



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



REMINDERS FOR WEEK ELEVEN: TERM FOUR 2016

Friday December 9 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assembly 3pm • Disco 6pm
Monday December 12 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaders Speeches for 2017 – 2:30pm
Tuesday December 13 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portland Secondary School Band – 9:45am • Family Evening
Wednesday December 14 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decadent Day – Grade 3-6 • Hall's Gap Zoo excursion – Prep-2 • School Council Meeting and Dinner – 6pm
Thursday December 15 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Friday December 16 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Assembly and Shared Late Lunch 2:30pm

EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS - PrepM

Our Exceptional Students this week are Hannah Rethus, William Rethus, Jessica McCluskey and Matthew Rethus.



Hannah is an exceptional student because she consistently demonstrates the foundations of the 'You Can Do It' program. She always tries her best and knows it is important to get on with her work and not waste time. Hannah is a hard worker and always completes her work to the best of her ability. She is a great friend and gets along with all members of our class and loves to help out other children. Well done Hannah.

William is an exceptional student because of his great getting along skills. He is such a cheerful member of the class and a good friend to everyone. William is tolerant and accepting of all children and happily shares and takes turns. William has shown great resilience, he doesn't let little things get him down and he always bounces back. Terrific job William.

Jessica is an exceptional student who has developed great persistence with her school work, she tries her best and is always proud of her achievements. Jessica has shown great resilience, she doesn't let little things bother her and always bounces back. Jessica confidently chats with teachers and other visiting adults to our school. Well done Jessica.

Matthew is an exceptional student because of the persistence he has shown with reading and writing this term. He gets along well with everyone and has the confidence to approach other children and ask if he can join their game. Matthew tries his best at all tasks and his work is always neat and beautifully presented. Well done Matthew.

Our Exceptional students will be presented with their awards at tomorrow's assembly at 3pm

YOU CAN DO IT! STARS

Resilience – Caught 10 times	Jack Swanson	Zarah Bott	Azariah Russell
Confidence – Caught 10 times	Chase Baker Melanie Price	Zarah Bott Banjo Taylor	Hamish McDougall Jessica McCluskey
Academic Excellence – Caught 10 times		Azariah Russell	Matthew Rethus
Persistence – Caught 20 times	Daniel Goode	Abby Saunders	
Getting Along- Caught 20 times	Mitch Finck Emma Butler Tommy Compton Abby McFarlane	Matthew Rethus Harvey Stratton Millie Flannery	Hamish McDougall Morris Richardson Annabel Sutherland
Confidence – Caught 20 times	Lou Impey		
Organisation – Caught 20 times	Julia Stiles Millie Flannery	Harvey Stratton Alex Jacobson	Michael Wood Emma Butler
Academic Excellence – Caught 20 times		Annabel Sutherland	

Cont.....

Organisation- Caught 50 times Luke Fidge

LAPS – 50 Shantae Keegan Banjo Taylor Timmy Trigger Ed Thompson Ditanyia Hansen
LAPS – 100 Charlie Arnold Taya Field Harry Rethus Tiarna Keegan Zeke Roos

Our You Can Do It! stars will be presented with their awards at assembly on Friday December 9th.

ORIENTATION DAY

Pictured right are 13 of our new Preps for 2017. 2 others were unavailable for the photo.

DAY ONE 2017 – Tuesday January 31st

First day for students in 2017 will be Tuesday January 31st. Staff resume on Monday January 30th.

REPORTS

End of year reports will be sent home on Thursday December 15th. If you have any questions about your child's report, staff are available until Tuesday December 20th.



STUDENT LEADERS 2017

On Monday December 12th at 2:30pm the current Grade 5 students have the opportunity to present themselves as candidates for student leader positions in 2017. This will be conducted in the Prep/1/2 room and parents are welcome to attend.

Students will be encouraged to vote for students who they think would make a good leader, students who have been particularly kind to them at school. All students from Grade 2-6 get a vote as well as all staff members. Each vote is worth the same value. Students with the most votes will be the student leaders in 2016. As has been the case for a number of years at Bolwarra many great students will miss out on being official leaders of the school but the fact is any student can be an unofficial leader.

All Grade 6 students at Bolwarra are considered leaders. All Students not appointed to an official position on Monday will still be leaders of our school.

PORTLAND SECONDARY SCHOOL ROCK BAND – Tuesday December 13th

All students will be attending the Portland Secondary School Rock Band performance tomorrow. They will leave Bolwarra on a bus at 9:20am and be back at school at 11:30am.

DECADENT DAY FOR GRADE 3 to 6 – Wednesday 14th December

Children are allowed to bring bikes, skateboards, roller blades and scooters as long as they bring the appropriate safety gear. There will be set times and places for these activities. Board games are also a good idea. Children are allowed to bring lollies and soft drink, wear casual clothes and generally choose their own activities for the day.

Students are not to wear sandals or thongs due to safety reasons.

ENERGY DRINKS, BUBBLE GUM & CHEWY ARE BANNED.

At the end of the day we will have a water fight, water pistols are allowed but not fire-fighting Knapsacks!! **No water balloons as they hurt.** Only bore water will be used! It is a good idea to bring spare clothes, a plastic bag and a towel. Children are still required to wear a hat when in the sun. Decadent day is for **current Grade 3 to 6 Bolwarra students only.**

FIRST PHOTOS AT BOLWARRA OF OUR CURRENT GRADE 6 STUDENTS



SCHOOL FAMILY EVENING – Tuesday 13th December 6pm to 7:30pm

We invite all families to our family evening to be held on the school oval (weather permitting). Please bring a picnic rug and tea, and enjoy a celebration of our school year. Formal proceedings will start at 6:30pm and will include the following;

- 2016 'You Can Do It' Awards
- School Leaders' Speeches
- 2017 Students leaders announced
- Drawing of the Christmas Raffle
- Grade 6 Farewell
- Carol singing
- Visit from Santa

There will be a BBQ tea available. Order slips are due back tomorrow.

READY FOR 2017

To have our school grounds ready for 2017 anyone available and wanting to clean up the yard in preparation for Day One are welcome into the school. Thank you.



FINAL ASSEMBLY/GRADE 6 FAREWELL/SHARED LUNCH (LATE) – Friday December 16th

2:30pm – Final Assembly (in the Monday morning assembly area) to celebrate student achievement. Term 4 kindness awards will be given out and there will be a final farewell of our Grade 6's.

3pm – A late Shared Lunch. Please bring along a plate of food for everyone to share at the Shared Lunch. Food can be left in the staff room prior to the lunch.

Please let me know if you have any questions about any of the above information. I'm happy to be contacted face to face, via phone or e-mail (gibbons.lee.a@edumail.vic.govc.au)

ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM – Monday December 19th and 20th

These 2 days will be an opportunity for the Bolwarra staff to get ready for 2017. They will be doing their CPR updates, exchanging student files, curriculum planning for 2017 and cleaning their classrooms. Students are not expected to attend.

EXTRA-CURRICULA TERM 4 DATES

December	Friday	9 th	- Disco 6pm-8pm
	Monday	12 th	- Student Leadership speeches for 2017
	Tuesday	13 th	- Family Night 6pm
	Wednesday	14 th	- School Council
	Wednesday	14 th	- Decadent Day Grade 3-6
			- Prep -2 Excursion
	Friday	16 th	- Final Assembly
			- Shared Late Lunch
	Monday	19 th	- Alternative Program
	Tuesday	20 th	- Alternative Program

LEE GIBBONS.....PRINCIPAL

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Marcus Zeunert (12) and Ditanyia Hansen (11) who will both celebrate their birthday next Thursday.

PARENT'S CLUB NEWS – Lunch Roster – **Tomorrow, Friday –9th Dec.** Deb, Andreena, Steve & Matt.

XMAS RAFFLE – All tickets, together with money must be returned to the office by Tuesday morning. There are many great prizes to be won, (see attached list) which have been donated by local businesses, and for which we are very appreciative. Thanks go to all those who have donated towards our fundraiser.

ENVIRONMENT GROUP – The environment group will have seed bombs for sale at assembly tomorrow at \$1.00 each. These are easy planting with great results.

DISCO – Friday December 9th 6pm to 8pM

TAKE HOME BOOKS

Could parents please have a look at home for any take home books that belong to the school, particularly parents of those in grade 6. Be on the look out for books with a Bolwarra stamp on the first couple of pages. Thanks.

PASSION PROJECTS

Invitations went home on Monday for parents and friends of students in Grade 5/6T to come and see the fantastic Passion Projects that they have been working on.

The display will be on tomorrow (Friday, 9th December), from 2.30-3pm.

We hope to see you there!

Grade 5/6T



Stock Up on School Wear before the New Year, Call into Prestige Promotions for all your school needs. Polos start at \$15 and jumpers are \$20 and hoodies are \$30. Most sizes are in store ready to go!

2016 CHRISTMAS RAFFLE PRIZES

Tyrepower	\$200 Tyre voucher
AutoPro	Waterproof action camera (gopro) & Solar battery charger & maintainer
Aldi	Expressi coffee machine
Showcase Jewellers	Heart necklace
Portland Strawberries	Strawberry wine, liqueur, liqueur sauce, jam & fresh strawberries
Oven Peel Bakery	8 inch mud cake voucher
Tim Campbell Motorcycles	Maddo Solar glove & 2 motorbike DVDs
Australia Post	Donna Hay cookbook & 3D puzzle
Animal Stuff	Bag of goodies for dog
Abundant Life Books	Heart plaque
Lyons Newsagency	Ultimate Superhero comic book collection & Family favourites board game collection
Hammonds Paint	Dulux tin of jellybeans
Joys Craftwork	Colour in picture book
Bedazzled	2 x ceramic bowls
Prestige Promotions	House photoframe
Erreys Home Hardware	Tin of Jellybeans
McDonalds	Two coffee cups with some food vouchers
Betta Home Living	Sunbeam Rice cooker & steamer
Kevin Paisley Fashion Eyewear	Sunglasses
Bi-Rite	Remington Professional hair curler
CK & Co	Repairing Shampoo & Conditioner
Ivie & Eve	T2 (tea)
Guardian Chemist	Hamper
Hollands	2 x photo frames
Davis Print	Diary & Kids lunch ideas book
Reece plumbing	Chrome shower rail head
Planet Kaos	Gel Ezy Freeze mug
Gunna Surf & Sport	Hat, bag & water bottle
Portland Florist	Monkey
Bedzzz of Portland	Waterproof mattress protector (q) & Waterproof pillow protectors x 2
The Shoe Cove	\$20 voucher
Hallidays Butchers	\$20 voucher
Dalys IGA	2 x \$20 vouchers
The Portland Phone Shop	\$20 iTunes card
Admellas Fruit n Veg	\$20 voucher
The Lido Larder	\$10 voucher
Treloar Roses	Potted roses

Chaplain's Corner – How's the peace at your place?

There's one great tradition we need to revisit at this time every year. Christmas cards often remind us. It's the angels singing "Peace on earth to people of goodwill." That's a pretty good pitch for all of us, whether we are people of faith or none at all. We all have our boxes to tick: Christmas tree up, presents to organise, meals to arrange, people to invite, places to go, holidays to finalise, greetings to send – and so it goes.

Yet peace is so often in short supply around about now. As the year winds down, the stresses easily wind up. Not bad stuff either. Just trying to cover all the bases that go with planning family reunions and scrumptious dinners is a big ask. A genuine juggling act. The countdown to the sharing of time and gifts on Christmas Day can actually drain us and leave us utterly exhausted. So, it pays to ponder a few of the realities....

- **The original message of peace was right on time** – Life was tough for ordinary people in those days. It was the shepherds who first heard the song of peace. They were that day's underclass. People without hope, status, influence and who enjoyed few rights.
- **The message of peace is still on time** – We too need to know that peace is still there for us. Our running around ticking the to-do list generates weariness. Keeping our cool is just that bit harder. The Christmas gift of peace stabilises us, steadies us and keeps us on top.
- **Real peace is not troubled by circumstances** – The peace those angels were on about was of a different brand. It was peace in the middle of life's struggles, challenges and stresses. The shepherds remained shepherds. They simply received a new angle on life.
- **This peace is not about everything falling into place** – It doesn't hinge on life being tidy. It often isn't. It's a peace that operates at a much deeper level within us. It enables us to be realistic about our good and bad days without us falling apart or going under.
- **It's a peace that holds us tight** – The first Christmas after a loved one has left us, or when a family member can't make it home creates a huge sense of loss. There's an empty chair at the dinner table. The pain is real. This peace looks that grief in the eye and calms us.
- **This peace requires something of us though** – We cannot receive this peace if we are not willing or able to pass it on. Real peace is contagious. But it's eroded by grudge bearing, withholding forgiveness, keeping a bitter spirit or manic faultfinding. These strangle peace.
- **Peaceful hearts and minds are generators** – Once we've cottoned on to this inner power, we see life in a fresh way. Long-term hassles become fresh opportunities. We now see gifts and graces in people who before struck us as just plain awkward, straight out difficult people.
- **Real peace rewrites our agenda** – Goodwill is the key ingredient of peace, of wanting to please others, not just ourselves. Of meeting their needs even if it means not meeting ours. If goodwill goes missing, so does this type of peace. It's that simple.
- **Remember, it's big picture peace** – The opening line of the song? "Peace on earth...." So, it's not just peace for our personal and family worlds. It's global. And the reason why our world is missing this global peace? We're out of goodwill. Warlike ambitions ruin it. Outright.
- **We are the starting points** – We need an epidemic of peace. A hunger for it. So, start the contagion. Know it first deep down and it will catch on in ever widening circles. Deep peace is captivating. A way of life whether the circumstances are kind or otherwise. It matters not.

May this Christmas season bring this peace for you and your family.

John – stay in touch revsimmo@gmail.com

