

Boronia West Primary School Whole School Bulletin—2023

“Growing through learning”



EDITION 4

Acting Principal—
Penelope Harris



IMPORTANT DATES

TERM DATES

Term 1: Jan 30—Apr 6

Monday 13th March—
Labour Day Public Holiday

March 15th—27th
NAPLAN for grade 3 and 5
students

Term 2: Apr 24—Jun 23

Term 3: Jul 10—Sep 15

Term 4: Oct 2—Dec 20

Dear Parents/Carers/Kin,

Welcome to the end of Week 5 of the Term, not quite the half way mark, but we are well into the Term.

Attendance

Attending school everyday is important! Please see the information provided by the Department of Education on the pages to follow. If your child is absent, please provide a reason to the office as soon as possible.

Compass issues

Thank you to everyone for your patience regarding some technical issues we have been experiencing with Compass. I hope that this will be resolved by next week and families will be able to access Compass via computers and smartphones.

School council

Please consider joining our school council. We would love to have as much voice and support as we can.

STEM

We are very lucky to have STEM as a specialist subject this year. Miss Petts teaches STEM on a Thursday. As it's new we thought we'd let you know what has been happening in STEM this week.

In Prep and Grade One students have been understanding the differences between living and non-living things. Students created playdough living and non-living objects such as horses.

Students in Grade 2 and Year 3 planted sprouts and learnt about the lifecycle of beans.

Students in Grade 4, 5 and 6 are learning about dinosaurs. They went on a virtual tour to visit the museums at the Melbourne Museum.

Feel free to visit the STEM Space and see what is happening in the space.

Icy Poles for Sale

Our grade 6 students are once again selling Zooper Doopers at lunchtimes on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for \$1. All proceeds are going towards their Year 6 Graduation. Enjoy some icy cold icy poles over the hotter months!

Art

Our walls are filling with student work. Here is some art work completed by the students this week.



Wishing everyone a great weekend with loved ones.

Penelope Harris

On Monday our grade 1 students enjoying reading in the library.



Grade 1 students playing the game—"Who has the letter ...?"



Breakfast Club

Today we opened our newly created Breakfast Club room. And it was a massive HIT!

Breakfast Club will run on Monday and Fridays, from 8.45am with our Chaplain Eddie.

Students will have the option of toast or cereal and even a milo!! Sometimes the morning rush gets the best of us, so if your children need breakfast please remind them to pop in.

As learning starts at 9am we are trying not to be serving food after 9am.



Chaplain's Report

The process of transformation.

On the 6th of December 2020, I arrived in Australia from New Zealand. I weighed a whopping 129 kg. I had a bad back and I was in the process of recovering from slipping two discs in my back. My relationship with my wife and children had been strained through some challenges that life had presented. I was determined to contend with life and do everything I could to be transformed in a positive way. I dislocated hips, my knee, and a lot in the process, but I adjusted myself to whatever situation arose, and didn't allow the changes to fully halt the momentum in my transformation.

Here are a few keys that have worked for me.

The 1%

Firstly, you need to visualise, even draw what you want to become within six months. Whether that be physically, relationally, or whatever else it may be. Focus your mind on your beliefs and principles in relation to your destination, rather than your emotions.

Try to become 1% better daily towards your destination. This might be through your diet, preparation, work, relationships, education, or training. Track your progress weekly and be honest about your progress. What worked? What could you do better? Did you improve this week closer to your destination?

Momentum

The ability to keep increasing or developing. Momentum is strength that one can gain from not stopping and pressing on. Breakthrough is a result of momentum.

References

Oxford dictionary momentum.

Ace fit 28-day challenge.

Thanks,

Eddie





EVERY DAY COUNTS

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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 everyday 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

USEFUL WEB SITES/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