Dear Parents and Friends of BSW,

Welcome back! The wattle near the front entrance is in bloom; the kitchen garden is a riot of colour; the oval is a lush green and dew-covered in the mornings. We, students and teachers, are primed for autumnal term 2, a time of intense learning, the development of the mind, body, spirit and relationships.

The following two items missed publication last term:

**The incredible 2016 Twilight Fete Profit!** So once again, congratulations and thanks to everyone who contributed to our fete, a fabulous social and community event, and financial success. The profit was a record, an increase of $1,560.02 on the 2015 result.

Be assured the proceeds will be used to benefit your child; they will pay for resources to enhance learning and improvements to classroom and outdoor amenities. For example, locally raised funds were used to set up the extra F – Year 2 classroom with furniture and resources; $10,000 will be spent on terracing restoration works which were identified as the priority in the Grounds Master Plan.

As you know a percentage of fund raising is needed to maintain the school’s current programs and facilities. Without fundraising and parent contribution, much less your volunteered labour in classrooms, on committees, at working bees . . ., our school would be a very different place.
School Council  Our election for School Council was uncontested since the nominations in each membership category equalled the vacancies. Our Councillors commencing their two year term are:

Parent & Community members: Ross Allen, Philip Carr, Martin Reeves, Glenn Thomson (Vice President) and Maiike Wienk (President)

Department of Education & Training members: Chrissy Temple and Caroline Wignell

The councillors who are half way through their term are Colin Bell, Rob Catchlove, Mustafa Hamoui, Judy Harrington, Sonia Ingham, Stephen Van Langenberg and Ashley Whitehead.

I want to thank our 2015/16 School Council and its sub-committees, Buildings & Grounds, Education, Engagement and Finance. Council’s meetings provide a forum for valuable discussion, debate and decision-making about changes and improvements to many aspects of school life, for example, the Language Review and decision to translate to Chinese. BSW is a better place because of councillors’ contribution and commitment. Thank you!

I would like to especially acknowledge our retiring Councillors:

Dean Anderson and Roy Solterbeck, each for their two years’ service, and their contribution to the Buildings and Grounds Sub-committee Jeroen Kramer for his six years’ service, one as Vice President and, at least, five as Treasurer. The work of the Finance Sub-committee, and his outstanding contribution, has enabled the school to make effective use of its resources.

Welcome  I am pleased to announce two new staff members; Josephine Cagliero, Admin Assistant working Wednesday and Thursday in the main office and Jacinta Dimase, Librarian working in the Library on Monday and Tuesday.

Mother’s Day is fast approaching and the Brunswick South West Primary School Mother’s Day stall is happening again. This year, we are asking parents to donate homemade gifts (e.g. Homemade jams or preserves, potpourri, candles, knitted items) that can be sold at the stall. The stall will be early in May so, please use the holidays to help us make this year’s stall as homemade as possible. A box will be placed in the office for you to place your donations in after the holidays.

The stall is for students to buy a Mother’s Day gift for their mum/gran/special person in their life. The prices are kept low, $10.00 and under. There may be some exceptions to this.

More information about the time and location of the stall will be in the newsletter closer to the date.

Thank-you for your time.

Catherine Pfabe
Mothers and Fathers Day Stall Co-ordinator

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.
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](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

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An astronaut’s tall tale

On 2 March this year, two long-term International Space Station residents returned to Earth. Scott Kelly and Mikhail Kornienko both spent 342 days in space. Their year-long mission included space walks and Earth photography. But the most important experiment was on themselves. How does a person react to a year in space?

Throughout their expedition, scientists conducted many experiments on the duo, checking reaction times and making sure they were still healthy. But while Scott and Mikhail were floating in space, there was also a third participant.

Scott’s identical twin brother Mark stayed at home on Earth throughout the mission. This means there was one brother in space and one on the ground. For the first time, scientists had a regular Earth-dweller acting as a control for their experiments.

One change was very noticeable to both Mark and Scott. The two brothers used to be about the same height. But upon his return, Scott was about five centimetres taller than his twin. Floating weightless, the joints in Scott’s spine relaxed and stretched out. Meanwhile, Mark’s spine was compressed every day by the weight of his own body. However, it took Scott just two days to return to his usual Earth height.

There is still a lot to learn about long space expeditions. Even a fast trip to Mars takes a year to get there and back. We need more research before sending people on such a long and dangerous mission.

**Article source: DoubleHelix Science by email.**
Do you know someone who can help foster connection?

Every year, Victoria experiences a shortfall of more than 300 foster carers. These carers support the lives and outcomes of children and young people who cannot live with their families.

The Victorian Government are looking for individuals who can open their homes to the most vulnerable of Victorian children and young people.

It's the little things foster carers do for a child that make them amazing, like sharing a meal at the table or a trip to the footy.

Carers don't need to be superheroes, but by offering this support foster carers change the lives and outcomes of those most in need.

If you feel you can be a suitable carer, apply now to begin the foster care recruitment and training process. To find out more about the enquiry process, see: www.fosteringconnections.com.au or call 1800 013 088.
Junior School Performances
During Monday Morning Assembly

This year the Junior School classes are performing during Monday’s assembly. The Shining Star awards will be given out after assembly.

Here is the timetable of when classes are performing.

We hope to see you there!

**Term 2**

Monday 18\textsuperscript{th} April – Maurice and Phaedra
Monday 2\textsuperscript{nd} May – Anya and Chrissy
Monday 9\textsuperscript{th} May – Kay
Monday 16\textsuperscript{th} May – Cathy/Naomi
Monday 23\textsuperscript{rd} May – Lizzy and Caroline/Kelly
Monday 30\textsuperscript{th} May – Chantel and Jacqui/Lucy
Monday 6\textsuperscript{th} June – Maurice and Phaedra
Monday 20\textsuperscript{th} June – Chrissy and Anya

**TERM 3**

Monday 18\textsuperscript{th} July – Caroline/Kelly and Lizzy
Monday 25\textsuperscript{th} July - Jacqui/Lucy and Chantel
Date: Friday, 29th April, 2016

Program Times: 7.30am - 6.00pm

Cost: $ 51.00 per child per day
(Child Care Benefit is available to reduce this fee)

Phone enquiries: The OSHC number 9389-3329

Please note that we can only offer childcare if we get a minimum of 20 students. If there is a lack of interest and the day is cancelled, you will be contacted by telephone.

The following children will require care for:  

Child/ren name: ........................................................................................................

My child/children will attend between the hours ______am - ______pm

For your child’s safety all children must be registered with the OSHC program in order to attend. If your child/ren are not currently registered, please contact the Coordinator for an enrolment form.

All bookings are required by: Friday, 22nd April, 2016

The cost for the program will be added to your next invoice. Fee Reductions are available through the Child Care Benefit for families registered to the service. For further information on CCB please contact the FAO on 136150

Submitting this form confirms your child’s attendance in the Curriculum Day Program. Please note 7 days notice is required to cancel your booking otherwise without a medical certificate the full fee will be incurred.

PARENT/ GUARDIAN/ AUTHORISED SIGNATORY______________________________________________

Parent Phone No’s ........................................................................................................

Date __________________________

Notices/Pupil Free day/2016
The Junior School classes invite family and friends to our SUPERHERO PARADE on Friday 22nd April 9-10am in the Hall.