PRINCIPAL’S COMMENTS

Helping your child to do well at school and in life
Have you had a chance to look through the “Shine at Home”: 201 tips for helping your child with Literacy and Maths?

It is full of great and easy to do ideas to help your child learn and understand concepts for their school work and in the world around them.

Here are some examples from Prep to 2 Literacy and Years 3 to 6 Mathematics.

Story-telling
Story-telling is a great way to extend your child’s language and listening skills, as well as expanding their imagination. Either you can tell the story, or encourage your child to tell the story.

Story-telling might be about:
12. A favourite character from a book or television program.
13. Another family member.
14. Your child’s favourite toy.

Here are some tips to start your storytelling:
15. Make it exciting, with different voices, puppets, props or a finger play.
17. Create a character and setting.

Travel timetables
180. Can you identify your starting point on the timetable?
181. What is the earliest and latest time to travel on this route? What is the difference?
182. How long does it take to travel the entire route?
183. How many stops are there on this route?
184. What is the difference in the time travelled when not making all stops?

If you like this booklet, you might also like to visit the All Kinds of Minds – Parent Toolkit site for an interesting and helpful read.

http://www.allkindsofminds.org/ptk/index.aspx

Swimming
Thank you to parents who have supported the swimming programs this year. They have been very successful from our point of view and it has been pleasing to see some older students who really did not want to come to the pool and the beach take on the challenge, get into the water and improve their skills and confidence.

I would also like to thank McClelland College for allowing four of their senior students who are members of Frankston Lifesaving Club to come and instruct during the beach part of the swimming program.

Mark Renouf
Principal

SAVING OUR ENVIRONMENT...
Would you like to receive a newsletter link every fortnight via email? If you are interested, please email us at...
ballam.park.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Years 3, 4 & 5 Water Safety & Survival Program—Pines Pool & Frankston Beach
NOTICE TO PARENTS

End of Year Early Dismissal: Please note that students will be dismissed at 1.15pm on Friday, 17th December 2010, the last day of school. Students will therefore have lunch at home at the conclusion of the morning session.

School Start 2011: Students commence school on Friday, 4th February 2011, except Prep students who have special arrangements as distributed at Prep Orientation.

Walkathon

Thank you to everyone who has already brought their sponsors’ money along to school.

Our progress total currently stands at a fantastic $6,577.00.

So that all prizes can be finalised, we would ask that any remaining sponsors’ money be brought to school before the end of next week, Friday, 3rd December.

Everyone who has returned their sponsors’ money by Friday, 3rd December will have a chance to win.

Please remember that any amount collected, whether large or small, will contribute to further improvements in our school grounds and facilities.

Once again, thank you for your support and co-operation.

**Prizes will be awarded to the best sponsor gatherers at assembly on Monday, 6th December 2010**

Darren O’Brien
Walkathon Co-ordinator

It’s Not OK To Be Away from school unless you are unwell.

Book List and Essential Education Items Year 2011

The book list and essential education items year 2011 for each year level are being sent home with students tomorrow (26/11). If you do not receive this list, a copy is available from the office.

Payments are required by Monday, 13th December 2010. A reminder that there are facilities for EFTPOS, Visa, BPAY and phone credit at the office.

Alternatively, for parents who are eligible, an application for education maintenance allowance (EMA) should be completed before Thursday, 16th December 2009.
FORTHCOMING EVENTS
Sausage Sizzle—Thursday, 2nd December

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE
Raffle tickets for our annual Christmas Raffle were sent home earlier this week. Tickets cost 50 cents each, and need to be returned by Friday, 3rd December. The raffle will be drawn at assembly on Monday, 6th December at assembly. There are many wonderful prizes to be won and these are on display in the office.

The Parents' Club wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and thank you for your support with our fundraising activities throughout this year.

Best wishes
Parents' Club

CHILDREN TRANSFERRING TO NEW SCHOOLS IN 2011
(excluding Year 6 students)

To assist us with our preliminary planning for Year 2011, we need to have fairly accurate estimates of student enrolment. It is important that we know about any families who are presently at our school but intend to transfer to another school in 2011.

Please return this form to school as soon as possible. Thank you.

(Please return form to school office)

CHILDREN IN YEARS PREP TO 5 TRANSFERRING TO OTHER SCHOOLS IN 2011

My children will be transferring to:

.......................................................... Primary School

Children’s names:

.......................................................... Grade ....

.......................................................... Grade ....

.......................................................... Grade ....

Parent/guardian’s signature:

..........................................................

$$ STUDENT BANKING $$

The last day for school banking for this year is Tuesday, 7th December.

School banking operates EVERY TUESDAY at our school, and parents of new students who wish to open an account for their child may collect details from the school office. If you would like more information regarding school banking, please contact Mrs Jo Lothian (parent volunteer) via the office.

Student banking will resume next year on Tuesday, 15th February 2011.

CANTEEN

Please note the last Canteen day will be Friday, 10th December, and the Canteen will be closed for the last week of Term 4.

The Canteen will reopen next year on Wednesday, 9th February 2011.
An Invitation to Parents, Carers, all Family members and Friends

‘End of Year Christmas Concert’
at
McClelland College Performing Arts Hall
on
Monday December 13th
11:30am – 1:00pm

Followed by a family picnic lunch in the

40TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION PHOTOGRAPH FOR SALE

As a lasting memento of our school’s 40th Birthday celebration, we are offering a special photograph for sale to our school community. The colour photograph (as shown below) will be size 6” x 8” and cost $4.00 per photo.

If you would like to take advantage of this offer, please send an envelope named “40th Birthday Photo Offer” together with $4.00. (Sorry, only cash payment accepted.) by Tuesday, 30th November.
You can’t miss out on Coonawarra!
If you think Forest Lodge is 10/10 you are out of your mind and need a new scale because Coonawarra farm resort is 110/100. You are guaranteed to have your mind blown away! Its spectacular! The reasons you’ll love Coonawarra are......

Fun – There’s heaps of activities such as giant swing(15m) flying fox (300m over a lake), raft building and many more. Plus for an extra $23 you can go on a relaxing 1 1/2 hour horse ride through the Coonawarra Mountains! If horse riding isn’t your thing you can go in the pool and hang and simply chat! Accommodation – You can relax in your luxury rooms with an amazing bed and in your room you can also make wonderful new friends as well as having a spectacular view of the lake. There’s a lake, yes there is a huge lake for you to swim in! Activities-Finally, Coonawarra is a great place to do all activities– giant swing, flying fox, gully fox, ropes course, team rescue, initiative, horse riding, canoeing, raft building, pool, climbing wall, tennis and basketball court. And fun, fun, fun! Each activities is jam-packed with fun, exciting teamwork and just more fun! Coonawarra farm resort is a great place and I hope you have a great time there!! :)

Tyron-6B

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Camping, the Coonawarra story!
Coonawarra, the safe, happy and most of all the funnest camp I have been to. With all the activities provided I guarantee you a fant-abulous time. First of all, the camp cooks and prepares all dinners to make you full and energetic for to stay. Meals include: breakfast, lunch, dinner and dessert. And also to fill anyone’s snacking needs there is morning and afternoon tea and supper. You’ll leave with your tummy as happy as ever! Secondly; The camp provides comfy, home-like rooms with bunks and single beds. In your room you will have the following; bunks, single bed, pillow, blanket, mirror and best of all friends. And the part you’ve all been waiting for (trumpet plays) ACTIVITIES! From Monday it is a full on week, activities here there and everywhere. With three activities a day, you will be completely tired out, but wait there’s more! 2 movie nights and one BIG concert night will round off your fun-filled day. Your 5 days will be packed full of fun, so come and enjoy. I even guarantee a chocolate or 2. So come along and have the time of your life! Kate-6B

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Coonawarra’s awesome!
I think Coonawarra is a breath-taking experience. Fun filled time with activity after activity. There are so many reasons why you should go to Coonawarra. First of all friends, You don’t only get to have a great time with your best friends but you get to make new friends! You even get to know teachers better, they are so different at camp! Also, there are so many fantastic activities! ropes course, canoeing, climbing wall, team rescue, giant swing, flying fox, initiative, horse riding, raft building and gully fox! You also have movie nights, concert nights, night hikes, awards and Mrs Burrows’ special room inspections! :) And finally, it’s a time to have a break from home and school. Time to relax and just simply enjoy yourself!

Camping is simply amazing. I wasn’t sure if I wanted to go to camp but I did and I’m really happy that I did!

Ellie-6B

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Time of your life!
If you’re thinking about next year’s camp and you don’t want to go well I only have one thing to say—You’re out of your mind! If you don’t go you’re going to have a big cry once you hear how much fun it is when they all come back! And you will never forgive yourself! And just letting you know if you don’t go to camp you have to do a maths booklet as thick as your glue stick! But if you are, you are making the right choice! Prepare to have the time of your life peoples! It is not just a camp, it’s an AWESOME camp!
You will be going on the gut-dropping giant swing and get airborne on the flying fox! And did I mention the giant swing is 35 metres high? And if you’re looking for speed, head straight down to the gully fox! Get ready for some exciting canoeing it is so much fun! But you get very wet! And I can not forget about movie nights and red faces! So get ready to start booking for an act. So break open those piggy banks, start begging mum and dad and get ready for the time of your life! And if you don’t. You’ll be sad! Thankyou!

Emmanuel-6B

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A Magnificent Coonawarra!
I think Coonawarra camp is the best, most beautiful, magnificent camp in the whole entire world! It will be the best camp you will ever go to! I guarantee you will have the best time ever!
There are lots of reasons why you should go to Coonawarra. First of all, Coonawarra is a beautiful place with a shimmering lake & awesome views!
Secondly; you will get to know all the teachers and all of the year 6’s a million times better. And also the Coonawarra staff members are really nice, helpful and very experienced. They will teach you lots of different things from trying a harness to learning how to ride a horse!
Last of all, there are a ton of different, fun, hard, funny activities that will challenge your mind and make you think. There are also some activities that will teach you new skills that you will remember for a life time!
In conclusion I highly recommend that you go to Coonawarra camp & if you don’t I’m all most certain you’ll regret it!

Brianna 6B
This year the Year 6s went to Camp Coonawarra for 5 days - 4 nights. We all had a fantastic time and really enjoyed it. Thank you to Mr O’Brien, Mrs Burrows, Mrs Renowden, Mrs Davis and Mr Petrucci for organising it.

Bree & Ellie
Recently, I have become concerned about the effect of violent computer games on our children. I observed a young child making a chain saw from construction material which he used to cut off the limbs and heads of the children around him. A group of 7 year old children were talking about killing people, and all the blood in the M rated games they were playing at home. Children copy what they see on screen and play similar games. They have no concept of the differences between fantasy and reality and it is all real to them. The games are teaching them how to behave in the real world.

Video games are natural teachers. Children find them highly motivating: by virtue of their interactive nature. Children are actively engaged with them: they provide repeated practice: and they include rewards for skillful play. These facts make it likely that video games could have large effects, some of which are intended by game designers, and some of which may not be intended.

Looking across the dozens of studies that have now been conducted on violent video games, there appear to be five major effects. Playing violent games leads to:

- increased physiological arousal,
- increased aggressive thoughts,
- increased aggressive feelings,
- increased aggressive behaviors, and
- decreased prosocial helping.

These studies include experimental studies (where it can be shown that playing violent games actually causes increases in aggression), correlational studies (where long-term relations between game play and real-world aggression can be shown), and longitudinal studies (where changes in children’s aggressive behaviors can be demonstrated).

The research also seems to show that parents have an important role to play. Children whose parents limited the amount of time they could play and also used the video game ratings to limit the content of the games have children who do better in school and also get into fewer fights. Regarding limiting the amount, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children not spend more than one to two hours per day in front of all electronic screens, including TV, DVDs, videos, video games (handheld, console, or computer), and computers (for non-academic use). This means seven to fourteen hours per week total. The average school-age child spends over 37 hours a week in front of a screen. We all like to think our children are above average, but on this dimension it’s not a good thing. Regarding content, educational games are likely to have positive effects and violent games are likely to have negative effects. Almost all (98%) of pediatricians believe that violent media have a negative effect on children.

The conclusion I draw from the accumulated research is that the question of whether video games are "good" or "bad" for children is oversimplified. Playing a violent game for hours every day could decrease school performance and increase aggressive behaviours. Instead, parents should recognize that video games can have powerful effects on children, and should therefore set limits on the amount and content of games their children play. In this way, we can realize the potential benefits while minimizing the potential harms.


With best wishes
Kaye Coughlan, School Chaplain
Commonwealth Bank School Banking is here at BPPS!

School Banking is a great way to help teach children to save and also get great benefits for our school.

There is an exciting new Rewards Program with great merchandise up for grabs. Children receive a token every time they bank and can redeem their tokens for amazing gifts such as hats, pencil cases, backpacks and much more.

Every new account opened through our school earns our school $5 and we also receive commission with every deposit.

Every child who opens a new account in 2010 will receive a FREE PLATYPUS MONEY BOX.

If you are interested in opening a Commonwealth Youthsaver Account please complete the form below and return it to the office ASAP. Alternatively, if you have an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account, your child can start banking straight away so just send your book in every week on Tuesday.

School Banking Day is every Tuesday.
Any questions – please feel free to contact Jo Lothian, School Banking Coordinator c/o the office.

Please tear off form below and return to the office

<table>
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<th>Yes please send me a School Banking Application Pack for my child/children</th>
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<td>Name of child</td>
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| PARENT’S SIGNATURE:……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….

OSHC NEWS THIS WEEK
‘we make kids smile’

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<th>OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS HIGHLIGHTS</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
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<th>THURSDAY</th>
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<td>Fan making</td>
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Summer is here! The children will be creating summertime art and participating in fun activities.

FOR BOOKINGS
PLEASE CALL EMMA
on 0402-258-786

Stars of the Week:
TESSA M, TAMARA P
and LAUREN R

Outside School Hours Care with Camp Australia
COMMUNITY NOTICES

CHANGE TO STUDENT DETAILS
(Please return to office)

It is important that the school is kept up to date with any changes in family circumstances, change of address, telephone or new mobile number, emergency contact details, parents’ work details, etc. If there have been any changes within your family, please notify us as soon as possible by returning this note to the office, so that we can maintain accurate student details. Thank you for your co-operation.

Student(s) Names: ................................................................. Grade(s): ..............
Please note the following change(s) in student details: ...........................................................................................................
.........................................................................................................................................................................................
.........................................................................................................................................................................................
.........................................................................................................................................................................................Thank you