From the Principal’s Desk
I am looking forward to the Graduation & Presentation Day tomorrow and our last day of school on Monday. Congratulations to all the students and your achievements throughout the year.

Staff Leaving
As happens this time every year we must say farewell to staff who are moving on.

Good luck to Phil Mahon who is taking leave to go teach in Northern Territory for 12-months. Thank-you for all your hard-work and dedication throughout the last few years and we wish you all the best for the future and look forward to your return in 2018.

We are also farewelling Sue Cowie who has completed her term as chaplain. Thank-you for the work you have done over the last 2 years and we wish you all the best for the future.

Teachers 2017
Group 1 - Leilani Butler  
Group 2 - Charlotte Peverett  
Group 3 - Reece Cracknell  
Group 4 - Gillian Caithness  
Group 5 - Susan Webster  
PE - Emma Rudge (Thurs & Fri)  
Art - Julie Lamond (Wed)

School finishes at 2.30pm on Monday (19th December) and the school buses will leave at this time, so please make the necessary adjustments for the early drop-off times.

Have an enjoyable holiday .................. Steve Crossley, Principal

COMING EVENTS
TERM 4 2016
Friday 16th December
Graduation/End of Year Ceremony
10am at Portland Civic Hall

Next Week
Monday 19th December
Last Day Term 4 2016
for Students 2.30pm Finish

Tuesday 20th December
No Students - Last day Term 4 2016 for staff

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Important Dates to Remember
2017 - Tuesday 31st January
Students 1st Day of Term 1

Reports available for collection at Presentation Day
Reports can be collected tomorrow at Presentation Day. Teachers (teacher of the eldest in the family) have the end of year student reports ready for collection. Any reports not collected will be posted home on Tuesday 20th December.

Thank you ‘Go Surf School and Hire’ and Emma Rudge for our great surf sessions, they are always fun.
Stars of the Week
“Caught Being Good”

Well done to our caught being good Winners last week: Andrew Whiting, Connor Saunders and Jamie Pumpa

On the Buses: Harvey McQualter, Isaac Jacobson and Maycie-Lee Reeves

We focus each week on all our positive behaviours both in the school and on our buses.

At our whole school assembly, we draw the “Caught Being Good” raffle. Throughout the week, staff give students a raffle ticket for displaying positive behaviour either in their classroom, on the buses (including to and from school), on the playground or in any school events such as excursions, outings or community access.

Happy Birthday and best wishes to the following student who will celebrate his birthday the coming weeks

Logan Clark - 22nd December

and the following staff member

Emma Rudge - Today 15th December

Gillian Caithness - 28th December.

We hope you all have great days.

Surfing Monday 12th at Cape Bridgewater

Too many great photos, so we had to scatter them through the newsletter. Kids had another great day.
Lots of smiles and laughter. Great job everyone!
Expression of Interest

Alpine Bike Ride and Camp
Monday 27/3 to Friday 31/3

Blackwood Camp runs the Alpine Ride for selected students from member schools.

The ride follows the Murray to Mountains Rail Trail next to the beautiful Ovens River from Millawa to Bright (approx. 40km per day).

Portland Bay School has reserved 6 places on the ride and is calling for Expressions of Interest to participate in the ride. Students from groups 3, 4, and 5 are eligible to participate in the ride (2017 groupings).

Let Steve know if you are interested and pay your deposit as soon as possible. Part payments are welcome as people can afford it.

Staff: Steve and Reece plus extras as needed
Travel: One of the school buses

Bikes: All bikes must pass a road-worthy; students can use their own bike or borrow a school bike

Accommodation: Tents at Arden’s Caravan Park in Myrtleford

Meals: A combination of self-catering and Alpine Ride catering

Cost: $350 approx - final price confirmed in 2017
[Students will have the opportunity to fundraise]

Deposit: $50 deposit is due by Feb 10, 2017
Full Payment: Due by March 14, 2017

Community Announcements:

Portland Community Christmas Carols
Sunday 11th Dec.

Bentinck St lawns
Food stalls from 5.30pm
Carols 6pm

Performances by:
- Community choir
- Community band
- School groups
- Community groups

Brought to you by the Portland Minister's Association (Vic) for the Community of Portland

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