IN THIS ISSUE
Years 3 - 6
The Bridge Project
Friends of Billanook
Performing Arts
ELP and JLC

Keep connected via
Billanook’s Facebook Page
SEMESTER 1 REPORTS - PRINCIPAL’S LIST

Semester One is well under way and, in the not too distant future, staff in the Secondary School will be busy preparing student reports. When parents receive their children’s reports at the end of semester, you will notice a new addition to each of the subject reports.

All reports have previously contained two main elements – an Achievement grading (that outlines a student’s performance against a set of subject specific outcomes) and a Comment (that provides detail about this performance).

The addition to this round of reports will be a third element – an Effort grade.

All we can ever hope for is that our children will do their very best in all their classes. Students at the College have a wide range of abilities, and as a result will receive a range of achievement outcomes – this is understandable and something we all accept. However, irrespective of ability, every student has the ability to receive a positive rating for Effort in every subject and that is what I would be hoping for (and I am sure parents are hoping for as well).

I intend recognizing those students who work exceptionally hard by reviewing their reports and compiling what I have called a Principal’s List for each year level. The Principal’s List will be published to our community and students will be recognised on stage at an Assembly.

I look forward to congratulating our students who have qualified to be on the Principal’s List in due course.
Optimism

Extensive research has suggested that success in education, work, health, sport and more is determined by a person’s level of optimism. An optimistic outlook contributes to the level of persistence that a person has in any given situation. An estimated two-thirds of people have a largely pessimistic outlook, which may lead to dysfunctional coping strategies and associated negative behaviour.

Optimism is not the same as positive thinking. Optimism means optimising or getting the most out of, or the best from yourself, others and your circumstances. It requires a person to DO something different before circumstances will change.

Our levels of optimism are most commonly tested in situations of adversity. Optimists tend to find reasons for situations and responses to those situations that are temporary, specific and not inherently about themselves. This means that optimists feel hopeful about the future and that situations can improve and they themselves are fine. Optimists will then show the strengths of persistence and resilience, and have the energy and strategies to develop and strive for goals. Optimists also believe that success can be repeated; that it was not a fluke.

The Pessimist will believe that there is an external factor of control that determines events. In explaining bad or unfavourable events, the pessimist will look for long-term, broad-ranging reasons that ultimately reflect badly on themselves. They don’t feel or have a sense of control, so they believe that the bad or unfavourable event will occur again.

Strong and positive self-esteem is a natural by-product of the optimistic approach because the optimist feels a sense of control about what happens to them. In a world where there may be a greater sense of uncertainty, this sense of having control is important to a person feeling secure in their place, wherever that may be. For adolescents who have additional changes - biological, social and more – the need for optimistic behaviour and ensuring that sense of control are all the more important.

As parents and teachers, we need to observe any pessimistic patterns of thought in our young people (and ourselves and our colleagues!). A change to optimistic thinking will result in the development of the ability to feel better more often and for longer periods, and for having the strategies and tactics for change in both the situation and our mood.
## IMPORTANT DATES

### Monday 10 March
Labour Day Public Holiday

### Sunday 2 March – Friday 14 March
Niigata Seishin Girls School Study Tour

### Tuesday 11 March – Friday 14 March
Senior Primary Camp, Portsea

### Tuesday 11 March – Wednesday 12 March
Niigata Study Tour Cultural Excursion to Phillip Island

### Tuesday 11 March
Thai Service Project Parent Information Evening, Carolyn Stone Centre, 7.30pm

### Wednesday 12 March
Year 10, 2014 Parent Information Evening, Senior School Centrespace, 7.30pm

### Thursday 13 March
Year 8 Hospitality excursion to Coles Supermarket, P2

### Monday 17 March
Certificate II in Hospitality, 3.30pm-6.30pm

### Tuesday 18 March
VCE Theatre Studies excursion to see “The Government Inspector”, Malthouse Theatre, 4.00pm-10.30pm

### Wednesday 19 March
Beach Volleyball, Year 7 and 8

### Thursday 20 March
Beach Volleyball, Year 9 and 10
Prep Tree Planting, 9.00am
Parent Teacher Interviews A-K
Uniting Church Social Justice Conference (Year 9 and 10 students) Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School

### Friday 21 March
Beach Volleyball, Year 11 and 12
Harmony Day
Immunisations, Year 7 and 10 students and Year 9 boys

### Monday 24 March
EISM Swimming Championships
Certificate II in Hospitality, 3.30pm-6.30pm

### Tuesday 25 March
House Athletics Carnival, Year 7 to 12

### Wednesday 26 March
School at Work Tour, 10.30am
Parent Teacher Interviews L-Z
Year 7 to 10 Touch Rugby Championships, Elwood Park

### Thursday 27 March
Year 7 to 10 Touch Rugby Championships, Elwood Park

### Monday 31 March – Friday 4 April
EXIT Week
Year 8 Camp
City 9 Program

### Tuesday 1 April
Year 12 Chemistry excursion to Victorian Space Science Education Centre, 8.00am to 5.30pm

### Friday 4 April
End of Term 1

### Saturday 19 April – Saturday 26 April
Regional Round Square Conference, Kings College, Auckland, New Zealand

### Monday 21 April
Easter Monday

### Tuesday 22 April
Term 2 Commences

### Friday 25 April
ANZAC Day Public Holiday

### 2014 TERM DATES

**Term 1**
Tuesday 28 January – Friday 4 April

**Term 2**
Tuesday 22 April – Friday 27 June

### PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Friday 18 April
Good Friday

Monday 21 April
Easter Monday

Friday 25 April
ANZAC Day

Monday 9 June
Queen’s Birthday

### To report a student absence

Phone
Primary School 9724 4226
Middle School 9724 4225
Senior School 9724 4224
Café Bill
Café Bill has switched to the Summer menu for Term 1. Please make sure you are using the correct menu when writing lunch orders.

Café Bill
Click here to download the Summer menu!

Student PTV Concession Cards
If you need to apply for a Student Concession Card for public transport, please click the link below.

Once you have printed the form out, you will need to fill it in and attach 2 passport sized pictures to the form. Please bring the form to Reception at the College for stamping and signing. Once this is done you then take the completed form to your nearest train station for processing.

Click here to download an application form

Uniform Store
TERM 1
Monday 8.00am - 2.00pm
Thursday 12.00pm - 4.00pm
SPECIAL OPENING HOURS
Friday 4 April 12.00pm - 4.00pm
Saturday 5 April 9.00am - 12.00pm
Tuesday 22 April 8.00am - 4.00pm

PLEASE NOTE: PRICES OF ITEMS OF UNIFORM ARE SOMETIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE, DEPENDENT ON SUPPLIERS’ PRICE INCREASES.

Immunisations
URGENT MESSAGE FROM THE WELLNESS CENTRE

Student Medical Information is now due at the Wellness Centre. We are currently inputting all changes or additional information in order to ensure that all students at the College have up to date records.

The College is dedicated to providing appropriate duty of care, but without up to date information this may be compromised as we are less able to offer students appropriate support and care, whether it be at school or on an excursion. Therefore it is critical to return the form as a matter of urgency.

If you have any queries do not hesitate to contact the School Nurse, Mrs Linda McMahon, on (03) 9724 1120 or Pat Pearson, Administration & First Aid Officer, on (03) 9724 1149.

IMMUNISATION DETAILS FOR 2014
Year 7 Boys & Girls, Year 10 Boys & Girls and Year 9 Boys

An Immunisation envelope will be brought home very shortly. Please ensure that the form is signed and you indicate whether you wish your child to be immunised at the College. Please complete the card with Student Name, Homegroup (very important) and sign the card even if you tick No to immunisation as the Shire requires your signature either way. The immunisation card must then be returned to the College.

Immunisation Dates:
Friday 21 March 2014 - All Year 7 and 10 students and Year 9 boys
Thursday 22 May 2014 - all Year 7 students and Year 9 boys
Friday 17 October 2014 – all Year 7 students and Year 9 boys

Career News
Every week during term time a Career News is produced which publicises opportunities to experience careers. This can include such things as Open Days at tertiary institutions, information on selection into courses, how to find work, and specific course and career information.

Go to: Billanook Connect/Curriculum/Careers/Career Information and Events

Click here to download an application form

Go to: Billanook Connect/Curriculum/Careers/Career Information and Events

Click here to download an application form
The Bridge Project, is a student run LGBTIQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, & Questioning) activist group. Throughout 2013, with the help of a handful of teachers, professional filmmakers, and a generous HEY-grant of $32,000, we created 3 short films, to help raise awareness, and promote the acceptance of LGBTIQ people.

Our films are now available online for public viewing. You can watch them by clicking here.................................

Click here to view our films

Like our Facebook or Twitter page to stay updated with all the things we will be doing in and around the school and wider community.

Billanook’s new Business Directory App is a way of connecting Billanook’s community to search for goods and services that are provided by businesses directly associated with the College. The App is free to download, just head to the iTunes store:

Click here to download the app now!

Once you download the App you can search for a business by name or category.

If you are a Billanook parent who owns a business and are interested in adding your business to the App database all you have to do is download the App and complete the information in the section titled “Promote Your Business”.

From 2014 onwards, the subscription rate will only be $99 per year per business, with all fees going directly towards the Friends of Billanook who in turn support the College.

The App is only available at this stage on iOS (ie Apple) based products such as iPhones, iPads and iPod Touch but in the future the plan is to develop an Android companion to the App.

Coffee mornings are held on the last Friday of every month. Parents and friends are invited to join us to meet new faces or catch up with friends. There is no requirement for joining Friends of Billanook when attending our events. Just come along for great coffee and great conversation!

Where and when:
Friday 28 March, 9.00am -10:30am
Kuranga Nursery
118 York Rd, Mt Evelyn

Next FOB Meeting:
Monday 24 March
Carolyn Stone Centre, 10.00am
PERFORMING ARTS

“Ah, music,” he said, wiping his eyes. “A magic beyond all we do here!”

— J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone

Ensembles

Our 2014 Ensemble program has begun and the Performing Arts building is starting to fill with the sound of group music making. Ensemble playing/singing underpins the development of a student’s musical skill.

Ensembles offer:
- Improved musical understanding compared to those who do not participate
- Greater motivation towards personal practice
- More rapid improvement of instrumental/vocal skills including musicality, sight-reading, tuning and teamwork to name but a few
- Exposure to varied repertoire
- Crucial group music making skills that can’t be attained in an individual lesson
- The opportunity to delight in shared experiences with other musicians – leadership, concerts, tours, socialising...

Students learning an instrument/voice at school are expected to contribute to the musical life of Billanook and participate in an ensemble once they have reached an appropriate standard.

Term 1 Dates

House Music
Monday 12 May

VCE Theatre Studies Play
Thursday 15 & Friday 16 May

Music Recitals
Monday 19, Tuesday 20, Wednesday 21 and Thursday 22 May

The Den
Monday 23 and Tuesday 24 June

Year 7 & 8 Review

The Year 7 & 8 Revue has quickly become a stand-out event in the Middle School calendar. The Revue process aims to build skills in music and theatre and then transfer these to the stage, culminating in a performance in November. All Year 7 & 8 students can participate in the Revue on-stage or in the back-stage crew.

Rehearsals
Every Tuesday – 3.30 to 5.00pm
Contact Mr Paul Cotton - 9724 1125 - for more information.

Whenever we want to improve something we add music to it.
A movie, we add music.
Dining, we add music.
Sports event, add music.
Politics, add music.

Music makes education better too...

Instrumental Tuition
Making music is a great experience. Contact Performing Arts to find out more about learning an instrument and becoming involved in our ensemble program. Application forms are available on Billanook Connect https://connect.billanook.vic.edu.au/ Click – Extra Curricular – Click - Performing Arts – Click - Instrumental Music – Click - Enrolment Form

Timetables and Absences
Current enrolments should have received a timetable and had their first lesson in the first week of term. Please contact us if you are yet to receive notification of your lesson time. Where possible, tutors require 24 hours’ notice for absences, and in the case of illness please phone the office before 9am on the day. Tutors will make every attempt to re-schedule these lessons.

Students are reminded that music timetables are posted on the notice board and should be checked each week.

Office Hours 8.30am – 1.30pm
Phone: 9724 1126

FOPA (Friends of Performing Arts)
If you would like to know more about becoming involved in FOPA, please contact the Performing Arts Office: 9724 1126

"Ah, music," he said, wiping his eyes. "A magic beyond all we do here!"
Seussical The Musical!

At last week’s Assembly we were all excited to announce the 2014 Primary Production.

**ELP4 – Year 2 will perform The Lorax.**
The Lorax is the story of a boy who’s looking for answers. Living in a ruined town, this little guy wants to know the story of the Lorax, so he goes to the Once-ler, an elderly inventor/manufacturer. Doc Brown, the Once-ler, tells the boy how the town came to be ruined and, most importantly, what he can do to turn things around.

**Year 3 – Year 6 will perform in Seussical the Musical.**
In this family-friendly show about the power of imagination and belief in yourself, the Cat in the Hat acts as the emcee to steer us through the world of Dr Seuss and his well-loved characters.

The production will be held in Term 3 and auditions will be conducted soon. We look forward to transforming our school into a place where Dr Seuss will come to life.

Oh, the thinks you can think
When you think about Seuss!

---

**Parent Helpers - Signing In**

Thank you to all the parent helpers who have commenced supporting the JLC. It’s great to see parents reading with students and working on Literacy tasks.

A reminder that if you have the receipt of a Working with Children Check then you can commence your support work in the School.

We ask that all parents supporting in the school please sign in and out of the school. This is a safety issue so we know who is in the school in case of an emergency. We would also like you to wear a Billanook “Parent Helpers” identification card so that all members of the community can recognise your support. Both the sign in book and Identification lanyard are kept at the front office.

Thank you for your support.
**Staffing**

Christine Schiller (Prep – 2 Team Leader) will be commencing her maternity leave at the end of this week. We wish Christine and Mitch every joy as they prepare for their first child. I’m sure you will join me in congratulating Christine and Mitch, wishing them all the best for this exciting and fulfilling time in their lives.

**Senior Primary Camp**

This week the Senior Primary students and staff will be heading off to Portsea for a four-day camp. The program looks exciting, adventurous and fun and I am sure all students and staff will enjoy the experience, developing new friendships, gaining a better understanding of each other’s strengths and having lots of fun. Accompanying the students will be Mark Tomietto, Elizabeth Purchase, Jenny Baensch, Jessica Abbott, Jane Yuille and myself. Thank you to Mark Tomietto for organising and co-ordinating the camp program. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff attending for giving up their time away from their families and friends.

**Cultural Diversity Week**

During Cultural Diversity Week from the 15 to the 23 March, Victorians of all ages and walks of life come together to contribute to community harmony and to promote mutual understanding and respect. Cultural Diversity Week coincides with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Australian celebration of “Harmony Day” on Friday 21 March.

This year Billanook College will run a series of activities and learning experiences throughout Cultural Diversity Week, to engage our students and their families in celebrations of the multicultural nature of Australian society, in an effort to enhance respect and support for cultural, religious and linguistic diversity within both our school and our wider community.

**Daniel Thomas**

Head, Primary School
Billanook ELP is a fun and special environment for children. Children have the opportunity to play, create, investigate, discover and socialize with others. Children have the opportunity to experience new and exciting things. This includes things like incursions and special days.

This week the ELP3s had a teddy bear’s picnic with their families. There were “lots of marvellous things to eat and wonderful games to play.” ELP3 had a wonderful time at their teddy bears picnic. There were some delicious treats - thank you to the wonderful parents for providing them! There were some great games, including going on a bear hunt, and we read a story called “Where’s my Teddy” by Jez Alborough. The children also made teddy bear ears to wear for the occasion. We all had a lovely time and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for coming!

ELP4s will be having a special incursion next week. Kings Swim will be coming to talk to the children about water safety. This will be fantastic because learning to swim is an essential life skill, and part of this is learning how to be safe around water. I am sure that it will be very exciting and informative.

ELP3B and ELP4B have continued to add to the sea mural. The children in ELP3B have been busy making jellyfish. These are made out of paper plates, paints and wool. We have also been doing some investigating into what lives in rock pools. We watched a clip on YouTube then discussed what we saw. Then we had a look at and feel of some of the things we had seen in the video. This included some fossils and shells. ELP4 watched the same YouTube clip, then studied the sea mural they are creating. We discussed what else is needed to complete it. We went on a nature walk around Billanook and collected items from nature that looked similar to ones in the ocean. We collected lots of different leaves, bark, grasses, branches and moss. We came back to the classroom and sorted it out, then took it in turns to add it to the sea mural. It is looking fantastic!

ELP3S have enjoyed investigating and exploring the world of dinosaurs. We even went on a dinosaur hunt through the bushland of the school collecting sticks, leaves and branches to paste onto the dinosaur mural that we have all been working on. We have enjoyed role playing, arts and crafts and cooking to do with our teddy bear’s picnic. Such an exciting time to be in ELP3!

ELP4S have just done the last finishing touches on the “Under the Sea” project, producing a fabulous mural and information tent and sharing everything we know about the sea and its creatures. Last week we learnt about the water cycle, quite a tricky concept for 4 and 5 year olds but you would be surprised how much we learnt.

So much learning in the ELP!!!

The ELP Team

Important Diary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ELP4 Water Safety Incursion</td>
<td>Wednesday 12 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELP3B Easter Parade and Family Picnic</td>
<td>Wednesday 2 April, 5:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELP4B Easter Parade and Family Picnic</td>
<td>Thursday 3 April, 5:30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As we pass the midway point of Term 1, the Junior Learning Centre continues to pulse with activity and excitement for learning. Teachers and students alike have been enjoying ‘Passion Time’ on a Wednesday afternoon. The students are immersed in a range of projects and activities at this time. In Perma Patch to the Plate, with Mrs Carroll, the students made vegetable and sausage kebabs grilled on a hot plate. The Crafty Creations group continues to work on their sewing masterpiece. Most of the students have almost finished sewing the outline of their picture, and some have begun filling in their picture with a long stitch. Mr T’s cubby building group is enjoying the different tasks and challenges presented to them as they build their cubbies with the many natural materials available to them in the School.

The Junior Primaries have started their new topic ‘Our Billanook Community’ and have been learning about what makes up a community and how a sense of ‘belonging’ is an important aspect of this. Jeannie Baker’s book ‘Belonging’ has been a fabulous introduction to the topic and has刺激了 many discussions. The Preps have started learning about ‘Us, Our Community, and our place here at Billanook’.

The Junior Primaries are writing Monster stories! Monster books and monster pictures have encouraged the students to think about an interesting story they might like to write. Mr Mitchell has written a monster story involving all the Junior Primaries, which is being read to them to help the students think more creatively about their own story.

They have also been given their Word Banks. These Word Banks are filled with words suitable for your child’s spelling ability. They are designed to give parents flexibility in creating different activities for their child to practise their spelling words. These words can be entered into various iPad applications, written out on paper or quizzed in the car on the way to School - the options are endless!

All students in the JLC have been given their first Home Learning project task. The Home Learning Task can be found on Billanook Connect by clicking the My Homework link on the front page. Your username and password should be the same as you use when accessing Parent/Teacher Interviews and reports. The Home Learning Task directly links to our topics and will be used to discuss the idea of belonging, community, groups and families.

We look forward to another fortnight of learning and fun!
All students in Year 3-6 are living examples of the above terms plus much more.

Passion time has been a huge hit and entirely embraced by the whole Primary Student and Staff body. Some delightful aromas were wafting around the Middle Primary area from yummy cooking; excited runners and Rap dancers were in the Centerspace, and what creative jewellery was being designed! The pink and purple girls were at their best!

The Middle Primary students have begun a range of activities relating to the integrated topic ‘Pack Your Bags’. We have had some thoughtful class discussions, especially in Indonesian classes, about how people may feel when they move from their home country to a new one. In addition the students have been thinking about what items people may take with them to a new country, with a focus on sentimental rather than monetary value.

The Year 3 students have begun their Instrumental lessons (cello and violin) and this week the note “D” was heard throughout the Centerspace!! All students are sounding so musical!

In Senior Primary students have commenced presenting their Powerful Learning Projects to the cohort. Students have chosen a kaleidoscope of ways to present posters, iMovie, pamphlet, animation, speech and performance.

What creative students we have at Billanook College, especially with Digital Technology. Our Technology Champions were presented with their certificates and badges at Assembly. Now we have our own specialist IT people ‘on the ground’ to help with IT issues arising across the Primary School.

All students are enjoying the Summer Interschool Sport program held each Friday. Congratulations to Keeley, Ellie, Elizabeth and Lauren for their outstanding success at the recent swimming carnival. What a tremendous effort.

A very big thank you to the families who attended the recent Senior Primary Camp briefing. Remember to check Billanook Connect, Senior Primary, Camp folder for the latest information and photos. We look forward to hearing about the Senior Primary students’ experiences at Portsea Camp next week.

As you can see….

Action! Passion! Independence! Friendship! Getting Along! Conflict Resolution!
Mt Evelyn Auskick Starts Soon!!

See our website for details
Search for:-
“Mt Evelyn Auskick”
Register online only at :- www.auskick.com.au

Mooroolbark Junior Football Club

New Players Wanted

Positions available in U8, U10, U12, U13 & U14 age groups

Enquiries Call Craig 0411 868 435

Soccer Players Wanted

For the Lilydale Eagles Soccer Club

All Ages / All Levels
From Juniors Through To Seniors

Junior Registration Day 25th Feb at
Morrison Reserve, Mt Evelyn 5.30pm to 7.30pm

Contact: LES 0402009189
les.dougan@lilydaleeagles.com.au
www.lilydaleeagles.com.au

Come and play at a family friendly club
COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

GIFT SHOP

Famous for:
Homemade Jams & Pickles plus locally made crafts -

- Jewellery
- Woodcraft
- Home crafts
- Home wares
- Soaps & Lotions
- Children’s wear
- Premium Coffee & Teas
- Greeting Cards
- Plants Herbs + more

Open Wed-Sun 10am-4.30pm
71 Wellington Rd, Wandin,
Ph: 03 5964 2088
www.montdelancey.org.au

PLAYER WANTED!

MEN, WOMEN & JUNIORS

+ PROFESSIONAL COACHES
+ SUMMER CLINICS FOR KIDS
+ REGISTRATION DAY -
  SUNDAY 9TH FEBRUARY

TRAINING FOR SENIOR MEN & WOMEN - NOW ON!
JUNIOR SKILLS CLINICS - STARTING FEBRUARY!

CONTACT THE CLUB - 0459 543 500 / WWW.THEBARKERS.COM.AU
HEALESVILLE JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

WANTED

GIRLS between 13 – 17 yrs old for our Youth Girls football team.

Training is Tuesdays and Thursdays 6-7:30 pm at Healesville High School
For more information please contact Kate on 0413 516 964

JUNIOR & SENIOR PLAYERS WANTED

CROYDON RAMS
BASEBALL CLUB

Come & join us for the 2014 Winter Baseball Season
No Experience Necessary

T-Ball Comp  Junior Comp  Senior Comp
Ages 5 to 11  Ages 9 to 16  Ages 14 & over

Come & Try Day

SATURDAY 22nd March 10am – 12noon
at
BARNGEONG RESERVE
Bambra Street, Croydon

Junior Enquiries
Robyn 0421 177 158
robyn@infoxchange.net.au

Senior Enquiries
Julian 0458 381 745
j.powell71@bigpond.com

www.croydon.baseball.com.au