From the Principals Desk
Dear Parents, we have had another busy week. Thank you to everyone who attended the BBQ last Tuesday night. It was a great opportunity for me to meet many of you. I appreciated families coming out on a school night and everyone enjoyed the lovely food provided. The Stephanie Alexander program cooked up a storm on Friday, the pasta dish cooked for lunch was enjoyed by all. The Vegetable garden has a few new seedlings planted, hopefully some rain will come and give them a good drink. Thank you to Ms Haycox and O’Sullivan for their ongoing work with this great program. In the Grade 5/6 room we have been discussing what makes listening to stories interesting. To support their understanding we participated in a whole school shared reading session after assembly this morning. It was lovely to see everyone reading, sharing and listening to books. Thank you to Tuula Ferraro for sharing one of her books written in Finnish. We enjoyed listening to her and trying to work out what the story was about! Lovely to hear a story in another language. On the last day of term we will be running a variety of activities with children participating in small multi aged groups. We would love to have three parent helpers to support us on this day. If you can volunteer to work with a small group from 9.00 – 1.00 it would be greatly appreciated. Please let me know if you can come along and help. We will finish the activities by 1.00 and then eat lunch as a whole school before the children finish for the term at 2.00pm. Thank you for continuing to make my brief stay at Bolinda PS a very happy one. Have a lovely week. Kate Ballantyne (Acting Principal)

For Your Diary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 26th March</td>
<td>Purple Day – Epilepsy Awareness Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 27th March</td>
<td>Last day term one 2pm dismissal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 13th April</td>
<td>First day term two</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 14th April</td>
<td>Music lessons start.</td>
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Purple Day – Epilepsy Awareness Day
On 26th March students are invited to dress in Purple for a gold coin donation to raise money for Epilepsy Awareness Day.

Student Achievements
Congratulations to the following students:
Dakota H. – 25 Nights of Reading
Seth H. – 25 Nights of Reading
Sebastian K. – 25 Nights of Reading
Tana M – ‘Demonstrating care towards others and making sure they do the right thing’.
Nakita G. – ‘Always completing her work to the highest standard’.
Amelia G. – ‘Demonstrating a respectful attitude to others in the school community’.

Our School Vision
For all students to develop their skills in a safe and supportive environment and to become independent lifelong learners.
Sooty Feeding / Vegie Watering Roster
During the holidays we need people to volunteer to feed sooty and water our vegie patch.

Walkathon
Please return any walkathon money by Thursday 26\textsuperscript{th} March.

Uniform
Uniform order forms are now overdue. Please ensure that these are returned no later than Wednesday 25\textsuperscript{th} March.

Lost property
The passage has lost property that is accumulating at a rapid rate. Can parents please check the clothing and other items to see if anything is yours.

Principal Position
Interviews have been conducted Today, please stay tuned for announcement.

Music Lessons - Guitar
Guitar lessons will be starting from Tuesdays of the first week back.

From the Office
Scholastic
Thank you to the families that have ordered scholastic – every order that you place equals money that the school can spend in the library. As of this morning our order has been shipped out, so you will receive yours before the holidays.

BPAY
When making payments via BPAY it would be greatly appreciated if parents could send me an email so I know what your payments are for.
**SCHOOL FEES**

The *Education and Training Reform Act 2006* provides for the provision of free instruction in the standard curriculum program, and empowers school councils to charge for goods and services used in the course of instruction and to raise funds.

Free instruction includes learning and teaching, instructional supports, materials and resources, administration and facilities associated with the provision of the standard curriculum program. The standard curriculum program includes core learning and teaching activities associated with the Australian Victorian Essential Learning Standards (AusVELS).

In summary, school councils can request payments from parents for student materials and services charges, and for voluntary financial contributions.

These payments fall into three categories:

1. **Essential education items** which parents and guardians are required to provide or pay the school to provide for their child (e.g. stationery, text books etc.)

2. **Optional extras** which are offered on a user-pays basis and which parents and guardians may choose whether their child accesses or participates in (e.g. Netbook program, SAKG program, extra-curricular programs or activities)

3. **Voluntary financial contributions** which parents and guardians may be invited to donate to the school (e.g. grounds maintenance, beautification).

School Council has set the fee structure for 2015.

1. Educational - Education items Parents are required to pay this fee - $100 per student
2. Optional extras—only parents of year 3-6 students need to pay $120 for 2015 netbook program. There is a $20 levy for the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program (SAKG) program for all year 3-6 students. This fee will supplement the allocated school budget for this program. Students will receive 16 free lunches which is a $1.25 a lunch. **Please note it is now only a year 3-6 program.**

3. Voluntary—Parents are invited to pay a small levy to help with the improvement and upkeep of the school grounds - $30

**Netbooks**
Parents of year 3-6 students participating in the netbook program are required to pay $120 for the lease of their netbook each year. The school will make a $160 contribution for the lease of each machine. Parents are asked to make a payment of $120 in a lump sum or $60 in term one and a further $60 in term three.

The Education Department asks schools to provide their estimate of the enrolment of the school for the following year on the 1st August. Funds are allocated to the school in two instalments at the beginning of term one and two based on this estimate. At the beginning of August last year we had 30 students enrolled for 2015.

*It would be extremely helpful if all parents could pay their fees as soon as possible.*