

# 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*

22nd May 2015

## *Newsletter*

### **Strategic Plan 2015 to 2018**

The strategic plan is the College's statement to its community about what it stands for and intends to do over the next four years to improve student outcomes. It defines what the College values most and sets out the College's goals and targets, key strategies for improvement and its resourcing priorities. Consultations through forums, surveys and information in school newsletters about the development of the plan also provides an important means of involving the College community in setting College directions. The Department provides guidelines, including a plan template, for the preparation of the school strategic plan which covers student learning, student engagement and wellbeing, and student pathways and transitions.

Last Monday the Principal Class team spent the day developing our strategic plan for the next four years. A draft outline of this plan was presented to our College Council at our Tuesday evening meeting. The key points of our strategic plan are based on Mathematics and English. In particular with English we are looking at our writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation. In Mathematics we have already commenced extensive work on a new planning model which encourages students to tackle challenging Mathematic problems and articulate how they reach their conclusions.

### **Change of Uniform on the way!!**

I am sure that some of you have heard on the grapevine that we are making some changes to our uniform. The most important thing to note about these changes is that this does not require you to go out and buy new uniforms. At our College Council meeting on Tuesday evening it was approved to make changes to the material being used in our tops. We have also included lighter weight shorts (mesh similar to basketball shorts) for students to wear. Our fleecy tops have been replaced with summer and winter weight jackets. We are introducing a summer dress and a winter weight skirt for girls. The material for the dress is unique to our school and is a check material that incorporates all the colours of our school uniform.

I currently have some samples of the shorts, polo shirts and jackets which are available to view in the office area if you wish to see them. There is a very small sample of the check material for the summer dress. Some of the samples may not have our logo on them at the moment.

## *Diary Dates*

### **MAY**

Tuesday 26th

District Cross Country

Wednesday 27th

Prep Big Day Out

Wednesday 27th May

Year 5 Project Rocket

Wednesday 27th

And Friday 29th

Year 2 Hands on Science

Friday 29th

Movie Night

### **JUNE**

Wednesday 3rd

Year 1 Professor Bunsen

Thursday 4th

Terry Denton

Monday 8th

Queens Birthday

Public Holiday



Benton Junior College 261 Racecourse Road Mornington VIC 3931. Tel: 5973 9100 Fax: 59772428

Web: [www.benton.vic.edu.au](http://www.benton.vic.edu.au)

Email: [benton.jr.co@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:benton.jr.co@edumail.vic.gov.au)

Please remember this does not mean that you have to go out and buy new uniforms it just means that in the New Year when you replace a top or shorts you will find that it is a different material being used. The transition to the new pieces will happen extremely slowly as families replace old or worn pieces of uniform. Our 2016 Preps will obviously be in the new style uniform. PSW have indicated that they will need 6 months to organise the transition to the new fabrics.

### House Names

We are very close to announcing names for our school houses. Well done to Sam A who came up with a great idea of naming our houses after areas of Australia that represents our house colours. Over the next few weeks we are going to ask Sam to work with Benton Voice to finalise the names.

### Parking for Drop Offs and Pick Ups

At our College Council meeting the safety of students was raised as some parents are double parking and allowing their children to walk between cars to the footpath. The Council ask that you park in the areas provided. If there is no parking available the College Council requests that you either drive on and park further away or drive around the block and come back. Children unfortunately do not have the peripheral vision that we as adults have and they may not see the moving traffic as we do.

Last week I witnessed one of our students crossing the road further down Racecourse road to avoid using the crossing. If your children walk home from school by themselves could you please remind them to use the school crossing for their own safety.

### Reports

The teachers are currently working extremely hard writing reports which will be distributed later this term. In the last week we will conduct Parent / Teacher interviews so please keep this in mind.

Kerry Griffin, Principal

### MUSIC—PAUL SEAMAN AND ANT RICHARDS

The children continue to work extremely well in music at BJC. The inaugural Mornington school band camp is well under way with many of our talented BJC musicians in attendance and meeting and playing with like-minded children from several other local schools. The Year 6 hip-hop project is really gaining momentum, the Year 5's are showing great progress on the African drums, the Year 4 children are studying different musical styles and the Year 3 children are blowing us away with their recorder playing! (Pardon the pun!)

Our Prep children are practising a special song and acting out some of the different jobs people do in our community such as nurses, builders and police officers. This is part of their current unit of inquiry. The Year 1's are learning all about musical instrument families, beginning with string instruments while the Year 2 children have been making their own musical instruments and coming up with some truly amazing things. Keep up the great work everyone!



Use Tiqbiz to report Absences, receive  
Reminders and Newsletters

We're using an app  
to communicate  
with you.

You'll be notified of our news, messages,  
events and other communications.

Simply download the tiqbiz app  
to your phone or tablet.

To download, search **tiqbiz** in your app store:

### Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund will ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.

School **camps** provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, **excursions** encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and **sports** teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students.

#### How to Apply

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

#### Closing Date

You should lodge a CSEF application form at the school by 26 June 2015.

For more information about the CSEF visit [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)



**If eligible, please call into the school office to collect a CSEF application form.**

#### SPORT—JABYN HOGARTH

Congratulations to all those children who recently ran in the College Cross Country. This year for the first time we also included the Preps and the Year Ones in a Junior Cross Country which was terrific to see. The weather on the day was very windy and very chilly, however this did not deter the children from having a terrific time. Red House was successful on the day finishing with 118 points closely followed by Yellow in second place and Purple in third place. Green, Blue and Orange finished in 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> places. The top 10 finishing children in each age group from Years Two to Six (80 competitors) will now progress on to the Mornington District Cross Country to be held at Penbank Primary School on Tuesday May 26<sup>th</sup>. Good luck for this and remember to keep training!

We have also had a number of children involved in the State Team Selections Trials Process. Sophie LC and Casey T were both selected for the netball team. Jared G and Charlie G were selected in Footy and Ella McM for soccer. The children have now all made it right through to the Region level, which is one stage before State. We all wish them the best of luck for the next selections. Well done to **all** the children who were selected for this massive selection trial process right from School, District, Division and the Region level.

#### CONGRATULATIONS EBONY 632

Ebony G has qualified for the 2015 Australia Gymnastics Championships representing Victoria. The state team is chosen from all clubs around Victoria and she has been picked by Gymnastics Victoria to join their team of 8 representatives at the competition. Ebony is competing at Hisense Arena this week, we wish her well!

## LOTE—CHEN ZHAO AND KIRBY MITCHELL

During these two weeks, the Year Six students have started their research program on ancient China. They did a fantastic job of completing the dynasty timeline and creating their own Oracle Bones Writings. Year Five students finished their unit of lessons about seasons/weather. As a response to the Unit of Enquiry on 'Myths and Legends' in their own classes, Year Four students got the opportunity to design their own Nian Monster. Year Three explored the process of rice growing, as rice is the staple food in China. Prep students learned to say more family members such as, younger siblings and grandparents in Chinese, as a response to their Unit of Enquiry 'Everyone Has a Unique History'.



## ART - MICHELE MARSHALL

A Big Congratulation to the Artists of the Month! Coco W-S in 003 and Max W 327 their wonderful artwork is on display in the foyer of the Office. Please feel free to come and admire.

The first of the two bike shed signs is ready to go. Thanks to two of the Visual Art Leaders: Willow A and Bella S in Year 6. The students have been working diligently to complete the custom made sign for the Prep to Year Three students to enjoy. The sign will be hung on the Junior Bike Shed fence. Great Work!!



## FAMILY LIFE

Thank you to all the parents/carers who responded to our 'Expression of Interest' in relation to the Family Life sessions. As a result we will be holding two sessions on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June and Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June. Kelly Nash will be running the sessions and reports from other schools, is that she makes the sessions informative and fun. A reminder that all children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

