Welcome back. We hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and catching up with family and friends. As always Term 2 will be a very busy one with lots of things happening. During Weeks One and Two we are having a whole school focus on ANZAC DAY. As you would be aware this year we are commemorating the 100 year anniversary of the ANZACs landing on the shores of Gallipoli, which had a significant impact on the lives of past and present generations. It is important that we educate our students on the role the ANZACs played as it is a major event in our country’s history. We will be holding a short service on Friday 24th at school. (Time to be advised). The Bass RSL will be holding a dawn service on ANzac Day. See our Community Notices for their advertisement.

HOUSE ATHLETIC SPORTS
Our House Athletic Sports will be held tomorrow at school. Students in grades Prep, 1 and 2 will commence soon after 9am through to recess and Grades 3—6 will commence at 11.30pm. Mr McCormick will be choosing our team for the district athletic competition from the results of tomorrow and those students will compete in Wonthaggi on Friday 24th April. We encourage students to wear their house colours tomorrow and invite family and friends to come along and cheer them on.

GRADE 3/4 CAMP
Our Grade 3/4 camp will now take place from Monday 27th April to Wednesday 29th April. Our students should be all organised for this camp now and we look forward to hearing all about it on their return.

TERM 2 ASSEMBLIES
Our Whole School Assemblies for Term 2 will be on the following dates:
4th May—This will showcase students’ work
1st June—This will include a Science expo
22nd June—This will be our end of term Awards Assembly.

MOTHER’S DAY STALL
On Tuesday 5th May a Mother’s Day stall will be run at school, coordinated by Katrina Graham. Each class will visit the stall during the morning. Gifts will be priced between $1 and $10 and will only be available on this day. We will not be able to lay-by or hold any gifts. They will have to be paid for on the day!

NAPLAN TESTING
During Week 5 of the term (May 12th—14th) the Grade 3 and 5 students will do the NAPLAN (National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy) assessment. NAPLAN is an assessment program that is administered to all Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students throughout Australia. NAPLAN has four dimensions, Writing, Conventions, which is Punctuation & Grammar and Spelling, Reading, Writing and Mathematics. When the testing is completed it will be sent away to be centrally marked. For parents who want further information relating to NAPLAN you may find the answers to any queries on the VCCA website: http://www.naplan.edu.au

HEAD LICE
A reminder to parents to regularly check your child’s hair for head lice. Headlice are extremely contagious. We suggest that you look for the following symptoms or signs that would indicate the presence of headlice:
- Generally: child scratching his/her head excessively
- On pillows: fine black powder or pale colored material
- In the hair: signs of lice eggs (“nits” - cream or coffee colored specks close to hair roots,
- Lice: small white or ‘greyish’ parasites the approximate size of a pinhead.

If you notice any of the above signs, treatment should be commenced immediately as your child could be excluded from school if not treated.
ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY
The 2014 Annual Report to the School Community for Bass Valley Primary School will be available for anybody to pick up a copy of from the School office from Thursday 23rd April.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Religious Education classes will commence next Tuesday afternoon for those students who have returned their consent forms.
Religious Education is being offered to those students in Prep—2 who would like to participate. The Parent Consent Form needs to be filled in and sent back to school for your child to be able to participate. If you would like your child to participate and require a form, please contact the school office.

BUSHCLUB AT BASS VALLEY
Bass Valley Primary is one of two schools in Bass Coast trialling the new Bushclub activity offered by the Bass Coast Landcare Network through their Environmental Detectives schools program. This is an ongoing activity run every two weeks offered to schools that have a bushland reserve on their grounds or close by. Bass Valley scores on both accounts having the wetland reserve at the school and the cemetery bushland close by.
Bushclub members head out every two weeks to explore the bush and learn about things such as plant identification, climate, local and migratory birds, plant communities, local geography, geology and many others. They will also be getting their hands dirty with weeding, rubbish removal and seed collection. As well as learning about the natural environment the activities can be used as a springboard to classroom learning. Learning in maths, science, English expression, art and other subjects can be enhanced by connecting it to nature. The concrete multi-sensational world of nature provides many opportunities to communicate concepts that a lot of kids may not pick up in the classroom alone.
The kids also love to just get out and explore the world around them as a break from their normal school day. Bushclub teaches kids to value and connect with their local environment as well as taking them deeper into the complexities and wonders of nature. Our 4 Environmental Leaders and students from grade 4 participate in this activity along with Peter Baird from Landcare and Mrs Ricardo. This is a picture of today’s group out enjoying the great outdoors.

BIRTHDAYS AT BASS VALLEY
The students celebrating their birthday this week are:
Maggie Tsousidis, Luke Manning, Riahn Hawthorne & Jaz Courtidis

We hope you all have wonderful days.

Canteen Roster for Next Week:
23rd April: Dannielle Munnings & Katie Dancer

BASS VALLEY CHILDREN’S CENTRE
Plans for this centre are building momentum with a $40,000 contribution from San Remo District Financial Services (Bendigo Community Banks in Grantville, San Remo & Cowes). The site for this centre is proposed for the current JLM Pre School next door to the school. There will be a meeting at the Pre School on Monday, 20th April at 5pm where the Hon. Greg Hunt will be in attendance and it will be an opportunity to ask for Federal Funding. It is important that as many people as possible get along to show your support of this much needed facility. See advertisement in Community Notices.

BIODIVERSITY TIPS
Whenever visiting a natural environment:
1. Stay on the path.
2. Leave your dog at home.
3. Light fires only in fireplaces and make sure they are out before you leave.
4. Take your rubbish home with you.
5. Don’t throw food scraps or garden clippings into the bush as they can spread weeds or disturb the natural balance.
6. Don’t pick wildflowers - leave them for the wildlife that needs them, for their own sake, as some are very rare, and leave them for other people to enjoy.


BASS VALLEY BASKETBALL GROUP
There will be a registration night on Wednesday 22nd April at 5.30pm to see what interest there is in starting up this competition this year. Debbie is looking for help to run this competition so if you are interested, please come along on this night and show your support.
Bass Valley Primary School students made poppies to go on the map of Gallipoli made by the Woodies group of Corinella. Our School Captains will assist with the tree planting. All students and their families are invited to attend this service.
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