To the School Community,

Throughout my time as principal at Hamlyn Banks PS I have continued to be impressed by the effort and attitude of the students staff and parents. Because of this I have been able to be proactive in leading the development of teaching and learning at the school alongside the staff as well as the students, this is the most important work that a principal does! The reality is though that there are many facets to my role that encompass the Financial and Human Resource management of the school, grounds, OHS, governance, committees at a systemic level and also giving time to the many people at our school when they need information, to share a success or solve a problem.

Early in my tenure I asked parents to complete a questionnaire about what they wanted in a Principal and it was resoundingly clear that you wanted someone who would listen and act taking into account the views of the community, especially where there were concerns about student learning, safety or behaviour. Since the last newsletter I have tracked the number of parents that have come to see or called me about something that needed to be solved, shared, discussed and understood – more than 15 hours of the week! I am totally comfortable with this and encourage it to continue especially if you have a concern.

In a school of 420 students things happen despite the thorough planning that goes into promoting and acknowledging positive behaviours that our students overwhelmingly demonstrate. Yesterday I did need to close the oval and ask the students to go inside to minimise a situation. The way it was dealt with was sensible and took all students into consideration. The decision was a proactive response that proved successful and enabled the situation to diffuse rapidly.

Unfortunately some students – without knowledge of any facts spread rumours, which I dispelled respectfully by giving clarity to our year 3-6 students about the situation. Some parents have also unfairly passed judgement on the situation through “Car Park Talk,” and social media. This is inappropriate and extremely unfair to all involved, especially the students, and I ask that in the future you come to the school and ask to see me to clearly understand the situation before adding to rumour or speculation, to ensure the students at our school continue to feel connected and understood.

I maintain my promise that as principal that I will always problem solve a situation, as long as this is done with respect at all times.

The content of this newsletter is generic but importantly I want you to know that I have absolute faith, belief in and respect for the families at our school and ask that if others engage with you in rumours or opinions that are unfounded please encourage them to see myself or Kerrie.

Daniel Vella
**Twilight Netball**
All games on Thursday, March 5th are at 4.15pm. **Amazeballz have a bye.** Please remember your $3 game fee and a sports bottle of water.

**Training**
Training will be Wednesdays, from 3.20 to 4 pm. Players, particularly those new to the game, are encouraged to attend training but it isn’t compulsory.

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**Writing by 1W**
Grade 1W have been learning to write lists. We have written about foods we like, wishes we would like granted and things we love about school. Here are some of the things we added to our lists about school!

Ten things we love about school.

- Buddies
- Playing outside
- Minecraft books
- The canteen
- Writing
- Blu tack
- Sport
- Art
- Music
- Cricket

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**Grade 6/5 News**

**Belmont High School Select Entry Accelerated Learning Program**

*The Select Entry Accelerated Learning (SEAL) Program provides a challenging environment where students of high intellectual potential thrive.*

**Information Evening** – Thursday, March 19th, 7pm in the school library. Applications close – Thursday, March 26th.

**Testing** – Friday, April 17th or Saturday, April 18th

Application forms and additional information can be found on the website www.bhs.vic.edu.au

Parents may contact Mr Mark Dooley for further information about the program. Phone – 52435355

**Matthew Flinders Girls' Secondary College Information evening**
March 24th from 7 to 8.30 pm in the Hall, main campus, Myers St, Geelong.

**Open Day**
Wednesday, March 25th, Tours 9 to 10.30, 1.30 to 3 (multi-purpose room, main campus). Come and see the school at work!

**Accelerated Learning Program Information evening**
March 18th, 7pm in the multi-purpose room, main campus, Fenwick St, Geelong.

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**First Aid Laundry Roster**
Volunteers are needed once a week to wash the First Aid room linen. There is a Roster up in the corridor near the office.

March 6th Deb Rockett March 13th Volunteer needed
Please note: A few changes to the library timetable.

Please make sure your child has a library bag so they can borrow each week. Class Timetable below:

**MONDAY**: All 6/5's & 43S & 43C

**TUESDAY**: 2M, 2L, 1D & 1B

**WEDNESDAY**: 4/3D, 4/3M, 1W, 4/3J & Prep

**FRIDAY**: Prep R, 2D, Prep F.

Also the Library will be open MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY mornings between 8.30 & 8.50 for students to return and borrow books.

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**School Development**

**Fundraising**

Information will come home today about the much awaited **BERTIE BEETLE** fundraiser. Please make sure you return your form by March 16th to receive the box of your choice in great time for the holidays.

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**Junior School Council**

The Junior School Council for 2015 has been selected. These badges will be awarded at assembly on Friday March 6th. Congratulations to these students.

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**LIBRARY**

Please note: A few changes to the library timetable.

After School Care: Oliver S

For always sharing your amazing stories.

Before School Care: Leah R

For choosing and completing a Japanese fan from our multicultural book.

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**School Canteen**

The school canteen will be available for lunch orders Wednesday & Fridays. Over counter sales will be available these days as well. Menu’s are available either on the School Web page or outside the canteen.

Today a special lunch order has gone home for a “Hot Dog” day on Monday March 16th. These orders need to be returned Wednesday March 11th 9.30am.

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**STAR OF THE WEEK**

**Grade 0PF**: Madden S

For an awesome start to school and for being a really keen learner. Well done Madden!

**Grade 0PS**: Edmond Q

For his positive attitude towards listening & learning.

**Grade 0PU**: Matilda W

For her mature attitude towards learning! She is always listening and challenging herself.

**Grade 1B**: Monica P

For being such an enthusiastic writer and checking her work for capital letters.

**Grade 1D**: Royce G

For being a focused reader during independent reading.

**Grade 1W**: Oliver G

For a wonderful attitude to learning and for being kind to others.

**Grade 2D**: Joey R

For being organised and mature class member. Great job Joey!

**Grade 2L**: Hannah V

For always trying her best in the classroom. Great job Hannah!

**Grade 2M**: Lucas G

For always listening respectfully.

**Grade 2M**: Bella B

For achieving her writing goal.

**Grade 43C**: Josh B

For working hard on his writing & experimenting with similies.

**Grade 43D**: Lachlan H & Lachlan R

For being very respectful, well mannered and making good choices at school and at swimming.

**Grade 43J**: Macie H

For being so well organised during swimming. Well done.

**Grade 43M**: Gracie F

For her great work and concentration during Maths.

**Grade 43S**: Max L

For showing our school values of being safe, being respectful & being a learner.

**Grade 65D**: Ella A

For her positive attitude to learning.

**Grade 65G**: Kim B

For being a helpful class mate and working towards achieving her weekly goals . Well done, keep up the great work.

**Grade 65M**: Mason E

For showing a solid understanding of adding and subtracting tenths and hundredths during our warm-ups.

**Grade 65U**: Mekhi K

For showing good leadership skills within the class.

**Maths Star**: Dakota P

For confidently talking about tens and ones and sharing how much she loves Maths.

**After School Care**: Oliver S

For always sharing your amazing stories.

**Before School Care**: Leah R

For choosing and completing a Japanese fan from our multicultural book.
Hello Everyone!
I had a very busy week last week so I was so thankful that I got to spend two hours every morning with such well behaved and friendly children. I wonder if they can keep it up until the end of term.

Last week we dipped our toes in the dramatic arts, coming up with a short play about bullying, and so far this week the children have revelled in using dress ups to encourage imaginative play. Hopefully in the coming weeks we can put together a mini production to encourage future thespians!

Just a reminder that all children need to have their enrolment information checked and signed by parents/guardians ASAP to ensure compliance with regulations. Some families may receive a phone call in regards to this matter over the next two days. We are greatly appreciative of the assistance provided already to get this complete.

Lastly, the Star of the Week award goes to Leah R for choosing and completing a Japanese fan from our multicultural book.

Have a wonderful week! Jess (BSC Coordinator)

Hi everyone,

This week see's the beginning of the grade 1-4 swimming so we are going to still have a busy week just not a full on week. You might even find us in the library watching a movie later on in the week.

This week our science experiment is to look at the germs that grow when we don't wash our hands and touch food, compared to clean hands. This should be very interesting.

Our art and craft activity this week is making paper planes. There has been a huge interest in paper planes since the holidays, might be because of the movie that was recently at the movies. We will be designing and flying our creations. We will also share our designs with the group.

Our cooking activity this week is to cook lemon biscotti, we have never done this before so it should be interesting.

Karen is currently off cruising the ocean so we will have a mix of staff over the coming weeks unfortunately. We will welcome her back for the final week of term which is quickly approaching.

Just a reminder that next Monday the 9th March is a public holiday so you should stay home and have a sleep in.

Our star of the week this week is Oliver S for always sharing your amazing stories.

Don't forget to log onto www.campaustalia.com.au to register your child/ren so they can join into all the fun!

Thanks for your time,

Mel and Karen