NEW SCHOOL MASTER PLAN UPDATE

It is quite some time since I last wrote about the planning for our new school. As anyone who has engaged in a building project will attest to, these things rarely run smoothly, on time or on budget. Planning to build a new school is no different! The original Master Plan that had us building a large classroom building at the north eastern corner of our site and a separate specialist building and separate admin building near Hayrick Lane proved to be far too expensive for our budget. The architects, Department officials and ourselves made valiant attempts to reduce the costs however the compromises that were required were unacceptable and we asked the architects to literally ‘go back to the drawing board’. This has taken some time and whilst it has pushed our project back several months it has resulted in a much more affordable design that we are very happy with.

Elsewhere in this week’s Bimbadeen Blaze you will find a copy of the new Master Plan.

The new design has two new buildings on the western side of our site near Hayrick Lane. One of the buildings will have classrooms and admin and the other building will have the specialist rooms of art, music and LOTE as well as regular classrooms. We are hopeful of being ready to go out to tender in May with work commencing on site around the middle of the year. Before construction starts they will need to move several of the relocatable buildings to accommodate the children and clear the space for the specialist and classroom building that will be built first. We will not need to move out of the existing main building until the first building is finished, most likely to be sometime in 2018. Even though there will be a level of disruption over the next few years, at the end of the project we will have a beautiful new school that will look very different to the one we have now, a school that we will be very proud of and one that will better match the quality education that is provided at Bimbadeen Heights PS.

If you have any questions or comments about the new master plan do not hesitate to contact me.

Remember your sun smart hat for Term 1 and 4
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT (continued)

CYBERSAFETY

Elsewhere in today’s Blaze you will find some really important information from our e-Safety Coordinator, Hayley Cook, regarding keeping your child safe from cyberbullying over the coming holiday period. Over the school holidays children can spend more time on their devices or computers and can be socialising online even more than they usually do. I encourage all parents to read this important information that may help stop your child being bullied online. There is a more extensive article on our website on this topic if you would like to read more or you can visit the safety website at https://www.esafety.gov.au/ that provides great advice and support for parents on the topic of e-safety.

LAST DAY OF TERM – NEXT TUESDAY
DECEMBER 20TH – 1:30PM DISMISSAL

Please note that children are expected to be in their school uniform on the final day of the school year next Tuesday. We do have free dress days on the last day of the other three terms each year but not in term 4. (The 'Wear Red-Day for Daniel' is our social service free dress day in Term 4.)

A reminder too that on the last day of the school year children will be dismissed earlier than usual at 1:30pm. There will be a special final end-year assembly where we farewell the Year 6 students starting at 1:00pm and all children will be dismissed from the hall at 1:30pm or as near to that time as we can. Please ensure that you make arrangements for your child to be collected at the earlier time or book them into our excellent OHSClub program.

LAST NEWSLETTER FOR 2016

This will be our final newsletter for this year. We will use TiqBiz and our school FaceBook page for any important messages between now and the start of school next year, Tuesday January 31st, 2017.

OFFICE AND UNIFORM SHOP OPENING TIMES - JANUARY

The office will be open from Monday January 30th next year for parents who wish to pay for and collect the 2017 student essential education items. The school uniform shop will be open on Monday January 30th from 10:00am – 12:00 noon.

FINAL-LEIGH:

At the end of this year I want to thank the students, teachers, parents, extended families and friends, support staff such as office staff, school chaplain, speech pathologists and school psychologist, school counsellors, IT technicians, teacher aides, maintenance and garden workers, cleaners, uniform and canteen staff and volunteers who have all contributed to making 2016 another successful year for Bimbadeen Heights Primary School. We can all be proud of the many achievements made this year.

I want to say a very special thank you to my assistant principal here, Mr Garry Fowler who works tirelessly for the children of this school. His support and encouragement for every child, every staff member and every parent is only surpassed by his positive and calm approach to dealing with whatever challenges comes his way. I, and our school, are very fortunate to have Garry here and he deserves a very special thanks for his leadership this year.

My next special thank you is tinged with great sadness as we farewell my other assistant principal, Mrs Lang. Jo has been assistant principal here for as long as I have been principal here and I will miss her wisdom, insight, curriculum knowledge and her capacity to find anything. Jo does so much work behind the scenes, quietly circumventing problems before they even happen or calmly resolving them if they do. Jo has been at Bimbadeen since the school’s second year of operation, and has made a positive contribution to many hundreds of children over the years. It has been a great privilege to work with Jo and I have learnt so much from her. I wish her all the very best for a long and enjoyable retirement. I know that Jo will continue to be a friend of Bimbadeen and I’m sure that we will be calling on her wisdom, knowledge and experience from time to time.

Thank you to those families who are ending their association with our school. Thank you for entrusting your children’s education with us and I wish you well for the future. We look forward to hearing of their successes in the future and trust that you will always be friends of Bimbadeen.

Bimbadeen Heights is a really great school and getting better all the time. 2017 will be a very special time in the school’s history as we commence the construction of a new school.

Have a safe and wonderful Christmas and summer holiday period and we look forward to seeing you back on Tuesday January 31st next year.

"Reaching for the Heights"
Many thanks and much appreciation to the following companies who have kindly made donations towards our Grade 6 Graduation day.

- Allen’s bakery
- Bakers delight - Croydon
- Arbormaster/The Red Shed
- KFC

We are looking forward to a very memorable day on Monday and greatly appreciate the support of these local businesses.

We would also like to thank the team of Grade 5 parents who have organised the Graduation afternoon tea and decorations. They have worked very hard over the past few months to ensure that the Grade 6 children have a special day. Their work and organisation is also greatly appreciated.

Virginia Gardner

**MAKING MOONCAKES**

Grade 6 Students have been learning about Chinese Mid-Autumn Festivals including the customs, legends and the popular dessert, mooncakes. With the help of Cassie M’s mum, Chai, Grade 6s made Ice skin mooncakes in the Chinese class. They really enjoyed this hands on experience.

**CHINESE NEWS**

Grade 5/6 students had an exciting Chinese Kung Fu Fan Dance Incursion on Friday.

They watched a traditional Chinese dance performance, called Mu Lan Fan. It was based on the story of a legendary female warrior, Hua Mulan, who takes her aged father’s place in the army. Some students had an opportunity to use the fans to do basic dance moves and they had great fun!

Students also learnt that a Chinese Kung Fu fan could be used as a weapon in the olden days. This program engaged all the children as they explored the history and skilful moves of Fan dancing, mastering the balance between Kung Fu and soft feminine movements.
Research tells us that cyber bullying often spikes during school holiday periods. Children generally spend more time on their devices and may have greater access to technology during this time. Cyber bullying is any information posted online which threatens, intimidates, harasses or humiliates a child. Cyber bullies might set up fake social media accounts in their victim's name, take over their victim's social media accounts, or upload photo-shopped images. They may also send abusive texts and posts, repeatedly send unwanted messages, or circulate images online without the subject's permission. It's important to note that children aged 11 to 14 are the most vulnerable, as they transition from primary to high school. They are being granted more independence, often given their own mobile phone, but may not have the maturity to foresee the consequences of their online actions.

**What Can You Do If Your Child Has Been Cyber-Bullied?**

- Parents who believe their child has been cyber bullied are encouraged to approach the social media company and ask them to take the offending material down. If that doesn't happen within 48 hours, they can then complain to the eSafety Commissioner who has the power to force companies to remove the offending material. The office of the eSafety commissioner can be accessed at the following link [https://www.esafety.gov.au/](https://www.esafety.gov.au/)

- Parents can also go to the police with evidence of cyber bullying. Acting Commander Johnson said: "Online bullies think they can be anonymous, but police can track them down."

- Parents are advised to be aware of what their children are doing online during the holidays, and keep computers and tablets in the living room or kitchen where they can be monitored. In this way, parents can see what their kids are doing on social media and the Internet – not looking over their shoulder, but asking how they're going, and is everything OK?

- Contact the school following the holiday period to report any cyber-bullying.

*We'd like to wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday break and thank you for joining us to promote positive cyber safety habits.*

Hayley Cook  
(e-Safety Coordinator)

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**HELP YOUR CHILD BEAT THE BRAIN SLUMP THESE HOLIDAYS**

Summer holidays are a great time to get your child reading for relaxation. Most children are pleased to have a break from the rigours of school work over the summer holidays, but many will not open a book again until the beginning of the next school year. Not only does this make it difficult to get back into the swing of study when the time arises, it also means a valuable opportunity is missed. And that is the opportunity to discover the joy of reading for pleasure. Reading for pleasure is a wonderful way for your child to escape and unwind. It's also a great way to keep their brain active.

Studies have shown that children who stop reading over the school holidays experience something American researchers call the "summer slide" - a term used to refer to students' learning losses over the summer break. Researchers used the analogy of a 'tap' to provide some insight into their findings, saying that while children are at school there is a flow of information, and all children have the same opportunities to learn. When they are not at school, however that 'tap' is turned off unless there is some active engagement with books or other resources. Children whose 'tap' stays on throughout the summer holidays return to school with an advantage over those whose 'tap' may have been turned off for the past two months. Over time, that advantage accumulates, and becomes a reason why some children are more successful at school than others.

Success aside, there is a world of enjoyment waiting to be discovered inside the pages of picture books and novels. Books are perfect for the sofa, the back lawn and the beach – all the places your child is most likely to be lounging these school holidays. Make sure your children have a ready supply of books that appeal to their age and interests these school holidays, and help them discover the joy of reading for fun. There will be many pay-offs for this, not the least being improved learning growth.

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**FIRST AID SHEET ROSTER**

Term 4

Friday 16th December – Susan Delaney

“Reaching for the Heights”
If you are going to sell your home please consider selling your house through Regina Atkinson at the Professionals ph 0417 565 624. She will donate $500 to Bimbadeen Heights PS from every house sold through her from our Bimbadeen Community. We have already received $1000. Thank you Regina.

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**ICY POLES FOR SALE**

The grade five students will be selling Icy poles this Monday at lunch time. The money raised will help contribute towards grade 6 graduation. They will cost $1 each and be available to collect from the BER building. Perfect for a sunny Monday!

Thank you for giving up your valuable time to help in the school canteen.

I’m very grateful to you for putting your hand up to provide this service for the children.

Your support and hard work is invaluable and I hope you’ve enjoyed helping and found it rewarding to be a part of your child’s/children’s school community.

It’s because of YOU they have a Canteen.

Wishing you a safe and wonderful Christmas & New Year.

Hoping to see you back in 2017.

**MOOROOLBARK JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB REGISTRATIONS 2017**

Registrations accepted for players in Under 8’s, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 17’s

*a player can turn 7 before 30th April 2017 to be eligible to play U8’s*

We are also looking for players for Girls Teams in Under 12’s and Under 15’s

All registration information is available www.mooroolbarkfc.com.au

If you have any queries regarding registration for 2017 please contact Mick Kis (President) 0409 460 499 or Tina Daniuch (Registrar) tina.daniuch@gmail.com

December Training for 2017 Under 13 at Mooroolbark East Primary School: Monday - 12th Dec 5.00pm to 6.30pm and Sunday 18th 11.00 to 12.30pm followed by BBQ looking at 2 sides for 2017 spots available now

**SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS and AFTER SCHOOL GYMNASICS**

**SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN!**

Enjoy a full day of gymnastics skills & equipment including bars, beams, springing and gymnastics floor work plus fun activities, ball games, novelty equipment plus MORE!

HOLIDAY CLINICS 2017

16th January 9am – 2pm &
23rd January 9am – 2pm
Cost $36/child

**AFTER SCHOOL GYMNASICS!**

Commencing in Term 1 at Kimberley Place Community Centre, Chirnside Park.

Activities will include structured gymnastics skills on a variety of fun recreational gymnastics equipment.

Run by fun and enthusiastic coaches!

Bookings www.movingbodiesmelbourne.com.au

Phone Simone 0401 134 539

Thank you Regina.
"Reaching for the Heights"
OSHClub School Holiday Program

Our School Holiday Programs are jam packed with exciting activities and awesome excursions in a safe and friendly environment for primary school children aged 5 – 12 years of age. (Some programs cater for 3+ years olds)

All our team are fun and friendly and have relevant qualifications and background checks (WWC). Bookings are now open Log on to www.oshclub.com.au and complete the online enrolment form, but be quick as places are limited!

For more information please contact OSHClub on 03 8564 9080 or 1800 460 870

Reaching for the Heights

Children with additional needs
OSHClub supports all children including children with additional needs. Please contact the Holiday Program Manager on 03 8564 9080 at least 4 weeks before the program is due to commence. Each case will be looked at individually and in some cases we will need to apply for funding for extra staff to support your child’s participation in the program.

Behaviour
If a child’s behaviour seriously affects the safety and/or enjoyment of others, parents will be contacted and asked to make alternative arrangements for their children.

What does my child bring?
Please bring morning and afternoon tea, lunch and a refillable drink bottle. Make sure you don’t bring any food that needs to be heated or cooked, and remember not to bring anything containing nuts.
Don’t forget your hat, sunscreen and comfortable clothes and shoes. Sorry but no Crocs or Thongs! Remember we have an outdoor play area.
We’d hate you to lose something valuable, so please leave your money and electronic toys (including iPads, iPods, iPhones, smartphones and GS).

Cancellations and changes
If you wish to cancel or make any changes to your bookings without being charged, please ensure they are made online 2 weeks prior to the dates you require your child to attend. Cancellations will not be accepted after this date.

Payments
Payment for holiday program will be debited from your nominated bank account or credit card weekly.

What choices are there everyday:

- Special theme (see specific days)
- Fully stocked art and craft supplies
- Sports games and equipment
- Toys and games

CCB/CRC:
If you wish to claim Childcare Benefit (CCB) and the 50% Child Care Rebate (CRC) you must be registered with the Family Assistance Office.
PH: 13 14 46

Late Bookings
To avoid a late booking fee of $10, please book online at least 5 calendar days before your child’s attendance.

Activity Cancellations
In the event that an Excursion or an Incursion is cancelled, the activity will either be postponed or an alternative activity of equal value will be provided where possible.

Important information before making your bookings:
Excursions are an additional cost to the daily fee. Incursions are provided and charged for each child that attends that session whether they choose to participate or not.

Book now at oshclub.com.au

“Reaching for the Heights”
Monday 9th January

Master Builders: Gather your tools so you can bring to life your inventive ideas! Some of the activities today include:
- Art: Lego Printing - Craft: Dream House Construction
- Outdoor: Wheelbarrow Race

Tuesday 10th January

Splish Spash: Prepare for a splashtastic day at OSHClub as we have fun with water! Don’t forget to pack a change of clothes.
Some of the activities today include:
- Team Challenge: Ice Block Challenge - Art: Ice Painting
- Outdoor: Water Balloon Battle

Incursion: Water play with proactivity - Additional Cost: $15.00
Please pack a change of clothes if required.

Wednesday 11th January

EXCURSION TODAY! Join us as we see the latest children's film rated G at Hoyts Cinema Eastland today! Entry to the movie includes a box of popcorn and a drink for each child. Movie title and time to be updated once session details are released.
Please arrive by 8:45am

Additional cost: $25.00

Thursday 12th January

Mini Me Madness: Hello! Wear something yellow as you are put through your paces at the Spy Training Academy today!
Some of the activities today include:
- Outdoor Game: Spy Training Obstacle Course
- Craft: Minion Goggles - Active: Mini Me Bowling

Friday 13th January

Team OSHClub: Prepare to get your heart racing as you join your friends for lots of team activities and challenges.
Some of the activities today include:
- Craft: Pipe Cleaner Challenge
- Game: Four Corners - Outdoor: Three-legged Race

Monday 16th January

Treasure Island: Ahoy there! Are you someone who just can’t get enough of hidden treasure, pirates and mermaids?
Some of the activities today include:
- Art: Fluorescent Jelly Fish
- Craft: Rainbow Fish - Outdoor: Ship, Shark, Shore

Incursion: Make your own Terrarium - Additional Cost: $15.00

Tuesday 17th January

Mission Impossible: Who did it? Prepare to solve the OSHClub mystery using your very own fingerprint kit!
Some of the activities today include:
- Challenge: Solve the Mystery
- Art: Fingerprint Pictures - Outdoor: Beat the Clock

Wednesday 18th January

Ooey Gooey: No need to worry about making a mess today! We are going to be up to our elbows in sticky fun!
Some of the activities today include:
- Art: Puffy Paint Pictures
- Craft: Dish Soap Silly Putty - Outdoor: Splish Splash Sponge Run

Thursday 19th January

EXCURSION TODAY! Explore the exhibits and learn more about the amazing world of science at the Yarra Ranges Regional Museum in Lilydale today! Please arrive by 8:45am

Additional cost: $25.00

Friday 20th January

Discover Australia: Come and get into the true spirit of Australia Day and celebrate our wonderful Country!
Some of the activities today include:
- Art: Australian Wattle Pictures
- Craft: Woolly Rainbow Serpent - Outdoor: Keentan Traditional Ball Game

Monday 23rd January

Fitness for Fun: Learn new ways to have fun and keep fit together today!
Some of the activities today include:
- Game: Snake in the Gutter
- Challenge: Keep the Balloons Floating - Outdoor: Fitness Circuit

Incursion: Tennis with Hot Shots - Additional Cost: $15.00

Tuesday 24th January

EXCURSION TODAY! Get up close and personal with the amazing animals at the Melbourne Zoo today!
Please arrive by 8:45am

Additional cost: $15.00

Wednesday 25th January

Chinese New Year: Come and celebrate Chinese New Year with us!
Some of the activities today include:
- Craft: Dragon Puppet
- Art: Traditional Fans - Outdoor: Chinese Ball

Friday 27th January

Sunshine and Happiness: Let’s get outside and enjoy what summer has to offer! Some of the activities today include:
- Art: Egg Carton Flowers - Craft: Paper Garden Lanterns
- Outdoor: Capture the Flag

Additional Activity: Drink Bottles $8.00

“Reaching for the Heights”
Coming up Term 1, 2017
ELECTRONICS
Bimbadeen Heights Primary School

Learn how electricity flows as a current and how a circuit is completed. Spend time learning how to read a wiring sequence and connect a circuit correctly. Discover which objects are "conductors" and what is static electricity. Can you make a lie detector and test it on your partner? Find out about security, lightning and atoms. This is a fun unit for both girls and boys.

WiseOnes Application for 1st Term 2017
This program is available for all Grade 1 - Grade 4 children who have qualified for WiseOnes.

The unit for first term commences week beginning Monday, 6th February 2017.
WiseOnes Teacher Noel Blacker: mobile 0409 435 396.

I wish to enrol my child in the unit “Electronics” starting week beginning Monday, 6th February, 2017.
I give permission for a copy of this slip to be handed to the WiseOnes teacher.

Child’s Name ___________________________ School: Bimbadeen Heights Primary School

Date of Birth ___________________________ Class (2017) ________

Parents’ Names ________________________

Address __________________________________________________________

Phone: BH ___________ AH ___________ Mobile ______________________

Email ____________________________________________________________

My child has already qualified for WiseOnes YES/NO
I would like a free test for my child YES/NO.
I would like my child to be tested with a fuller assessment to qualify for WiseOnes (assessment cost $250 inc GST).

Please send this slip and payment of $243.00 by Thursday, 2nd February, 2017.
As we are a non-credit business, children will not be accepted into the program for the term unless the fees and enrolment form are returned by the above date.
If paying by cheque please make it payable Bimbadeen Heights Primary School.
For further information, please contact Pat Truscott Mobile: 0407 313 657.

NB: Due to the Government increase of teachers’ wages, please note the new cost of the program.
KARATE AT
BIMBADEEN HEIGHTS
PRIMARY SCHOOL

BECOME A KARATE KID!

FIRST LESSON FREE

- Self Defence
- Fitness
- Discipline
- Confidence
- Control
- Co-ordination
- Fun

Mob: 0404 846 166
Email: kancho@sckarate.com.au
Web: sckarate.com.au

“Reaching for the Heights”
Do you make New Year resolutions?

Would you like to:

- Get to know your local community?
- Volunteer for a local organisation?
- Make new friends?
- Learn a new skill?
- Make a contribution to Mooroolbark?

*Celebrate Mooroolbark* is looking for 2 people to join our team of volunteers in 2017, in the following roles.

1. **Publicity Officer - Social Media**
2. **Workshops & Demonstrations Program Coordinator**

Starting 12th Jan or soon after, with an average of 2 - 3 hours per week required. Full training, support and a lot of fun provided!

This is perfect for stay-at-home parents wishing to do something outside of the home.

For more info please contact Barbara at barbara@celebratemooroolbark.com or on 0417 381 542.

For festival updates join our Facebook Page

https://www.facebook.com/celebratemooroolbark/

And from all of us at Celebrate Mooroolbark, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
X-RAY AND ULTRASOUND

Now in Mooroolbark
• Local family owned business
• Same day appointments for most Ultrasound exams
• Appointments not necessary for x-ray exams
• After hours and urgent service available
• Experienced medical staff
• In close proximity to
  • Mooroolbark Medical Centre
  • Mooroolbark Superclinic; and other local medical centres.

BULK BILLING Available
19, Manchester Road, Mooroolbark

03 8736 9291

“Reaching for the Heights”