



NEWSLETTER

Burwood Heights Primary School's goal is to educate the whole child. Our students will be at the heart of everything we do.

NEWSLETTER NO.1

THURSDAY 2nd FEBRUARY, 2017

WEBSITE ADDRESS is burwoodhps.vic.edu.au/

FRIDAY	3 RD FEBRUARY	PRESENTATION OF BADGES TO SCHOOL LEADERS/MONITORS
MONDAY	6 TH FEBRUARY	PREP BARBEQUE OPEN MORNING – EXCEL MUSIC
TUESDAY	7 TH FEBRUARY	JUNIOR SCHOOL INFORMATION NIGHT
WEDNESDAY	8 TH FEBRUARY	MIDDLE SCHOOL INFORMATION NIGHT
THURSDAY	9 TH FEBRUARY	SENIOR SCHOOL INFORMATION NIGHT
MONDAY	13 TH FEBRUARY	EXCEL MUSIC COMMENCES JUNIOR SCHOOL BARBEQUE
WEDNESDAY	15 TH FEBRUARY	HOUSE SPORTS
FRIDAY	17 TH FEBRUARY	TEAM BUILDING INCURSION – SENIOR SCHOOL NO ASSEMBLY
MONDAY	20 TH FEBRUARY	MIDDLE SCHOOL BARBEQUE
TUESDAY	21 ST FEBRUARY	ART EXCURSION – SENIOR SCHOOL
THURSDAY	2 ND -10 TH MARCH	LIFE EDUCATION
FRIDAY	3 RD MARCH	ASSEMBLY REAL LIFE ADVENTURES
THURS & FRIDAY	9 TH & 10 TH MARCH	PREP & JUNIOR SCHOOL SWIMMING PROGRAMME
THURS & FRIDAY	16 TH & 17 TH MARCH	PREP & JUNIOR SCHOOL SWIMMING PROGRAMME
FRIDAY	17 TH MARCH	ASSEMBLY REAL LIFE ADVENTURES
MONDAY	20 TH MARCH	SCHOOL COUNCIL
THURS & FRIDAY	23 RD , 24 TH MARCH	PREP & JUNIOR SCHOOL SWIMMING PROGRAMME
THURSDAY	30 TH MARCH	PREP & JUNIOR SCHOOL SWIMMING PROGRAMME
FRIDAY	31 ST MARCH	END OF TERM ONE
TUESDAY	18 TH MARCH	TERM TWO COMMENCES

FROM THE PRINCIPAL ... Esther Wood

WELCOME BACK TO OUR RETURNING FAMILIES AND WELCOME TO OUR NEW FAMILIES.

What a wonderful start we have had to our school year! I congratulate staff, students and parents on the extremely successful commencement to 2017. I welcome all new families to our school community. The Prep students have settled in "like ducks to water" and their parents have coped very well also.

I know Mrs Chi and Ms Butta are very enthusiastic and excited at the prospect of teaching this new group of vibrant and keen students. Our youngest school community members (three- and four-year old kindergarten children) have had shortened sessions this week before they commence their designated times. Ms Nicole Blanchard, Ms Laura Denis, Mrs Karen Sinis, Mrs Anna Sofo-Currenti and Mrs Samantha McKnight have the responsibility for the care and guidance of our youngest community members.

STAFFING FOR 2017

I welcome **Ms Iris Ferwerda** to Burwood Heights this year. I know she will enjoy being on staff and add much to the teaching and learning environment. **I believe we will all have a very exciting and extremely successful 2017 school year.**

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION:

Principal - Esther Wood
Personal Assistant - Fran Mason
Bursar/s - Robyn Bell
Office Administration - Kristy Millen

Prep Laura Chi
Prep Nadia Butta

Junior School Gionia Afflitto
Junior School Sharlene Dobby
Junior School Jessica Ralph
Junior School Lauren Redlich
Junior School Angela Wuttke

Middle School Rebekah Volz
Middle School Skye Evans
Middle School Julien Miet
Middle School Jaiden King

Senior School Emily Whitelaw
Senior School Clare Matthews
Senior School Amanda Ekonomides
Senior School Steven Paneras

EAL Vicki Fahey
Mindi Bakopanos

Integration/Welfare Ann Masters

Education Support Cheryl Scurrah
Linda Chia
Daughn McGuinness
Monique Flowers
Jane King
Georgha Salvitti
Deidre Nevin
Mary McMorrow
Jenny Charles

Curriculum Jennifer Whiteoak
Literacy Mentoring/
Coaching/Support Denise Cooper
Science Chris Rhyder
Robotics C Rhyder/T Baeppler
Physical Education Lee-Anne Mason
Real Life Adventures - C. Rhyder/Monique Flowers
Art Jacqueline Carslake
Music Iris Ferwerda

ICT Lauren May
French Lauren May
Mandarin Linda Chia

Outdoor Learning Centre/Promotions
Ann Masters
Garden (Outdoor Learning) Monique Flowers

Homecrafts Eleni Skatharoudis

Kindergarten Nicole Blanchard; Laura
Dennis; Karen Sinis; Anna
Sofa-Currenti; Samantha
McKnight;

Speech Pathologist Emma Williams
Educational Psychologist- Felicity McCall-Wolf
Cleaning Staff Harsha Wickramanayake
ITC Support Personnel Tom Baeppler

I believe, with the staff we have this year, we should all have a very exciting and extremely successful school year.

This is the first newsletter for 2017 and, by necessity a rather lengthy one. A newsletter will be forwarded home **each fortnight on a Thursday** with the eldest child in the family and is also available on our website.

WHAT'S ON NEXT WEEK?

PREP FAMILY BARBEQUE



On Monday 6th February, the first community gathering will occur in our wonderful Garden Annex. Our Prep students and their families and friends will enjoy one of many memorable times as they get-to-know other parents and their children in such an inviting venue.

INFORMATIONS NIGHTS

Parents/guardians are invited to information sessions, where staff will explain the 2017 curriculum that will be covered for your child; what is expected from your child and parents and other relevant information.

JUNIOR SCHOOL - Tuesday 7th February,
MIDDLE SCHOOL - Wednesday 8th February
SENIOR SCHOOL - Thursday 9th February

WELCOME BARBEQUES are a wonderful way to meet new families and catch up with those you know so please put these dates in your diary.

Junior School – Monday 13th February
Middle School – Monday 20th February
Senior School – Monday 27th February
Kindergarten – Monday 6th March

***SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS
AND CALL FOR NOMINATIONS***

An election is to be conducted for members of the Burwood Heights Primary School Council for 2017. There are eight vacancies on School Council for six (6) parent members and two (2) Department of Education and Training (DET) members.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be signed by 4.00pm 10th February 2017. If a ballot is required this will close on Friday 24th February 2017.

There are three possible categories of membership. A mandated elected parent category. More than one third of the elected members must be from this category. DET employees can be parent members of their school.

A mandated elected DET employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal is automatically one of these members.

An optional community category. Its members are co-opted by decision of the council for their special skills, interest and experiences. DET are not eligible to be community members.

Where the number of nominations equals the number of vacancies in any one membership category, there will be no need to go to ballot. If the number of nominations exceeds the number of vacancies, a ballot is required.

<i>Membership Category</i>	<i>Term of Office</i>	<i>Number of Positions</i>
Parent Member	From the after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2019	Six
DET Member	From the after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2019	Two

<i>Event</i>	<i>Date</i>
Notice of election and call for nominations	Thursday, 2 nd February 2017
Closing date for nominations	Friday, 10 th February 2017, at 4.00pm.
Date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be posted	Tuesday, 14 th February 2017
Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed	On or before Monday 20 th February 2017
Close of ballot	Friday 24 th February 2017
Vote count	27/02/2017
Declaration of poll	Wednesday 1 st March 2017
Announced in newsletter	Thursday 2 nd March 2017
Council Meeting	Monday 20 th March 2017

Council members who have completed two years on Council may stand for re-election for the next two years.

PRESENTATION OF BADGES TO SCHOOL LEADERS

Tomorrow, 3rd February, the school leaders for 2017 will be presented with their school badges at assembly. Parents, relatives and friends are most welcome to attend. Assembly will commence at 2.30pm.

PERSONAL ITEMS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL

Private property brought to school by students, staff or visitors is NOT insured and the Department does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage. This can include mobile phones, calculators, sporting equipment and cars parked on school property. As the Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and has no capacity for any loss or damage to such property, students, staff and visitors are discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.

DEBATING FOR SENIOR SCHOOL STUDENTS



We are very pleased to offer students in Senior school the opportunity to learn how to present an argument in a logical manner.

Informal and forum debate is relatively common, shown by television shows such as the Australian talk show, Q & A. The quality and depth of a debate improves with the knowledge and skills of its participants as debaters.

Although debating in various forms has a long history, and can be traced back to philosophical and political debates of Ancient Greece, modern forms of debating and the establishment of debating societies occurred during the Age of Enlightenment in the 18th century. The principal purpose was to reform the manner in which public presentations should be performed.

Today, in parliament and other legislatures, members debate proposals regarding legislation, before voting on resolutions, which become laws.

Our main purpose is to train and educate our students in the art of debating. Our debating teams will compete against each other and will be judged the winner by a list of criteria, based around the concept of “style, content and strategy”

We believe that this programme will assist our students not only in how to present an argument verbally but assist in teaching the writing process, as well as in teaching rhetoric.

Middle School students will participate in this programme in Term Four.

CHILD SAFE POLICY

The Victorian Parliamentary inquiry into the Handling of Child Abuse by Religious and other Non-Government organisations found that more must be done to prevent and respond to child abuse. In response to this finding, the Victorian Government made a number of important changes to ensure children’s safety. These changes included the introduction of child safe standards for all organisations that work with children, including schools and a policy reflecting this. Please find attached our school’s policy.

PARKING RESTRICTIONS



FOR NEW PARENTS IN PARTICULAR

The provision of school crossings is an important service in providing a safe environment for our students.

To support the school crossing supervisors and to improve pedestrian safety outside our school, a number of parking restrictions are in place, including “No Stopping” areas. The “No Stopping” areas are in place to improve sight lines for motorists and school crossing supervisors to maximise the crossing’s exposure and safety of pedestrians.

Please be aware that you must park legally at all times. We have been advised that authorised officers will be patrolling schools crossings throughout the year.

SCHOOL NURSE



Belinda Lock, a visiting primary school nurse from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development will be attending the school on 10th, 14th, 16th and 17th February to conduct the Prep Health Assessments and to see other children as requested by parents or teachers (with parents’ consent)

The purpose of the visit is to provide all Victorian children with the opportunity to have a health assessment; to link children and school communities to services available in the community; and to provide information and advice that promotes health and well-being.

Parents are invited to visit or telephone the visiting primary school nurse if there are any general child health issues they wish to discuss. The contact number for the visiting primary school nurse is 0412 161 470.

Parents of students (other than Prep students) that wish their child to be seen by the school nurse need to complete a Referral form that is available at the school office. This completed Referral form needs to be returned to the school office by Wednesday 8th February.