NEWSLETTER – Thursday March 3rd 2016

**Dates to Remember**
- Swimming/Gym: Monday 29th February – Friday 11th March
- Labour Day Holiday – No School: Monday 14th March
- Group Day – Moyston: Friday 18th March
- MARC Van: Wednesday 23rd March
- Last Day of Term: Thursday 24th March

**Nut Free School**
Please remember that we are a Nut Free School.

**Students of the Week**
Congratulations to Shaelynn and Emily for being “Students of the Week”. Shaelynn received her award for having a great start to her first year of school. Emily’s award was for a demonstrating a great work ethic in the classroom. Well done!!
Principals Report

Our first week of Swim/Gym has got off to a great start. Three swim instructors have been employed in an attempt to make the swimming groups as small as possible. Watching the students ‘having a go’ and constantly on the go has been fantastic to see. The gymnastics equipment has provided some challenges for some, with solid circuits working well. It has also been wonderful to see so many parents and grandparents coming along to watch and support our students.

The Dental Van finished with us on Wednesday. This has been a ‘pilot program’ for rural schools, providing treatment at no cost to families. If you have any feedback that could assist in future planning please contact East Grampians Health Service- Dental Clinic on 53529327

Tonight Brett Chamings will be taking Athletics Training on the oval from 4-5pm. We thank Brett for giving up his time to assist our students and if anyone could help out I’m sure it would be welcomed.

Lastly, just a reminder that our School Council Ballot ends next Tuesday 8th March at 4pm. If you have any questions about this process, please see Marcus or Kate.
I hope everyone has an enjoyable week.
Marcus Murrell

Science News.

Things are well and truly underway in the Science learning area. The F-2 students have begun the ‘explore’ phase of their ‘Watch It Grow!’ unit and have begun their observations of the growth of mealworms. These little creatures are often found in pet shops and are sold as food for pet reptiles. They have a very interesting life cycle though, and we will be watching for the changes that occur in these wriggly little creatures. To make things even more interesting, we are keeping one collection of mealworms at room temperature in the classroom and the other collection in the fridge, to see how temperature differences affect their lifecycle and development. Every child will observe their mealworm every day until the end of term and record the changes they observe on their special calendar. Lots of maths and language skills involved with this activity, as well as Science!

Just a reminder… we have received a baby photo and birth measurements from almost every F-2 child; thank you! However, there are a couple outstanding still. It would be great if they could all be at school by our next dedicated Science session (Tuesday 8th March). The students will use these photos to make comparisons between themselves now and at birth, and will weigh and measure themselves and compare these measurements with their birth measurements. It would be great if everybody has the opportunity to participate in this fun and meaningful activity.

The Grade 3-6 children have also been busy with their ‘Desert Survivors’ unit. Last week we conducted an all-day investigation in the hope of answering the inquiry question: ‘How does the surface area of a plant’s leaves affect water retention in plants?’ As it would take some very specialised equipment to accurately record moisture loss from real leaves, we used absorbent cloths as a model for leaves. We folded one cloth into quarters whilst leaving the other one flat. We then added an identical amount of water to each cloth, and weighed the mass of each cloth on digital scales over the course of the day to record the rate of evaporation from the two differently folded cloths. We look forward to reviewing our results next week and making some conclusions from our data. Again, a lot of maths (graphing, recording data in tables, weighing mass, measuring volume) and literacy (recording and discussing results, analysing data and making claims) involved here. It is great to see the kids so engaged and in control of their own learning.
'Bounce Back' Wellbeing Program.

We are continuing with our theme of cooperation, and putting our learning into practice every day. The F-2 class have been focusing on families and ways that they can and do to support each other, as well as kindness to other people and animals in our care. Soon we will move on to the themes of respecting difference and including others. Grades 3-6 have been focusing on how people can cooperate in order to work together towards care of the environment and world peace. The story of ‘Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes’ helped us to hone in on both of these issues, and we read the book and viewed a short animation of it as well. Lots of food for thought! The 3-6 class will also soon move on to a focus on respecting difference and respecting ourselves.

Swim/Gym Program

This week was the start of our Swim/Gym Program. The students have been having a wonderful time enjoying the activities.
Office News

Last week we sent home a letter requesting for immunisation records as instructed by the Education Department. Can we please have the required records returned to the school ASAP? If you need another copy of this letter please call in and see Kate in the office.

Bank Detail

If families would like to pay as monies to the school by direct deposit our bank details are below:

BUANGOR PRIMARY SCHOOL OFFICIAL ACCOUNT
BSB 063 500
ACCOUNT NUMBER 1004 3741
Please use your FAMILY name as a reference if you are making a payment.
Beaufort End of Season Pool Party

Friday 4 March 2016

Time: 4pm – 8pm

Large inflatable

Water bubble

BBQ food for sale

Sponsored by: Friends of the Pool