

“AIM HIGH”

**Issue 14
May 20th 2009**

Inside this issue

- 1 Principal Column
- 2 School News
- 3 Student of the Week

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

20th April – 26th June

13 July – 18th September

5th October – 18th December

Dates to remember:

May 21st-District Cross Ctry

May 26th –Bush Dance

June 8th – Queens Birthday
Long Weekend.

June 12th - Report Writing Day

June 29th Middle/ Senior Aths

Principal Team Column

VICTORIAN EDUCATION EXCELLENCE AWARDS – BELLAIRE PS

Last Friday night 9 staff headed to Melbourne for these presentations. It was a great celebration of Victorian education and was the start of Education Week festivities. Unfortunately we did not win either of the categories we were shortlisted in but were honoured to be shortlisted to the final 3 in such a big field. Overall, it was a fun evening and a great send off for Ms Eddy!

EDUCATION WEEK – OPEN MORNING today:

Thank you to all of the parents and grandparents who attend the OPEN MORNING to view our school programs and to celebrate literacy and numeracy in our school. Year 4 parents were also given the opportunity to attend a Year 5 2010 Information Session in preparation for next year. *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.*

Parents were welcome to join the staff for morning tea. Students, staff and parents enjoyed this opportunity to share the great work we do to celebrate Education Week at Bellaire PS.

NEW LEARNING COMMUNITY BEING BUILT – What the program will be!

At Bellaire PS we have focused on personalising learning from Prep to Seniors, acknowledging that it looks very different for each learning unit, depending of their stage of learning. The new learning unit will have a program tailored for the level that goes into that space, reflective of the work already happening in units. It will not be a replicated program from the SLU, where students choose from a range of workshops and create their own timetables. We have not yet chosen which year level will go into the new space but parents can be assured, the teaching and learning will look very much like the current practices with much greater ability to team teach. There will still be:

- √ Structured reading and writing blocks, with small group work as we do now.
- √ Structured numeracy lessons that are interactive and have a strong learning focus.
- √ Have the same program content that our units currently have.

What we will gain for this lovely new environment will be:

- The environment will actually enhance the ability to focus the like needs groups in a more fluid way.
- Greater access to technology and space for interactive learning
- Small office spaces for focused small group work
- Classrooms that are 62 square metres in size – much bigger than we have now.
- Much greater ability to access outdoor learning.
- Nice new toilet facilities
- Shared space for the students to interact and share their learning

School Uniform is compulsory

Bellaire PS has a school uniform policy and students must wear the correct school uniform. We ask parents to support us by ensuring their children are sent to school in the correct uniform (including school jumpers). Uniform notes will be sent home with those students who are not in correct uniform.

BUSH DANCE NEXT TUESDAY 26TH MAY

7.00PM–9.00PM (see back page for more info)

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

PREP B	Halle	For always completing her learning tasks on time and being organised to begin the day.
PREP C	Daniel	For being a happy and helpful member of Prep C who always contributes to class discussion. Well Done!
PREP F	Maddison	For always working hard on her learning tasks and using beautiful colour and detail in her drawings.
PREP H	Molly	For being a happy and helpful member of Prep H. Great work Molly!
JUNIOR B	Katie	For always trying her best to achieve her goal.
JUNIOR H	Kayla	For her terrific attitude towards her writing! Well done, Kayla!!
JUNIOR L	Zoe	For her excellent work on using paragraphs in her writing.
JUNIOR N	Nelson	For trying really hard to improve his organisation in the morning.
JUNIOR R	Tayeanne	For sensational work habits and a positive attitude.
JUNIOR S	Amelia	For fantastic reading and wonderful 'Thick and Thin' questions!
JUNIOR T	Ethan	For working hard to improve his organisational skills this week in writing. Great work Ethan!
JUNIOR W	Harry	For his outstanding work during writing this week. Keep it up Harry!
MIDDLE A	Freya	For persistence and organisation all week during NAPLAN.
MIDDLE J	Tegan	For her creative ideas in writing, making a persuasive poster.
MIDDLE L	Wilson	For always being a dedicated, hard working and friendly student.
MIDDLE M	James	For being a kind and caring friend at camp. Great job, James!
MIDDLE R	Nathan	For staying positive during NAPLAN week and continuing to do his best.
MIDDLE S	Angus	For a very detailed design of his Ultimate Camp.
MIDDLE W	Brooke	For her happy personality and always trying hard in class.
SENIOR B	Dickson	For a fantastic attitude towards his learning. He has achieved great things in all areas this week, especially maths and writing!
SENIOR C	Sophie	For always putting in 100% in all her work.
SENIOR H	Brooke	For a positive week doing wonderful work.
SENIOR J	Eamon	For a fantastic effort in NAPLAN and for working hard on all his learning goals.
SENIOR K	Andoni	For his persistence and positive attitude in maths this week.
SENIOR W	Lucas	For an amazing effort in writing this week – congratulations!

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.

There is a lost property cupboard in the "old" sick bay - it has loads of jumpers named and unnamed – please take some time to check through this cupboard if your child/ren has lost a jumper.

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

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.

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 **Rebecca, Lola, Zoe, Isaac, Skyler and Nathan** who have recently completed the Premier's Reading Challenge.

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.

There are spare books at the office if anyone would like to purchase another.

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.

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

PARENTS of primary and secondary students, in all locations, are warmly invited to take part in the third online conference to be held by Parents Victoria. The conference will be held non-stop on the internet from 6am Monday 18 May to midnight Sunday 24 May. No special software is needed, other than an internet-connected computer and a browser. The online discussions will be very easy to join in, and guidelines about how to participate will be provided. **You don't need to be a member of Parents Victoria to take part.** Join in for all days, just some days, or even a few hours, depending on your lifestyle and other commitments.

Register online at no cost

The Parents Victoria Online Conference 2009 website will open from 6am on Monday 18 May at: http://www.cybertext.net.au/pv1_09/ but please register yourself online first at

<http://www.cybertext.net.au/pv09.htm>

The conference will feature seven 'live' daily online discussions, each of them hosted, for several hours each day, by a member of Parents Victoria or expert staff from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development or the VSCA. Each day will focus on a topic that is currently of concern to parents. An online 'resource bundle' of recent online newspaper items related to the day's topic will also be provided as an optional extra to give you a kick-start on each day's discussion.

There will also be one continuous week-long online discussion (6am to midnight every day) on the topic: **'What support do parents need to be active participants in their children's learning and development?'**

(the online message boards will be open continuously from 6am to 12 midnight every day).

I look forward to meeting all of you online soon, to discuss these important topics. The more of you join in, the more successful this event will be.

Debra Brydon

Online Conference Manager

Email: brydon@cybertext.net.au

Phone: 0413 009988

BUSH DANCE

Getting Your Child to School Safely

All parents want their children to arrive at school safely and on time and most believe the best way is to drive them right to the school gate.

This instead creates hazards for children, as cars travel the street outside the school looking for parking, moving in and out of parking spaces.

Just three decades ago, 70 per cent of children walked or rode to school – now only 30 per cent do.

Many parents have practical reasons for wanting to drive their children to school. We need to look at other reasons and challenge some of these walking to school myths.

MYTH

IT'S TOO FAR FOR MY CHILD TO WALK TO SCHOOL

Do you know how far you live from the school? – take a look on a map and work out the distance. From the Walking School Bus we know that younger primary school children can walk 250m in five minutes, 500m in ten minutes (the time it takes to get kids in the car and drive them) 750m in 15 minutes and 1km in 20 minutes, and some will happily walk 1.5km in 30 minutes.

If you live further than 1.5km, or if you are on the way to work how about just driving part of the way then walking with your young children to the school? Older children could join a group of friends at a planned meeting place.