Dear Parents,

It has been another great week at Bolinda Primary School. Please take the time to catch up with some important information below.

School Nurse Visit
Trina Douglas (Ph: 0408 177 814), our Primary School Nurse, will be visiting our school next week.

Prep Health Assessments: All parents of prep grade children are requested to complete a Health Questionnaire and return the form to the school office by the due date Tuesday 21st February.

Parents and/or teachers may also refer children from any other grade for assessments of vision, hearing, basic speech, toileting problems, general health or any parental concerns. Please see your child’s teacher for a referral form.

Children cannot be seen without a signed consent from a parent or guardian. There is no cost for the service. Trina can be contacted at any time throughout the year.

Sweet Hearts Day
Sweet Hearts Day is next Tuesday 14th February. The school has created an online connection to this charity that will allow families to make donations. We’re inspired by the wonderful work of HeartKids Limited has provided for Max and other children with a heart condition and wanted to support them by raising money. Please help the school by giving whatever you can using the ‘Give Now’ button at https://sweetheartsday2017.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.

Next Tuesday the students will be involved in activities to recognise this special day. We will also have a visit from St John’s who will demonstrate to children simple first and CPR. This is a FREE service. In addition to this, we have had the ‘Star Weekly’ local newspaper attend our school on Wednesday 8th February to take photos. It is great that we have been able to generate local media interest and we anticipate the article to appear in the paper on Tuesday 14th February.

FOR YOUR DIARY
Thursday 9th February
Personal Details note due
Facebook Note due
Scholastic Book Club due

Friday 10th February
SAKG

Tuesday 14th February
Sweet Hearts Day for Max
St John First Aid Training
School Banking

Thursday 23rd February
School Council

Our School Vision
For all students to develop their skills in a safe and supportive environment and to become independent lifelong learners.

Our School Values
Learning
Responsibility
Cooperation
Respect
Communication

Don’t forget: Scholastic Book Club orders are due: 9th February.
ASSEMBLY - REMINDER
Every Friday at 3pm we will be holding assembly 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
Last week parents received a formal print out from our school database to confirm all contact details. This was 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. These forms were all due back by today - Thursday 9th February – we would appreciate that all of these forms be returned as we are still missing quite a few. If you require another print out, please let Katie know.

SMS Service
School now have a feature within their computer system that allows us to send bulk SMS to parents. We would like to trial this in the next week. Therefore, having all parents contact details accurate in our system is imperative to this being successful.

Emergency Management (Bushfire Risk)
The Department of Education and Training is committed to minimising harm to all school students and staff from bushfires. Our school is included in the Bushfire at Risk Register (BARR) and will be closed when a Code Red Fire danger rating day is determined by the Bureau of Meteorology.

While every effort has been made to anticipate fire threats, our school may be threatened by an unpredicted outbreak of a fire. In the event that an unpredicted outbreak of a fire occurs Bolinda Primary School has a detailed Emergency Management plan in place in the event of such an emergency.

In the event of a fire heading in the direction of the school. We will follow our schools Emergency Management process and all staff and students will ‘Shelter in Place’ in the Grade 3-6 classroom.

If we are provided with advanced notice, we would evacuate as instructed by emergency services (we would arrange a bus service). Where possible, we would attempt to provide communication via SMS and Facebook regarding the evacuation location.

In this type of situation, we would also follow the protocols instructed to us by the emergency services. Of course in this instance we would endeavour to maintain communication with parents via our digital sources of Facebook as well as the bulk SMS system. Whilst we hope we never have to action these steps, we require our community to understand the anticipated steps that we would take, as we do not wish for parents to be putting themselves at harms way by trying to get to the school.

The Department of Education have provided the below information regarding bushfire season.
School procedures for the bushfire season

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children’s services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days’ notice of a potential Code Red day closure by letter. A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- School camps and excursions will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – on such days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the CFA advise that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan.

What can parents do?

- Make sure your family’s bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters and school Facebook page.
- Most importantly at this time of year, if you’re planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.
• If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family’s bushfire survival plan.


For up-to-date information on this year’s fire season, visit the CFA website at www.cfa.vic.gov.au or call the 24-hour Victorian Bushfires Information Line on 1800 240 667.

FACEBOOK
A note has been sent home with children seeking parent consent to post images on Facebook. Please read, sign and return the note so that we can begin sharing photos of the students amazing achievements.

SOMERS CAMP: 23RD MAY-31ST MAY
This year our Grade 5 & 6 students have an opportunity to express an interest in attending Somers Camp. This is a terrific opportunity for senior students to meet other students and participate in a wide range of initiative and adventure related activities. Further information relating to this camp will be sent home later this term.

Together As One at Bolinda Primary School Program
The students have really enjoyed discussing routines, values, expectations, roles and responsibilities in the school over the last two weeks. This has allowed us to ‘set the scene’ for the students and reinforce the best possible learning environment for our school. We hope that the students have enjoyed sharing their daily learnings of this program.

SAKG Day
This Friday will see the Grade 3-6 students enter the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen and Garden. We are always looking for parents and grandparents to support us on these days. All we ask is that you present a ‘Working With Children Check’ documentation.

Attendance – Every Day Counts!
Did you know that:
If your child has missed 5 days or less this school year. This will support your child to achieve their best at school – academically and personally.
If your child has missed more than 10 days this school year. The amount of time your child is missing will impact on their learning and their friendships.
If your child has missed more than 15 days this school year. Your child is missing so much time from school that it will be extremely difficult for them to keep up with their learning, their friendships and to feel connected to school.

STUDENT MOVEMENT - SIGN IN/OUT REGISTER
Our ‘Student Movement’ book is kept at the office along with the visitors book. Parents are requested to complete an entry when dropping their students off when school has already started and when collecting students early. This is a requirement of the Department of Education and Training. Thank you or your co-operation.

NOTIFYING THE SCHOOL OF AN ABSENCE
If for some reason your child is absent from school please telephone the school to inform us. When students are absent from school, the school must be provided with a reason for this absence.

SCHOOL COUNCIL
The next School Council meeting will occur on Thursday 23rd February at 7pm.

Have a great week.

Stuart Telford

P-2 Newsletter
Week 2 in the p-2 classroom has seen us building our team and furthering our understanding of the school values and how to learn. The students came up with this ‘mission statement’ by sharing their ideas and having Mrs T help with the writing part.

“Our classroom is full of superstar students who are amazing at learning. We are team mates who work together. We strive for our personal best and respect the school values. We care for the school inside and out and always follow the code of conduct. We take pride in wearing our uniform every school day and keep our classroom tidy. We are safe towards others and come to school happy and ready to learn. Co-operation is important to us and we always listen to each other’s opinions. We love and respect our school community.”

3-6 CLASS MISSION STATEMENT

In our class, we are one big family who treat each other with respect.

We are responsible role models, who co-operate and communicate to keep each other safe.

We will always help each other, and have fun along the way.

We come to school with our thinking caps on, so we can thrive to achieve our personal best.
We would like to wish a big Happy Birthday to the following students that have celebrated their birthdays this year!
Caralee
Cameron
Fynn
Sebastian
Lili
Electra
Olivia
Freya

From the office:

Thankyou to everyone that returned your forms! Just a reminder that Scholastic, Newsletter form, Facebook form and the parent details updates were all due back Today (9th February).

Grade 6 Jackets:

Grade 6 Jackets have not been delivered yet. We have been advised that they should arrive before the end month.

PLEASE NOTE – WE WILL COMMENCE EMAILING NEWSSETTERS FROM NEXT WEEK!