



From the Principal...

Information Nights in Week 5

Each grade level team will be holding Information Sessions to outline key aspects of their programs to ensure parents and carers are well informed about routines, student expectations and learning practices that will be consistently implemented across the year level. The following dates and times have been strategically allocated throughout the week in an attempt to reduce overlap for families with multiple children:

Monday 25/2:

Grade 2	Room 10	5.30-6.30pm
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Tuesday 26/2:

Preps	Learning Centre	5.30-6.30pm
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Grade 5	Room 14	6.30-7.30pm
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Grade 6	Room 6	6.30-7.30pm
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Wednesday 27/2:

Grade 3	Room 16	5.30-6.30pm
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Grade 4	Room 20	6.00-7.00pm
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Thursday 28/2:

Grade 1	Learning Centre	5.30-6.30pm
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We hope families can make time in their busy schedules to attend the relevant meetings to strengthen the school/family partnership that research clearly indicates influences student progress.

1:1 Parent/Teacher Meetings

Following on from the information sessions in Week 4, we have scheduled more individualised interviews for Week 7 (Tuesday 12 – Thursday 14 March). Parents and carers will be able to book a time with each of their children's teachers and discuss things in greater detail. This one to one meeting is an opportunity for parents and carers to exchange information to support the child's learning, and for teachers to provide a snapshot of learning to date. Exact times and dates will be published in next week's full Newsletter. Bookings for these interviews will be an online system that will open on Tuesday February 26. Information explaining this system will be sent home soon.

Northern PlaySpace Taking Shape

The landscape contractors are making good progress with new paths, garden beds, soft fall mulch and boulders all starting to create the foundation of an adventure play area surrounding the existing equipment.



I would like to acknowledge *Preston Community Connect* and *Bendigo Bank* who have contributed \$18,000 towards the project to supplement the school community fundraising. This generous donation has helped as fast track the next stage of the play space. Like other local businesses, you can tag your existing accounts with Bendigo Bank to Preston Connected Community simply by informing them of your connection to the school. The bank then puts a code on your account so that Preston Connected Community receives a portion of the bank fees (their money, not yours) which then forms part of their donations back to the Preston community.



Long Service Leave

Bell Leading Teacher Rod Bennett is currently on leave enjoying an extended and well-earned break. Rod's many roles have been re-allocated to others for the short term, with Anna Buchanan taking on the English as a Second Language Program and OHS. Other middle leaders from the School Improvement Team are driving some of the teaching and learning roles that Rod will continue from Term 2 onwards.

School Council Nominations

As outlined in last week's Newsletter, I am calling for nominations to serve on School Council for the next two years. Nomination forms are available through the office with the closing date next Monday. For details about the role of School Council, follow the link: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/management/community/Pages/schoolcouncilsfunction.aspx>. Alternatively, feel free to contact me directly about council elections and related topics regarding school governance.

David Twite (Principal)

Important Dates:

FEBRUARY

- Tue 19: **Gr4 Swimming #1**
- Wed 20: School Council Meeting, 7pm
- Thu 21: **Gr4 Swimming #2**
- Thu 21: Prep Picnic, from 5pm
- Fri 22: Summer Sports #1 v Northcote (*away*)
- Mon 25: **Gr2 Information Evening**, 5.30-6.30pm, Rm 10
- Tue 26: **Gr4 Swimming #3**
- Tue 26: District Swimming Carnival
- Tue 26: **Prep Information Evening**, 5.30-6.30pm, LC
- Tue 26: **Gr5 Information Evening**, 6.30-7.30pm, Rm 14
- Tue 26: **Gr6 Information Evening**, 6.30-7.30pm, Rm 6
- Wed 27: **Gr3 Information Evening**, 5.30-6.30pm, Rm 16
- Wed 27: **Gr4 Information Evening**, 6.00-7.00pm, Rm 20
- Thu 28: **Gr4 Swimming #4**
- Thu 28: **Gr1 Information Evening**, 5.30-6.30pm, LC
- Thu 28: School Council Elections

MARCH

- Fri 1: Summer Sports #2 v Fairfield (*home*)
- Sat 2: Bell Blitz (*re-scheduled*)
- Tue 5: **Gr4 Swimming #5**
- Thu 7: **Gr4 Swimming #6**
- Fri 8: Summer Sports #3 v Preston South (*away*)
- Mon 11: Labour Day Public Holiday
- Fri 15: Summer Sports #4 v St Josephs (*home*)
- Fri 22: Summer Sports #5 v Northcote (*home*)
- Fri 22: Silent Disco FUNdraiser
- Thu 28: New School Council Elected
- Fri 29: Sausage Sizzle – Northern Playspace Opening tbc

APRIL

- Tue 2: Health & Human Dev. Information Evening
- Fri 5: Final Day Term 1 - 2.30pm dismissal
- Fri 5: Cup Cake Stall FUNdraiser
- Fri 5: Kid's Movie Night
- Tue 23: First Day Term 2
- Thu 25: ANZAC Day Public Holiday
- Tue 30: AGM

