

Benton Junior College



Our Mission:

*To motivate to learn; to teach to think; to encourage to imagine,
and to show the compassion to care globally*

4th March 2016

Newsletter

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School Council Election

Congratulations to the following parents and staff who will be joining our College Council from March.

Parent Representatives: Jacquie Bennett and Michelle Wallace.

Staff Representatives: Lyn Foster, Grant Gains and Prue Richards.

I would like to thank these parents and staff for volunteering to join our College Council for the following 2 years.

Our next College Council Meeting is Tuesday, March 15th commencing at 5.30pm and will be followed by our Annual General Meeting.

Evacuation

Yesterday we held a **practice** evacuation off site. This was a big task moving all 873 students, staff and any parent helpers to a small park close to the school. As with all practice evacuations we learn how to improve our practice to ensure that we are ready if we ever need to be. I would like to congratulate all the students as they were extremely well behaved in what is an unusual event.



Hot Day Timetable

We will have a timetable change when the weather is anticipated to be 34 degrees or above. This will involve swapping recess and lunch playing times around so students have less time outside in the hottest part of the school day. Students will eat their lunch at a similar time in the classroom.

Special Request

Unfortunately a parent has come to see me about her daughter's missing scooter. This happened a couple of weeks ago and the parent assumed it was a mistake and that a student had accidentally taken the wrong scooter home. However, the scooter hasn't been returned. The missing scooter is a pink razor. If your child has one could you please check that it is your child's and if it has been accidentally taken could you please return it to the office.

I know this will be greatly appreciated by this parent.

Water Safety Program

I had the great pleasure of dropping by to see our wonderful students participating in our Water Safety Program at Mills Beach. Every time I called in they were very busy with their activities. I was also extremely proud to be told by Mr Hogarth that the all the helpers there commented on how polite and keen our students were. Well done to everyone and a big thank you to Mr Hogarth for organising this event.

Proud Moment

On Wednesday 16th March of our Year 6 Leaders participated in a Leadership Program in the city. It was lovely to receive a phone call from a passenger travelling on the same train to say what well-mannered students we have. Apparently Mia our Red House captain offered her seat to this person. This lady was so impressed with her manners she felt the need to ring our school and tell us. Well Done Mia for representing our school so well.

Kerry Griffin, Principal

Hot Cross Buns and Easter Raffle

Yummy! What a great way to start our fundraising for the year with Hot Cross buns and an Easter raffle. Firstly, thank-you to the families who have donated eggs and novelties for our prizes.

We all love hot cross buns, so if you wish to purchase them return the form and money by **Wednesday 16th March**.

Raffle tickets are to be returned by **Wednesday 23rd March**. The raffle will be drawn at the last assembly on Thursday 24th March. Tickets are \$1 each or 3 for \$2.

Thank you to the parents who attended the fundraising meeting on Friday 26th February. It was pleasing to see so many parents and some great ideas were presented. There will be another meeting on Friday 18th March at 9.00 in the staffroom to plan the year. All are welcome!



2016 STAFF CURRICULUM DAYS

Thursday 14 April Monday 31 October

NOTE: Students do not attend on these dates.

SCHOOL CROSSING RULES

Our lovely Crossing Supervisors Pauline, Kate, Chris and Ivan have provided the following rules to help make crossing the roads safer for our students. Please ensure your child is aware of the following rules:

- When the 'Children Crossing' flags are up, a Crossing Supervisor is on duty.
- When the 'Children Crossing' flags are up, you must cross at the crossing.
- Wait at the yellow line until the Crossing Supervisor has blown 2 whistles. This means it is now safe to cross.
- Walk between the white lines, these lines keep you a safe distance from the cars.
- Walk, never run across the crossing.
- Carry any balls you have, don't bounce them across the crossing. Younger students are encouraged to keep balls in their bags.
- Hop off your bike or scooter and walk them across the crossing.
- Parents please set a good example and follow the Crossing Rules.

The school Crossing Supervisor are employed to keep you safe, they look forward to seeing you at the crossings!

PREP PARENT PROGRAM

Thank you to the parents and grandparents who attended the Prep Parent Information sessions. The sessions covered early literacy (oral language, reading and writing) and the Primary Years Program. It also went through the expectations of the Prep Reading squad. The sessions were very interactive and parents/grandparents were given strategies that they can use at home to assist their Prep children as they learn to read and write.

I would like to thank Meryl Robertson for leading the sessions and Gemma Fotheringham and Kim Pickering for assisting with reading.

A couple of points I would like to reiterate are: reading, writing, speaking and listening are all interrelated, every child is unique and progress at different rates, making mistakes is an essential part of learning, many factors impact on a child's learning capability, **opportunities to talk about what they see, hear and experience help children to make sense of the world** and parents play a vital role in their child's literacy development – **you are the model**. Read stories, stories and more stories..... Lyn Foster, Assistant Principal

2016 Important dates Term 1

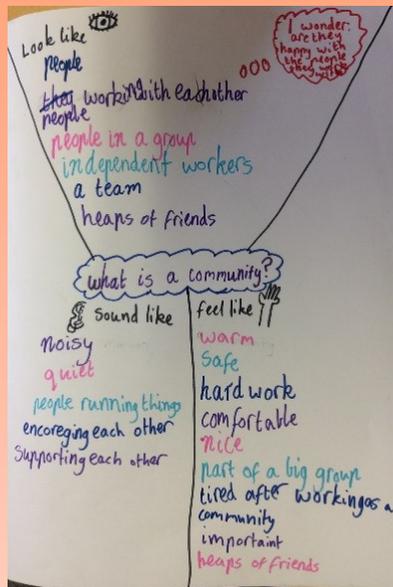
4 March	Ride to School Day District Swimming Carnival - Selected students (Years 4,5,6)
8 March	Prep – 2 Family Maths Night @5pm
11 March	SCHOOL CLOSED Staff Professional Learning– Student Welfare
14 March	Public Holiday LABOUR DAY
15 March	Year 2 Excursion Melbourne Aquarium
17 March	Year 5 Annual Afternoon Market
21 March	No Years 4, 5 & 6 Assembly
22-23 March	Parent-Teacher Interviews
23 March	Whole School Incursion Hercules (Alpha Production) No Years 2 & 3 Assembly
24 March	Last day of Term 1 Assembly @9.15am School finishes @ 2.30pm
11 April	First day of Term 2
14 April	SCHOOL CLOSED Staff Professional Learning— Professional Learning Communities
NB: These dates are accurate at the time of publishing but may change according to school needs. Changes to this list will be published in future newsletters.	



PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAM....YEAR 4

Our Community is only as good as we make it!

Year 4 children have begun their inquiry with a brainstorm about what a community looks like, sounds like and feels like. Through the key concept of responsibility they have questioned 'what is their responsibility to their local community?' Each class has unpacked the central idea and worked through all the communities that the children belong to.



By using a growth mindset the children have worked through ways they can be a positive and supportive member of the communities they belong to. They also have a better understanding of the different roles within a community.

The children have now begun to take action by joining a community service group that will meet each Thursday afternoon. Sometimes they will work at school to organise what they want to do on their project and other times they will walk to either Balcombe Creek, Opal, Benton Lodge or Early Start Kindergarten to participate in community service. The gardening group will work each Thursday within the school community to maintain and develop new garden areas.

Watch out for children taking ACTION in our community!

English

It has been a busy start to the year and the students have done extremely well to settle into the English routines of Year Four. Students have been immersed in reading groups, where they have been explicitly taught a range of reading comprehension strategies such as making connections and predicting. Technology has also been integrated into reading groups, where the students have enjoyed having regular access to Literacy Planet to build on their reading comprehension skills.

Each Thursday, the students participate in a Big Write session, where they complete a piece of writing in a relaxed, calm environment. The Big Talk component of the Big Write is highly significant in ensuring students are well-prepared and we highly recommend to have this discussion at home prior to Thursday. Students have also been learning to uplevel their writing using the elements of the VCOP writing program (Vocabulary, Connections, Openers, Punctuation).

PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAM....YEAR 4

Maths in Year Four

Year Four children have started the year focusing on place value concepts such as recognising, representing, ordering and modelling numbers to the tens of thousands. We are currently learning how to use a range of strategies for addition and subtraction. As part of all of our Maths lessons, children learn the language and gain an understanding of the strategies we want them to use for solving problems independently. Below is a current Year Four Maths 'glossary':

Renaming - representing a number's parts in another way. For example, 135 can be represented as 1 hundred, 3 tens and 5 ones, 13 tens and 5 ones, or 135 ones.

Jump Strategy - The jump strategy is when you use a number line to jump in a series of numbers (hundreds, tens and ones) to arrive at the answer.

Split Strategy - The split strategy is when you split a number into parts and add/subtract each part separately. This is useful for large numbers.

Compensation Strategy - The compensation strategy is when you round numbers in an equation to make it easier to solve in your head.

Algorithm - A process where there are sets of rules to be followed, in order to accurately solve an equation.

Other words for addition - how many, altogether, sum, total

Other words for subtraction - less than, take away, remain, difference

Problem of the Week

5394 people were at Melbourne Zoo at 11am. By 12pm, a further 1039 people walked into the zoo. By 2pm, 2130 people had left.

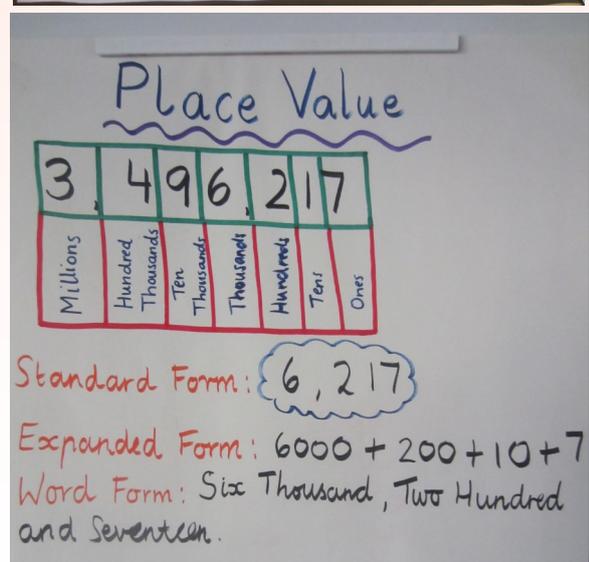
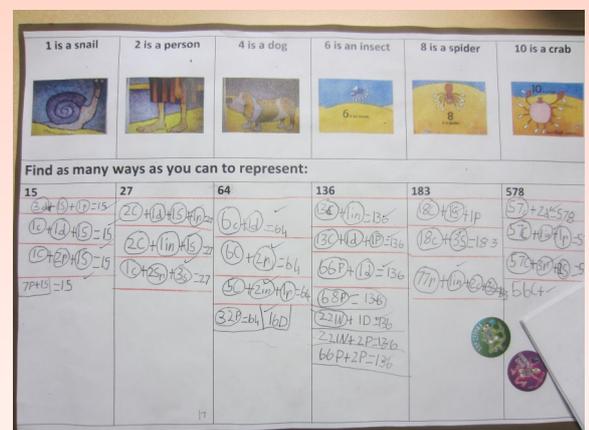
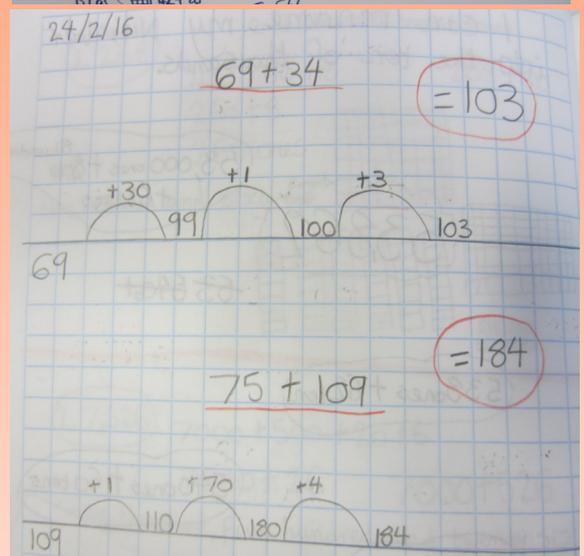
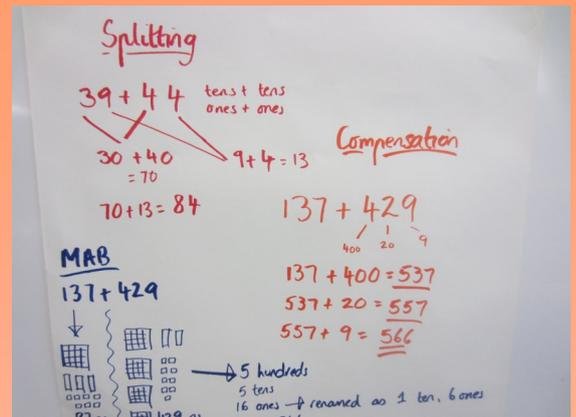
How many people were at the zoo now?

*** How would you work this out? Which strategy would you use?**

*** Can you solve this using two different strategies?**

Maths Quote of the Week

Good mathematics is not about how many answers you know, it's how you behave when you don't know (having a growth mindset!). Author Unknown



NATIONAL RIDE 2 SCHOOL DAY

The aim of National Ride 2 School Day is to encourage more people to be more active more of the time. That includes students, parents and teachers! Remembering that 'Part Way is OK'. Well done to all of you for being active when coming to school today. Thank you to the teachers who walked along our ACTIVE-paths and who supervised the bike shed parking. By riding and walking to school, students contribute to their minimum physical activity level of 60 minutes per day. Research shows that students who ride and walk as part of their journey to school are more focused and ready to learn when compared with those who are driven.

We had a great time as ATAs planning for the day and it was so much fun running all the activities. We were at school at 8am to prepare your delicious fruit platters. A big thank you to Emma for helping us cut them up, to Christine our crossing lady for collecting the fruit from Safeway and Coles and to the office staff for assisting with our clean up. Also thanks to Jason from Market Life for donating a LARGE proportion of the fruit. Also thank you to Coles and Woolworths for their vouchers. Hopefully you enjoyed your healthy fruit platter!

The helmet decorating competition was a HUGE success! There were so many creative helmets out there – thank you for everyone getting involved. Congratulations to our winners: Tane in 001, Tui in 108, Oliver in 227, Sienna in 323, Sara in 414, Liam in 520 and Lucy in 632. Our winners received a Jones Cycles drink bottle each and a photo of them and their decorative helmets will be in the next edition of the Mornington News!

It was a lot of preparation for the ATAs and Mrs Jones, but it was worth it! The results from the day were: 234 people rode, 156 people skated or scooted, 219 people walked, 3 people took public transport and 136 people took the car.

This means **81% of Benton Junior College children** were active on National Ride 2 School Day! Well done everyone!

Additionally, congratulations to 006, 229 and 418, for being joint winners of the Active Travel trophy for this month. They all had a **huge 100%** of their class active! Brilliant!



ESTD
87

JONES CYCLES
jonescycles.com.au

ベントンに日本語

Japanese at Benton

こんにちは。 Konnichiwa! Hello!

We have been very busy learning our self-introductions in Japanese this term. There are posters up around the school so students can practice their じこしょうかい (jikoshoukai / self introductions) when they are out and about. Some students will even be able to record their self-introductions using the iPads.

At the beginning of every lesson, we practise our conversational Japanese skills:

みなさん こんにちは。	Minnasan konnichiwa.	Hello everyone.
ジョーンズ先生 こんにちは。	Jyoonzu sensei konnichiwa.	Hello Jones teacher.
元気ですか。	Genkidesuka?	Are you well?
はい 元気です。	Hai, genki desu.	Yes, I am well.
天気は どうですか。	Tenkiwa doudesuka?	How is the weather?
天気は _____ です。	Tenkiwa ___ desu.	The weather is _____.
暑い・晴・くもり・さむい・雨 (atsui / hare / kumori / samui / ame)		(hot / fine / cloudy / cold / rainy)
そうですね。	Soudesune.	Ahh, that's right.
じゃ、はじめましょう。	Jya, hajimemashou.	Let's begin!
さいようなら!	Saiyounara!	Goodbye!
ジョーンズ先生	スミス先生	ウイクス先生
Mrs Adele Jones	Mrs Thea Smith	Mrs Vanessa Wickes





Dear Parents

Did you know there is a high rate of depression and anxiety among young people in your community?

Do you have a child 8 to 15 years of age?

Would you like to help us prevent mental health problems in children?

If so, please contact us to be invited to a 1 hour meeting, with other parents, to discuss your views on mental health.

Child and youth-friendly activities will be available if required.

To be held during March at your local community centre.

Please contact Heidi Renner to express your interest in participating.

Heidi Renner, School of Psychology, Faculty of Health, Deakin University, Burwood Campus
Phone: +61 9244 6506 Email: heidi.renner@deakin.edu.au

Thank You!

This is part of a study aimed at improving the mental health and wellbeing of children and youth in the Mornington Peninsula, and is being conducted by Deakin University in partnership with Communities That Care Mornington Peninsula. This project has been approved by Deakin University Human Ethics Advisory Group (Ref: HEAG_H 136_2013) and the Department of Education and Training (Ref: 2013_002870).

If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact Associate Professor Andrew J. Lewis and/or Dr. Bosco Rowland on the following contact details:

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