PRINCIPAL’S COMMENTS

I didn’t think it would be that difficult to write a Principal’s report at a new school. How wrong I was! Talk about sweaty palms! After some thought, I decided to give the community a little background about where I come from!

I was the Assistant Principal for five years at Chelsea Heights Primary School which has a student population of approximately 380. Other schools I have been at include: Tooradin Primary School, Pearcedale PS, Penbank PS, Red Hill Consolidated PS and Seaford North PS.

The ‘community feel’ of this school has captured me and the amount of activities the school provides to engage the students in their learning is excellent.

When walking around the school the children have welcomed me with smiles, manners and have been very communicative. I can already see that the children are learning personal values.

To be a part of a school that highlights inclusiveness and developing relationships as part of their purpose is indeed an inspiring and highly motivating prospect. Ballam Park Primary School’s values of Respect, Responsibility, Friendliness, Caring and Honesty are in complete alignment with my own. Every child has a right to learn and to accomplish this, my role as an educational leader is to continue to build Ballam Park Primary School’s capacity to improve the educational outcomes of every student. The child as a “Whole Person” is central to learning.

"We" rather than "I" is a central component of my leadership - what we value, what we believe in and what we feel obliged to do as parents/carers, teachers and students.

My leadership is focused on developing a strong commitment to the school in parents/carers, students and teachers in order to bring about improvement.

There is nothing more rewarding as a leader than seeing achievement, improvement and high levels of satisfaction in others, especially when it has resulted from a team’s commitment to a common goal.

I am thrilled to be working with the staff and I thank them for welcoming me into their environment. The school is fortunate to have so many teachers of such high calibre.

Thank you also to those parents who I have met; you have been very approachable and welcoming.

John Mace
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES 2015

OCTOBER
Fri 16 Year 3J Bike Ed commences
Mon 19 to Year 2 Swimming program,
Thurs 22 PARC, Frankston
Thurs 22 Year 3 Scienceworks Excursion
Fri 23 Year 5 Health Excursion
Tues 27 Step into Prep session, 2.30pm

NOVEMBER
Tues 3 Melbourne Cup Public Holiday
Fri 6 Annual WALKATHON
Tues 10 Step into Prep session, 2.30pm
Fri 13 (Years 3-6 Eastern Zone
Wed 18 Orienteering Cardinia Res Park
Tues 24 Prep Myuna Farm excursion
Fri 27 Step into Prep session, 2.30pm

DECEMBER
Tues 8 Year 6 Musical Performance
Tues 15 Step into Prep session, 2.30pm

Prep Transition/Classes 2016
Sport News

South East Region Athletics Carnival
Five Ballam Park PS students today competed in the South East Region Athletics in hot conditions at Casey Fields in Cranbourne:
Teah W (100m, 200m and 4x100m relay), Josephine T (4x100m relay), Trinity S (discus & 4x100m relay), Hanna P (100m & 4x100m relay) and Alonzo R (hurdles).
We will have a full report on how these students faired in the next newsletter.

Year 2 Swimming Program
Our Year 2 students will begin their 4 day swimming program at PARC on Monday (19th October).
Students will be leaving school at 12.00 noon each day for their 45 minute sessions from 12.30pm – 1.15pm to be conducted by PARC’s qualified instructors.
Thank you to those parents who have offered to help with changing and organising students to and from the pool. Any other parents who may be available to assist should contact their child’s teacher.

Eastern Zone Orienteering
Years 3 – 6 students have participated in orienteering activities during PE and sport sessions over the last fortnight at school.
As in the previous five years, we will offer 54 places for all our Years 3 – 6 students to compete against other schools in the Eastern Zone Orienteering to be held on Friday, 13th November at Cardinia Reservoir Park in Narre Warren East.
Those students who expressed interest in attending received a notice yesterday outlining all details.
Please note that we will be only entering 54 students (one bus load) in the Zone Orienteering so students who return their permission form and money to school first will be placed at the top of the list.
All notices and money must be returned no later than Wednesday 21st OCTOBER.

Walkathon
After a year off last year due to the School Fete, the Walkathon returns this year as our major school fundraiser. Students received their sponsor forms this week and are encouraged to get busy over the next few weeks raising as many sponsors as possible.
The dress up theme for this year’s Walkathon is: “Into the future”. Students are encouraged to dress in a costume depicting what they would like to be when they grow up. Prizes will be awarded for best dressed as usual.
The date of the Walkathon is FRIDAY, 6th NOVEMBER (Cup week). All sponsor cards need to be returned to school by Thursday, 5th November.
Further information will be sent home in the coming weeks.

3J Bike Ed Program
3J students will begin their Bike Ed program TOMORROW from 12.30pm – 1.20pm.
All students received a reminder notice today.

Change of sports district update
After much correspondence, it appears highly likely that we will be successful in our request to School Sport Victoria to change from our current Murdoch District to nearby Bayside District as of 2016, which is fantastic news for our school and students.
We hope to confirm this in the next week or so.

Darren O’Brien
Sports Coordinator
It's important to start conversations with children about using social media at a young age to prepare them to be savvy users when we're not around.

"If a job's worth doing, it's worth doing well."

This mantra always pops into mind whenever I'm about to cut some corners or do a rushed job in any endeavour. As a result I double-check every article I write for mistakes, I never prepare every talk I give. And I continually edit and re-edit my books. This message keeps me at the top of my game.

I can thank, or blame, my mother for inserting this mantra in my mind as she repeated it whenever I did a rushed job as a youngster making my bed, doing homework or cleaning up my bathroom mess.

Parents of every generation have always found ways to frame messages of safety and success for their children to remember. Parents of past generations who only had to contend with the offline or real world intuitively knew that they needed to teach child important lessons about safety and manners rather than assume they’ll be understood.

The same maxim holds true for the world of social media that children now inhabit from an increasingly young age. Even though our children are growing up with technology as a part of their everyday lives, they will still make plenty of mistakes while using it. This means we need to have direct conversations with our kids about the comments and posts that are okay to make using social media of all forms.

As parents we teach our kids to talk politely and clearly so that they know how to speak to others when we're not around. In effect, we give our kids social scripts to fall back on when they talk to friends, teachers and relatives. There's no guarantee they'll look an adult in the eye when they speak to them, but our discussions, reminders and lessons about manners will hopefully hold up when we're not around.

The same applies to social media. Our conversations and lessons will prepare them to be savvy users when we're not around. Here are some ideas to get you started:

1. "Is this worth posting?"
The relatively impersonal nature of social media means that we can post information and pictures with relative immunity. Also its immediacy means that we can do so without much thought. This means that kids need to be very critical about what they see online. Is this accurate? and Is this worth posting? are two valid questions children can ask when they read posts placed by others.

2. "Have you taken a big breath?"
A child who blurts out everything that comes into his mind without thinking is sure to put plenty of people offside. Think before you speak is the type of message that every child should have in mind.

more on page 2

Want more ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people? Subscribe to Happy Kids newsletter, my FREE weekly email parenting guide at parentingideas.com.au. You’ll be so glad you did.
... Developing your child’s social media scripts ...

The same applies to social media. Just because they think something doesn’t mean they post it. ‘Take a big breath’ may just about be the most important message to give your kids about social media.

3  “Do you want the principal to see this?!”
An invitation to a teenage birthday party posted on social media is one way to get more attendees than you bargained for! The viral nature of social media means that kids should only post messages and photos that they want to be spread and read by a large audience.

4  “How does this post make you feel?”
We need to teach kids that not every post needs to be commented upon and not every thought needs to be shared, particularly when they are angry. Teaching them to walk away and then to stop back in when they’re calmed down is perhaps the most important communication lesson of all. It is very relevant to social media as emotions are often the last thing on many people’s minds when they haphazardly post a message.

3  “How will you fix this?”
Social media just like any social space requires kids to behave ethically and with kindness. When kids overstep the mark and post hurtful things then it’s fair that they fix their mistakes, and apologise. It’s reasonable that we teach our children to act with tolerance and with empathy online, and if mean things are posted then they should be expected to try to repair relationships through social media, just as they should offline.

I agree with Galit Broon author of Kindness Wins who says that parents should have conversations with children around social media before they reach the teenage years. Starting these conversations when they are younger means that they are more open to our parenting opinions, as well as being a little more amenable to the messages of tolerance, kindness and empathy that we need to encourage.

Michael Grose

Want more ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people? Subscribe to Happy Kids newsletter; my FREE weekly email parenting guide at parentingideas.com.au. You’ll be so glad you did.
**Merit Awards**

Congratulations to the following students who have been presented with Merit Awards!

- PG - Jacyntra V, Phaydra K
- 1B - Nandar Z, Annabelle C, Daniel S
- 2B - Mitchell W, Danielle L
- 2V - Toby K, Phoebe E
- 3H - Paige R, Christopher R
- 4D - Siarra L, Jordan L
- 5K - Alonzo R, Justin B
- 6B - Kathryn S, Jason H, Jackson M, Ajay S
- 6S - Petar R, Silque N, Nicodemus P-A, Tahnesea B

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**BOOK CLUB**

Please note that Book Club (Issue 7) orders are due back at school by Friday, 23rd October.

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**NOTIFICATION OF STUDENT ABSENCES**

It is requested that parents please ring the school on 9789-5614, prior to 9.30am, to advise if their child will be absent.

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**OSHC TIMES**

*How to get started* — Before using our programs, you must register online for an account. Registering is quick and easy. Please visit our website to begin: [www.campaustralia.com.au](http://www.campaustralia.com.au)

*Once registered* you can make bookings and cancellations, view your statements and manage your details any time of the day online. Please keep in mind we are able to take bookings at short notice to help busy families.

*Save on care* — You can save 50% or more on Before and After School Care fees with the non-means tested Child Care Rebate. Almost all families are eligible. To find out more, call our Customer Service Team on 1300-105-343 Monday to Friday.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE HIGHLIGHTS</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
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<td>Craft Activity Fresh Fruit</td>
<td>Sports Day Fresh Fruit</td>
<td>Computer Day Fresh Fruit</td>
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**NEWS**

Come and have fun with our Outside School Hours Care program! We have many exciting activities and events. We make kids smile!

For bookings, please log on to: [www.campaustralia.com.au](http://www.campaustralia.com.au)

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**Star of the Week:**

Maxwell D

for being kind to others

OSHC Co-ordinator: Judi Sullivan
Phone 0402-354-584

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**Outside School Hours Care with Camp Australia**
Breaky Club

Our (free) Breaky Club operates every morning, Monday to Friday, from 8.15am to 8.45am in the Canteen. The aim of the Breaky Club is to encourage all students to eat a healthy and nutritious breakfast. There is a limited menu consisting of toast, Weetbix, two fruits and Milo. On Tuesdays we plan to offer baked beans.

We look forward to seeing your child/children at Breaky Club!

Best Mood Program

BEST MOOD is an eight week group program for parents/carers and their children/young people to work together to improve emotional wellbeing, family communication and develop other protective factors. This is a Deakin University designed and evaluated program delivered in Melbourne.

This program will support 10-14 years who are feeling anxious, sad or worried.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Group</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, 19 October 2015</td>
<td>5.30 to 7.30pm</td>
<td>Parents / Carers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, 26 October 2015</td>
<td>5.30 to 7.30pm</td>
<td>Parents / Carers</td>
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<td><strong>Cup Week - No Group</strong></td>
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<td>Monday, 6 November 2015</td>
<td>5.30 to 7.30pm</td>
<td>Parents / Carers</td>
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<td>Monday, 13 November 2015</td>
<td>5.30 to 7.30pm</td>
<td>Parents / Carers</td>
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<td>Monday, 20 November 2015</td>
<td>5.30 to 7.30pm</td>
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<td>Monday, 27 November 2015</td>
<td>5.30 to 7.30pm</td>
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<td>Monday, 4 December 2015</td>
<td>5.30 to 7.30pm</td>
<td>Parents / Carers / Children</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, 11 December 2015</td>
<td>5.30 to 7.30pm</td>
<td>Parents / Carers / Children</td>
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- Frankston location
- Places are limited
- No cost
- A brief screening session will be required to ensure suitability for the program.
- To register, please contact FMC’s Consumer Support Service on 1800 639 523

Family Mental Health Support Services (FMHSS) is funded by the Department of Social Services and provides support to 0-18 year olds and their parents or carers to improve emotional wellbeing and ways of coping.

For further information, please call Cindy McKelvie or Stephen Brackenridge on 9784 0698

www.mediation.com.au
**GIRL GUIDES**

Friendship, fun, challenge and achievement!

**OVERPORT Guides welcomes girls aged 6-12**

Meetings are at the Delacombe Park Guide Hall, Wednesdays 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Our units are open to new members at any time.
You are welcome to visit a unit to see how you like it.
Adults also welcome as members & volunteers in a number of roles.

**Contact:** District Manager, Deb Abbs 9787 5709
Anita Cross 9789 5664 or 0466 815 469

**Email:** frankston@guidesvic.org.au

**Girl Guides Website:** www.guidesvic.org.au

*Helping girls and young women grow into confident, self-respecting, responsible community members*

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**Mornington Peninsula Hockey Club**

Mornington Peninsula Hockey Club is a non-profit family club. Our aim is to encourage youth on the Peninsula to participate through sport in an active, healthy life style.

**MPHC Summer Hockey program (Indoor/outdoor)**

Everyone is welcome to come down, take part, have fun, learn new skills make new friends whilst enjoying sport

Commences: Wednesday 14th October
Mixed Teams
8 weeks of hockey cost $45 all up
Age groups: 7 – 10 yrs 5:30 – 6:30pm
11 – 14 yrs 6:30 – 7:30pm
14 and over + Seniors 7:30 – 8:30pm onwards

Venue: Peninsula Hockey Centre, Monash University. Frankston
Parking end of Bloom Street, Melways 102 F4

Mouth Guard essential. Equipment available to borrow.

Further details please phone: 9766 7478
or email: junior.vice.president@mphc.org.au

www.mphc.org.au

*The centre of hockey on the Mornington Peninsula*

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**PRIMARY MUSIC INSTITUTE**

**Instrumental Music Lessons - Small Group And Private Lessons**

**Keyboard Lessons At Your School**

- Enrol TODAY – via PMI’s website OR enrolment forms available from the school front office
- Lessons are held once per week on school campus – with lessons during and outside of school hours
- Only $13.50 per child per small group lesson (typically 3-5 students for 30 minutes)
- Our small group lessons provide a fun and affordable opportunity to learn instrumental music
- Private lessons also available ($32.50 per child for 30 minutes)
- Learning plan for all students via “PMI Stars” program – structured objectives with progress visibility
- PMI teachers supply keyboards and textbooks for lessons (students bring only PMI Stars workbook)
- Ten minutes per day of practice at home is all that is required to see improvement!
- Instrumental music can improve your child’s school results – including for reading, maths, coordination
- Limited spaces available for next term so please enrol ASAP (timetables are prepared during the holidays)

The school sincerely appreciates the sponsorship of both our school newsletter and school website by a variety of businesses, but please be aware that the school is not permitted to endorse or recommend any businesses.

School shoes built with sports shoe technology
- Expert advice
- ½ sizes & widths
- Exclusive Fitprint® System
- Perfect fit

The Athlete’s Foot
Shop 136, Bayside Shopping Centre
(03) 9781 5557

Mornongton Peninsula Kids
peninsulakids.com.au

SATURDAY
- Boneo Community Market
- Pearcedale Market
- Emu Plains Market - Balnarring Racecourse
- Revival Market - Mornington Racecourse
- Free Kids’ DIY Bunnings Workshops
- Studebaker Car Club Annual Concours - Rye
- Balnarring Community Garden Festival

SUNDAY
- Main Street Mornington Food & Wine Festival
- Seaord Farmers’ Market
- Mornington Heritage Train Rides  - Halloween Special
- Spring into Sunday’s at your local library - FREE
  - Motorized Logo Workshop - Hastings
  - Treasure Hunt & Colouring - Mornington/Rosebud & Somerville
- Ritten Sunday Market
- Frankston Sunday Market
- Free Kids’ DIY Bunnings Workshops
- Melbourne Marathon Festival
- Mornington Life Saving Club - Open Day

Guitar Tuition with Glen Vinton
On a musical note...
There are vacancies available for 1/2 hour guitar lessons at school on MONDAYS and THURSDAYS.
Please ask at the office for an ‘expression of interest’ form or, alternatively, ring Glen on 5979-4575 or 0437-440-265 for more information. Private lessons are also available at my house in Hastings.

Glen Vinton
x10sivguitar tuition.com.au
Ph: 5979-4575 or 0437-440-265 Email: glen@x10sivguitar tuition.com.au