From the Acting Principal

Dear Parents,

It is that time of year where candidates in our Parish start preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. We are very fortunate to have a great Sacrament Team in our Parish, especially all of the ‘behind the scenes’ work that goes on in the Parish House. Many of our Grade 6 children would have attended Commitment Masses last week (if not, then please attend on this week!) and the Confirmation Workshops started yesterday. As children prepare for Sacraments it is a good time for us adults to reflect on our lives and commitments and make sure we are being good role-models for our children. When our children see us forgiving, loving unconditionally, sharing and living out the message of Jesus it gives them permission to do the same. Let us all see if the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit can work in all of us, not just those preparing for Confirmation.

A big THANKYOU must go to Mrs. Ahern and Mrs. Summers for making sure our children are feeling safe and comfortable during our NAPLAN testing for Grade 3’s and 5’s. They finish off tomorrow with Numeracy after completing Writing Conventions and Writing on Tuesday and Reading today. Well done to all the children who have tried their best and had a go during the testing period.

Mr. Gale’s latest update came from Niagara Falls, where he sent some amazing photos. He was about to board a plane for Rome where he will meet up with Bishop Prowse for the final leg of his Study Tour. He is hoping to also have an audience with the Pope! That would be something to tell the grandchildren about one day! Mr. Gale returns next week, probably around Wednesday and I’m sure he will get a warm welcome back from the children.

Finally, in the last 2 weeks we have had 10 families choose the email option with our newsletter, which is a good start. Only about 80 families to go! In time there will be no paper newsletters going home so please contact Julie in the office to change over soon.

Enjoy your week – God bless you all.

Simon Greely
Acting Principal
Around the School

Car Park
There have been a number of times in recent weeks, particularly on days of rain that parents have stayed in their cars, double parked and waited for their children to come to them. In the interest of child safety, we ask that all parents collect their children from class and walk them back to their vehicles. Small children are hard to see and do not think of the consequences of walking in front of cars or watching for reversing cars. We appreciate your assistance in what is becoming a busy area of the school.

Teaching and Learning: Mrs Dianne Ahern
Congratulations to all the wonderful parents who have been commenting in reading journals, and monitoring the ‘take-home’ book reading. It is rewarding to see such a great partnership being established between school and home. It sends the very positive message to our students that we value reading, and teachers and parents are working together.

ICT News—Mrs Karen Inguanzo
Children and computers
Here is some health information for children in regards to computer use. Please try to encourage good habits with the children from an early stage. Parents can reduce the risk of children developing computer-related injuries. You can:
- Set up the computer, desk, chair and keyboard to suit your child.
- Install a smaller mouse that contours to the child’s hand.
- Show your child how to use the keyboard and mouse properly and safely.
- Encourage frequent breaks.
- Reasonably limit your child’s game-playing time.
Make sure your child has enough time for other activities, such as sport
Information taken from http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au

Wellbeing and Intervention - Mrs Lisa Piasente
Playground Award
Congratulations to Jessica G from Grade 1/2M for being the latest winner of the Playground Award. Well done Jessica and keep up the fine behaviour on the playground.

Resilience: helping your child to ‘bounce back’
What is Resilience?
Resilience is the ability to cope and ‘bounce back’ after encountering negative events, difficult situations or adversity and to return to almost the same level of emotional wellbeing. It is also the capacity to respond adaptively to difficult circumstances and still thrive. Young people who encounter difficult or challenging situations can learn from them and become stronger.

Young people will always need the personal skills and attitudes to help them to bounce back. Everyone encounters everyday challenges such as making mistakes, falling out with a friend, moving to a new school or losing in a sports competition.
Many young people will also face more serious challenges such as adapting to a step-family, the illness or death of a family member, or being bullied.

Resilience helps young people to navigate through life and is an important aspect of adolescent development. When young people are resilient they are able to cope reasonably well with difficult situations and things that go wrong and then ‘bounce back’.

Levels of resilience vary throughout a person’s life and someone who is resilient in one type of adverse or challenging situation may not be as resilient in another situation. Some young people also face more challenges than others because of a learning difficulty or disability or a more anxious personality. The more challenges a young person has in their life, the harder it is for them to be resilient. However it’s important for all young people to learn the personal skills that will help them to be resilient.

By Toni Noble & Helen McGrath from

**Uniform Shop**

Open – Monday & Friday 8:45am-9:15am
As we are well into Term 2 please make sure that your children are wearing FULL winter uniform. This includes a long sleeve shirt, pants & jumper for boys and a long sleeve shirt, tunic & jumper for girls. Navy socks or tights are to be worn with black shoes.
Navy aprons are available for girls in the junior grades to wear to protect their tunics (and save you on dry cleaning).
Dark navy, NOT white, long sleeve t-shirts may be worn underneath the Sports polo for extra warmth.

**PLEASE NOTE - ALL RETURNS/EXCHANGES MUST NOW GO THROUGH THE SCHOOL OFFICE.**

Thank you
Uniform Committee

**Head Lice**

There have been a number of reported cases of head lice within the school, particularly in the Junior classes.
Although there are many products on the market that treat Head Lice, our best defence is regular checking.

**Please check your child’s hair regularly for signs of nits or eggs.** If your child is complaining of a continually itchy head or you notice they are scratching more often than usual, please check.
It only takes one live nit to start an outbreak and unless all children are checked regularly and thoroughly and then treated if necessary, it is very difficult to stop the cycle.

We appreciate the time and effort this takes and thank the families who have notified us and treated their children’s hair.
Woolworths
Earn and Learn
This program is back on again. We received some great resources after the efforts of our families last year so if you shop at Woolworths please keep the stickers they give you and send them in to school. We will organize a collection box for the office area.

School Closure Day – Monday, June 25th
Staff of St. Brigid’s will be undertaking professional development with staff from the Catholic Education Office on Monday, June 25th. There will be NO SCHOOL for students on this day.

Parish Masses

St. Michael’s Parish
125-129 High Street, Berwick 3806
Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Slater
(03) 97071355
Weekend Masses
Saturday: 6.00 p.m.
Sunday: 9.00 a.m., 10.30 a.m. and 6.00 p.m.

Thankyou
Thank you to the parents who assisted with the morning tea catering & cleaning up for Mother’s day. It was a lovely morning and great to see a sneak preview of the forthcoming musical.

We had some lovely prizes donated for our Mother’s day raffle;
Wine from D’Angelo Winery
Roses from the Elsegood family, Phoenix trading card pack - from the Cosgrove family,
Dining voucher - from the Noone family
Spray tan voucher from the Drury family.

Congratulations to our prize winners – Leonie Francois, Rhonda Appleby, Lisa Baxter, Catherine Gallie, Rita Moresco & Monica Deayton.

Thank you very much – we are very grateful for these donations. We raised $308 which will go towards more fantastic additions to our school.

Thanks to Simon for a really enjoyable morning and lovely to see him in a suit!!!!

Belinda Moresco
Fundraising and Social Committee

School Photos
29th May 2012

Photo envelopes have been distributed home to families. Please follow the instructions on the envelopes.

Family photo envelopes are available at the school office as well as discount vouchers for families with 3 or more children making an order.

Full Winter uniform is to be worn on this day.