Welcome back to another year at Bolinda Primary School. I hope you all had a lovely New Year. It certainly sounds like the children had a lot of exciting events and adventures over the holidays. I have certainly enjoyed hearing their stories!

Welcome

I would like to begin by extending a very warm welcome to students have started their educational journey at Bolinda. Welcome to Olivia, Isabella, James, Ryan, Alana and Caralee. We also officially welcome Erin into grade Prep. We hope you have enjoyed your first week at Bolinda.

We also welcome to the world Brayden Reid Fernandes!! Congratulations to Janine, Glen and Arabella. We cannot wait to meet Brayden.

Thank you!

It was great to see the community support over the holidays. Thank you to all the families that took the time to keep our Stephanie Alexander Garden growing. It looks great at the moment. I would also like to say thank you to the Glenn and the Stephens family for taking the time to help remove cobwebs and clean windows. The school is looking very neat.

I would also like to thank my parents for babysitting the chickens throughout January.

Max

At the moment Max is in hospital recovering from an operation. I had the opportunity to call in and see Max during the week and wished him a speedy recovery from all of the community of Bolinda. We are in regular contact with the family and continue to get updates regarding his recovery. To support Max and his family the school has decided to recognise the charity of Sweet Hearts Day on February 14th. The school has created an online connection to this charity that will allow families to make donations. We’re inspired by the work of HeartKids Limited and wanted to support them by raising money. Please help the school by giving whatever you can using the ‘Give Now’ button at https://sweetheartday2017.everydayhero.com/au/stuart. The more people that know about HeartKids Limited, the greater their impact, so please also spread the word by sharing the page with your friends and family. Thank you in advance for your generosity, it means a lot!
Timetable
This year the daily timetable has been adjusted slightly to allow for teachers to deliver curriculum with more structure and hourly sessions. A ‘normal’ day looks like this –
All students must be at school by 9am.
9:00am – 10:00am – SESSION 1 (At 10am students will be allowed a ‘Brain Food’ break and can eat fruit snacks i.e. cut up apple, grapes, carrot sticks etc)
10:00 – 11:00am – SESSION 2
11:00 – 11:30am – RECESS
11:30 – 12:30pm – SESSION 3
12:30 – 1:30pm – SESSION 4
1:30 – 1:40pm – Students eat their lunches inside.
1:40 – 2:30pm – Lunch Time
2:30 – 3:30pm – SESSION 5
3:30pm Students are dismissed.

Assembly
As of this week we will be holding assembly every Friday at 3pm in the Grade 3/6 building. It would be great to see parents attending when possible to help celebrate the week’s events and hear announcements. Children will be dismissed from assembly.

Personal Details
Today parents will be receiving a formal print out from our school database to confirm all contact details. It is also our opportunity for parents to update their employment status and current job arrangements. This is essential to be accurately reflected in our system as it also directly links to funding provided by the Department of Education. In today’s newsletter you will also see that there is an option to have the newsletter emailed to families. Therefore, please ensure that the email listed in your details is accurate and current. Please return the details by next Thursday 9th February so that we can ensure that our system is current. In addition to this, we will also be trialing the Department of Education’s new SMS service to send messages to parents. We are very eager to trial this system as it will be a critical communication tool with families should we need to get messages to all parents, particularly for our schools Emergency Management processes.

Facebook
A note has been sent home with children seeking parent consent to post images on Facebook. All details regarding the use of Facebook is outlined in the note. Please read, sign and return the note by Thursday 9th February.

Medical conditions and Anaphylaxis
It is the schools priority to ensure the safety of children at all times. We are mindful that children may require additional support to monitor medical conditions. If your child has a medical condition that requires support at school, please provide the school with medical advice from your GP. This includes an up-to-date asthma or anaphylactic plan.

In addition to this, I would also like to reinforce the school Anaphylaxis policy that was implemented by School Council in Term 4 2016. Anaphylaxis is a severe, rapidly progressive allergic reaction that is potentially life threatening. It must be treated as a medical emergency requiring immediate treatment and urgent medical attention. The most common allergens in school aged children are peanuts, eggs, tree nuts (e.g. cashews), cow’s milk, fish and shellfish, wheat, soy, sesame, latex, certain insect stings and medication. The key to prevention of anaphylaxis in schools is knowledge of those students who have been diagnosed at risk, awareness of triggers (allergens), and prevention of exposure to these triggers. Reducing the risk of exposure to an allergen is the most effective way to avoid anaphylaxis. Partnerships between schools and parents are important in ensuring that certain foods or items are kept away from the student while at school. As a result, it was endorsed by School Council that parents are no longer allowed to provide food treats for students (other than their own children) as gifts or recognition of celebrations. In the event of parents wishing to recognise their child’s birthday in the classroom, we ask that no food, cakes, lollies or edible treats be provided. As an alternative parents may
choose to provide balloons, bubbles, books, colouring books, stickers, pencils, textas or a small gift (from a $2 Shop).
Should you require further information regarding this policy, please head to the ‘Communication’ tab on the school website - http://bolindaps.vic.edu.au.

Together As One at Bolinda Primary School Program
This week and next week will see all the students’ progress through a program called ‘Together As One at Bolinda Primary School’ which has been designed by Bolinda staff. The students have enjoyed discussing routines, values, expectations, roles and responsibilities in the school. This week has seen a ‘Code of Conduct’ developed and sent home with the students to share with parents.

Uniform and Attendance
This term will see us focus on two areas – Uniform and Attendance. As stated in the school uniform policy (also located on the school website), it is an expectation that all students attend school each day in school uniform. It has been great to see all families support this. The kids look great! If you are experiencing any financial hardship and require support in any uniform items, please let me know and I will be able to seek additional support.

The attendance of students this week has been outstanding. This is a standard we are striving to maintain. We do understand at times students will get sick and may not be able to come to school, if this is the case please provide a note the following day outlining the absence.

Furthermore, punctuality is an important life skill. It has been great to see all children being at school and ready to begin their learning by 9am.

Have a great week.
Stuart Telford
Principal

Prep – 2 News
We have had a Fantastic start to our school year in the junior classroom. We have some new friends who have fitted nicely into our team. Our learning journey has focused on thinking about our rights and responsibilities as students and our routines in the classroom.

“My favourite thing has been playing cricket”
Ryan B.

“I have loved writing about what a good student would be” Olivia.

“I enjoyed playing with Fynn and chasing him” Amelia.

“I have been doing lots of fun activities” Joel.

“My favourite was the crocodile game and writing and reading” Bella.

“I liked to choose my book” James.
From the office:

All families will receive Today the following information from the office:

- Family Statements
- Parent Payment Letter
- Conveyance allowance form (If it was received last year)
- CSEF form
- Student Banking Information Pack
- Student details for review

If you have any concerns with any of the following please contact the office.

Cheers,

Katie

Student Banking is back on Tuesdays!

We’re excited to launch the new reward items for 2017 from our Future Savers range.
Cyber Handball and Colour Change Markers, released Term 1
3D Chalk Set and Tablet Case, released Term 2
Smiley Emoji Keyring and Volt Handball, released Term 3
Pencil + Tech Case and Epic Earphones, released Term 4

Scholastic

Issue 1 of scholastic is now available to order from. Please use the LOOP online to order! Orders need to be placed the 9th February!