Last year’s Strategic Plan (2011 – 2014) Review year was a great opportunity for reflection. When I arrived as Principal of BLPS five years ago, I spoke to staff of my passions in education and also outlined my “non-negotiables” (still on the staffroom wall to this day):

- children are no. 1;
- learning never ends;
- all children can learn and do so at different rates;
- all children and staff have a right to learn and work in a safe;
- caring, harassment free environment;
- good manners and respect are to be encouraged;
- children's self-esteem should be developed;
- children, parents and staff are part of a team;
- children learn by a variety of activities;
- our school should provide appropriate social role models;
- the task - and time on task – is central;
- an attractive environment enhances learning.

A framework used for school improvement over the duration of the last Strategic Plan was the research of John Hattie. Professor Hattie’s work is internationally acclaimed. His influential 2008 book Visible Learning: A synthesis of over 800 Meta-Analyses Relating to Achievement is believed to be the world’s largest evidence-based study into the factors which improve student learning. Involving more than 80 million students from around the world and bringing together 50,000 smaller studies, the study found ‘positive teacher-student interaction is the most important factor in effective teaching’.

A strength of Blackburn Lake Primary School is its staff, and I cannot be prouder of the teaching team who have embraced this vision and work with a high moral compass. Indeed, the external panel of educators involved in last year’s School Review congratulated school staff for their culture of improvement, acknowledging solid student outcomes (along with many areas of “exceptional” data).

**LANGUAGES PROVISION @ BLPS**

Many thanks to the 92 families who responded to the online “Languages Survey”.

With preferences for Asian or European languages not making the selection of a future Language Other Than English (LOTE) language clear, a vast majority of messages echoed that “The choice of language is not as much a consideration for me - it's much more about how the language is taught.”

Recognising such survey comments and referencing the work of John Hattie, we will be advertising a LOTE position for the remainder of the year, aiming to employ the teacher who fits the BLPS ethos and has the greatest capacity for this role (and in this case determining our LOTE provision for 2015).
SCHOOL CAMPING PROGRAM

As you read this edition of the Lakeside News I am at The Old Priory in Beechworth enjoying the company of our Years 5/6 students. Visiting the staff and students at camp I have been reminded firsthand of the main benefits of attending school camp - that being the development of independence and self-confidence as the children have opportunities to broaden relationships beyond their immediate friendship group.

Our school's camping program has evolved over a number of years now and has been developed in response to parent and student feedback from recent camp experiences – Anglesea and Sovereign Hill, with Beechworth camp complementing the Coonawarra and Mount Morton activities. For parents who are new to our school, please note the following details of our comprehensive camping program:

Level 4 Camp: Our Level 4 students begin their camping experience – for some their first time away from home – to attend a 3 day outdoor education camp in Belgrave. Camps, excursions and incursions are very important as they provide experiences for the children that would not normally be possible in a school environment. The Mount Morton camp is close to home and held in August (19th to 21st), where the children interact and undertake a variety of outdoor team building adventure activities.

Level 5/6 Camps: at BLPS 5/6 students participate in alternate year camps, with students from both year levels attending together in February / March. We have found scheduling these camps early in the school year helps the children develop relationships leading to an improved learning culture in classrooms for the remainder of the year.

In odd years, the students travel to Beechworth where they participate in a series of amazing learning experiences that link into our Integrated Studies theme of Australian History. These experiences provide a wonderful foundation for the rest of the term's investigations. In even years, students participate in an outdoor adventure camp at Camp Coonawarra, where the focus is on facing and overcoming challenges, teamwork and the development of resilience.

I sincerely appreciate the work and time of staff who attend and make these experiences possible for the students. Thanks to Murray Aeschlimann (5/6 Camp Coordinator), Adam Marchesi, Allison Duffy, Deb McDermott, Kathryn Taylor, Lisa Genovese, Phil Lumsden (teachers); Anita Andic, Duncan Wise, Lisa Mynott, Ros Lean (ES staff) as well as student-teacher Josh Cram and the support of parents Natalie Frankish and Duncan Gough for their time away from home.

SPECIAL RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION (SRI)

On 19 August 2014, the Minister for Education amended MD141 and set out the roles and responsibilities of principals, teachers and SRI instructors, giving parents and the wider community certainty about the delivery of SRI. Some key points in the new Ministerial Direction are:

- Principals are responsible for making decisions in relation to SRI and for complying with the requirements in the Direction;
- Principals must offer parents the opportunity for their children to participate in SRI when an accredited and approved instructor approaches the school and is available to deliver SRI;
- Only students whose parents sign and return the updated consent form, indicating on the form that they want their child to participate in SRI, can participate in SRI;
- SRI must be scheduled during school hours for no more than 30 minutes per week on average over the school year;
- All students participating in SRI, and those students not attending SRI, must be supervised by a teacher. Students not in SRI must be engaged in educationally valuable, but extracurricular, activities;
- If principals determine there are insufficient resources to meet their duty of care obligations to all students, they may decide that SRI cannot be delivered at the school. This decision can only be made once SRI has been offered to parents, using the new consent form.

The issue of the new permission notices last year saw a significant decline in families “opting in” to the program at our school. Following the distribution of new Department of Education and Training (DET) Parent Consent forms on Thursday 5th February this year the numbers have continued to decline. As of this week across the school we have less than 40% of our children wanting to do the program. This percentage varies from level to level with some classes having as low as only 3 children opting in to SRI. With the low numbers it becomes a resourcing issue to staff the program (because a teacher must be present in the room whilst it is
taught) at the same time arranging the appropriate supervision for the larger numbers of non-participating children.

School Council has discussed the issue and shared a variety of perspectives on the matter with me, including that there are other local opportunities for students to participate in religious instructional activities. Having taken all matters into consideration, I have taken the decision that the SRI program will cease for 2015 and I expect to re-assess the provision of SRI at the beginning of 2016 (following DET guidelines). I would like to thank Alison Thomas and her dedicated team of volunteers who have contributed countless hours to support students at BLPS.

I hope to see you all at tomorrow’s Assembly @ 3pm to acknowledge our ‘Students of the Week’ and join our Preps as they attend their first whole school assembly – a special milestone.

Warm regards,

Jason Walker - Principal

SCHOOL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

Please complete a nomination form or contact me at the school if you are considering nominating for School Council (refer to the front page of our school website).

DIARY DATES FOR 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>9 March</th>
<th>Labour Day Public Holiday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>10 March</td>
<td>All Day 6.30pm onwards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>29 March</td>
<td>‘1st Australians Urban Experience’ Fed Sq - Year 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>11 March</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>12 March</td>
<td>All Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30 April</td>
<td>‘1st Australians Urban Experience’ Fed Sq - Year 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>13 March</td>
<td>All Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>27 March</td>
<td>Whole School Photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>24 March</td>
<td>7:30pm – 9:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>27 March</td>
<td>School Council AGM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>30 April</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14 May</td>
<td>Life Education Health &amp; Human Development by Family Life Victoria Information Evening - Library</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14 May</td>
<td>2nd Instalment Parent Contributions will be processed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18 May</td>
<td>CURRICULUM DAY - No Students at School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18 – 23 May</td>
<td>Education Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>8 June</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>26 June</td>
<td>2.00pm – 2.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30 September</td>
<td>Assembly (Term 2 concludes – EARLY DISMISSAL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>13 July</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14 May</td>
<td>Term Three commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>20 July</td>
<td>after this date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3rd Instalment Parent Contributions will be processed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>31 July</td>
<td>CURRICULUM DAY - No Students at School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18 September</td>
<td>Assembly (Term 3 concludes – EARLY DISMISSAL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>5 October</td>
<td>Term Four commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>2 November</td>
<td>CURRICULUM DAY – No Students at School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>3 November</td>
<td>Melbourne Cup Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>18 December</td>
<td>1.00pm – 1.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>27 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>Zara S</th>
<th>Completing her ‘Day / Night’ activity quickly &amp; being organised – pasting the worksheet into her book</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal</td>
<td>Nicholas W – 3A</td>
<td>Excellent participation &amp; discussion on Indigenous History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lara P – 3A</td>
<td>Excellent participation &amp; discussion on Indigenous History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep A</td>
<td>Violet D</td>
<td>Using words around the room to help with her Spelling – great idea Violet!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep B</td>
<td>Riya K</td>
<td>Always showing a positive attitude to your learning &amp; for trying your best in all that you do – what a star you are Riya!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep S</td>
<td>Maddie M</td>
<td>Wonderful Writing &amp; trying her best at all activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1D</td>
<td>Alison H</td>
<td>Displaying an outstanding attitude to her learning!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1J</td>
<td>Sam C</td>
<td>Doing his personal best with his recount Writing – keep it up Sam!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Successful Reading and Writing Information Sessions at Blackburn Lake

Over the past two Tuesday mornings at Blackburn Lake Primary School, a number of parents have participated in an in-service training course designed to improve the Literacy outcomes for their children. Sessions have been led by David Dowson (Grade 4D) and content has focussed on how to be a more astute observer of Reading and Writing behaviour. Upon recognising helpful and unhelpful behaviour, parents have learnt numerous strategies on how to respond to their children’s Literacy needs in a strategic and concise manner. All feedback indicates that the sessions were extremely well received:

“Looking at Reading as a problem solving activity was a bit of a paradigm shift for me but resulted in a light bulb moment and has led to some real breakthroughs in Reading with my child.”
“Fascinating to learn how Literacy is taught, really enjoyed it.”
“Comprehensive overview given by David and a great introduction to useful approaches to Reading with our kids and their peers.”
“Great tips for Reading and Writing at home, not necessarily the way you would expect i.e. don’t sound out letters in words.”

Blackburn Lake Primary School is extremely thankful for the many parents who attended the sessions and would like to everyone for their participation. Another great example of - “Learning Together!”

Focussing on Mathematics

Aimed at developing confident Mathematicians, Blackburn Lake’s Mathematics Program incorporates explicit teaching, building on a student’s prior learning, hands-on learning experiences and flexible learning groups. As Mathematics plays a pivotal role in how our students deal with many aspects of life, in 2015 Blackburn Lake’s Mathematics curriculum will have a renewed focus on Mathematical problem solving skills across the school. Based on the current research and findings of Michael Ymer, we aim to use real life problems and encourage our students to make sense of ideas both independently and collaboratively.

Through upcoming staff professional development, an opportunity will be given to staff to develop better questioning techniques, thereby developing rich Mathematical thinking in our students and an opportunity to develop teaching and learning options that allows our students to make sense of ideas both independently and collaboratively.

To provide greater clarity on student ability and to better inform teachers, so they can adjust their instruction to meet the learning needs of each child, teachers use both ongoing assessment of students’ and research based assessments.
As a key improvement strategy of Blackburn Lake’s Strategic Plan is to improve the learning growth of our students in Mathematics, we aim to provide further research based assessment through the adoption of the Mathematics ICAS testing for all Year 5 students.

This will begin in 2015 and will be funded through the school's Mathematics budget.

**2015 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) Registration Form**

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

I give permission for my child: ____________________________

Class: ____________________________

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

<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 (Year 5 exempt)</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

Each year, thousands of Australians get involved and ‘Clean Up’ their local environment by collecting and removing rubbish.

We will be holding our annual ‘Clean Up Australia Day’ at BLPS on **Friday 27th February**. Students will be involved in classroom activities as well as going out into the school grounds to do their bit for the community.

We are registered on the ‘Clean Up Australia Day’ website and will be supplied with bags and gloves for the event.

To join in the fun or for more information on how to get involved or donate to this wonderful cause, visit the ‘Clean Up Australia Day’ webpage: [http://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au/](http://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au/) or email Ewan: mcallister.ewan.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

**WHOLE SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS - FRIDAY 13 MARCH**

An Advancedlife photo ordering envelope will be sent home with each student on Monday 2nd March. All individual student envelopes to be completed and payment enclosed (unless paying online) and returned to the classroom teacher by **Thursday 12 March**.

Sibling (family group) photo ordering envelopes are available from the School Office and to be completed with payment (unless paying online) and returned to the School Office by **Thursday 12 March**.
SPORTS REPORT

DISTRICT SWIMMING TRIALS
Our Swimmers did a great job last Friday. Everyone swam their best and as fast as they could with numerous PB’s being achieved. Congratulations to all those students who took part.

The following Swimmers finished 1st or 2nd in their races to qualify for next week’s Whitehorse Division Trials.
Individual events:  Jesse P,  Hunter H,  Jack J,  Sam M,  Nathan Y
School Production

School Production will be held this year in the last week of Term 3 - 16th & 17th 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.

Many of the students have started guessing as to what this will be. Over the coming weeks, there will be clues given out during the Newsletter and Music class. You might have noticed the picture that was in the Newsletter last week. Here is it is again to get your thinking caps on.

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

Prep
Humpty Dumpty hasn’t had a really good time of it lately. In Prep, we have been saying and singing the rhyme Humpty Dumpty while learning about beat, rhythm and ostinato.

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.

Instrumental Lesson
Don’t forget the information night on Tuesday 10th March. This will be a great opportunity to come and find out about the program that we offer, and meet some of the teachers.

Open Concert
Our first Open Concert for the year is next Tuesday. Places are filling, so don’t forget to come down to the music room (sheet is on the whiteboard just outside the door). It’s a great opportunity if you are going for an audition, competition or exam to come and perform it before your big day. Helps to settle those nerves.

Marimba Ensemble
We had our first session last week. Great to see all your smiling faces. It’s still not too late to join. Looking forward to seeing you at lunch on Monday. We are currently preparing for a performance at assembly in a few weeks.

Choir
We missed the Grade 5/6 students this week with camp, but have started working on a song that has been written especially for ANZAC day.

“To stop the flow of music would be like the stopping of time itself, incredible and inconceivable.”

Aaron Copland

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

Sam Collins - Music Teacher
collins.samantha.s@edumail.vic.gov.au
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 mcphail.johanna.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

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

SUPER SCIENCE LAB

MAKE PLASTIC MILK

What you'll need:
- One cup of milk
- 4 teaspoons of white vinegar
- A bowl
- A strainer
- Adult help

Instructions:
1. Ask your friendly adult to heat up the milk until it is hot, but not boiling
2. Now ask the adult to carefully pour the milk into the bowl
3. Add the vinegar to the milk and stir it up with a spoon for about a minute
4. Now the fun part, pour the milk through the strainer into the sink - careful it may be hot!
5. Left behind in the strainer is a mass of lumpy blobs.
6. When it is cool enough, you can rinse the blobs off in water while you press them together.
7. Now just mould it into a shape and it will harden in a few days - Cool!

What's happening?
Plastic? In milk? Well, sort of. You made a substance called CASEIN. It's from the Latin word meaning "cheese". CASEIN occurs when the protein in the milk meets the acid in the vinegar. The casein in milk does not mix with the acid and so it forms blobs. True plastics, called polymers, are a little different.

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

WEDNESDAY 11TH MARCH IS SUSHI DAY!

Enjoy healthy and delicious Sushi Handrolls and help raise funds for our school!

Sushi Handrolls: $2.50 each
Tuna Cooked tuna, lettuce & mayonnaise
Teriyaki Chicken Chicken marinaded in soy sauce, lettuce & mayonnaise
Sweet Chilli Chicken Marinaded chicken, carrot & sweet chilli sauce
Avocado Fresh avocado, carrot & mayonnaise
Drinks: $2 each
Big M’s chocolate or strawberry
Mineral water apple/raspberry, lemon/lime, orange, blue haven
To order, simply complete the attached lunch order bag with Child’s Name, Class & Order with correct money (no cheques or sticky tape please) and return to your child’s classroom by **Wednesday 4th March**.

Please complete a separate lunch order bag for EACH child in your family and be sure to specify the quantity and flavour of handrolls and drinks you’d like. As we need to pre-order the handrolls, purchases of these cannot be made on the day and ingredients cannot be varied.

**Drinks and ice-creams will be available for purchase on the day from the Canteen at lunchtime.**

**Any helpers able to assist from 12.30pm-2.30pm please contact Katie D at katie.davidson@bigpond.com**

Handrolls are supplied by sushi@school. The allergy information they provide is:

• **No nut products or sesame seeds used however all handrolls may contain traces of nuts, sesame seeds, egg, milk and wheat products, even where not specified**

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**UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS in MPR**

Monday Afternoon 3.30pm – 4.00pm
Thursday Morning 9.00am – 9.30am

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**SCHOOL BANKING - Every WEDNESDAY is School Banking Day**

**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 Dоллимитes 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
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

A reminder that
Dance ‘Physie’ Club is on at Lunchtimes Years 4 - 6 Tuesdays and Prep – Year 3 Wednesdays

All interested students are welcome to try their first session and then if they
would like to continue they need to enrol through the purple forms available in the office foyer
There is a cost of $50 involved
For any girls who tried it out last week and would like to continue please ensure you have completed and handed in the form and money to the office

What's happening in OSHC Camp Australia?

Last week it was Chinese New Year, year of the Goat!
We had a big group game on New Year’s Day, chop sticks and marbles. The children split into two groups and the first team to win were the ones who were the quickest at picking up a marble with chop sticks and putting in into a second bowl. We also have Angie, the permanent assistant in OSHC who is of Chinese background. She brought along traditional foods to show the children and explain how the Chinese Calendar works. The children have also been painting a big picture of a goat together to put up on the wall in our room.

We have started to introduce the ‘Better Buddies’ Program. Working in partnership with the Alannah & Madeline Foundation, the ‘Better Buddies’ program has been created to help children feel welcome and develop their sense of belonging in our OSHC program here at Blackburn Lake. Having supporting and caring relationships in the OSHC program, the team hope to make a great difference for children to easily transition into the service.

We have started the year off by having children buddy up when going to the bathroom. We feel this is a great way to ensure further safety when the children need to go to the bathroom and a sense of security to call on their friend waiting outside if anything goes wrong. We also have new preps that have joined us this year and the older children have been buddying up with them, especially outside. It has been great for the older children to take on responsibility and show care for the younger children in the program.

We wish you all a wonderful week and weekend
Thank you, The OSHC Team 😊

ALL VERY WELCOME!
BLACKBURN LAKE NAB AFL AUSKICK CENTRE
BLACKBURN LAKE PRIMARY SCHOOL OVAL - FLORENCE STREET BLACKBURN

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.

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**COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD**

Any advertisements in this newsletter are in no way endorsed by Blackburn Lake Primary School
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
Proceeds from event will support youth services in the Whitehorse area

Pack a picnic or grab a bite to eat from our sausage sizzle and snack bar

Face Painting, Jumping Castle and Glow Sticks

Gates open 6pm for 7:30pm screening

Tickets $10 per person or $35 for family of 4 (Children under 3 free)

NO ALCOHOL PERMITTED

MOONLIGHT CINEMA
21 MARCH 2015

ENJOY A FUN NIGHT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY PROUDLY PRESENTED BY BOX HILL LIONS AND AVENUE NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE @ ELEY

Presented by

DONCASTER HOLDEN

Jump for Fun!

IN EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER, MOVIE WILL BE SCREENED AT ELEY COMMUNITY CENTRE FOR ONLINE TICKET HOLDERS ONLY

Book now @ www.trybooking.com/HBHL
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