Greetings

I do hope that all members of the BVPS community had the opportunity yesterday to reflect on the meaning ANZAC day and consider what Australian servicemen and women have given our great nation in its short but prosperous history. It is an important day for all Australians.

Education Week will be celebrated from 19-25 May 2013 when kindergarten programs and government schools throughout Victoria will open their doors to parents and their broader communities through information nights, open days, student displays, performances and other special events that showcase their programs and achievements.

In 2013, Education Week will highlight the importance and lifelong benefits of children learning a language as part of their education journey.

At BVPS we always look forward to Education Week as we see it as an opportunity for us to further engage parents and families in the learning of their children. In coming editions of The Valley View we will share some information on our education week activities that promise to be both fun and educational including our now famous, Open Day of Learning!

We readily recognise that families are the first and most enduring influence on a child’s development and play an important role in a child’s learning. Developing strong skills in reading, writing and maths is critical to ensure your child’s success in early learning and beyond. I have included some helpful suggestions on how you as the parents can assist in improving your child’s learning.

1. Share rhymes and songs and encourage your child to join in.
2. Save safe cardboard and household items for your child to build with. Ask your child to describe what they are building.
3. Have a dress-up box for your child to use for imaginative play.
4. Listen to your child and respond to their ideas with questions and ask for more information.
5. Write down your child’s stories as they tell you and encourage him or her to read it back to you.
6. Point out and talk about letters and words all around you. For example, on cereal boxes, car number plates, signs.
7. Cook simple things together. Read out the recipe, talk through what you are doing.
8. Join a toy library and choose toys together.
9. Look at junk mail and talk about the things for sale.
10. Provide materials and create a writing/drawing table or area.
11. Talk about family photos and histories.

Further details on the upcoming mid-year reports and Parent/Teacher conferences will be published in upcoming editions of The Valley View. However, I can announce that student reports will going home on June 18 and Parent/Teacher conferences will be held 2 days later on June 22.

Until next week,

Andrew Jones
A big 'bake off' occurred in LN1 this week, with all students participating in the preparing, cooking and eating of ANZAC biscuits. This experience offered many students the chance to develop their maths, reading, writing and history skills. Students worked in mixed groups from prep to grade 2 and all seemed to thrive on this style of learning.

For the next three Tuesdays we have VIT pre-service teachers running an enrichment lesson on sustainability for students in grade 1/2. What a wonderful way for our students to see learning continuing into the adult years, as university students experience first-hand the delivery of a class room program.

Preps had a special visit from 'Richo' the red setter last Friday. This followed on from their focus on the big book 'Mrs Wishy Washy', all our preps participated in the washing of a real live dog! The squelches of excitement were heard by all who ventured past the neighbourhood!

On Wednesday May 15th an excursion to CERES Environment Park has been organised for all students in LN1. This excursion will involve all students participating in four 'hands on workshops' that explore the theme of sustainability, which is our enrichment topic this term. A permission note, with more information, will be going home next week. The learning students will get from this day out will be invaluable and we look forward to seeing our students prosper from the experience.

Jodie, Karen, Rob, Rosie, Marika and Beth

Learning Neighbourhood 2

This week in Learning Neighbourhood 2 was our Juicy, Sandwich and Sweet Bar Maths Project. Earlier in the week students took their shopping lists and walked up to Woolworths where they purchased all of their ingredients.

During Tuesday and Wednesday the neighbourhood turned into our own version of Masterchef with all students working within their teams to make their products. It was fantastic to see all teams of students working so effectively within their teams. The juice group had frappes, milkshakes and juices available to purchase. Down at the sweets bar were truffles, malteesers, slicos and several different cakes. In the middle of the building were the sandwich bars which included wraps, burgers & mini hot dogs! The whole day was a success with most groups being able to make a profit. The total sales for the day will be calculated and students will then be choosing how to spend the money for our Learning Neighbourhood.

This week in our sustainability unit, 'Taking Care of the Earth Together', students started looking at the different types of energy. Students were able to identify some of the different types of energy that they use within their homes and will start to now look at renewable and non-renewable energy and the ways in which we can save energy.

Today three of our students from Learning Neighbourhood 2 represented Broadmeadows Valley Primary School at our local Cross Country event. Congratulations to Brysina Mackey, Chris Rose and Amber Rose for qualifying and representing the school!

LN3 Team

This was big week in Sport for LN3. Our boys' basketball team had a rematch against Coolaroo South Ps which resulted in a win to us and we secured a place in the finals. Well done team. The Volleyball team is also in the finals. The high level of sportsmanship displayed by every student in LN3 during Interschool sports has been exceptional. We always get high praise from the school we played against and as a teaching team we are extremely pleased and proud of the students.

Cross Country was held today and 6 students from LN3 competed to their best and I'm sure whilst they were nervous this morning would have been very exciting when the race started.

Today was the first day of winter school sport try-outs, we will have another round of tryouts next week to select the squads. If any parents are able to support the students in training sessions please contact Lisa Halt.

The Rock and Water and M-Power social capacity and conflict resolution programs will begin on Monday. These programs will run ever alternating Monday for every student in Grades 5 and 6, and will involve all LN3 teachers and Troy Taylor.

GRADE 6 TRANSITION: Pascoe Vale Girls Secondary College is hold information sessions for 2014 Year 7 students on Tuesday 30th April at 11am Wednesday 1st May at 7pm Thursday 2nd May at 11am

Reminders: The 2014 Year 7 Transition forms went home on Wednesday. These forms need to be returned before MAY 17th, 2013. If you have any questions regarding this application please don't hesitate to contact us to arrange a time to complete the form.

For more information visit www.bvps.vic.edu.au
5 Day Attendance Award.

It's great to see our students attending school regularly and enjoying all of our amazing activities - Ifit, prep play based learning program, personal development program and neighbourhood enrichment programs.

The first winner of the $10 Big W Toy voucher, drawn at assembly last week was Angelina Aiolupotea from LN2.

All of the entries have been placed in our end of term Grand Draw box for the $50 family movie voucher.

A new lot of entries will be in our Week 3 draw. Attend school for the entire week and your name will be there too.

Michelle Reid
Student Wellbeing Coordinator

The Woolworths Earn & Learn Program is back! This community program enables schools and early learning centres throughout Australia to earn educational resources simply through the school community shopping at Woolworths.

Last year, our program provided 720,000 pieces of educational equipment to more than 12,500 schools and early learning centres. Schools selected from thousands of different items through our program, highlighting how each school’s needs are different and how critical a breadth of range is.

From Monday 8th April until Sunday 9th June 2013, when you shop at Woolworths you will be given a Woolworths Earn & Learn Point. There’ll be one Woolworths Earn & Learn Point for every $10 spent, excluding cigarettes, liquor and gift cards. Collect these Woolworths Earn & Learn Points and your local school will be able to redeem these for educational resources.

The Woolworths Earn & Learn program offers products to suit students of all ages. Schools and early learning centres can choose resources based on their unique needs, across every educational category possible, including mathematics and English resources, science equipment, arts & crafts materials, sports gear and more.