individual.

2) Collection, use, disclosure and storage of personal information
If you provide your consent your school will collect and disclose your child’s first and last name, and the name of the school to the Department. The Department will then:

- Publish your child’s name on its online Honour Roll located at: www.education.vic.gov.au/prc at the completion of the Challenge with no other identifying factors such as early childhood setting name.

3) Accuracy, access to information and withdrawal of consent
The Department will endeavour to ensure that any personal information held about your child is up to date and accurate. You can access, correct and withdraw personal information held by the Department by written request in accordance with the Department’s Information Privacy Policy located at: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/privacypolicy.aspx

Consent may be withdrawn at any time by writing to the Department’s Privacy Unit on: privacy.enquiries@edumail.vic.gov.au.

If you have any questions about this form, or if you need more information, please contact the PRC Challenge Coordinator at the Department readingchallenge@edumail.vic.gov.au or (03) 9637 3624.

Yes, I consent to my child’s name appearing on the online Honour roll

Name of child..................................................................................................................................................

Parent Signature.................................................................................................................................................
Sydney Road Community School is a small government secondary school located in Brunswick.

We offer a comprehensive curriculum for students in years 7 through to year 12 and caters for a wide range of student abilities and aspirations.

Parents choose our school because of its philosophy, size, curriculum offerings and, often, because their children have experienced a lack of success at other schools.

The focus of the school is to address the educational needs of students and the curriculum is designed and regularly revised to allow for individual differences and to provide challenging and engaging lessons for all students.

The school thrives on the diversity of its students. Exploration and acceptance of difference is encouraged. The intellectual, racial and philosophical mix of students gives the school much of its energy and vitality.

Students are divided into contact (or home) groups: year 7/8 groups, year 9/10 groups, and VCE/VCAL groups. A contact teacher is directly responsible for the welfare of each group.

Assessment is predominantly descriptive and based on work requirements and Curriculum and Standards Framework levels. Individuals Learning Plans are developed for each student.

The Arts is a focus area. We have two well-equipped music rooms, an Art/Craft room, a science room and a cooking room. We have made a priority of our Information Technology area and have Apple computers for use by students and staff.

We have a school dog “Sydney” who is an integral part of our school community.

We don’t have an open day but if you would like to visit the school please call us on 9380 9417 or email our Transition Co-ordinator Heather Bates on bates.heather.h@edumail.vic.gov.au

Check out our school at sydneyrdcs.wordpress.com