Hello Broadmeadows Valley and welcome to the Valley View.

For the families of our new 70 students, I hope that you find this weekly publication a valuable source of information. The Valley View contains weekly contributions from each of our 3 learning neighbourhood teams, so that you can stay abreast of the important events in the school life of your child. In addition to the weekly newsletter, each Learning Neighbourhood will publish a newsletter at the beginning of each term. You can expect the term 1 edition next week.

I would at this point like to thank our parents and families for their ongoing cooperation in regards to minimising the impact of the current suite of industrial action that is being implemented by the Australian Education Union and its members. While all parties are keen to see a resolution to this continuing issue, the government and AEU have still not reached agreement on the terms of the award for employment of teaching staff. I will continue to keep you informed of any developments in this regard.

In local news, the process is currently well underway for the selection and appointment of the Student Leaders for 2013. Up for grabs is the two school captain roles and vice-captain positions. Each home group from year 3 to year 6 also has a representative as part of the junior school leadership team. Other formal leadership positions to be elected include the house captains. At BVPS, we have four house groups: Lilliput, Johnstone, Lichfield and Erinbank. Each of the four houses is named after one of four old schools within the local area. Parents will be invited to attend the candidate speeches as they vie for these highly prized positions of responsibility. Further information will follow.

Any families that are interested in accessing Early Years services are invited to visit the Dimboola Early Learning and Care Centre. Located on site, Belinda and her team are now delivering 2 formal kindergarten programs and since April 2012, when the centre opened, we have seen a significant increase in the types and numbers of other services that are offered. If you have a child that will be beginning kindergarten in the next year or so, why not join the Valley Kids Playgroup. Valley Kids is a thriving playgroup, established and run by our school and it is designed to cater for the needs of parents and young children. Everyone is welcome. Please see our school office for further details.

***CALLING ALL PARENTS AND FAMILIES****
SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS ARE COMING!

The 2013 Broadmeadows Primary School Council election period will begin from March 4 and we are looking for new prospective members to join the team and help guide the school in 2013 and beyond.

School council comprises of parents, the principal, staff and community members. It assists in setting the educational policy of a school. Councils in Victorian Schools have between 6 to 15 members. You don’t need any particular qualifications or experience - we look for enthusiastic parents who want to help improve the learning outcomes for all students.

The election process takes place in March every year. All parents or guardians of students enrolled at the school are eligible to nominate and vote. The Broadmeadows Valley School Council election process will commence from Monday March 4. Please consider this as an excellent opportunity to have an impact on the learning and school experience of your child. Council meets 8 or 9 times a year from 2:30pm until 3:30pm on Tuesday afternoons as we aim not to intrude unnecessarily on the very valuable family time of our parents but we do value your contribution. I will provide further information in next week’s edition of the Valley View.

Kind regards,

Andrew Jones
LEARNING NEIGHBOURHOOD 1 NEWS

This week in LN1 grade 1/2 have begun working in their new literacy groups. In reading they have been focusing on the comprehension strategy of “checking for understanding” (does it make sense?). This has been modelled by their teacher and the students have been encouraged to practice this strategy when reading in groups or independently. Students have been showing their understanding in a variety of ways, including drawing and writing.

Preps have been focusing on letter identification and the sounds they make. This week they have been focusing on the letter ‘S’. This is something you might like to practice with your child at home; you could work with them in identifying objects in the house that begin with the letter S.

In maths all students have been working to improve their number knowledge, with preps working on numbers to 10 and the older students working with a range of 2 digit numbers. Students have been drawing, writing and representing the numbers in different ways.

This week we have had our school coaches, Chris and Mary, visit our neighbourhood to begin working with the students on creating classroom libraries. This is perfect timing for us as we have begun our home reading program and we are exploring a range of ways to ‘hook’ our students in to the wonderful world of books. Our grade 1/2s have all been given their home reading diaries and have begun taking books home to read. We strongly encourage all parents to get involved through listening and reading with your child every day. We cannot stress enough the difference home reading can have on your child’s success in literacy and other areas of their learning. Our prep students will receive their diaries next week and will also begin bringing books home.

We are continuing to reinforce with our students ‘Whole Body Listening’ and showing they are ready for learning. You might like to talk to your child about this and ask them to show you what ‘Whole Body Listening’ looks like and what it all means!

HOME READING BAGS!

HAS YOUR CHILD LOST THEIR HOME READING BAG?

WE WOULD LIKE ALL OF THE STUDENTS IN LN1 TO HAVE THIS BAG SO THEY ARE RETURNING THEIR BOOKS AND READING DIARIES TO SCHOOL DAILY. IF YOUR CHILD HAS LOST THEIR BAG, NEW BAGS CAN BE PURCHASED FOR $30 FROM THE SCHOOL.

Learning Neighbourhood 1 Team

Learning Neighbourhood 2

In Learning Neighbourhood 2 today our students participated in the ‘Radio Awareness’ incursion. The focus of the incursion was to give students the opportunity to produce, script and record their own radio show. In small groups, students wrote their own radio scripts and then were able to record their radio performances and receive their own copy on CD.

In our ‘Brainiacs’ unit this week our students started finding out about the structure of their brains. Students viewed several videos and using their note taking skills, were able to identify some of the important information presented in the videos. Primarily students focussed on the three main parts of the brain and what each of them do. Be sure to ask your children about the Cerebrum, Cerebellum and Brain Stem.

This week the decision was made as a neighbourhood that students would no longer be allowed to bring their pencil cases home. With our big focus on organisation and being ready for learning over the last couple of weeks, we have had quite a few students who have been leaving their pencil cases at home which means some of our students are not properly equipped for their learning.

All of our students should now have received their readers and will be bringing home their own books to read. As mentioned previously, this is our ‘homework’ in Learning Neighbourhood 2. Again, we would highly encourage all of our families to be active participants during this by reading with, to and discussing their children’s reading.

Troy Taylor, Nicole Crombie, Krystina Simpson, Paula Gaughan, Julian Tovey

LEARNING NEIGHBOURHOOD 3

News Around The Clock!

Apple iPad Minis are soon to arrive at LN3, Mr Troy Taylor our ICT coordinator will send notices home over the next few days about the coming information session for parents. The information session will explain the implementation of the iPad Mini’s, costing, the usage and setting up accounts for each student.

In Arts Studio, the students are em-barking on a semester’s collaborative project called: ‘Just For Laughs’. Students will explore between representations of the world created in cartoons and the real world. Students explore special effects and how media images are constructed. They consider the intended audience and aim to achieve the intended response. Key questions, How do artists develop ideas and create emotions across a variety of different media?

How do artists improve their work by reflecting, critiquing, considering options and responding to feedback?

What is humour and what is offensive?

The literacy program is in full swing. Ask your child what has been their learning focus for writing this week? Also, ask them what are the structures and features of a recount piece of writing.

For numeracy this week, each home group has worked through number computation tasks, using the four operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

To all our families from LN3, please come and say hello to the staff as we would love to hear from you and support you throughout the year.

LN3 Teachers: Wendy Coccim, Lisa Halton, Iain Vella, Clint Youlshen and Daniel Montalto

Broadmeadows Valley Primary School
CAR PARK

We would also like to remind parents not to park in the BVPS CAR PARK to drop off or pick up your children from school. This car park is for the staff of BVPS and HSC. It also has very limited parking for the two schools.

Dimboola Early Learning and Care Centre
CAR PARK

Would like to remind parents that they can not park in this car park to drop off or pick up your children from school. There is very limited parking and this car park is for the parents of the DELC also for the safety of the children we ask you not to park there.

Term 1 Sun Smart

All student will need to wear a hat at all times while they are in the yard throughout terms 1 and 4

For more information visit www.bvps.vic.edu.au
Notice Board

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

'Celebrating women'
Thursday 7th March 2013
7pm-11pm
Brookwood Reception
10 Lawson Cres-Thomastown
$28.00 - 3 Course meal & Entertainment
Please contact school Hub Coordinator

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