International research (such as Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth @ www.aracy.org.au) has shown that parental engagement has a positive impact on many indicators of student achievement, including:

- higher grades and test scores,
- enrolment in higher level programs and advanced classes,
- higher successful completion of classes,
- lower drop-out rates,
- higher graduation rates, and
- a greater likelihood of commencing postsecondary education.

Beyond educational achievement, parental engagement is associated with various indicators of student development. These include:

- more regular school attendance,
- better social skills,
- improved behaviour,
- better adaptation to school,
- increased social capital,
- a greater sense of personal competence and efficacy for learning.

We are privileged to have such supportive parents – as evidenced by the great turn-out at this week’s ‘Getting To Know You’ interviews. (If you were unable to meet your child/ren’s teacher please arrange a mutually suitable time). There are many ways you can become involved at Blackburn Lake Primary School, with some suggestions in today’s Lakeside News.

**PARENTS ASSOCIATION**

Last night I attended the first Parents Association (PA) meeting for 2015. This is a vibrant and very important group in our community that carries out a dual function. Firstly it provides activities and events that enhance and add value to the children’s school experience. Activities such as (Prep) Tea & Tissues; Mother’s, Father’s Day and Christmas stalls, School Banking Program; Uniform Shop (and Lost Property management); and Canteen – with special “foodie” lunch days and Icy Pole Fridays.

Secondly, the PA has a fundraising component to their work and this happens through various raffles, chocolate / fruit and veggie drives, book sales, sausage sizzles and events. Last year this team of dedicated and generous parents contributed $22,867.00 through a combination of events to provide funding for:

- classroom furniture
- a synthetic cricket pitch
- seedlings and reader bags for the preps
- a replacement flag pole
- recycling bin station in the DJC
- Easter Eggs for students
- wooden outdoor seats in the school grounds
- shelving in the Uniform Shop and repairs to the Canteen
- storage in the MPR foyer for lunchtime sports equipment and ‘Lost Property’
• plants and materials for the “Reflection Garden” project and surrounds
• Grade 6 Graduation

Additional to these, I also appreciate the opportunity to regularly meet Parents Association members to seek their views and opinions on a range of topics that relate to Blackburn Lake Primary. They provide another forum, like School Council, to engage in dialogue with parents. As the Principal of BLPS, I see firsthand the tremendous work carried out by the PA and greatly appreciate their invaluable contribution to our children and the broader school community.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS
As well as considering your involvement in Parents Association through the “Helping Friends” network (fliers are available above PA Mailbox in the School Office foyer) we are once again due to hold our annual School Council Elections.

With four parent member vacancies to fill, I announce the official notification of School Council Election and call for nominations for parent members of the Blackburn Lake Primary School Council 2015. Please read the letter sent home today and consider this opportunity to find out more about how our school runs and be a part of the local decision making process. Similarly, ask me at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do.

To outline the role of School Council and find out more about what to expect as a School Councillor, visit http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/involve/Pages/schoolcouncilguide.aspx or indeed any question about the process, please give me a call at school. If you decide to stand for election, you can obtain a nomination form from either our website or the Office which must be lodged by 4pm on Wednesday 4th March.

CLASSROOM HELPERS LITERACY TRAINING
Families are the first and most enduring influence on a child’s development and play an important role in a child’s learning. Developing strong skills in Reading, Writing and Maths is critical to ensure your child’s success in early learning and beyond. Earlier this week 4D class teacher and Leading Teacher David Dowson ran the first session of a most informative Classroom Helper’s Literacy course - providing training to a group of parents interested in helping in their child’s class or elsewhere in our school as a volunteer.

Participation in this course does not mean you have to commit to classroom helping and can be handy for use at home as well as in classrooms when you do get a chance to help out. A valuable resource recommended with practical activities for you do with your child at home (and questions you can ask your child to help them learn) is @ www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/school/parents/primary/201literacymathstips2011.pdf.

With another session next Tuesday at 9:30am in the Library, we welcome anyone who is interested in learning more about how they can help their child to learn to Read and Write.

Thank you to the families who have returned the yellow ‘Standard Permission Form for 2015’ (found under Notices on our school website) and indicated their availability to be a Parent Representative. We hope to select and announce class representatives shortly.

LANGUAGES PROVISION @ BLPS
Many thanks to the 58 families who have already responded to the “Languages Survey”. To enable School Council next Tuesday to discuss the future of Languages at BLPS, I invite families to express their views at www.surveymonkey.com/s/65Q59CB before next Tuesday 24 February 2015.

Below is a snapshot of some of the thoughts that reflect many responses thus far:

• “Learning another language helps the children understand other cultures and is also helpful for their development. A language that is common to most schools around our area would be beneficial giving the kids a starting point to develop a language in high school.”
• “Moving on then, I think a language with some international significance (and the possibly of linking into programs at secondary schools in the area) would be the way to go, which is why I have selected French, German or Chinese.”
• “Given our proximate location to one of the biggest / growing economies in the world, we feel it would be beneficial for the BLPS students to gain some language skills to enable them to communicate in Chinese. We would prefer this to a European language.”
• “At the end of the day I don’t mind which language is taught, I do however care about the way it will be taught.”
• “Learning a language is a fundamental part of education. It provides insight into one’s native language and an appreciation for another culture.”

Student leadership is very important at Blackburn Lake Primary School, and although not all students are recognised formally, we endeavor to instil leadership capabilities in all our students – skills that are very much aligned with our child centered developmental philosophy. Tomorrow afternoon the Hon. Robert Clarke, Member for Box Hill, will join us at our weekly whole school Assembly to present Student School Council badges to the students listed below in Loisia’s Letters. As usual, we will also acknowledge our Students of the Week from 3pm.

(Next week - Tuesday 24th to Friday 27th February - the Level 5/6s travel to The Old Priory camp in Beechworth. I thank 5/6 Camp Coordinator Murray Aeschlimann and the teachers in advance for the time spent preparing for a safe camp, and also (in advance of) the time away from their own homes to provide the children of our school with wonderful experiences of camp).

Warm regards,

Jason Walker - Principal
walker.jason.r@edumail.vic.gov.au

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24 February</td>
<td>Classroom Helpers ‘Literacy Training’ - Library School Council Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 – 27 Feb</td>
<td>Level 5/6 Camp @ Beechworth</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 March</td>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 March</td>
<td>‘1st Australians Urban Experience’ Fed Sq - Year 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 March</td>
<td>Whole School Photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 March</td>
<td>School Council AGM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 March</td>
<td>Assembly (Term 1 concludes – EARLY DISMISSAL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 April</td>
<td>Term Two commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 April</td>
<td>Life Education Health &amp; Human Development by Family Life Victoria Information Evening - Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 May</td>
<td>2nd Instalment Parent Contributions will be processed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 – 14 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN testing (Level 3 and 5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 May</td>
<td>CURRICULUM DAY - No Students at School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 – 23 May</td>
<td>Education Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 June</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 June</td>
<td>Assembly (Term 2 concludes – EARLY DISMISSAL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 July</td>
<td>Term Three commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 July</td>
<td>3rd Instalment Parent Contributions will be processed</td>
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<tr>
<td>31 July</td>
<td>CURRICULUM DAY - No Students at School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 &amp; 17 Sept</td>
<td>School Musical Production – Kel Watson Theatre</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 September</td>
<td>Assembly (Term 3 concludes – EARLY DISMISSAL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 October</td>
<td>Term Four commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 November</td>
<td>CURRICULUM DAY – No Students at School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 November</td>
<td>Melbourne Cup Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 December</td>
<td>Assembly (Term 4 concludes – EARLY DISMISSAL)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

‘STUDENTS OF THE WEEK’

We congratulate the following ‘Students of the Week’ – to be presented at Friday’s school Assembly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principal’s Award</th>
<th>Bella E – 6M</th>
<th>Taking responsibility by assisting around the school</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal</td>
<td>Charlie M – 4D</td>
<td>An outstanding narrative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep B</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep S</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1D</td>
<td>Elijah C</td>
<td>Displaying ‘Responsibility’ when getting ready for his learning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As a part of transition to school, our Preps won’t be joining us for whole school assembly until Friday 27th February
At Blackburn Lake Primary School we are committed to building an empowered and positive school community. This is a community culture where student voice and choice is evident and students are equipped with the confidence to communicate and lead their peers. Over the primary years teachers build the understandings and skills of student leadership through the total curriculum and the many varied activities of school life. In this way students develop their individual strengths and capacity to lead and influence others in a responsible manner.

Blackburn Lake Primary School recognises the position of Student School Councillor as a position of honour and responsibility. Student School Councillors have earned the respect and recognition of the school community as leaders.

The below role description from the ‘Student Leadership Framework at Blackburn Lake Primary School’ document outlines our expectations of Student School Councillors and indeed explains why they have been selected in this role:

- Provide a positive role model and leadership to the student body.
- Display the values of Blackburn Lake Primary School.
- Represent the student body at school and community functions.
- Have excellent public speaking skills.
- Honest, organised and equitable.
- Good listener.
- Work cooperatively.
- Encourage students to take pride in their school.
- Maintain acceptable standards of work and behaviour in class and school activities.
- Show trustworthiness, courtesy, reliability and helpfulness.
- Show a strong interest in social justice.
- Have an interest in local and global issues and fundraising to promote awareness and support.

We look forward to formally recognising these children at Friday’s Assembly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student School Councillors 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1J Jovi W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1L Jayven Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2C Ava R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2E Layla H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2S Holly T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3A Jesse P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3E Maria C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3N Jack B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4D Gabby K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4S Ben R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5A Jessica C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5K Jesse P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5L Anna L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6A Digby W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6D Erin B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6M Elliot S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Nathan W – 5A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phys Ed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BUDDY UP!

Our whole school Buddy program began last week with an excited four hundred and seventy students playing games and working together to build a caring and cooperative school.

To assist our Preps with their transition to school, Level four students were ‘buddied’ with a Prep child. Our Year Four students were encouraged to develop positive cross-age friendships and model positive leadership skills, based on the school’s TRRAC values.

Building on our Prep Buddy Program, Year Five students worked with a small group of students from Year One and Two. They were encouraged to model important social skills and encouraged to continue to create a caring attitude within the school.

As positive relationships are a significant contributor to positive mental health, our senior students were involved in the school’s Peer Support Program. Here, Year Six students worked together with Year Three students to solve problems and have fun in trying something new.

In addition to the school’s Buddy Program, our senior students are also involved in programs aimed at developing positive relationships with their peers. MPower Girls, Revved Up Boys and Drumbeat aim to develop positive social skills and increase our students’ self-confidence.

**MPower Girls** – is a Year Six Program which explores the nature of girls changing relationships with a challenge for girls to be assertive and express their feelings honestly.

**Revved Up Boys** – is a Year Six Program designed to address aspects of anger and to help boys identify their own personal responses to situations which affect them.

**Drumbeat** is a fun program which looks at a range of issues that impact on relationships, including bullying, peer pressure, dealing with emotions and risk taking. This is aimed at Year Three and Four.

FIRST AID

The health and wellbeing of all students at Blackburn Lake Primary assumes the highest priority. At the commencement of each year, requests for updated first aid information are sent home, including requests for any Asthma and Anaphylaxis Action Plans and high priority medical forms. **Anyone who has received an Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan to be completed and signed, please return this form to Gay Burnett or at the school office as soon as possible.**

If your child needs medication during school hours, please contact Gay Burnett who will be on duty from 8:50am each day. All medications must be in their original container, be clearly labelled with your child’s name, required dosage, and time to be administered. Requests for the school to administer medication to your child will be documented on the school’s Medical Authority form.
2015 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

The University of New South Wales is offering your child an opportunity to participate in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS).

ICAS assessments have taken place annually in schools for over thirty years and in twenty countries. Educational Assessment Australia (EAA), who design and deliver the assessments, is the not-for-profit arm of the University of New South Wales.

**ICAS:**
- is an annual skills development assessment program in key areas of learning for students in Years 2 to 6
- gathers performance information through a 30 – 60 minute supervised in-school test
- provides a continuous, independent and comprehensive record of a student’s performance, and maps their development over the full period of primary and secondary schooling
- enables the progress of each student to be mapped in each skill against their previous performance, demonstrating personal improvement no matter the starting point
- uses fellow students’ results as a reference point; results are mapped against all students sitting at the same year level in Australia
- provides an excellent preparation for national testing
- enables students at all levels of ability to participate; ICAS contains questions designed to specifically explore the abilities of students of all standards – this includes those of both lower and higher levels of achievement
- medals are awarded to the top students per state in each subject and year level (when sufficiently meritorious and the test was sat on the official sitting date)
- achievement certificates are awarded to all students at a range of levels:
  1. High Distinction to the top 1% of students
  2. Distinction to the next 10% of students
  3. Credit to the next 25% of students
  4. Merit to the next 10% of students
  5. Participation to all other students
- ICAS reports indicate which questions were answered correctly.

To enrol your child in ICAS, please complete the registration form overleaf and return it, with your entry fees, to school by - FRIDAY 13TH MARCH 2015

For more information about ICAS go to [www.eaa.unsw.edu.au](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au) contact Customer Service on ☎️ (02) 8344 1010 or send an email to: info@eaa.unsw.edu.au
2015 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)
Registration Form

Please return this form to school by FRIDAY 13TH MARCH 2015

I give permission for my child: ___________________________ Class: ___________________________

To participate in the following 2015 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS):

Please select the subjects you would like your child to enter:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>School Years</th>
<th>Official Sitting Date</th>
<th>Entry Fee- including management</th>
<th>Fee Enclosed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>2–6</td>
<td>3 June 2015</td>
<td>$10:00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>2–6</td>
<td>28 July 2015</td>
<td>$10:00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>2–6</td>
<td>11 August 2015</td>
<td>$10:00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL

Please find enclosed $____________________ total entry fee.

Name of Parent/Guardian ___________________________ Date ___________________________

Signature of Parent/Guardian ___________________________

Regards,
Loisia Steed – Assistant Principal
steed.loisia.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

BOOK CLUB

BOOK CLUB - ORDERS RETURN BY TUESDAY 24 FEBRUARY

A quick reminder that Book Club magazines have been handed out to students. All forms needing to be returned by Tuesday 24th February. Please note that no late orders can be processed.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Tanya Weatherall for all the hard work she has put into Book Club over the past years. As this is a two person job, Tanya is in need of assistance from another parent or parents within the school community.

If you are interested in helping out with Book Club, please contact Adam (5A) Book Club Coordinator.

SPORTS REPORT

DISTRICT SWIMMING TRIALS – FRIDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2015

Good luck to our swimmers tomorrow at the District Swimming Trials. We will have a report in the coming weeks.
MISSION X
Once again, as part of our PE program our students in grades 5 and 6 are taking part in Mission X “Train like an Astronaut”. This involves a variety of challenging activities. The students record their data to score points for our school.
Go to https://trainlikeanastronaut.org to have a look. Once on, open the “mission data” tab for an idea of some of the activities involved.

ELITE SPORTS TRIALS – BREAKING NEWS!! PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Trials for Basketball, Netball, Australian Rules and Soccer in our region (Eastern Metropolitan) will NOT be held at District level in 2015. Our region will, for the first time, begin the trial process at the DIVISION level.

This means if you are looking to nominate your child for the sports mentioned above you will need to go to the School Sport Victoria (SSV) website and familiarise yourself with the process. Think carefully about nominating as these trials are for “elite” sportspersons. These are not “come and try” days. For example, to be selected in a “Team Vic” basketball team your child will need to in the best 12 players in the state!!

Please note if/when you register there is $25 NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT for each sport and there is no guarantee of a trial.

If you would like to nominate your child for the above sports please let me, in writing, no later than Friday, 7 March 2015.

OTHER SPORTS
There are numerous other sports that also have state teams for primary aged (12 and under) students. All information for these sports can be found “on-line” on the School Sport Victoria website (www.ssv.vic.edu.au).
If you have any questions about these sports please contact me about nominations after referring to the SSV website.

MORNING MOVERS
Well, we are up and running. It was good to see so many out and about this week. Unfortunately MM’s will go into “recess” next week as the grade 5 and 6 students will be away on camp. Tuesday morning will see 150 students, and their luggage, on the basketball court and on Thursday there won’t be anyone here to run it. We will re-start again the following week.

Regards, Phil Lumsden - PE / Sports Coordinator
lumsden.philip.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

MAGICAL MUSIC NOTES

School Production will be held this year in the last week of Term 3 – 16 & 17 September. Mark this in your diaries now. Over the coming weeks, there will be opportunities for you to volunteer to assist. If you are keen to offer prior to the forms coming out, please come and see me in the music room.

INSTRUMENTAL RECRUITMENT NIGHT
Please note the change of date. The Instrumental Recruitment Night will now be held on Tuesday 10th March (Week 7) from 6.30pm. This is a great opportunity to find out about all the instruments that we offer for lessons and to meet the Instrumental Music Teachers.

Classroom
We have begun our program in the music room, and are all looking forward to what is in store.

Prep
Will be spending some time learning the National Anthem so they can join in singing at Assembly in the next few weeks when they join us.

Level 1 & 2
We have been visiting the jungle over the last couple of weeks (no celebrities here though). We have investigated what kind of animals might live in the jungle, how they move and what sounds they make. Who can remember who we met, and what this animal was doing? In the jungle, the mighty jungle the????

Level 3
Whilst we are learning the Radetsky March, we are talking about different symbols and terms within the music and what they mean so that we can play along with the music. This week we learnt about ostinatos and had a chance to do some conducting.

Level 5 & 6
We have been busy working on consolidating the 9 beat rhythm by creating our own body percussion and movement as we prepare to link it all together with a Bulgarian folk song over the coming weeks.

Instrumental Lessons
Instrumental lessons have begun for another year. It has been great to see the teachers buzzing through the school and the smiling faces of the students as they reconnect and continue their development.

It’s not too late to sign up. The forms are located at the sign in desk in reception, or come to our Recruitment Night on Tuesday 10th March.

Communication with your Child’s Music Instrument Teacher
There are a few students who our Music Instrument Teachers have been unable to contact regarding their child continuing music lessons this year. If your child is not planning on continuing, could you please send you Music Instrument Teacher an email to advise them of this? The terms and conditions of learning an instrument state that:

8. All students in the program will automatically continue lessons each term. Written notification is required to withdraw your child from the program and needs to be received 2 weeks prior to the end of the term, to avoid incurring the next term’s fees.

Open Concert
Our first concert didn’t quite get off the ground, so we are going to give it another go. The sign-up sheet will be up outside the music room tomorrow for you to put your name down. The open concert will be held in week 6 on Wednesday lunch in the DJC foyer. Make sure you sign up tomorrow. We would love to see as many as we can performing for their friends. Make sure you get in quick.

Marimba Ensemble
Marimba Ensemble will be running again this year. It is held on Monday at lunch time for any students from Grade 3 to Grade 6. Our first one will be next week, and I would love to see all your smiling faces. Meet me in the music room at 1.40.

Choir
Grade 4 – 6 has had their first session. We have some big plans for Education week. It will run for the last hour of school on Tuesday (from 2.35 – 3.20). Make sure you have you name ticked off by the teacher before you come down to the music room to join in some singing, and bring a water bottle with you.

Music Count Us In
Last year we participated in this annual event. Below is a note that we received from Music Australia this week.

“With more than 2090 schools ‘Music: Count Us In’ biggest year yet! We're thrilled you joined us in celebrating music education and honouring the talents of our teachers and young people.

Over half a million people came together in song on 30th October to sing “Paint You a Song”. Thank you for joining us and for continuing to bring music into the classroom, enriching the hearts and mind of your students.

Thank you also to you the parents for supporting our Music Program at the school.
“Ah, music,” he said, wiping his eyes. “A magic beyond all we do here!”  

J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone*

Regards,  
Sam Collins - Music Teacher  
collins.samantha.s@edumail.vic.gov.au

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**AMAZING ART ARTICLES**

**CALLING ALL SEwers**

The Art room will be in need of 3 people to stitch up cushions for the Year 3 ArtWorks. If you can sew a simple straight stitch I would really appreciate your help. Just contact me on mcp.hail.johanna.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

Regards,  
Johanna McPhail - Visual Arts Coordinator  
mcp.hail.johanna.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

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**STUPENDOUS SCIENCE LAB**

**Taste Testing Without Smell**

We all know that some foods taste better than others but what gives us the ability to experience all these unique flavours? This simple experiment shows that there’s a lot more to taste than you might have first thought.

**What you’ll need:**
- A small piece of peeled potato
- A small piece of peeled apple (same shape as the potato so you can’t tell the difference)

**Instructions:**
1. Close your eyes and mix up the piece of potato and the piece of apple so you don’t know which is which.
2. Hold your nose and eat each piece, can you tell the difference?

**What’s happening?**

Holding your nose while tasting the potato and apple makes it hard to tell the difference between the two. Your nose and mouth are connected through the same airway which means that you taste and smell foods at the same time. Your sense of taste can recognize salty, sweet, bitter and sour but when you combine this with your sense of smell you can recognize many other individual ‘tastes’. Take away your smell (and sight) and you limit your brains ability to tell the difference between certain foods.

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**PARENTS ASSOCIATION NEWS**

Show your support for the PA and like us on Facebook (Blackburn Lake Primary School PA Committee) or drop us a line via the PA Mailbox in the School Foyer or send us an email @ blps.pa@gmail.com

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**BAKERS DELIGHT BRENTFORD SQUARE - DOUGH RAISER PROGRAM**

The school has received a cheque for $31.03 being the amount fundraised at 5% of all purchases for Term 4 2014.

If you would like to be part of this Parent Association initiative, this is how it works:
1. Please mention Blackburn Lake PS and ask for a ‘Dough Raiser’ card from Bakers Delight Brentford Square
2. Each time a family makes a purchase from Bakers Delight Brentford Square, you will need to present your card at the counter and the stall will record the sale electronically
3. The sales attributed to our school are totaled at the end of each school term and 5% is then given to the school to add to the Parents Association Fundraising effort.

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**UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS in MPR**

**Monday Afternoon 3.30pm – 4.00pm**  
**Thursday Morning 9.00am – 9.30am**
Every WEDNESDAY is School Banking Day

This year's theme is the Outer Space Savers and we'll join the Dollarmites on an intergalactic mission to Planet Savings.

Taking part in School Banking is easy
If your child has an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account they can start banking straight away. If not, you can open one at any Commonwealth Bank branch, or if you are an existing customer with the bank with access to NetBank you can open the account online. Alternatively, we have application forms - just come and get one from us on School Banking Day.

How School Banking works
- Every Wednesday, make sure you have your bank book and money ready for school banking, and complete a deposit slip.
- At the start of the school day, bank books are collected in a grey satchel and sent to the Staffroom.
- The School Banking team will collect the money and deposit slips, and then return the books to the classroom teacher via their pigeonholes.
- The team will process the deposits and send the money to the nearest branch.
- Any reward redemptions will be ordered by the team and items should be delivered to the classroom teachers in 1-2 weeks.

Rewards Program 2015
To encourage regular savings behaviour the program offers an exciting Rewards Program. Every deposit earns your child a Dollarmites token, and once they've collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for a reward. We will be putting redemption cards into your bank books in the next few weeks so you will be ready to order your Term 1 reward when you have 10 tokens.

The rewards items available during 2015 are:
- Term 1 - ET DVD
- Term 1 - Planet Handball
- Term 2 - Invisible Ink Martian Pen
- Term 2 - Intergalactic Rocket
- Term 3 - Glow-in-the-Dark Solar System
- Term 3 - Cosmic Light Beam Torch
- Term 4 - Outer Space Savers Money Box
- Term 4 - Lunar Light Band

Grand Prize Competition: Win a family trip to Disneyland
In a School Banking first, the Commonwealth Bank is introducing a new Grand Prize competition in 2015. Students who make 25 deposits or more in 2015 will automatically receive an entry into the competition draw to win a trip to California’s Disneyland. The prize includes return airfares, five nights’ accommodation, transfers and 3 days park entry for up to two adults and two kids, as well as AUD$2000 spending money.

For further competition details, visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

Volunteers needed
We need some help!
The program requires volunteers to facilitate the banking and distribution of rewards. This only takes an hour, once every 3 weeks on a Wednesday morning, and involves counting up the money, entering the amounts into the online portal, and taking the money to the bank. If you would like to help out, please contact Vickie on ☏ 0419 773 335.

Thank you for supporting the School Banking Program!
Vickie L | School Banking Coordinator | Contact: ☏ 0419 773 335
School Banking 2015 is ready for launch.

For over 40 years, the School Banking program has been teaching Australian children lifelong money skills. This year, your child is invited to join the Dollarmates on an intergalactic mission to Planet Savings.

Information on how students can get on board with School Banking, including a Savings Tracker and a rewards redemption card, is available from your School Banking Co-ordinator.

Your school has received parent packs that include all the information you need to get on board. If you haven’t received a parent pack yet, please ask your School Banking Co-ordinator.

Rewarding good savings habits with eight new items in 2015

The School Banking program encourages good savings habits by rewarding students with awesome rewards! For every 10 deposits made through the program, they can redeem a reward from our Outer Space Savers range, including ET DVDs, Planet Handballs, Invisible Ink Martian Pens, Intergalactic Rockets, Glow-in-the-Dark Solar System, Cosmic Light Beam Trenches, Outer Space Savers Money Boxes and Lunar Light Bands.

You could win a family trip to Disneyland

In a School Banking first, students who make 25 or more School Banking deposits in 2015 will automatically receive one entry into the competition closed to win a family trip to California’s Disneyland. The prize includes return airfares, five nights accommodation, transfers and three days park entry for up to two adults and two kids, plus AUD $20,000 spending money.

For more information, visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

Any advertisements in this newsletter are in no way endorsed by Blackburn Lake Primary School

Parenting through Tough Times

Are your children struggling with change and stress? Is your family facing challenges like moving house, relationship changes, new school, illness, losing a job… or whatever is happening for you?

Is coping with parenting extra hard at the moment?

Would you like a chance to talk with other parents in similar situations?

You are invited to a two-session program to:

- Get more understanding about how change and stress affects both parents and kids
- Talk about why your kids’ behaviour is so challenging at the moment… and ideas about what you can do to help them settle and cope better
- Build your strength and family resilience
- Take some time out explore ideas to gain support and meet your own needs

WHO FOR: Parents & carers of children aged 0-13 years
WHERE: Anglicare, 7-11 Shipleys Street Box Hill
WHEN: 10.00pm-3.00pm Wednesdays 11th & 25th March 2015
CONTACT: Gill: 0458 002 536; Kim: 9735 6146
COST: Free – Booking essential

Parentzone Eastern

anglicarevic.org.au
Yes, it’s time for 2015 Auskick enrolments!

The NAB AFL Auskick ”Rookie" program has been designed for children aged five to eight years (Kinder age upwards). It ensures that all children develop the fundamental skills required to participate in Australian Rules football.

Children participate in activities designed to introduce & improve their skills of the game. This is followed by a modified ‘Grid’ game in an environment which safely allows children to put into practice their skills.

All Auskick participants in Victoria must now register and pay online at www.aflauskick.com.au and if you do so before Monday 20th April 2015 you will be allocated 2x children tickets and 2x adult tickets to an AFL match during the 2015 AFL Home & Away season. The cost for the season is only $85.00 and includes a backpack filled with great goodies that will be home delivered.

‘Welcome’ Day

Our Auskick Welcome Day at Blackburn Lake Primary School will be on Saturday 18th April so please arrive by 9.00am.

We will be also be running our annual In-House Auskick Level 0 Course from 9.30am. This will run through to 10.30am and is open to all our Auskick parents, grandparents, uncles and aunts! Kids will have some organised play during this time to kick the footys, practice some skills and maybe play some games.

Our subsequent Saturday morning sessions start 9.00am sharp and go through to 10.30am.

Any queries please contact Michael Whelan (Co-ordinator) on 0407 081 100 or via email on mwhelan7019@gmail.com.

We hope to see as many of you as possible at Auskick this year!!! Remember to register (or re-register) and pay online at www.aflauskick.com.au
FOR SALE

SILVER GREY TARAGO
8 seater 6 years old

Contact Maya Cordeiro for more information ☎ 0418 391 707

Junior Field Naturalists Club
Meet last Friday of Month @ 7.30pm
1 Gardenia St Blackburn

Meeting – 27 February 2015
‘Simpson Desert Research Trip’
Presenter John Harris

Excursion – 15 March
‘Phillip Island Adventure’

Meeting – 27 March
‘Fungi’ Presenter Tom May

Enquiries: Claire Ferguson
Email: toclairef@gmail.com

Blackburn Newhope Football Club welcomes new players to season 2015

Details
- Catering from beginner to experienced players, every player gets equal playing time in a fun and encouraging environment.
- We have 19 mixed teams in ages from 7 through to 17
- We play in the Victorian Churches Football (Soccer) Association
- Training is once a week on either Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday’s
- Games on Saturday mornings, with home and away format. First game starts on April 18th.
- Our ground is Mirrabooka Reserve, off Holland Rd, Blackburn South
- Come and see us on our Registration Day on Sunday 22nd February from 2-4pm at our grounds
- Early Bird Discount till 21st Feb and very reasonable fees.

For more information check our website or call
Rob van der End, president, mobile 0412 581 122 or email
president@blackburnnewhopesoccer.com.au
The Plight of our Native Bees
Sunday February 22nd—2-4pm
Jess Baumann, from Melbourne University, is researching Native bees in the Sanctuary. Join Jess for a talk and walk to learn more about these amazing creatures and how you can help protect them. Bookings not required.

Clean up Australia Day
Sunday March 1st—10am to 12noon
Wear enclosed shoes and bring hat, sunscreen and gloves, if you have them. Tools provided. Register from 9.45am

‘Below the Lake’ Friends
Saturday 7th and Sunday 15th March 3-5pm
Be part of the action at our local reserve…
Come when you can! Meet Below the Lake.
Gloves and tools provided.
Celebration tea afterwards – Coffee, tea / nibbles
Info: Lynette on 0416 178 945

Working Bee
Saturday March 14th—10am to 12 noon @ The Visitor Centre
Help us get a head start on the weeds. Bring gloves if you have them.
Tools and gloves provided. Don't forget your hat and sunscreen!

World Water Day/Sustainable Living Week
Sunday March 22nd—10am to 12 noon @ The Visitor Centre
The Wurundjeri people have lived in harmony with our waterways for thousands of years.
Come and share World Water Day with a Wurundjeri elder, and explore our connection to country through stories and activities in the beautiful bushland setting of Blackburn Lake Sanctuary.
Bookings Preferred— www.water-day.eventbrite.com.au or phone 9262 6211

Dates for the Diary
School Holiday Program: March 31st and April 2nd from 10-11.30am
Breakfast with the Birds: April 11th from 7.30am

Visitor Centre Open to the Public Sundays 2-4pm
www.blackburnlakesanctuary.org
Education: lucy.menzies@whitehorse.vic.gov.au
Facebook: www.facebook.com/blackburnlakesanctuary
*All activities will be cancelled or postponed on days of Total Fire Ban