From the Principal’s Desk
Hello everyone and welcome back to the start of the 2015 school year. A special welcome to the two Michaels from Heywood, Michael Roosa and Michael Klima have both started with us today and are both in Group 3. We wish them both all the best and we look forward to working with them.

New Staff
It is great to welcome three new staff to the school. Kylie Ferguson will be teaching group 2 and comes from Heywood via Swan Hill Special School. Julie Lamond will be teaching art and joins us from MacKillop College in Melton. Kathleen McCallum comes to us from Branxholme and will be assisting group 2. We hope you all settle in and enjoy your roles at Portland Bay School.

Kylie

Julie

Kathy

Swimming
Our swimming program will start next Friday (6/2) and will continue each Friday for the remainder of term 1. In term 2 and 4 it will be on Monday. Emma is coordinating our program this year and with smaller groups this program will be very beneficial for students’ strength, coordination and fitness.

Please look out for the permission notes that will come home in the next few days for swimming and local excursions.

Group 4 Camp
I am looking forward to going on camp with group 4 next week. It is exciting to have access to the great facilities at Blackwood Camp. We will leave from school Tuesday morning (students come to school at the normal time).

Staff attending are Susan W, Steve, Annette and Sue H. Sue and Annette will share the bus driving and Steve will tow the trailer in his car.

Due to one bus being utilised on school camp, a varied bus run has been sent home for parent/guardian reference. Please contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.

COMING EVENTS

TERM 1

Friday 30th January

Next week

Monday 2nd February

Tuesday 3rd February
- Group 4 Camp (Susan) Starts.
- Blackwood Outdoor Adventure Camp

Wednesday 4th February
- Group 4 Camp (Susan)

Thursday 5th February
- Group 4 Camp (Susan)

Friday 6th February
- Group 4 Camp (Susan) Returns
- Swimming

Important Dates to Remember

Monday 9th February
- School Finance Meeting 1pm

Tuesday 10th February
- School Council Meeting 7pm

Wednesday 25th February
- Student Support Group Meeting Day

Monday 9th March
- Labour Day Holiday

Camp Dates 2015

Group 3 May 25 - 29
Group 1 Aug 3 – 5
Group 2 Aug 5 – 7
Group 5 Oct 26 – 30 in tents
Happy Birthday !!!
The following students who celebrate their birthdays over the Holidays.
Coster Saurbrey - 24th December
Rory Walters - 22nd January
And our staff
Gillian Caithness - 28th December
Nat Rogers - 7th January
Casey Dent - 9th January
Annie Rowe - 16th January
Darrell O’Brien - 18th January
We hope you all had great days.

Chaplaincy Program
The school is very pleased to announce that we have successfully received a grant to employ a chaplain two days a week for the next three years to support students and families with their emotional, social and spiritual needs. I have made contact with Access Ministries and will work with them to make an appointment to the role during term 1.

For more information about the program parents and students are welcome to talk with me or other staff or visit the website at: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/health/Pages/nscpchaplaincy.aspx

Student Support Group Meeting Day – Wed 25th Feb
The school will hold a dedicated day for student support group meetings.
The purpose of this day is to finalise students’ 12-month learning goals and learning and behaviour plans.

It is expected and appropriate that some students will attend the meetings with their parents and carers.

Teachers will organise times with parents and carers in the coming weeks.

There is no school for students on this day.

School Timetable
Monday – Physical Education with Emma
Thursday – Art with Julie
Friday – Swimming with Emma

Have a good weekend ……………………… Steve Crossley, Principal.

Reminder - Labour Day Holiday – Monday 9th March

Bus List 2015
Minor changes have been made to the 2015 Bus List for pick up and drop off of students. Please check with Bus staff if you need to clarify your times. Reminder to please call your allocated bus, numbers should be on students bags, if your child will not be on the bus that morning. Prior notices should be communicated through Chat books/Diaries.
Please be ready 5 minutes before pick up time and be mindful buses may be delayed some days.

Permission Slips
2 Permission slips and 1 Medical form have been sent home with the students today.
Please complete these at your earliest convenience and return to school.

Class Teachers 2015
Group 1 – Gillian Caithness
Group 2 – Kylie Ferguson
Group 3 – Charlotte Peverett
Group 4 – Susan Webster
Group 5 – Phil Mahon

Welcome to 2015

Great work, day 1 from Charlotette’s Room.
Awesome super hero’s
Rory, Lucy and Tylah

Happy Birthday !!!
Happy Birthday and Best Wishes to
The following students who celebrate their birthdays over the Holidays.
Coster Saurbrey - 24th December
Rory Walters - 22nd January
And our staff
Gillian Caithness - 28th December
Nat Rogers - 7th January
Casey Dent - 9th January
Annie Rowe - 16th January
Darrell O’Brien - 18th January
We hope you all had great days.
If there is a bushfire, flood, severe storm or other major emergency near you, the emergency services may choose to warn you by text to your mobile or a voice message to your home phone.

Emergency Alert is the national telephone warning system. It uses the address where your phone is registered and the actual location of your mobile to reach you:

- when your home or school is near an emergency
- when you are travelling with your mobile near an emergency.

When the emergency services use the telephone warning system:

- a home phone within the warning area may receive a recorded voice message that begins with “Emergency, Emergency”, and/or
- a mobile phone that is switched on and in an area of mobile coverage may receive a text message.

The service is free and you do not need to register.

The warning message will tell you:

- which emergency service sent the message: eg CFA
- about the emergency and where it is
- what you should do to stay safe
- where you can get more information.

All telephone warnings come from the official number: +61 444 444 444

Example Text Alert

From: +61 444 444 444
EMERGENCY WARNING FROM CFA
Fire in Pohlners Road area.
Visitors to Grampians National Park should leave now.
Check local radio or visit emergency.vic.gov.au

Talk to your child about the Emergency Alert system.
If they receive a warning message on the home phone or a warning text on their personal mobile, encourage them to stay calm and show or repeat the message to a responsible adult they know, such as a relative or teacher.

If adults are not around, encourage them to follow the action given in the alert.

For more information about the system, visit emergencyalert.gov.au and watch the video (it’s in 30 languages).

In an emergency, do not rely just on your telephone for a warning.
- Stay aware of your surroundings
- Listen to local radio
- Visit emergency.vic.gov.au
- Download the FireReady app
- Go to facebook.com/cfavic
- Follow @CFA_Updates on Twitter

All telephone warnings come from the official number: +61 444 444 444

**Community Announcements**

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**PORTLAND SES RECRUITING NOW**

**OPEN NIGHT 26TH FEB**
7:00PM – 9.00PM @ 4 Glenelg Street
(next to Police Station)

THURSDAYS ARE OUR NORMAL TRAINING NIGHTS
INFORMATION, SEE OUR EQUIPMENT, ASK QUESTIONS,
MEET OTHER SES VOLUNTEERS

PORTLAND SES is seeking a number of community
minded people who want to make a contribution to
the wellbeing of their local Portland community.

Can you see yourself in Orange?
- Full training provided, no previous experience required.
- Make a contribution to your community as a VICSSES volunteer.
- Learn valuable career and life skills.
- OPERATIONAL & NON OPERATIONAL people welcome

ARE YOU INTERESTED?
This is what you could do
Storm & Flood  Administration
Road rescue  Fundraising. Grants
Land search  Media and Public Relations
Rope rescue  Community Education

Contact: Portland SES – 0407 052 722
Call 1300 VICSSES or visit www.vicses.gov.au

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**Disability respite And Planned Activity Program.**

OzChild provides flexible respite, information and
planned activity groups to families who
have a child or young person with a disability.

Phone 03 5561 4820
# Workshop Calendar – January to June 2015

Aspect Victoria is pleased to offer our highly successful, contemporary, evidence-based, three (3) day Autism specific Positive Behaviour Support Workshops across Victoria.

## February

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18th, 17th &amp; 18th Feb</td>
<td>Nathalia Primary School, Narre Warren, VIC 3805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23rd, 24th &amp; 25th Feb</td>
<td>Warrnambool Football Netball Club, Warrnambool, VIC 3280</td>
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In 2015, Aspect Victoria will also deliver the Positive Behaviour Support Workshop in Mandalarri, Vietnam, and to Aboriginal communities. Please email aspect.victoria@autism.com.au if you would like to be notified of workshops held in languages other than English.

## March

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3rd &amp; 4th March</td>
<td>Warrnambool Leisure Centre, VIC 3280</td>
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<tr>
<td>23rd &amp; 24th March</td>
<td>Warrnambool Free Press Room, VIC 3280</td>
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<tr>
<td>13th &amp; 14th March</td>
<td>Traralgon, VIC 3844</td>
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<tr>
<td>26th &amp; 27th March</td>
<td>Geelong West Town Hall, VIC 3218</td>
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## April

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>19th &amp; 20th April</td>
<td>Geelong Heights, VIC 3218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd &amp; 23rd April</td>
<td>Geelong Community Centre, VIC 3218</td>
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<tr>
<td>29th &amp; 30th April</td>
<td>Buxton Heights, VIC 3218</td>
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## May

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd &amp; 3rd May</td>
<td>Hoppers Crossing, VIC 3225</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd &amp; 4th May</td>
<td>Benalla, VIC 3674</td>
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## June

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>9th &amp; 10th June</td>
<td>Moonee Ponds Bowling Club, VIC 3050</td>
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<tr>
<td>15th &amp; 16th June</td>
<td>Moonee Ponds, VIC 3050</td>
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</table>

Register ONLINE: www.autism.com.au

NB: Registrations open at least 6 weeks prior to the workshop and will close one week prior if a minimum of 16 participants has not been reached.

### What participants say about Aspect Positive Behaviour Support Workshops:

"Brilliant information and concrete strategies to use. Thank you for the leadership in this area. I have learned so much, I am able to walk away having learned so much. It has been a great experience. Thank you again, I would do it again."

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### Positive Behaviour Support Workshop

**For Parents and Caregivers of Children and Young Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder**

Aspect Victoria is pleased to offer our highly successful, contemporary, evidence-based, three (3) day Autism specific Positive Behaviour Support Workshop in the Western Region of Victoria.

More than 1200 families have participated in Aspect’s Positive Behaviour Support Workshops across Australia. Post workshop evaluations show an effectiveness of the workshops, with participants reporting decreases in challenging behaviour and increased in confidence and capacity to support their children and young adults.

**When:**

Monday 23rd – Wednesday 25th, February 2015

**Where:**

Warrnambool Football Netball Club (Oval Room)

Craner Street, Warrnambool VIC 3280

**Time:**

8:30am-2:30pm (1.5hrs registration)

**Cost:**

FREE (tea, coffee & biscuits provided – participants to bring own lunch)

**Registration:**


Please note: You may search for this specific workshop location by entering the location into the Search ‘Hayward Road’

### Eligibility to participate in this Workshop:

- Parents or carers of children and young adults aged between 5 - 15 years, diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- The individual with ASD must be living at home
- Participation fees are encouraged to provide professional or service providers working with them to attend the workshop.

### Families participating in this Workshop will:

- Develop a deeper understanding of autism and how an ASD impacts upon parents and carers
- Learn how to be proactive by creating an autism-friendly environment
- Learn how to set up an autism-specific support plan for one or more of their child’s/children’s challenging behaviour
- Learn how to teach new skills to promote the child’s independence and quality of life.

**Enquiries:**

Contact Amber Day – Workshop Coordinator or Heather Kith捞 – Service Coordinator

Phone: 03 9277 6900 or email: a.day@autism.com.au

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"Countless strategies and ideas..."