Welcome back to term 2. I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday and judging by the happy relaxed faces of the students it looks like everyone has come back refreshed and ready to build on their learning. The year 5 and 6 students have an exciting start to the term with year 5 going to Forrest Edge Lodge which is located in Gippsland and the year 6 students are in Canberra building up their knowledge of government as well as visiting some of the interesting and educational places. I am very envious as both locations are favourite locations for me. Ms McInerney is joining us as year 6s for the first two days of their tour and Mr Scanu is with the year 5 campers.

If you have been checking our website you will have seen the daily update of the camp activities. They all appear to be having a wonderful time. While we are continuing to enjoy pleasant mild autumn weather I hope you are making the most of our new Active Paths. It was a great launch in the last week of term with many students using these pathways to walk to school. Once it becomes regular routine for your family they will be able to meet up with other students and their friends and walk to school together. Many families may have enrolled in the ‘Premiers Active April’ and using our pathways is another fun way to build up the level of activity for students, parents and grandparents.

There are a few parent reminders coming up this term. I hope you have all managed to go on line and book yourselves into a Three-way Conference between you, your child and their teacher. These conferences will be held on the evening of Thursday 21st of April and are an integral part of student learning as students explain their learning goals to you and the strategies they will be using to achieve them. It is very powerful when school and home work together to celebrate and support the learning for each student and attending these conferences not only gives your child the opportunity to share how they take responsibility for their own learning but also keeps you informed about what their current learning goals are.

Another important date to note in your diary is Curriculum day which is on Tuesday April 26th following ANZAC day. On this day we will be looking at the Victorian Curriculum. This is a new state curriculum which is based on the Australian Curriculum and was released late last year. It replaces the AusVELS curriculum. This curriculum day will give us the opportunity to look at the Victorian Curriculum in depth and adapt our current programs and assessment strategies.

OUR SCHOOL STRATEGIC PLAN (SSP) AND ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (AIP)

Every four years government schools are required to develop a strategic plan. Last year was our year to evaluate and reflect upon our prior strategic plan, to set the direction for the next 4 years and develop a new school strategic plan (SSP). Each school strategic plan sets school wide goals and strategies. Each year we develop an Annual Implementation Plan where we outline sequential actions which eventually lead to the achievement of our SSP over the four year period. One key improvement strategy in our new SSP and a focus for this year’s AIP is for staff to develop a deep understanding of the Victorian Curriculum. We have already been working on this every Wednesday at our after school Professional Learning sessions. As you may already realise the Victorian Curriculum is made up of a series of very large and comprehensive documents that cover all aspects of student learning while they are at school. They also set the achievement standards that we assess against to measure your child’s achievement.

Tuesday the 26th will give us an opportunity to devote a whole day to this task which will really give us a basis on which to build. Due to the complexity of the curriculum we will not complete our work in one day so we will continue to work on this as it is our major curriculum focus for 2016. All Victorian government schools are expected to fully implement the new curriculum by 2017.

Alison Devereux, Assistant Principal

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**Assistant Principal’s Message**

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There are a few parent reminders coming up this term. I hope you have all managed to go on line and book yourselves into a Three-way Conference between you, your child and their teacher. These conferences will be held on the evening of Thursday 21st of April and all day Friday 22nd of April and are an integral part of student learning as students explain their learning goals to you and the strategies they will be using to achieve them. It is very powerful when school and home work together to celebrate and support the learning for each student and attending these conferences not only gives your child the opportunity to share how they take responsibility for their own learning but also keeps you informed about what their current learning goals are.

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Alison Devereux, Assistant Principal

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**Calendar of Events**

**Term 2 Week 1**

- Friday 15/4
  - Year 6 and Year 5 students return
  - Year 2 Zoo excursion
  - 9.15-10.30am Tour of School & Chat with Principal

**Week 2**

- Tuesday 19/4
  - Kids and Fruit program begins

- Wednesday 20/4
  - 2-3pm Tour of School & Chat with Principal

- Thursday 21/4
  - 3.45-7.30pm 3 way conferences

- Friday 22/4
  - 10.30am-3.45pm 3 way conferences—students only attend school for their conference

**Week 3**

- Monday 25/4
  - Anzac Day—public holiday

- Tuesday 26/4
  - Curriculum day—no school

- Thursday 28/4
  - 9.15-10.30am Tour of School & Chat with Principal
Volunteer Helpers at PPPS

Please note that if you attended a training session in the past, you do NOT need to attend another one. ‘Once trained, we have you for life!'

For new volunteers we are offering two briefings this term

So that we can strengthen our interdependent partnership between Plenty Parklands school and the community we offer training sessions for parent and community members. Over the years our students have benefited from the work and dedication of hundreds of helpers. We are always ready and willing to welcome even more. You may be a new member of our community and keen to offer your help while also getting to know other community members.

The sessions will outline your role and responsibilities with regard to Privacy, Work Cover, Harassment and Occupational Health and Safety legislation. In line with our values, particularly those of Care, Trust and Respect, you will understand that the safety and care of your children are the most important considerations when implementing a program such as volunteer helpers. Also with legislation related to a range of issues it is imperative that ALL volunteers are briefed before they are able to help in any way at school. You need only attend one of the briefings.

This training includes everyone who would like to start to help in any or all of the following areas; canteen, Parents Social and Fundraising sub committee (PSF), interschool sport, uniform shop, classroom helpers (in any area of the curriculum), excursions, special event days, fun day at the end of the year, fruit distribution, gardening, sports coaching, P.E. programs such as the Prep Perceptual Motor Program (PMP) and any transportation of students. In fact, anyone who helps at the school in any way. Please note that helpers on school camps have a special briefing prior to camp. The dates for term 2 are:

Tuesday 3 May from 6:00 to 6:30 or Wednesday 4 May from 9:15 to 9:45

Remember that you need to participate in a training session in order to help in any capacity at the school. The briefing takes about 30 minutes and will be held in the conference room (library) or staff lounge (staff room).

After completion of this short briefing, you will be welcome to help at PPPS at any time in the future in a ‘one off’ or ongoing situation.

Please see this invitation as an opportunity to get to know other members of our school community while also providing the students of PPPS with invaluable support and assistance.

Don’t worry; there are no hard questions to answer or problems to solve. You just need a willingness to help and we’ll do the rest!! We look forward to seeing you at one of these sessions. Please complete and return the slip below by Monday 2 May.

Volunteer Training

I will be attending the training session on (Please circle):

Tuesday 3 May from 6:00 to 6:30 or Wednesday 4 May from 9:15 to 9:45

Your name: ........................................................................................................................................ Phone number: ........................................................................................................

Youngest child’s name: ................................................................................................. Child’s home group: .........................

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS: The school and the DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT accept no responsibility for the goods or services offered in advertisements in this newsletter.
RMIT SATELLITE SPORTS PROGRAM 2016

Once again we have been fortunate to be part of the Teaching Excellence Partnership Program in 2016. Plenty Parklands Primary School along with over 20 other schools across Melbourne is continuing with this exciting program for the 14th year. The Physical Education team at RMIT University has remodelled the way 1st year and 4th year PE students work within schools.

The program originally devised by one of the lecturers at RMIT, Dr. Bernie Holland allows 1st and 4th year RMIT students (training as Phys. Ed. Teachers) to take classes over a 16 week period. Students in years Prep-4 participate in weekly 50 minute lessons, which are held on Wednesdays. Mr. Scanu has worked closely with RMIT to provide the best possible experience for all of our students.

The PPPS staff has shown a willingness to share their expertise and insight with the 1st and 4th year Physical Education students. Their support in this program is of the utmost importance for the program’s success. The RMIT students are sure to benefit greatly from the experience and opportunity to develop their practical teaching skills within school environment. For our students, they will benefit from added physical exercise and the further development of skills that have been introduced through the PPPS PE Program.

There will be 16 RMIT students working with our students, and they are at PPPS the entire day. At the completion of this program a report will be written by Mr Scanu on each RMIT student.

As part of this partnership, the RMIT university students will donate 20 hours of their time this year to support staff and programs that are run at PPPS.

The first lessons commence on Wednesday April 20th and the final lessons will be on October 12th!

Parents are most welcome to come and view the final of the program at the following times:
9.00am year 1
9.50am year 4
11.10am to 12.50pm Preps PMP
1.50pm year 3
2.40pm year 2

Note: Class teachers will be supervising their own classes during the lessons.

Sebastian Scanu (Phys. Ed and Sports Coordinator)

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Year 4 Bike Ed

Students in year 4 will be involved in the Bike Education program to teach correct behaviour when riding a bike on the roads. The aim is to equip students with the necessary skills to avoid accidents and enjoy safe riding. Students become more aware of the dangers they may face on the roads and learn many important road rules.

Before starting the program, students will have already had a safety/maintenance check on their bike and helmet. Each week in theory sessions in the classroom the students will focus on various skills such as braking at speed, precision riding, how to negotiate a round-a-bout correctly, the skill to ride with one hand in order to scan over shoulder for any dangers, bike maintenance, road rules etc. In culmination to the theory sessions, the students will be involved in a two day intensive practical session where all of the above will be put into action. The two days of the practical sessions this year are Tuesday 3rd May and Wednesday 4th May.

The final session of the Bike Ed. course will involve a ride outside the school grounds in the local area on quiet roads (Wed 11th May). We are looking for parents to accompany us on this ride. Only students who have demonstrated the necessary skills will be eligible to ride in this final session.

SAFETY HINTS:
It is the law to wear a certified Australian Standards helmet when riding.
Protect your feet when you ride- don’t go barefoot or wear thongs or sandals.
A bicycle is a vehicle. The rider has the same responsibility as other road users.
When children are cycling with friends, their concentration may be poor and their cycling unsafe.
Only students under 12 years of age (and their accompanying adult/s) are permitted to ride on the footpath.

ACTIVITIES TO SHARE WITH YOUR CHILD:
Help your child to select the correct size helmet and make sure it is properly fitted.
Take your child along cycling paths and stop to discuss potential hazards along the way.
Count the number of driveways, laneways or places where the path crosses the road.
Cycle together until you are confident your child is safe on the roads.
Ride to school together, we have a secure bike shelter.
Obtain a copy of the road rules and have a Family Quiz.
“Happy Cycling”
3 way conferences

Thursday 21 April from 3:45 to 7:30 p.m. and Friday 22 April from 10:30 to 3:45 pm.
A reminder to book online at www.schoolinterviews.com.au
Enter our school event code jcq94, enter your details, choose the teacher and time.
Your meeting time will be emailed to you automatically.

If you wish to discuss your child’s progress with a specialist teacher, they will be available only on Thursday 21 April between 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Please phone the staff member directly to make a time to meet with them.

Physical Education – Seb Scanu
Visual Art – Wendy Keating
Indonesian Language – Sarjit Ladd
eLearning – Kerrie Shelden
Library – Sue O’Hehir
Music—Anne McKay

PPPS Has Talent!

This term is when we have auditions for PPPS Has Talent.
Each Friday lunchtime, from Week 3, we will see some amazing acts in the auditions...singers, dancers, instrumentalists, magicians, sporty presentations, drama and who knows what else! The auditions will be held in the Hall, commencing at 1:10pm. Everyone is welcome to come along.
Entry forms will be available in the Office area and must be returned by Wednesday 20th April. Each entry will cost $2 per entry.
Let’s make this the best show ever.
Anne McKay (Music Coordinator)
Entertainment book 2016/17

Plenty Parklands Primary School is pleased to be selling the 16|17 Entertainment™ Memberships as a fundraiser in 2016 – the Memberships are now available to purchase at the school office or online.

You can choose between the traditional Entertainment™ Book or you can purchase the Digital Membership, which puts the value of the Entertainment™ Book into your iPhone or Android smartphone, all for just $65!

The Entertainment™ Memberships contain over 800 valuable up to 50% off and 2-for-1 offers for many of the best restaurants, attractions, hotels and retailers in Melbourne.

Each Membership sold raises $13 for Plenty Parklands Primary School to help us raise much needed funds.

Order your new Entertainment™ Book or Entertainment™ Digital Membership before 26 April 2016 and you will receive over $160 worth of additional offers that you can use right away!

Please show your support by visiting the link below and purchasing your Membership today:


For any enquiries please contact: Antonella Azzopardi on 9404 4311 or azzopardi.antonella.a@edumail.vic.gov.au
Opening Hours: 7.00-8.45am and 3.30-6.00pm
For bookings/cancellations call Kristine on 9404 4916

Welcome back! We hope that you all had a Happy Easter and enjoyed the holidays. This term, we will continue with Camp Australia’s tCAF Buddy Bear leadership program, in partnership with the Alanah and Madeline Foundation. This program provides opportunities for children to take on roles of responsibility and build self-confidence. Leaders are presented with Better Buddy Leader Badges and certificates to recognise their role. This enables younger children to feel safe and cared for whilst older children feel valued and respected.