From the Principal’s Desk
As we head into the Labour Day long weekend and autumn there is lots of activity at the school. Swimming and singing today, sailing tomorrow, horse riding weekly, group 4 on camp and some senior students getting ready for the Alpine Ride in a few weeks’ time. In between, classes are working very hard on their school work and working towards their learning goals.

Next Tuesday at 7pm is the Annual General Meeting of school council where new office bearers will be elected. The AGM will be followed by a regular meeting of school council.

The New School Council
Parent/Carer Representatives:
Melissa Woods elected until March 2018
Debra Robinson elected until March 2017
Craig Howard elected until March 2018
Stephen Freeling elected until March 2017
Karen Rowley elected until March 2018
Pam Rennie elected until March 2017

Community Representatives:
Julie Amor elected until March 2018 & Brad Charman elected until March 2017

Staff Representative:
Charlotte Peverett elected until March 2018

Executive Member:
Stephen Crossley (Principal)

Caught being good
Well done to Andrew, Daniel, Jenny, Kara and Brodie who were all caught being good learners last week. This week we have been looking for students who are being respectful.

Portland Lighthouse Home
Congratulations to Portland Lighthouse home on the exciting news that they have purchased land to commence their building project.

Jill Edwards representing the project said, “Here are four very excited adults, standing in front of the real estate sign with ‘sold’.....step one to their dream home. We have purchased a block of land in Laguna Court. Have designed a house plan, just waiting for Karingal to have their say on the concept, then we will take the next step.”

www.lighthousehome.org.au
www.facebook.com/PortlandLighthouseHomeInc


Enjoy your long weekend …… Steve Crossley, Principal.
**Happy Birthday**

& best wishes to the following students who celebrate their birthday this coming week.

**Peter Saunders** - 15th March
and

**Bart Rowley** - 16th March
Best wishes to you both.

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**Stars of the Week**

“Caught Being Good”

Well Done to Andrew Whiting, Daniel Fitzpatrick, Kara Rennie, Jennifer Elliott and Brodie Pumpa.

Great Effort for “Learning to be Safe and to be a Learner”

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Portland Bay School is collecting Woolworths Disney Movie Stars packs, any donations would be appreciated to complete the school’s folders. Surplus will be traded to help our families complete their series as well.

Thank you in advance.

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Raffle winners drawn at this week’s Friday assembly is for “Learning to be Respectful”

The next week’s focus is: “Learning to be Responsible”

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Easter Raffle

Portland Bay School is organising an Easter Raffle to raise money for the Michael Ward Memorial Award.

Please send in Easter Eggs for Hampers as soon as possible.
Please sell Raffle Tickets and send the money and tickets back to the school.
Please return all tickets and money by Thursday 17th of March.

The Raffle will be drawn on Friday 18th of March at assembly.

Don’t forget to buy your tickets, $1-00 each.
Prizes are looking yummo!

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**Easter Raffle**

The students are encouraged to support each other, to be accountable for their actions and to achieve independence to the best of their abilities.

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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 playground or in any school events such as excursions, outings or
News from Blackwood Camp - Group 4 -
Lots of fun activities, great weather, a bit overcast today but all good. Pictures are of the low ropes.

Students have been cooking own meals and doing a great job.
Cyber-Safety, it’s up to us…

This week, I attended a forum on cyber-safety from Deakin Law School. A lawyer and representatives from the Police shared valuable knowledge with a room full of educators, eager to stay informed. It seems that we all have had experience dealing with an overload of social media; especially how our children have had negative experiences through exposure to it.

Let’s face it; we can’t exactly turn it off (although I have been known to do just that with my kids!) but we can be resolute in strategies to make it safe. As a parent, I realised it was up to me.

As an educator, I know it is up to us. Let’s do it together.

Safe Social Media Tips for Parents/Teachers:

- For the young, supervise at all times – no aimless Googling
- ABSOLUTELY NO EXCHANGE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION
- ABSOLUTELY NO PHOTO CONTENT THAT MAY BE INTERPRETED AS SUGGESTIVE
- No response to rude/harassing emails (keep a record of them). Create new account.
- Advise student/child to exit any site that makes them feel uncomfortable or worried.
- Bullying texts – block sender
- Computers NOT in the bedroom/parental monitoring/walk past and see what is on screen
- If you find inappropriate content about your child/student, contact Internet Service Provider (ISP) & or Police
- Be aware 78% of children will not tell if bullied on-line, in case they lose the internet
- Tell them they will not get into trouble if they tell you about an on-line worry
- Learn about the Net and share your knowledge in a fun way
- Learn and explore together – teachers/students and parents/children
- Install filters/block software to minimise dangers as done in schools
- Understand sites yourself to approve access
- Make rules about information your child can put onto websites or share
- Learn computer-speak – the discourse
- Facebook set to private/only friends known in real life (age appropriate - legalities)
- Teach information on the net (eg. Wikipedia) is not always reliable
- There is a Legal Help Service: 1300 792 387