Dear Parents

Curriculum Day
We had a very successful Curriculum Day on Wednesday of last week (July 15th) and we have been exposed to a range of strategies to use when dealing with conflict. It is now our intention to practice using these Restorative Justice strategies in the classroom and the playground before we commit to any formal policy arrangements.

We also made a number of plans to improve aspects of student voice within the classroom through the introduction of ‘Circle Time’, a strategy that invites student input.

There was also agreement that we will continue the focus on the development of a set of agreed school values. Mrs. Connolly has made a great start on this project and has recently provided all families with a survey opportunity in which we asked for parent input. The response rate to this survey has been very positive. The survey is now closed and once Mrs. Connolly has some analysis of the responses we will pass this onto School Council. Note that this is part of a professional development project that Mrs. Connolly is undertaking through the Bastow Institute and after further development and consultation will lead to a considered set of values for the Buln Buln school community. This project is being managed by the Well Being team and we will soon be inviting parent participation in the further development of the project.

Yard Duty
Traditionally Buln Buln has only had one person on Yard Duty during recess times, however now with the increased numbers of students two people supervising seemed to be a logical outcome of these increased numbers. After discussion about the need for increased student supervision and safety the school staff unanimously agreed to an increase in the numbers of teachers on Yard Duty for morning Recess and Lunchtime. Thus we will now have two staff members on duty at each of these breaks. This will provide for better coverage of both the front and rear of the school and should have a positive impact on student safety. I applaud the staff for their willing acceptance of this change despite the impact on their pupil free time.

Peer Mediation
Another activity flowing out of our Curriculum Day is the implementation of a program called Peer Mediation. This program occurs in many schools and involves the senior students in playground supervision. The students undergo specific training in Conflict Resolution (a full day) and then following a script and a detailed process undertake to help out with minor playground issues. This follows the Restorative Justice approach. Anything of a serious nature remains the province of teachers and the students are trained in knowing when a problem needs to be referred to teachers. Once trained, and parent approvals given, all senior students will be trained in the program and then rostered on to playground duty.
100 nights of Reading
Amon, Kaylee, Brooke, Mackenzie, Tanesha, Elliot, Lenny.

Star Student Awards
Sam, Bailey, Xavier, Drew, Asher, Tyler, Shady and Aroha.

Bill Jeffs
Acting Principal

Assembly
On Friday assembly will be led Drew and Eilidh from Kite House.

Life Education Victoria
Is visiting our school on August 6th & 7th. Your child will have an opportunity to attend a session in the van with their class. A permission form is being sent home today. As part of our drug and health education this term we are offering parents the opportunity to visit our Life Education mobile classroom, while it’s here at our school. Have you ever considered the following? What is my child learning in Life Education? Have you seen inside the Life Education mobile classroom, or know of Harold? What drug education is appropriate for primary school students? Why do we have health and drug education? How is health and drug education integrated into your school’s curriculum? Want to know more? Now is your chance. The Life Education mobile classroom will be at our school on Thursday Aug 6th at 9am. A slip is attached to this newsletter. Please return if you are interested.

Woolworths Earn & Learn
From Wednesday 15th July to Tuesday 8th September 2015, when you shop at Woolworths you can collect the Earn & Learn Stickers from the checkout operator and place them on a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker sheet. There’ll be one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every $10 spent. Once completed, simply place the Sticker Sheet in the Collection Box, either at school or at your local Woolworths. Sticker sheets will be available from the office at school.

Parent Club
The next Parent Club meeting will be on Wednesday 29th July at 2.30p.m.

Buln Buln Tennis Club Inc
There is a general tennis meeting on the 3rd August at 7.30pm at the Buln Buln Tennis Club rooms for junior and senior players. Everyone is welcome – including all new players. For more information please contact Di on 0427 065136.
Help shape the EDUCATION STATE

Education influences every corner of our society and is the key to ensuring our state remains one of the world’s best places to live in the decades ahead.

We want to hear your ideas on how we can make Victoria the Education State.

It’s vital that those in the system – parents of children in kindergarten and school, students, teachers and educators and the principals who lead them – have a say in what we need to do to become the Education State.

Enclosed are some posters and postcards to share with your staff and community. Digital files are also available at www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/educationstate.aspx.

Join in the Education State consultation today:
www.educationstate.education.vic.gov.au

The consultation closes on 31 July 2015.
Upcoming Events

Discover what’s living in our backyard...

Get your hands dirty, hear from the experts and help to protect and enhance our local environment at these free events for the whole community.

26 July - National Tree Day Planting at Brooker Park
10:00am – 2:00pm
Take part in the St Paul’s and Community Revegetation of Brooker Park’s Hazel Creek to Protect Threatened Species Project. Come for 10 minutes or four hours! Meet at St Paul’s Senior School Gym and walk to the planting site. Barbecue lunch provided for all volunteers.

5 August - Giant Earthworms and Burrowing Crayfish Uncovered
7.00pm - St Paul’s Anglican Grammar Science Centre, Lecture Theatre
Presented by Dr. Beverly Van Praagh - Invert-Eco Consultancy
For the last 20 years Beverley has been walking the steep slopes and valleys of South Gippsland studying the area’s unique invertebrate fauna. She is the world’s expert on the Giant Gippsland Earthworm, and is involved in the conservation of the rare, Warragul Burrowing Crayfish. Beverley worked at La Trobe University and Museum Victoria for over 10 years before establishing Invert-Eco, a private consultancy that specialises in the conservation of threatened invertebrate fauna.

14 October - Frog Stomp with Dr Greg Hollis
7.00pm - St Paul’s Anglican Grammar Science Centre, Lecture Theatre
Presented by Dr. Greg Hollis - Environmental Sustainability Coordinator, Baw Baw Shire Council
Join Greg for a fascinating insight into local frog ecology. Greg has over 20 years’ experience in the fields of zoology, natural resource management and threatened species conservation and a personal interest in reptile and amphibian ecology and conservation.

18 November - Going Batty with Wildlife Unlimited
7.30pm - St Paul’s Anglican Grammar Science Centre, Lecture Theatre
Evening seminar and night walk focusing on mysterious micro bats that live in our parks, reserves and gardens. Session followed by supper.

St Paul’s Anglican Grammar School

These activities are supported by the Victorian Government’s Communities for Nature program.