

Principal Team Column

FAREWELL MS EDDY:

On Friday we will be having a special presentation to farewell Ms Eddy after 10½ years of service at Bellaire PS. Ms Eddy is taking the position of Student Learning Manager at Barwon South Western Region Office. Students and families are encouraged to take the opportunity this week for any personal farewells. This position has been advertised and a new Assistant Principal will be appointed before the end of Term 2.

“AIM HIGH”

**Issue 13
May 13th 2009**

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Principal Class Team

Jane Warren (Principal)
Chris Eddy (Asst. Principal)
Business Manager
Kate Matthews

Bellaire P.S.
Larcombe Street
Highton, Vic. 3216
Australia Ph. 5243 5203
Fax: 5241 1134
OSHC: Ph. 5244 0567

Term Dates for 2009

2nd Feb – 3rd April
20th April – 26th June
13 July – 18th September
5th October – 18th December

Dates to remember:

May 20th – Open Morning 9 – 11 am for Education Week
Year 4 Parents Info Session for SLU- 10:00 am (staffroom)
May 21st-District Cross Ctry
May 26th –Bush Dance
June 8th – Queens Birthday Long Weekend.
June 12th- Report Writing Day
July 29th Middle/ Senior Aths

VICTORIAN EDUCATION EXCELLENCE AWARDS – BELLAIRE PS SHORTLISTED IN 2 CATEGORIES

This Friday night 11 staff will be attending this event at the Crown Palladium room. We have been shortlisted to the final 3 schools in Curriculum Innovation and Education Leadership. This event is to promote best practice in Victorian education and is a great thrill that Bellaire PS is considered so highly at a state level.

CURRICULUM INNOVATION AWARD– Senior Learning Unit

Our short listed nomination for the Curriculum Innovation Award is for the work undergone in curriculum development in the SLU. Many would have read how the state and federal governments are investing heavily in “Building The Education Revolution” to ensure major curriculum changes occur that will best meet the needs of our generation of learners now and in the future to best prepare them for 21st century life. Bellaire has had over 200 visitors from Victoria and NSW to learn about the work we are doing in the SLU. Schools across Victoria are being encouraged to work in learning communities that maximise student learning, engagement and access to technology.

What the Senior Learning Unit does:

- √ Focuses on **explicit teaching** through **reading, writing and maths workshops**. These are very structured and teacher directed.
- √ Carefully **tracks individual student progress** through weekly student conferences with the home group teacher and a computer tracking system that enables both home group and workshop teachers to jointly track student progress.
- √ **Maximises student engagement** (data showed significant increase to within top 10% in the state) that is vital for students to engage in their learning.
- √ Each student has an **individual structured timetable** that ensures **maximum learning time** is achieved – with a focus on literacy and numeracy!
- √ Students being able to set and be **responsible for their learning goals**, being able to work with a range of teachers and being able to organise themselves to prepare for classes in their timetable are heading off to secondary school very **well prepared for their future learning**.
- √ Maximised use of a wide range of technology.

Year 4 parents (2009) are welcome to attend a briefing of the SLU program and a tour at 10:00am on Wednesday, 20th May, as part of our Education Week Open Day. Please meet in the staff room at 10:00.

Year 4 parents unable to make this time but who would like to know more about the SLU in preparation for 2010, please contact Jane Warren or Abbey Howard. We are happy to make a suitable time to meet with you for a chat. It is vital that parents access the correct information about the program!

EDUCATION WEEK – OPEN MORNING on Wed, 20th May:

Parents are invited to attend our OPEN MORNING to view our school programs and to celebrate literacy and numeracy in our school. Parents are also welcome to join the staff for morning tea. We look forward to seeing you!

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

PREP B	Claire	For being organised to begin her learning tasks and beautiful colour and detail in her drawings.
PREP C	Mekhi	For his great progress with his personal learning goal. Brilliant focus on your work and listening Mekhi!
PREP F	Amelia	For her persistent effort in writing, to listen for starting sounds and leave spaces between words.
PREP H	Darci	For recording initial sounds in writing by herself. Great work Darci!
JUNIOR B	Gabby	For working really hard on her book presentation during reading and writing.
JUNIOR H	Emily	For her confidence to share during classroom discussions and for contributing great ideas!
JUNIOR L	Josh	For excellent writing throughout the week. Fantastic work Josh!
JUNIOR N	Mackenzie	For her fantastic work with fact families in maths this week.
JUNIOR R	Olivia	For trying to improve her concentration in class time.
JUNIOR S	Alisha	For wonderful maths work, she always tries her best!
JUNIOR T	Samantha	For always working towards achieving her writing goal. Great work Sami!
JUNIOR W	Oliver	For consistently producing fantastic work during maths. Well done!
MIDDLE A	Nathan	For his great attitude, trying everything on camp.
MIDDLE J	Aaron	For showing independence and having a go at everything on camp!
MIDDLE L	CAMP	
MIDDLE M	CAMP	
MIDDLE R	CAMP	
MIDDLE S	Darcy	For practising his timetables at home and being a very helpful group member at camp.
MIDDLE W	CAMP	
SENIOR B	Teagan	For being a kind and conscientious student and for her terrific effort in maths workshops this week.
SENIOR C	Eryn	For her focused and determined effort with her writing. Eryn always puts in 100%!!
SENIOR H	Jaymen	For a positive conference and working hard all week!
SENIOR J	Jack	For working so hard on his writing goals and developing an improved handwriting style.
SENIOR K	Alex	For a great, hard-working week starting with the Geelong College Challenge and some confident contributions to all class discussions. Keep it up Alex!
SENIOR W	Joel	For working hard in all subject areas, especially writing and always looking out for others.

MIDDLE CAMP last week:

A BIG thanks to all staff and student teachers who attended this camp last week. Also to all of the Middle students who attended and enjoyed the program. Reports from everyone were very positive- GREAT JOB ALL!

NAPLAN:

Year 3 and 5 parents will have received information regarding the NAPLAN (National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy). Most Year 3 and 5 students have participated in testing over 3 days this week.

GARDENING EQUIPMENT – SILENT AUCTION

Bellaire School Council has used a gardening service for the past 3 years and no longer use our gardening machines. Therefore, we have decided to use a silent auction to sell off this equipment.

Items on offer are:

1. Deutscher H26 Powered Ride On Mower
2. Jetfast Power Edger
3. Briggs & Stratton Viking push mower
4. Honda Push mower
5. Ryobi Whipper Snippers Qty 2

Items can be viewed at the gardening shed on:

8:30 – 9:00 on Friday 15th and 22nd May or 3:30 – 4:00 on Tuesday, 19th May.

If you wish to place a bid, please do so by contacting Lynda Harvey in the office by 3:30 on Monday, 25th May. The mower will be offered at the discretion of school council to the highest bidder.

LOST PROPERTY:

All families are asked to:

1. Check all their school jumpers are clearly labelled.
2. Check they do not have some else's school jumper by mistake.

This will assist us in finding the correct owners of some missing jumpers.

CANTEEN-could all parent helpers please check the roster and if you are unable to attend on your shift, please let Noreen know asap.

PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

If you have completed the Reading Challenge and entered the books on the website www.education.vic.gov.au/prc print off the list of books and return it to school. Books have to be verified by the school co-ordinator. Congratulations to **Brodie, Paris, Edward, Chelsea, Aimee, Charlie, Caitlin, Rowan, Jasper, Ellie** who have recently completed the Premier's Reading Challenge.

SOCIAL CLUB BOOKS

In last weeks' newsletter, you should have received a SCB catalogue. This is our only fundraiser for this term apart from the Entertainment Books. If you wish to order anything from the catalogue, please return your order to school by May 20th along with Cash, Cheque (made out to Bellaire Primary School) or fill in the credit card section. **DON'T PAY THE POST & PACKAGING – ALL BOOKS WILL BE DELIVERED TO SCHOOL.**

STUDENT CENTRED INTERVIEWS

Student Centred Interviews for Prep, Juniors and Middle Units will be on the following dates and times:-

Monday 22nd June

Mon: 1.30 – 6.30 - Prep/Junior

Wed: 3.30 – 6.30 – Prep/Junior

Wednesday 24th June

Mon: 3.30 – 6.30 Middles.

Wed: 1.30 – 5.30 Middles

FUN RUN

If you haven't returned your child's sponsorship money for the Fun Run as yet, can you please do so asap so we can finalise this fundraiser.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

The 2009/2010 Entertainment Books have been sent home to families. We ask that you either return the book immediately if you don't want it or pay the \$50 for it.

All books or money should have been returned by now.

We thank all families who support this fundraiser so generously.

BELMONT HIGH SCHOOL is holding its **Education Expo – Information Evening** for Grade 5/ 6 students and parents on **Tuesday 19th May, 2009**. School tours begin at **6.00pm** (meet at the flag pole in Rotherham Street) and the presentation at **7.00pm** in the school Gymnasium and then tours again at **7.45 – 8.30pm**.

FOR SALE - \$25

LAP TOP CARRY BAGS

We still have a few brand new lap top bags – Leather Look – available at the office. Please note that they are for a normal size laptop - not a netbook.

BOOKCLUB

The current issue of the Bookclub will close on **May 20th** – all orders should be to the office before that date.

WALK TO SCHOOL DAY



Don't forget it is Walk Safely to School Day this Friday the 15th May! Walk Safely to School Day is an annual, national event when all Primary School children will be encouraged to walk safely to school. The event seeks to promote road safety, health, physical activity, and taking care of the environment.

For further information log onto: www.walk.com.au/WSTSD01/page.asp?PageID=260

FAREWELL TO BELLAIRE

After almost 10½ years at Bellaire I have taken the opportunity to undertake a new challenge at the Barwon South Western Regional Office. My role as Manager of Network Improvement – Student Learning will give me the opportunity to work with schools across the Region so that all students can achieve their potential.

During my time at Bellaire I have had the privilege of working with educational leaders who have always had the students' best interests at heart and created an environment that continually strives for better than best practice. I have worked with an extremely professional, talented and hard working group of staff members. Bellaire has always placed effective teaching and learning in the forefront of the school program. Alongside this has been the importance of fostering students as they develop valuable social skills that will assist them to become successful members of the community.

Families have worked alongside teachers to help their children to learn and grow. I have appreciated the support that parents have shown when I have called to discuss their children, even when the topic has not been so pleasant! In working together we have been able to support these students to learn from mistakes or overcome obstacles and move on to bigger and better things. A special thank you to the parents who have taken the time to wish me well in my new job.

And the students.....the ones I will miss the most in my new role that mostly involves adults! No longer will I have eager young faces appearing at my door for a sticker on their work or a cheery hello yelled across the playground. It has been great to see young students begin their school life and grow and develop over the seven years to become confident and experienced students ready to tackle the next stage of their lives.

There are many things about Bellaire that will stay in my memory forever. As I have told anyone who has asked about my job at Bellaire – 'it's the best school in Geelong'.

But it is time to move on and give someone else the opportunity to work at 'the best school in Geelong'. I wish all members of the school community all the best for the future and hope to pop in occasionally for a taste of Bellaire!

Chris Eddy



