

Boronia West Primary School Newsletter—2023



“Growing through learning”

From the Principal

ES Appreciation Day

Tuesday this week was ES Appreciation Day. At Boronia West PS our Education Support staff are: Julie, Mo, Simone, Jess, Traci and Leonie. It is fair to say that our school would not operate as efficiently and calmly without these wonderful people. I am truly thankful for everything they do at BWPS every day.

I believe that our ES staff deserve more than a day, however, and I wanted to take the opportunity to highlight our ES and provide them with the recognition they deserve. Thank you, you are all incredible!

Walk Safely to School Day

Thank you to all students and families who participated in our Walk Safely to School Day today. It was a lovely walk from Boronia Woolworths to school. With technology so accessible in our lives every little bit of exercise a child can do is doing them good. A big thank you to Miss Petts for coordinating the event.

School Photos

Photos can be ordered online, or via the payment envelop that was sent home. The payment envelop needs to be returned on or before the photo day. Our Photo day is Wednesday 24th May.



Grandparents and Special Person's Day

On Tuesday 23rd May we invite grandparents/Special Friends to bring a picnic and eat with their grandchildren at lunchtime.

The Book Fair will be open at lunch time.

At 2:30pm our guests will be invited into classroom to see and celebrate all the amazing learning our students have been completing this year.

EDITION 14

Acting Principal

Penelope Harris



IMPORTANT DATES

TERM DATES

Term 2: Apr 24—Jun 23

Grandparents/Special Person's Day—Tuesday 23rd May

School photos—Wednesday 24th May

Curriculum Day—Friday 26th May

Term 3: Jul 10—Sep 15

Term 4: Oct 2—Dec 20

COVID Safety Supports

Tis the chilly season and COVID is making the rounds. Please take care of yourselves and your families.

If your child tests positive, it is **recommended** that they stay at home for 5 days. Students at school that have flu like symptoms will be sent to the sickbay and parents will be asked to pick them up.

Feel free to pop into the front office and pick up some masks and we have a limited supply of RAT kits available as well.

Be mindful of the 1.5 distancing when in groups or busy areas. Let's remember to wash our hands and to use sanitiser regularly.

Uniforms

Whilst we appreciate it can be difficult washing and drying school uniforms at this time of the year, students are required to wear school uniform to school. If there is the odd occasion where your child will be out of uniform please send a note explaining the situation or speak with their classroom teacher.

Students out of uniform without an explanation will be required to wear a spare piece of school uniform for the day. We thank you for your support with this.



Paediatrician

Did you know that our school is fortunate to have the services of a paediatrician once a month? If you would like more information please speak to Mrs Harris.

Have a wonderful, and hopefully warm weekend everyone!

Penelope Harris

Curriculum Day

I would like to remind you that our next Curriculum Day is coming up. **Friday 26th of May.**

We invest in our teachers being up to date with the best teaching practices as we believe this drives improvement in student outcomes. .

We do understand that Curriculum Days can be annoying for parents but we do have to use four per year, which is government mandated. Dates are approved by our school council.



Found

A pair of prescription glasses. Black frames.

Please come to the office if you have misplaced your glasses.

Its Book Fair time again. The Book Fair will be open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday next week at lunchtimes and after school.

Come and see all the great books on offer.



Walk to School Day





Iggy Wiggy

Iggy Wiggy!!

Iggetty ziggety zoo

We have a biscuit for you

Zaggety ziggety zee

It came from you and me!

Eat it up, you won't be a piggy

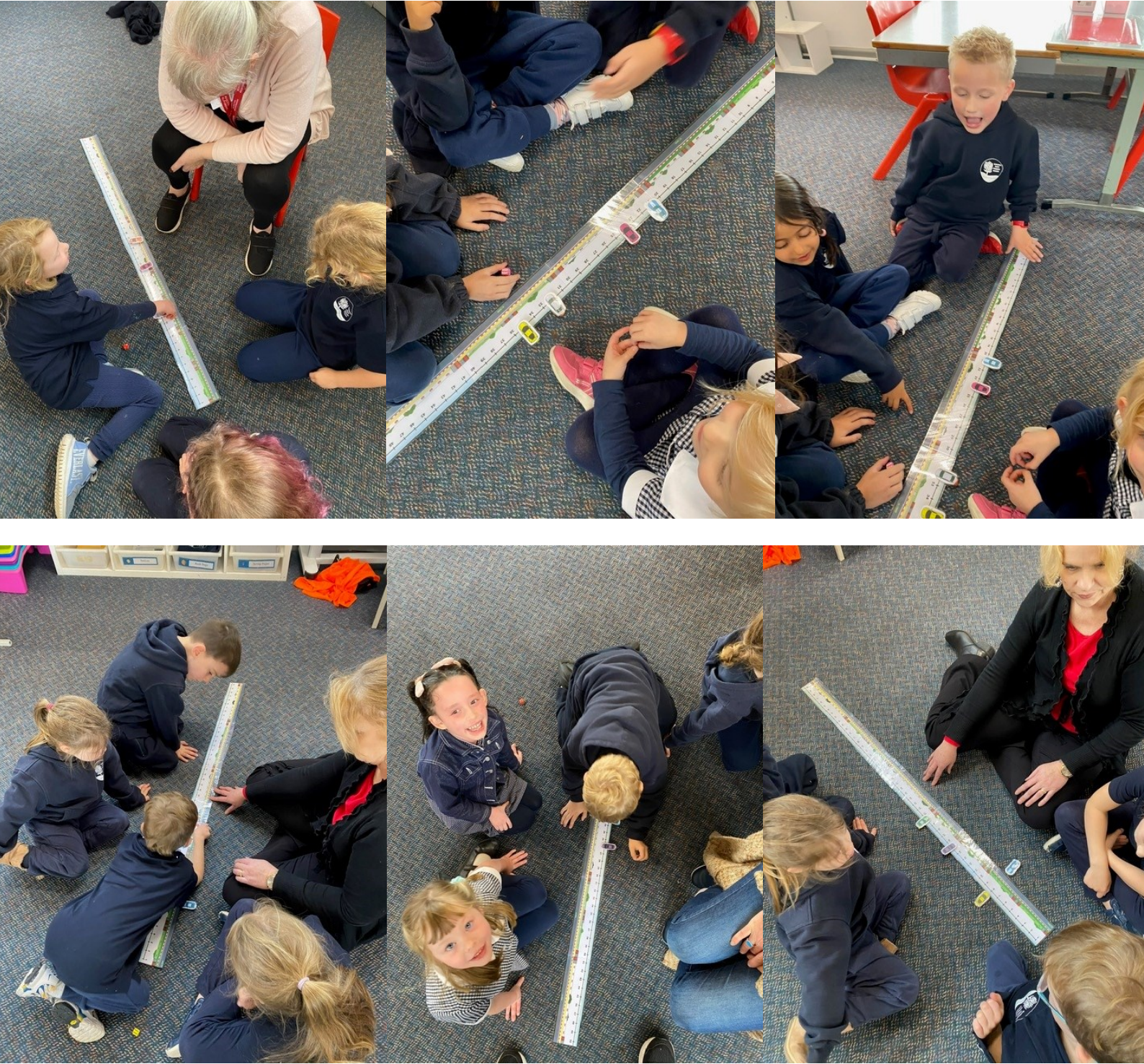
But you might turn into an Iggy Wiggy!!



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Maths in Junior School





Balloon Art



Did you know that our very talented Art and Auslan teacher Miss Hogan also creates beautiful balloon art.

This is one of her creations that she brought in to put an extra smile on our teachers' faces.

From all the staff at BWPS we would like to say a very big thank you Miss Hogan.



From Eddie our Chaplain

Five tips to staying present with your children.

Electronic devices are wonderful tools that are a source of great knowledge. You can use them to communicate with family and friends in other countries. The flipside to this technology is the hypnotic effect they can have upon us drawing our mind, focus and energy away from our children. Here are five tips that can help us be present with our children and not miss those opportunities to have an impact upon their lives.

1. Build their language.

My wife has been leading mainly music in Nido Kindergartens and I have noticed my son's vocabulary greatly improved through this. My wife sometimes practices new songs and activities at home and my four-year-old son attempts to replicate different sounds and words that she sings. But I also think that this language development can be developed through a broad range of our children. I remember my fourteen and twelve-year-old children developed their language rapidly when they came to live with me full-time and I was studying at university writing essays back in 2016. It never ceases to amaze me what my children hear when I don't even notice that they are listening.

2. Teach your children about their world.

Children ask many questions about anything and everything. When parents use this as an opportunity for their children to learn about their world, parents remain their children's first teacher. I believe that if a parent shows more interest in their devices, then the parent quickly loses this beautiful responsibility.

3. Impact their thinking.

Nothing breaks down conversation more than a mobile device in someone's hand. There is no denying that there are two main ways to impact our children's thinking. The first is what we communicate to them in our speech. Talking to our children is the fundamental way that a parent can impact the way their child thinks. The second is how they observe our lives. Do our words back up our actions.

4. Build relationships.

Relationships are built through common interest, good intent, and respectful behaviour. Quality time spent with your children is like investing money in the bank. You never know when you will need to make a withdrawal, and this may increase as they become teenagers. However, it is comforting to know that there will be plenty that can be withdrawn if you have taken the time to invest in the relationship.

5. Build memories for you.

Building memories for you is so important in keeping your mind and body simultaneously present when with your children. Eighteen years ago, I learnt the importance of this when I was only allowed to see my children on weekends. During the week I would talk to my children on the phone and take notes. I would talk about our conversation over the weekends when my children were in my care. These memories helped build our relationship in a period that our relationship lacked momentum. Sometimes it was difficult with the amount of hours that I was working in my job, but the emotional and physical investment I made allowed a difficult transition to be more bearable when they came to live with me full time ten years later.

I hope all of you have a fantastic weekend.

Eddie



Star Student Awards

PREP

Cailin—You are working so well in class and learning so much.

GRADE

1

Eva—For focusing more and applying herself to her learning. Keep it up Eva!

GRADE

2/3

Cooper—You meet the expectations of a learning to ensure you do your best learning.

GRADE

4/5/6

Jemma—On telling the time to the minute. Go Jemma!



School Wide Positive Behaviour



Students earned 5 leaves this week which is 500 acknowledgements of positive behaviour.

Congratulations everyone!



Parent Payments

PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY

ONE PAGE OVERVIEW



FREE INSTRUCTION

- Schools provide students with free instruction and ensure students have free access to all items, activities and services that are used by the school to fulfil the requirements of the Curriculum. This includes the Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) including the VCE Vocational Major and the Victorian Pathways Certificate.
- Schools may invite parents to make a financial contribution to support the school.



PARENT PAYMENT REQUESTS

Schools can request contributions from parents under three categories:

Curriculum Contributions

Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.

Other Contributions

Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides for free to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

- Schools may also invite parents to supply or purchase educational items to use and own (e.g. textbooks, stationery, digital devices).



FINANCIAL HELP FOR FAMILIES

- Schools put in place financial hardship arrangements to support families who cannot pay for items or activities so that their child doesn't miss out.
- Schools have a nominated parent payment contact person(s) that parents can have a confidential discussion with regarding financial hardship arrangements.



SCHOOL PROCESSES

- Schools must obtain school council approval for their parent payment arrangements and publish all requests and communications for each year level on their school website for transparency.



EVERY DAY COUNTS

ATTENDANCE FACT SHEET FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

- School is better when you're here

DO I HAVE TO GO TO SCHOOL?

Yes, in Victoria everyone aged from 6 – 17 has to go to school.

Missing one day a fortnight is the same as missing 4 whole weeks of school a year.

From Foundation to Year 12 that adds up to 1.5 years of school!

School is better when you attend. Your friends and your teachers notice that you are away and wonder if you are OK.

WHY IS IMPORTANT THAT I GO TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY?

Right now, being at school is the most important thing you need to do for your future. School helps you build good habits for later on in life. You might think school is just about Maths and English but you're also learning about how to work with other people and how to solve problems.

Being at school every day also means you are becoming more independent as a learner and interacting with your friends and teachers. If you are at school you can get help from your teachers and friends and won't have to try to learn things in your own time.

Being an adult probably seems far away but we know that young people who attend school more frequently have better outcomes after school too. This means they earn more money, have better job opportunities and are generally healthier. So being at school really does make a difference!

DO MY PARENTS NEED TO LET THE SCHOOL KNOW IF I'M GOING TO BE AWAY?

Yes. Your parents need to notify the school of your absence as soon as they can within three days of your absence. If they know you are going to be away, they should try to tell the school before the day or days you are away.

If you're away from school too much and don't have a reasonable excuse like a serious illness, your parents might get a letter from the principal asking about why you're away.

ARE THERE ANY GOOD REASONS TO BE AWAY FROM SCHOOL?

No. Unless you are so sick you can't get out of bed or there is an event like a funeral, you should be at school. Every day you are away is a day of classes and social connection you miss out on. Taking a day off for your birthday or go shopping isn't a good reason to miss school.

Even medical and health appointments should be made either before or after school or during the school holidays. This includes family holidays. Your parents are encouraged not to plan holidays during the term but to organise these during the school holidays.



EVERY DAY COUNTS

If you do have to be away for some reason, your parents need to contact the school and let them know what's going on. Depending on the situation, the school might provide schoolwork for you to complete.

■ IF I'M NOT AT SCHOOL WHAT DO I MISS OUT ON?

You miss out on all the big stuff — class discussions and all the interaction that happens in a classroom, the chance to get help from teachers and the opportunity to practice skills and gain knowledge.

Being away means you might miss out on a lot of learning or that you need to catch up in your time.

If all of that isn't enough to convince you to be at school every day, being away also means you also miss out on playing with your friends. Being away from school a lot can be lonely. It has a big impact on relationships and social connections.

Believe it or not, everyone wants you at school and it really is better when you attend.

■ WHAT IF I'M HAVING PROBLEMS GETTING TO SCHOOL?

Getting to school on time every day can be about having a good routine.

If you find yourself running late or missing school because you're disorganised, try:

- → Asking your parents for help getting ready
- → Having a set time to go to bed
- → Leaving all technology out of your bedroom
- → Packing your school bag the night before with everything you need
- → Having a set time for breakfast
- → Planning to meet up with a friend so you can travel to school together.

Sometimes, though it can just be hard to go to school.

You might feel overwhelmed by the work or things might be tough with your friends. Maybe you don't feel safe at school or you really dislike a teacher or things at home aren't great. Perhaps you're feeling down or anxious and don't even really know why.

Whatever the situation is, staying away from school isn't the answer. Many people want to help you. Try talking to:

- → Your parents or another adult family member
- → A trusted teacher
- → Wellbeing Coordinator or the school counsellor
- → Another trusted adult like your coach

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■ USEFUL WEB SITE/CONTACTS¶

Kids Matter — www.kidsmatter.edu.au¶

Youth Beyond Blue —
www.youthbeyondblue.com.au¶

Headspace — www.headspace.org.au —
or e-headspace —
www.eheadspace.org.au — for online
counselling & support ¶

Reach Out — www.reachout.com¶

Kids helpline — 1800 55 1800 24 hours
a day, 7 days a week or [web
counselling](http://www.kidshelpline.com.au)¶



ALPHA MAINTENANCE

ph: 0408 575 457

email: alpha.maintenance@outlook.com

ABN: 49 661 904 089