Date: Thursday 19th February 2015. Issue 4

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From the Principal’s Desk
Some of our junior students enjoyed a Western Bulldogs Footy Clinic yesterday at Hanlon Park. It was a great opportunity to meet AFL players and students from other local primary schools. Please see the photos in today’s newsletter, everyone had a wonderful time. Smiles all around.

School Council Elections
Nominations for school council closed today and I only had 1-nomination. Deb Robinson has decided to re-nominate for school council. I declare her elected for a 2-year term as School Council President.

We still have two 2-year positions and one 1-year position available for parents and carers. Please let me know if you are interested in one of these positions.

Caught Being Good
Well done to Cameron, Michael and Taylah who were all ‘Caught Being Good’ last week.

Sailing
Many of our students will be sailing next Friday in the Portland harbour area (near the Information Centre). The program will go ahead subject to good weather.

The sailing sessions will be Feb 27 and March 20 at Portland with the Inter-school regatta in Warrnambool on May 1.

Parent SSG meetings
Next Wednesday is the Student Support Group meeting day. Parents and carers should have appointments with their teacher or have made other arrangements. Please talk to individual teachers about students attending, but generally this is more applicable for older students.

Reminder - No school for students on Wed 25th Feb

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

COMING EVENTS

TERM 1
Friday 20th February
- Swimming

Next week
Monday 23rd February
- 

Tuesday 24th February
- 

Wednesday 25th February
- Student Support Group Meeting Day - NO Students at school. Please refer to notes or communication diaries for interview times and information.

Thursday 26th February
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Friday 27th February
- Swimming
- Sailing - Portland

Important Dates to Remember.
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

Donations requested
We are in search of kind donations such as old magazines, unused rolling pins, biscuits cutters, fabric, material, wool, ribbons, buttons etc and old shirts (larger sizes) for Art. Please forward any useful items to school and thank you in advance.

Education Maintenance Allowance
Please be reminded that EMA is not available this year as a result of a change in federal government policy.

School Statements
Reminder - the school account may be paid in full or by small instalments. Please contact Wendy in the office if you have any questions or concerns.
Happy Birthday !!!
Happy Birthday and Best Wishes to the following staff
Steve Crossley - 24th Feb
We hope you have a great day.

Student Accident Insurance/Ambulance Cover Arrangements and Private Property Brought to Schools

The Department of Education and Training ask Principals to remind parents/guardians that:

- parents/guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs; and
- parents/guardians can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers
- Principals should remind parents/guardians and staff that the Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property.

Stars of the Week
“Caught Being Good”
Prizes awarded at last assembly

Well done
Taylah Gannon, Michael Roosa and Cameron Pryor-Hollis
Great effort.

At our Friday’s whole school assembly, we draw the “Caught Being Good” raffle. Through out the weeks, staff give students a raffle ticket for displaying positive behaviour either in their classroom, on the playground or in any school events such as excursions, outings or community access.

Some of the reasons students have been given tickets recently are as follows:
- Helping others,
- Displaying good behaviour,
- Following instructions,
- Showing persistence,
- Showing empathy,
- Caring for others,
- Helping without being asked,
- Being part of the team and caring for friends.

Message from Sue Cowie - Well Being

It was such a great pleasure to meet many families at the lunch last week. And what a superb day it was! My name is Sue Cowie and I am the new Wellbeing coordinator; a position funded through the Chaplaincy program.

This has been a worthwhile initiative for Portland Bay as our students and their families will always be the priority here. Your wellbeing and welfare are integral to a holistic education for our children. Wellbeing is a rather broad term but in terms we all understand it means looking after mental and physical health. It encompasses belonging to a caring community and finding a pathway in life. It also means encouraging resilience, respect and responsibility. I do hope I can become part of your exciting journey for the educational community here at Portland Bay. Please come and say hello. Sue

Thank you Wannon Water
For the kind donation of water bottles for student use, we really appreciate them. :)

[Image of the water bottles and staff members with water bottles]
Western Bulldogs footy clinic
Wednesday 18th Feb
Hanlon Park

Awesome effort and great skills!!

Great job Everyone!!

Lots Of smile and laughter.
**Community Announcements:**

**PORTLAND SIGNING CENTRE:**

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE can now be located at the Portland Library in Bentinck street every FRIDAY between 12 -2pm. excluding public holidays.

RVAHJ = Royal Victoria Association of Honorary

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**Beats Cycle For Hope**

**Sunday 22 March 2015**
Portland to Bridgewater Bay (22km)

Entry: FREE
Donations kindly accepted (Tax deduction available)

Starts Portland Football Netball Club, Hornton Park
Registration from 8.30am

Cyclists leave Portland Football Netball Cricket Club in a stippled format at 9.30am leaving Bridgewater Reserve at 10am.

Enjoy a family friendly afternoon of entertainment and music:
Auction at 12pm
Food & Refreshments available by Bridgewater Bay Cafe and local Rotary club vendors.

Children under 12 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or guardian to participate

Visible Batsman throughout the ride, along with a Land Car, Tin Car and Mobile Memorial.
All Maintenance Support for Rides “On the Road”.

Free bus available from Bridgewater back to the start line following the event. 1pm approx.

More info www.beatcycelforhope.org

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**Kyeema Support Services Inc.**

**Parents/Caregivers**
An information session on
“Future Planning for People with Disabilities”

Estate planning is very significant for parents and other relatives of people who are vulnerable because of intellectual disability, acquired injury/illness or for other reasons.

Topics include: Guardianship, Taxation and Centrelink payments

Presenter: Jennifer Jackson Moore’s Legal (Melbourne)

**Location:** Discovery Centre
Cnr Must Street & Fawthorp Street, Portland
(at Portland Secondary College)

**Date:** 25 February 2015
Start: 9.45am for a 10.00am start - until around 12.00.
Session will be repeated at Kyeema, 50 Lalor St at 4 pm.

There will be an opportunity to meet with Jennifer privately after the presentation if you have any further queries.
This is a free presentation but booking is essential via Kyeema Support Services Inc. phone: (03) 5521 7820

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**Gateways**

Gateways Support Services has an office in Warrnambool and offers services to families caring for children with intellectual and physical disabilities and complex care needs throughout the South West.

Short Term and Extended Flexible Packages are available to assist families with the additional costs involved in caring for their children and meeting their needs.

Gateways Support Services welcomes enquiries from families and can give advice and support as needed.

Please call 5562 8271 for more information
Portland Bay School is **INTRODUCING**

**Student School Banking**

Available *Every Wednesday* with

Portland **Bendigo Bank**

*(Please feel free to send in deposits to other banks if student accounts are already set up).*

*The account is free of charge for our students.*

**3 Easy steps to start.**

1. Student/Parent/Carer/Guardian request an account form from the school office.
2. Complete name on front page and Parent/Guardian sign where indicated.
3. Return account form to the school office with a gold coin starting deposit.

*Easy !!!! A bank book will be issued soon after to start your regular depositing.*

*The school will help educate your child on money value and the benefit of savings.*

**School banking will be available every Thursday of the school terms.**

Students - Please bring your bank book with your deposit to school by Thursday, either weekly or as often as you like.

Portland Bay School will bank and return your bank book as soon as possible for the next deposit.

*On every 10 weeks of depositing through the school, students will receive a small encouragement prize !!!!*