From the Principal...

Dear Parents and Carers,

Working Bee Reminder

Our next working bee will be held on Sunday 15th March from 10 am – 12 midday for families of students in Grade 5 and 6. This will be followed by a BBQ lunch. We have had lots of families indicate that they are able to attend and thank you in advance for your hard work helping us maintain our beautiful school grounds and for lending a hand to make some additional improvements. I greatly appreciate everyone’s assistance in helping me to make sure that our school looks its best. The focus of the working bee will be on making sure that the outdoor areas of the school are ready for our school fete and, depending on numbers, some painting and decorating. If you have not yet sent back your RSVP and are able to attend, please turn up on the Sunday morning. We would love to see you there.

Junior School Council

Congratulations to the students in Grade 3 – 6 who were elected to the Junior School Council for 2020. With guidance from Mrs Bowes they will continue to develop their leadership capabilities through our student action teams and projects to improve BSPS. The students have already led an amazing awareness and fundraising campaign for affected farmers and the Clifton Creek Primary School which was destroyed in the recent bushfire events. They have raised over $800 and we have three boxes of brand new picture story books and novels to send down to begin restocking their school library. It is amazing that our school community has supported spreading the love of reading to another school that needs our support.

School Review
Schools undertake a review of progress and performance against their strategic plan every four years. With the support of an independent educator, we work as a team to analyse our student learning data in line with the goals that we established in our school strategic plan four years ago. It is an exciting time to reflect on all that we have achieved and it gives us a chance to set new targets that match the high expectations and aspirations that we have for students within our school. Members of school council, our school leadership team and staff will work with our reviewer, Graham Broadbent, to identify areas for us to continue to strengthen. Graham is a retired Principal who has worked in schools in the United Kingdom and Victoria. Our first review day is set for Tuesday 21st April.

**Fete Update**

Not long to go now until Stax-A-Fun 2020! Thank you to all our families who have made a donation towards the fete. Lucky jars and items to fill them, hamper goods, silent auction prizes, second hand books and timber pieces have been steadily flowing in. Please consider making a donation if you haven't already, this will help us to ensure the success of the fete and will make many projects around the school possible as a result.

Ride wrist band information was flexi-buzzed last week. We have reduced the cost of the wrist band and they will be available at a flat rate of $25 per band. Log in to flexi-buzz for more details about purchasing the bands.

Many helpers will be required in the days leading up to the fete and on the day, please look out for a notice from the fete committee about signing on to help.

**Asthma awareness**

For children that have been diagnosed with Asthma by a medical professional, we ask parents to assist us to manage the risk of an asthma attack at school by:

- communicating the diagnosis of asthma and their child's triggers to the school at the earliest opportunity, preferably on enrolment
- continuing to communicate with school staff and providing up to date information about their child’s medical condition
- providing the school staff with an Asthma Action Plan
- participating in yearly reviews of their child’s Individual Asthma Risk Minimisation Plan with their GP
- ensuring that the school is provided with asthma reliever medication and an asthma spacer device (where directed by a medical practitioner) that is current and not expired.
- ensuring that their child, depending on their age, carries asthma reliever medication and an asthma spacer device (where directed by a medical practitioner) with them, that is current and not expired, at all times especially during learning sessions where known triggers are present ie. Physical Education sessions.

Please see Shelley in the office if you need to update any first aid related information or wish to check the status or expiry dates of any medication that you have provided to the school.

**Coronavirus Update**

There is a great deal of panic and misinformation circulating across the country at present in relation to the COVID-19 virus, a trip to the supermarket is our most visible reminder of how people are reacting to the heavy media coverage and the alarmist messages that the media are saturating us with at present.

The Department of Education and Training have a well developed strategy to support the health and wellbeing of schools, students and communities and are communicating regularly with schools across the state. Our school has not been impacted at this point in time and we hope it remains this way.
We are encouraging our students to focus on health and hygiene best practice at this point in time which involves covering your mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing, using Bactisan hand sanitizer spray after coughing or sneezing and washing hands regularly with soap and water especially before eating. All of our school toilets are stocked with foam soap and all of our learning spaces are fitted with a Bactisan hand sanitizer spray. Our foam soap is different to the liquid soaps that we use at home, the dispensers place a small amount of pre-foamed soap into the palm of the hand. We are reminding our students that the soap in their palm looks different and it has not run out.

We will continue to work in accordance with the advice provided by DHHS and DET and will keep you informed of any changes.

Additional advice from the Department of Health and Human Services:

**Ten ways to reduce your risk of coronavirus**

- **Wash** hands often with soap and running water, for at least 20 seconds. **Dry** with paper towel or hand dryer.
- **Try** not to touch your eyes, nose or mouth.
- **Cover** your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If you don’t have a tissue cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow.
- **Isolate** yourself at home if you feel sick. If you take medication ensure you have adequate supplies.
- **Phone** your GP first if you need medical attention. They will tell you what to do.
- **Continue** healthy habits: exercise, drink water, get plenty of sleep, and now is the time to quit smoking. Call the Quitline 137 848.
- **Don't** wear a face mask if you are well.
- **Buy** an alcohol-based hand sanitiser with over 60 per cent alcohol.
- **Get** the flu shot (available April).
- **Shaking hands** is optional!

Have a wonderful week ahead.

**Stuart Boyle**

Principal

**A message from Mandy...**

**Coronavirus: How to talk to your kids about the disease**

Here is a recent and helpful article that gives suggestions and advice for how to talk to children about the coronavirus.

[https://www.huffingtonpost.com.au/entry/coronavirus-how-to-talk-to-kids-disease_1_5e5c615ac5b601022113151d?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xlLnJmdWxsbGFtZ mxpYmFzZTYuY29tL3hhc2ltcmluZ3Rvci84NjQ3MzYwMzg3MjYyL3Byb2R1Y3QvY29uZy8yMzU1MTI yMyfhNN6Izxt0Kw9](https://www.huffingtonpost.com.au/entry/coronavirus-how-to-talk-to-kids-disease_1_5e5c615ac5b601022113151d?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xlLnJmdWxsbGFtZmxpYmFzZTYuY29tL3hhc2ltcmluZ3Rvci84NjQ3MzYwMzg3MjYyL3Byb2R1Y3QvY29uZy8yMzU1MTiyMyfhNN6Izxt0Kw9)

Thanks,

Mandy
School Photo Day 2020

Annual school photos will be taken on 17 March, 2020 when sibling photos will also be taken by request.

**IMPORTANT** - To ensure a sibling photo is taken on photo day, please complete your request online before midday on the day before photo day.

1. Grab your phone and go to arphotos.typeform.com/to/lgAQgK
2. Enter the name and class of the eldest child to be in the photo
3. Enter the names of all other children to be included in the photo

There is no need to return any forms or payment to school for photos before photo day however if you do not have internet access you may contact the school for an order form.

School photo ordering details will be issued closer to photo day.

**Important Dates...**

**March**

Sun 15th  Working Bee – Grades 5 and 6
Tues 17th  School Photos
Sat 21st   STAXAFUN FETE!!!!
Mon 23rd   District Tennis
Tues 24th  District Tennis
Wed 25th   Grades 3 – 6 - Cross Country
Fri 27th   Prep – 2 – Easter Bonnet Parade
           Prep – 2 – Fun Run
           End Term 1 – 2:30pm dismissal

**April**

Mon 13th  Easter Monday – No school
Tues 14th  Start Term 2
Wed 15th  Grades 3 – 6 – House Athletics
Thurs 16th Division Tennis
           Prep – Reading and Writing Information Night 7pm
Wed 22nd  Grade 6 – ANZAC service at 1000 steps
Wed 29th  Grade 5 and 6 – Reach Rookys

**May**
Sun 10th       Working Bee – Grades Prep, 1 and 2
Mon 18th – 22nd       Education Week
Thurs 21st       School Open Day
Sat 23rd       School Open Day
Fri 22nd       District Cross Country
Wed 27th       Grades 5 and 6 – Winter Sports
Fri 29th       Grade 5 – Sovereign Hill Excursion

**June**
Tues 2nd       Division Cross Country
Mon 8th       Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday – No school
Tues 16th       Regional Cross Country
Fri 26th       End Term 2 – 2:30pm dismissal

**July**
Mon 13th       Start Term 3
Mon 13th – Fri 17th       Grade 5 – Coonawarra Camp
Wed 29th       OLYMPICS DAY!!!

**September**
Mon 7th       Grade 6 Production – BUMP IN DAY
Tues 8th – Wed 9th       Grade 6 Production!!!!
Fri 18th       End Term 3 – 2:30pm dismissal
Lunar Drive In

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Information correct at time of printing. All dates and films are subject to change.