Dear Parents

Welcome back to students and families as we commence Term 4. It was fantastic to speak to students about their holidays and hear about the fun they had as they recounted their holiday experiences. The postcards produced by our grade 3 and 4 students are well worth reading as they provide entertaining snapshots of their holidays.

This term is an exciting one as we meet our 2016 Foundation students as they participate in our transition program. It is also the last term at Buln Buln for our grade 6 students and we look forward to celebrating their school life at graduation later in the term. Our school concert will be held on December 17th and we cannot wait to showcase the many talents of our students on the night. Other important events include: Hooptime; our Bookfair; Life Education (make up sessions for classes who missed out earlier in the year).

Sunsmart
What amazing weather we are having! The hot weather highlights the importance of being sunsmart and it is fabulous to see students wearing their hats as they play outside. It is also really important to drink lots of water on hot days and we encourage students to bring water bottles to school. Can we please ask that the bottles be named so we can return any that are accidently left outside at recess or lunch time. Also I am wondering about pick up at the end of the school day and if it is possible for you to find a nice, shady spot to meet your child/ren in the school grounds. There is not much shade near the front gate and it can often be congested as students leave at the end of the day.

Staffing
We have been given notification that Mr Allison will not be back for the remainder of the year. I am excited to announce that I will be here for the rest of the 2015 school year. During this time I will be working with you to complete our Self-evaluation for our School Review, which will occur in term 1 next year. An important part of developing the self-evaluation involves surveying staff, students and families to ascertain your thoughts on the implementation of our current Strategic Plan. We will finalise the survey at next week’s School Council Meeting with the aim of sending it out the following week.

Nicole Ball
Acting Principal

100 & 200 Nights of Reading:
Congratulations to the following for a great effort: Aroha, Cody, Axel, Isaac and Jack.

Merit Certificates:

Congratulations to the following for their awards: Luka, Kadia, Elli, Hugo, Amon and Dougal.
Education State

On Monday 14 September, the Victorian Government announced a series of landmark reforms to build and define Victoria as the Education State.

The announcements included a focus on strong school leadership, better teaching, more collaboration between teachers and schools and resources targeted at student need.

Next year all government schools – including ours – will receive extra needs-based funding for to better respond to every student’s needs.

You can find out how much extra funding every government school will receive next year on the Find Your School’s Equity Funding Amount website: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/educationstate/Pages/schoolbudget.aspx

Our teachers will receive training to implement the new Victorian Curriculum, which will include new subjects like digital coding and respectful relationships.

The government also set new state-wide education targets – goals for our students in areas like maths, reading, science, the arts, resilience and critical and creative thinking.

This is an exciting time for Victorian schools, and these new initiatives will inform our planning for 2016.

I encourage you to visit the Department’s website to find out more about the Education State initiatives: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/educationstate.

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

During the holidays I spent some time tidying up in my study. As always I find little things that I have tucked away and a quick sorting process turns into a longer time of remembering and reflecting. On this occasion I discovered a small note written by a teacher when I was in primary school. It reads:

Dear Fairies

Barbara has lost a tooth which came out this morning. Perhaps you have found it in the school ground. You have such sharp eyes. – Miss C. Crow

A note written by a caring teacher to comfort a very upset student which I handed to my mum at the school gate feeling much relieved. Mum kept the note and reminded me of the experience some years later. This small piece of paper has become one of my treasures. Each time I read it I am reminded of how a simple act of kindness not only alleviated my distress but it made a lasting impact on me as I grew up.

We become the people we are through relationships and experiences such as this. As we grow it is not just knowledge and skills that we need to acquire, we also need to develop an understanding of our attitudes and values. These are the qualities that begin to form our character. Empathy or the capacity to feel for someone else, to walk in their shoes, and to see the world through their eyes, is a much needed aspect of character building.
This type of kindness and caring is what I value about the Buln Buln School community. It is something that I carry with me in the in all that activities that I am involved with at the school including the cooking program. While the Taste of Good Food provides an opportunity for hands on cooking experience there is also the opening for discussions on a variety of topics. As they work in small groups students learn much about each other and for the senior students they learn about other cultures through their various cuisines. Another bonus is that parents can come and cook with their child and get to know me and also other parents. It is a real community building opportunity!

In the junior cooking session this week students prepared **Pork & Chive Dumplings and Choc-bubble Biscuits**. Thanks to my one grandparent and three parent helpers Korrin Corby, Helen Corby, Sharyn Marriott-Burke and Bronnie McDougal the children were able work in small groups had have plenty of hands on experience.

Next **Monday 12th October** the students who will be preparing a snack to eat for lunch or take home include; **Elliot, Artie, Ashely, Jake, Layla, Krystal and John**. I am in need of two helpers for this session which runs from 11:30 until 1:30. If parents or grandparents of these students would like to assist please send a message via the office or an email to kingwillbj@hotmail.com

**Barbara Kingwill – Chaplain BBPS**

**Bookclub**

Please send all orders and monies to your child’s classroom teacher by Wednesday 14th October. Sorry no late orders accepted.
Dear Buin Buin Primary School Parents and Friends

Is the pace of new technology leaving you behind? Update your computer and workplace skills by completing a Certificate III in Business (BSB30112). The course is designed for busy adults who have not studied for a period of time. You will gain a nationally recognised qualification and increase your value to future employers. It’s local, it’s flexible and government funding* is available to eligible applicants.

We even loan you a notebook computer for the duration of the course installed with all the programs, course material and resources to assist you to complete your assessment activities between training sessions.

Morning classes are 9:30am-1:30pm so you can train while your kids are at school. Evening classes are from 6pm-10pm. **New Classes are starting in your area at the Drouin Primary School from Term 4.**

If you are keen to join the class, places are filling fast; if you have already enrolled, see you in class!

To find out if this course is right for you, call us NOW or complete the Expression of Interest form on the back of this brochure and drop it in to your School’s office by Wednesday 21st October and we will contact you.

To learn more you can call us during business hours or 9888 3599 or visit www.tiv.com.au/parents or return the form on the back with your details to your school by 21st October and we will contact you.

*This training is delivered with Victorian & Commonwealth Government funding.

Expression of Interest forms available at the office.