Thursday, 1st December 2016

**TERM 4 WEEK 9**

**KEY DATES:**

**DECEMBER**

1 - 9  Swimming
2  No Assembly
6  NO SWIMMING
   Foundation 2017 - Transition Session 9.30am - 11.00am
8  Christmas Carols Night
9  No Assembly
13  Walk to MCG - Year 6
14  Parent Helper Thank You Morning Tea - 10.30am
15  Year 6 Graduation
19  Taskworks Excursion - Year 6
20  LAST DAY TERM 4 - 1PM DISMISSAL

**JANUARY 2017**

31  9.30 - 11.00am - The School Office will be open for payment of 2017 Contributions & collection of Book Packs.
    The Uniform Shop will also be open.

**FEBRUARY**

1  First Day Term 1 - Year 1 - 6 - 8.50am
8  Foundation commence - 9.00am-12.30pm
9  Foundation start full time

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**FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

**TRANSITION**

Last Friday was our first whole school transition session. It takes an incredible amount of work to place more than 650 students in classes according to friendship groups, academic ability, behaviours and teachers. Overall, we were thrilled with how it went on Friday, as we feel passionate about giving the children a number of opportunities to spend time with their new teacher and classmates before they go on summer holidays. It has been interesting to see that a number of schools are now following our lead and copying our transition program as it is seen as such a positive initiative. Our next two sessions will be held on Tuesday 6th December and Monday 19th December.

**CAROLS AT OGPS**

Don’t forget our wonderful carols night that will be held on Thursday 8th December. It is always a fun night to get together with our community and share this special time of celebration and Christmas cheer. The children have been practicing their items and I’m sure we will be thoroughly entertained. The sausage sizzle is also a major fundraiser for the school and always a yummy addition to the night. I certainly hope you can come, bring along your picnic blankets and chairs and sit back and enjoy. Please remember this is an alcohol free event.
PARENT HELPERS MORNING TEA
Please look out for the note about our Parent Helpers Morning Tea. This gives us an opportunity to thank all of you that have assisted us during the year. If you have been a helper during 2016, please save the date: Wednesday 14th December at 10:30am. We would love to see you there.

ASSEMBLIES
We will be having two more assemblies before the end of the year; one on Friday 16th December and the final assembly on Tuesday 20th. Thursday 15th December is the Year 6 Graduation held in the Wicking Centre. The Year 6 staff, together with the parent Graduation committee, have been working hard on the organisation for the night and we are looking forward to a lovely evening where we can celebrate the Year 6 students, their 7 years of primary schooling and wish them all the best for the future.

SWIMMING
The swimming program is well underway and the kids are thoroughly enjoying themselves. There is no doubt that swimming makes you hungry, so make sure you are packing some extra food in their lunch boxes to fill those hungry tummies. The latest announcement from the Minister of Education was that swimming would now be made compulsory in all primary schools, with the expectation that all students will be expected to be able to swim 50m, in one go, by the end of Year 6. It’s good to see that OGPS is ahead of the pack and already have a swimming program in place, so our students will be well on the way to meeting the new 50m expectation. It is also fantastic that we have a permanent pool with the Nunawading pool for this time of year. It’s definitely the best time for a swimming program – imagine doing this in winter, as I know some schools do.

CLASS PARTIES
Our class parties will be held across the school on Friday 16th December. Keep a look out for a note from your child’s class with all the details, but please remember no foods with nuts.

REMEMBRANCE DAY POPPY SALES
Jim Marshall from our local Blackburn RSL would like to thank our community for the amazing support they received with the selling of the poppies for Remembrance Day. Evidently OGPS was the school that sold and raised the most funds for the RSL. What a great effort!! The RSL would like to say to us how grateful they are for the continued support they receive from the OGPS community.

CHRISTMAS BOXES
What a fabulous initiative from James in Year 4, who has organised the Christmas Shoe Box appeal for the homeless. The Salvation Army has partnered with James to be able to distribute the boxes and it has been terrific to see a number of boxes full of goodies arriving at Administration. We would love to collect as many boxes as we can to help spread the Christmas cheer to as many homeless people as we can. Ideally, if you would like to participate, it would be great if you could cover your box in Christmas paper to make it look a little more special.

BUILDING PROJECT OVER THE HOLIDAYS
We will be starting our exciting new building project in The Meadow to enclose the four modular classrooms that are currently on site. This new teaching and learning space will feature a lovely big open space similar to that in the current Year 4 portable building, plus 3 offices/meeting rooms, a storage room, a kitchenette, break out spaces outside each classroom and a beautiful big decking area. Tenders are now being sort and a builder will be appointed in the next couple of weeks, with a start date just before the end of school.

We have been told that the area will be ready for the classes for the beginning of the 2017 school year; however, there will still be work to be done such as cabinetry etc. that will be completed during the first few weeks of term. It is definitely a ‘watch this space’ scenario, but it is incredibly exciting. This is an OGPS funded build, which is an amazing thing to be able to do and will make The Meadow a fantastic learning and teaching space for our school.

AURORA CAR PARK
Could I please remind our community that our parents and care givers are not to park in the Aurora school for the blind and deaf car park up off Holland Rd? They have asked again that I write and tell you this as they are now getting very angry that their car park is being used by the OGPS community. We enjoy a good relationship with Aurora and we would like to keep it this way, so please refrain from using their space.

HOUSE TEE SHIRTS
Another bulk order for the School House Tee Shirts will be opened today allowing for free delivery to the school. If you are interested in placing a pre-Christmas order now is your opportunity. This is a good time to make sure that your child has a tee shirt ready for the House Athletics event which is early in Term 1 and, of course, ordering in the bulk order avoids a postage charge. For ordering, go to www.ourhousespirit.com.au and you will be able to follow the links to the OGPS order page.

BUBBLES CAR WASH
With the improvement in our weather, you may like to consider taking your car to be washed at one of our OGPS sponsors, BUBBLE CAR WASH. Seriously, I can speak from experience, they do an amazing job – my car never looked so good. For every car washed a $2 donation is made to the school. So maybe consider giving your car a Christmas present, too.

HELP IN THE ART ROOM
Just before I finish for this week, Rosie Campbell would love some help from anyone who is handy with a jigsaw. She is currently working on replacing and repairing the delightful ‘jogging students’ on the fence to the west of the oval that has been vandalised. They are such a wonderful mural on that fence and we are keen to get these fixed by the end of the year as the Year 6 students are ready and willing to paint them as part of their farewell gift to the school. If you are able to help with cutting out the figures, please pop in and see Rosie or leave a message with Lauren in the office.

Well that’s all from me for this week.
Take care and have a great weekend.

Glenda Harry
Principal

CHRISTMAS IN THE GROVE
Thursday 8th December
5pm onwards
Join us for a family picnic tea on the lawns, followed by an entertaining evening of Christmas Carols.
The music room is full of merriment as the children rehearse their Christmas songs.
We hope to see you there!
PARENTS’ CLUB

GROVE GARDENING GUIDE
Order forms went home this week for this most informative guide. Please return orders and payment by 7th December. Attached is a sample of some of the pages.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE - December 8th
Raffle tickets have gone home and need to be returned by 5th December. There are 15 fantastic prizes to be won and these are on display in the atrium. The raffle will be drawn at the Carols Night. There are still some spots available if you are able to help with the BBQ. If you can help please add your name to the roster.
Bronwyn McIlroy
Coordinator

PAYMENTS/FORMS DUE AT THE OFFICE
- Canberra camp (March 2017)
  - second instalment - $100.00 due 9th December
  - balance due March next year
- Walk to MCG - Year 6 - $16.00 due 2nd December
- Year 6 Graduation - Year 6 - $20.00 due 4th December
- 2017 Contributions -
  Payment in full due by 19th December 2016 or on
  31st January 2017 or:
  - 1st instalment $150.00 due 30th November 2016
  - 2nd instalment $150.00 due 16th December 2016
  - Balance due 10th February 2017
- 2017 Excursion Levy -
  Payment in full - $100.00 - by 19th December 2016 or:
  - 1st instalment - $50.00 - due by 30th November 2016
  - 2nd instalment - $50.00 - due by 16th December 2016

2017 BOOK PACK COLLECTION DATES
If you have handed in your 2017 contributions form and have made payment either in full or by instalments you can collect your book packs from the Long Room on the following days:
Friday 2nd December 2.45 - 3.45pm
Tuesday 6th December 9.15 - 10.15pm
Please be aware that fees must have been paid, before you can collect your book packs.

UNIFORM SHOP
The Uniform shop will be open on:
Friday 25th November 1.30 - 3.00pm and
Tuesday 6th December 9.30 - 11.00am
The uniform shop will operate until 15th December, and will be open on Tuesday 31st January between 9.30am - 11.00am. It will re-open Thursday 2nd February 2017.

SCHOOL BANKING - BENDIGO BANK
Blackburn South Community Bank would like to wish all families a safe and happy holiday time. This week was the last week for School Banking. It will resume in Term 1, 2017.
Please feel free to come into the branch to continue saving or if you need to do a withdrawal for holiday treats.
Thank you for your support.

LIBRARY STOCKTAKE
It’s that time of year when the Library commences its annual stocktake. Last week was the final opportunity for students and parents to borrow this year and now we need all library books returned by Friday, December 9th. Please assist us by bringing the books directly to the Library.
Thank you
Deb Chamberlain

Kallista Dance Academy
www.kallistadance.com.au

Last week we were delighted to receive a $1000.00 donation from Bendigo Bank via the Blackburn South Community Bank Branch Grants program. Bendigo Bank currently asks customers taking out a loan to nominate a community group they would like to support. Bendigo Bank then donates a $1000.00 referral fee to that group.
Thank-you Kallista Dance Academy for thinking of OGPS and thanks Bendigo Bank! The donation will help fund landscaping and development of the meadow for us all to enjoy!

SICK BAY ROSTER
Friday 2/12
Adriana Antonello
Friday 9/12
Adriana Antonello

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Deb Chamberlain
**PRINCIPAL AWARDS - 18th November**

Caitlin
FCT
Cameron, Tallia
4GH

Oliver
FTR
Jack, Darcy
4MA

Oscar
1-2W
Lachie Shrapnel
4KT

Daniel
2CM
Ashleigh Newton
5CP

Hugo
2LS
Myles Fraser
5KT

Malik, Destiny
2SP
Liam Lee
5SG

Caitlin, Finn, Isaac, Haochen
3GT
Caelan, Penelope, James
6EW

Mackenzie, Damon
3KM
Callan Chin
6SR

**PRINCIPAL AWARDS - 25th November**

Collin Leung
FCT
Nathan
2KM

Eli
FJM
Jayden, Jason, Charli
3TK

Jodie
FTR
Kevin, Hannah, Charli
3GT

Will
1BW
Sabrina, Laird
4GH

Eddie
1-2W
Bernice
5CP

Alice
1BW
Ethan Ridd
5SG

Alice
2CM
All Year 5 & 6 Students
Art
An invitation for Parent Helpers

The staff at OGPS would like to sincerely thank helpers for their assistance and support this year.

We have received help with the Grove, sick bay, uniform shop, newsletters, classroom reading, excursions, the production, class representatives, Parents’ Club, School Council, book fair, fundraising, swimming, working bees and canteen.

As we do not want to miss the opportunity to thank each and every volunteer, we extend this invitation to

All members of our community who have assisted us this year.

Please come to our Thank You Morning Tea which will be held in the Performing Arts Centre (PAC) on Wednesday, 14th December at 10:30am

Hope to see you there!

(No need to RSVP)
Sample pages

Organic Pest Control

The best prevention is a healthy garden with a diverse array of plants. Growing a variety of vegetables, herbs, and flowers encourages many natural enemies of pest insects. A healthy garden also tends to be less susceptible to pests and diseases. If pests do appear, try to identify them before taking action.

There are many natural and organic methods to control pests. Some common methods include:

- **Integrative Pest Management (IPM):** This approach involves monitoring pests and using a combination of tactics to manage them. Examples include using row covers, planting companion plants, or insectary plants to attract natural predators.
- **Physical Controls:** These include physical barriers, such as row covers, netting, and sticky traps. They work by preventing pests from entering the garden or providing a barrier for them to move through.
- **Biocontrol:** This involves using natural predators or parasites to control pests. Examples include ladybugs for aphids or wasps for caterpillars.
- **Cultural Practices:** These are changes in plant care that can help reduce pest pressure. Examples include improving soil health, rotate crops, and maintaining proper moisture levels.
- **Chemical Controls:** These are synthetic pesticides. They can be effective but have drawbacks, including potential harm to beneficial insects and the environment.

When choosing a method, consider the benefits and drawbacks. Some methods may be more effective than others, depending on the specific pests and garden conditions.

In summary, a healthy garden with a diverse array of plants is the best prevention against pests. Using a combination of methods, such as IPM, cultural practices, and biocontrol, can help manage pest populations effectively and sustainably.
SHOEBOX FOR THE HOMELESS FOR CHRISTMAS

When we were in the city a few weeks ago to see a musical I saw all these homeless people on the street. I had never felt that sad before about this. So we thought these people need some help. So we got the idea of a shoebox with supplies in it for them this Christmas. James JL.

Over 100,000 Australians will be homeless tonight.
In Victoria with a population of 20,511, there were 42 homeless people per 10,000 of the population.

Please help us make as many Shoeboxes full of goodies that will help the Homeless this Christmas.

What to pack in the Shoebox?

☐ Toiletries – can be put into a zip lock plastic bag
☐ Shampoo/conditioner - sample size
☐ Toothbrush
☐ Toothpaste
☐ Face/hand wipes
☐ Bandages – 10-12
☐ Lip balm
☐ Sunscreen
☐ Moisturiser
☐ Hand sanitiser
☐ Deodorant
☐ Female personal hygiene needs
☐ Hair brush/comb
☐ Tissues

☐ Cup a soup,
☐ Cup – disposable or plastic
☐ Candy treat,
☐ Packet cookies
☐ Notepad & pen
☐ Muesli bars
☐ Juice Box
☐ 7/11 coffee vouchers (to confirm)
☐ Anything else you think of.

There will be an example box left outside the office reception area on Monday, and more empty shoeboxes. Or you could buy one from the $2 shop. Aldi and the Reject shop sell most the items for a very reasonable price. Thank you for your help. Drop the finished BOXES back to the Office by December 12-16th – Last week of school. Thank-you.
Try Scentsy this Christmas
Free gift wrapping

We scent your life with unique scents, warmers, candles, home fragrance, gift sets, laundry & cleaning products, and much more.

Sarah Brown
Independent Consultant
0411 473 801
www.sarahrennbrown.scentsy.com.au

Playball Basketball
Training @ Aqualink & Camberwell High
Friday years 1-4 Term 1 2017

Basketball Training

Playball is now taking registrations from current Prep to Year 3 Boys & Girls to commence training in Term 1 at Aqualink, Box Hill & Camberwell High. 40 minute weekly Training by Playball Coaches prepares children for Friday competition in Terms 2, 3, 4.

Register for Term 1 2017

Register a training team at www.playballbasketball.com under ‘Registration’ Tab. Teams guaranteed commencement. Individual children can register online.

Term 1 Times & Dates

Years 1-4 Friday 4:00-7:00 PM
3 Feb - 31 March (9 weeks)  Rings lowered to 8.5ft for training teams & Year 1 competition.

Term Cost

Approx $96 per child based on team of 8. (Team invoice $770, 9-weeks)

Coaches Workshop

By Melbourne Junior Tigers Sunday in Term 2.

Contact

PH: 9585 6123
info@playballbasketball.com

Playball: An affiliated association of Basketball Victoria

Playgirls Footy @ Blackburn in 2017

Interests in playing footy? Then come join us at Blackburn.

Blackburn Football Club is a proud supporter of girls playing football.

We have hosted girls’ teams for the past 5 years. In 2017 we will have:


Our focus is on having fun, developing skills, making friends and enjoying the great game of football in a supportive environment. So, irrespective of whether you have played footy before or this will be your first year, you are more than welcome at Blackburn.

To register: come to our registration night or call Craig Smith on 0425 801 545

cause girls play footy too!
Blackburn Girls only: U8, U10, U12, U14, U16 and U18
BEGINNER BASKETBALL PROGRAM
Ages 6 - 12

Option 1:
Friday Program
4.30pm - 5.30pm or 5.30pm - 6.30pm
Every Friday from February 3 – March 31

Option 2:
Saturday Program
9.00am - 10.00am or 10.00am - 11.00am
Every Saturday from February 4 – April 1

$75 for the FULL term 1 2017
+ First time participants receive a FREE ball and T-shirt!

To register:
Paul Lankford: info@blackburnbasketball.com.au - 0431 559 893
All sessions held at SLATER RESERVE - Grosvenor St. Blackburn North
After working for many years as Co-educator at East Burwood Preschool, Linda McGinn is retiring. An informal farewell has been planned for Monday 12th December, 2:30 - 4:30pm. Current and past families are welcome to come to the kindergarten between those times to say goodbye to our much-loved Mrs McGinn. If you would like to bring a small plate of food to contribute to afternoon tea, that would be greatly appreciated. Please pass this message on to other past families that you may know.

Jan Carroll
Nominated Supervisor/Educational Leader
East Burwood Preschool