

An IB school valuing, supporting and inspiring a community of lifelong learners

Important Diary Dates

Tuesday 7 August
P&F Meeting
6pm Staff Room

Week 5
17-21 August
Science Week

Thursday 20 August
Athletics Day
for 10+ year olds

Friday 28 August
Year R/1
Patch Theatre
Excursion

Friday 11 September
School Closure Day

Welcome back to Term 3! I hope you all had a safe and enjoyable holiday. It's been wonderful catching up with everyone and hearing their holiday news. It is also wonderful to see many of our programs returning to normal such as students enjoying toast at our 'Breakfast Club' and having fun exercising at Out Of Hours Sports training and games. We have also re-started our Thursday morning Playgroup and it was wonderful having the little ones back on site.



During this period I would like to reiterate that now is not a time for complacency and although parents/caregivers are allowed on school grounds, we must remember that it is essential that we all practise social distancing. I would also like to remind all parents/caregivers to stay out of buildings until we are in a position where we can relax this rule. Please also take note that at our Out Of School Hours Sport training and matches (both indoors and outdoors), we are asking that each player has only one spectator until further notice. We would like to thank our parent community for following these protocols and helping to keep everyone safe.

We have now moved back into our "new" front office and it looks great! The final pieces of office furniture just arrived yesterday so we are still unpacking and sorting but we hope to have it all organised in the coming weeks. At our Governing Council meeting this week the council members were given a tour of the front office and were very impressed with the amount of space we have created.

On the first day of this term our staff were involved in professional development around literacy. Our Junior Primary Team worked with Alixe Boardman from the Literacy Guarantee Unit to review our Phonics and Phonemic Awareness Program. Our Years 3 to 7 Team focussed on writing and were supported by the Brightpath team to improve student outcomes and plan writing to support up and coming Units of Inquiry. This Friday we are working on our Primary Years Program (PYP) self-study in preparation for our Evaluation Visit in Term 4 as well as reviewing some important curriculum policies. Throughout the term will be working hard towards collecting evidence for our Evaluation visit so we can share this with the visiting team members and highlight how wonderful our school really is. We will also be working on numeracy and looking at ways to improve our already rigorous program.

School Information

Student Absence

If your child will be **absent** from school, please send a txt through the

School Star App

or

SMS Text to

0427 016 460

Banking Day

Banking day is

Wednesday

Term Uniform Shop

Opening Hours

Monday 8:15 – 9:15

Friday 8:15 – 9:15

3:00 – 3:45

Ph: 8350 7933

KickStart Breakfast

Monday, Wednesday

& Friday

8:30am

Outside the Canteen

Lost and Found

Ensure all items are clearly labelled so we can return them to you and check the lost and found cupboard for missing items.

BPS Playgroup

Thursdays

0 – 4 year olds

9am to 11am

OSHC Room

School Tour Days

We offer school tours for new families & new students.

Contact Reception on 8278 5355 for the next tour date and to book.

To join, search for Blackwood PS Scene in Facebook and click on the Join button.



Assessment at Blackwood Primary is underpinned by the belief that it is to inform teaching and learning. It involves gathering and analysing information about student learning to plan for future learning. It identifies what students know, understand and can do at different stages in the learning process. This week Semester One reports were sent home and although they are an important part of the reporting process they just one component. Our online reporting process (Seesaw) has been an integral part of providing regular information to parents about their child's learning this year. Later this year our Year 2 to 7 students will be completing some standardised assessments in Maths (Pat-M) and Reading (Pat-R), and just like the assessment tasks completed in class, these will help teachers to plan for the coming months this year and into 2021.

Finally, have you noticed any changes in our grounds? James has replaced all of the sleepers in the retaining wall along the path near the JP Oval. The edging around the JP playground has partially been replaced and we are working on replacing all the sleepers over time. We have just received a quote for some new bike racks (which we received a grant for) and the plan is to install these closer to the entrance of the school. Our roof restoration will also begin soon.

We look forward to your continued support throughout Term 3 and hope that everyone continues to stay safe and healthy.

Planning for 2021

It is that time of the year when we start planning for classes and staffing for 2021. Knowing our student numbers means we can work on the best class combinations and organise our staffing. If your child/ren will not be attending our school next year (excluding the current Year 7s) please contact the school office as soon as possible.

If you intend for your child to commence school at Blackwood Primary next year, and you haven't yet done so, please contact the school so arrangements can be made to provide you with an enrolment form.

In addition, if you know families whose children are likely to start at our school in 2021 please encourage them to contact us.

Starting Kindy

If your child turns four before May 1, 2021, they are eligible to start Kindy at the beginning of the 2021 year. Please contact your local Kindergarten (see below) for a registration form. Round one offers for places at Kindergarten in the Mitcham Hills Partnership will be sent out on Friday 31 August, 2020.

Eden Hills Kindergarten 8278 3425

Belair Jean Bonython Kindergarten 8278 3392

Blackwood Kindergarten 8278 3596

Coromandel Valley Kindergarten 8270 2964

Hawthorndene Kindergarten 8278 4161

Room 14 Class News

In Room 14, we have been exploring the Central Idea – Food can go through several stages of production to meet the needs of people. We have been looking at where our food comes from and how the food we eat is processed before we can eat it. We have also been spending some time in the school garden, growing our own vegetables. We got some help from the Green Team to plant our pumpkin seedlings.



We have been learning about food production, so we decided to plant some Sugar Snap Peas and Broad Beans to observe how they grow. We made greenhouses and decorated them using oil pastels. Then we put our peas and beans into a plastic bag with cotton balls and sprayed them with water. We also wrote a procedure about how we made our greenhouses. We enjoyed making the greenhouses and we are excited to see how our peas and beans grow! **By Andrea and Evie**

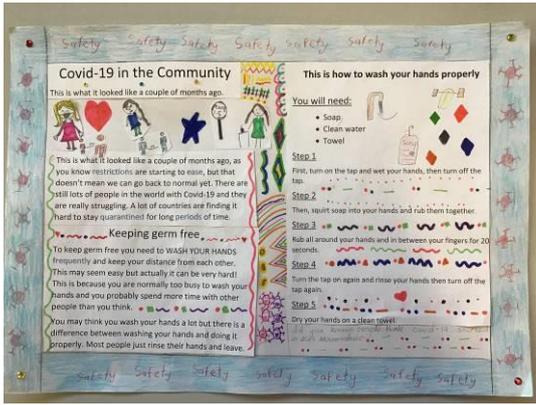
Each day we are going to look at how our Sugar Snap Peas and Broad Beans change. We are counting each day to see how long it takes for them to grow. They are starting to sprout a little bit. We think the Sugar Snap Pea is going to grow faster than the Broad Bean! We are going to write down our observations and we can't wait to see how they grow! **By Annabelle, Rishanth and Taite**



We are learning about where the food we eat comes from and how it gets to our plate. Some of the foods we have learnt about are milk, honey and bread. We worked in groups to sort out food production cards from the first stage all the way to the last stage of production. Some of us disagreed with each other, so we had to be good communicators to work together to find out the answers. Honey was hard to sort because it had lots of stages. You first need flowers and bees to have honey! Then we shared our learning to the class. We enjoyed this activity because we were having a go and learning something new. **By Alba and Lawson**



Community



We need to keep ourselves safe when we are out in the community. We shouldn't trust strangers or go into a stranger's vehicle. We need to stay with our parents when we are out.

By Harrison & Blake H.

Stay with your parent when you are out. Don't run across the road. By Maya T.

When you cross the road, make sure that you look both ways, listen and think. Check that the road is clear before you cross. Small children need to wait for an adult to cross with them.

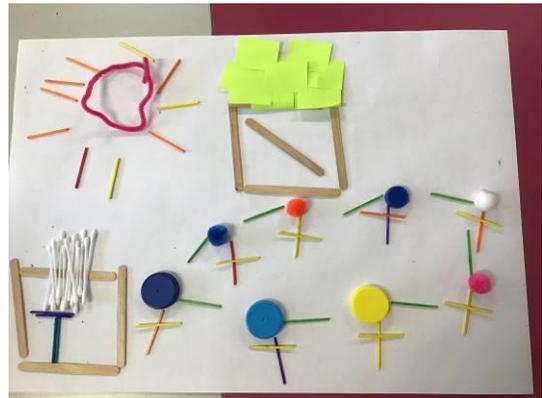
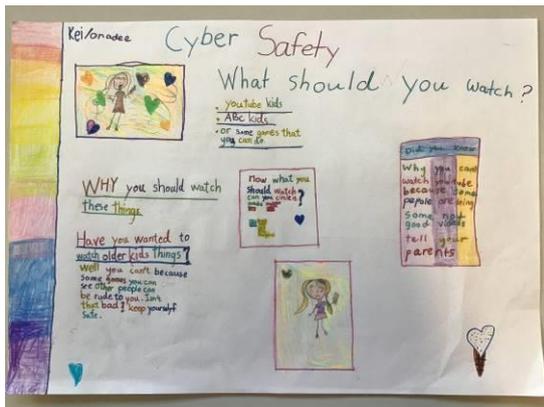
By Blake A.

Covid-19

Some important things for Covid-19 are to cough into your elbow when you need to cough and sneeze into a tissue when you need to sneeze. We learnt that we need to stay 1.5 metres away from people who are not in our family. By Heston & Onadee

We learnt to wash our hands by lathering with soap for 20 seconds. We wrote a procedure about how to wash our hands. We learnt to social distance and to cough into our elbows. By Zelda, Kei & Taylor

We need to stay 1.5 metres away from people and cough into our elbows. If you come from overseas, you need to stay in quarantine for 14 days. By Maya W. and Albarr

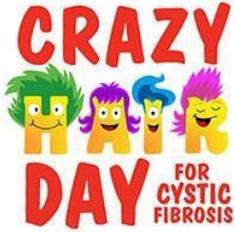


Japanese

In Japanese, we have been learning about how children stay safe at school in Japan. Even before Covid-19, Japanese children have been learning how to keep safe. They clean their school and they wash their hands before eating their lunch. They wear masks when serving food. They did this all before Covid-19 and they are still doing it during Covid-19. We made a Yuru Kyara which is a mascot to show everyone how to keep safe during Covid-19. By Taylor, Kei & Heston



Pupil Free Day



On our Student Free Day we had a Crazy Hair Day to raise money for Cystic Fibrosis. We encouraged children and staff to come to OSHC with CRAZY HAIR and bring a gold coin donation for Cystic Fibrosis. Anyone who would like to make a gold coin donation can do so in the coming week as the collection box will be in OSHC until end of Week 4.

In the morning, children will be brainstorming what activities they would like to do for the day (sport, games, cooking, art/craft, movie, etc) and the day will be spontaneously planned around the children's ideas.



OSHC Invoices

Statements for the first two weeks of term were processed on Tuesday 4th August due to some technical issues. Statements will now be emailed to families on a weekly basis and direct debit should now be back on track. We apologise for the delay whilst we waited for technical support to rectify issues.

Before School Care (capped places)

Due to staffing ratios, some Before School Care days will have places capped at 5.30pm the evening prior. This is to avoid additional bookings made on the App for the following day that would result in an additional staff member being required. We usually have a few places available for casual spots but as numbers are increasing we need to keep an eye on the bookings and ensure we have the appropriate number of staff rostered for the next day. We apologise for any inconvenience, however we cannot staff the Before Care service with an additional staff member just in case we receive more bookings. If you have any issues booking on the App, please phone OSHC on 8370 2232 to check if a place is available. Also if your children will not be attending a booked session, please mark absent on the App or phone the service. Thank you.

Surveys

Please take the time to sit with your children to complete the OSHC Family Survey. I decided to do the old-fashioned paper survey as I don't want a parent to sit in front of a computer to complete a survey. We want families to sit with their children and talk to their children about OSHC and provide us with feedback and suggestions to improve and better cater for your individual children and family. A survey table is set up near the current sign in/out iPad if you can spare 5 minutes to sit with your child/ren and complete the survey. Thanks 😊

Term 3 Program

Some of the themes we are covering this term include: Around the World, Father's Day, Sustainability and Community. We would appreciate families providing information, resources, artefacts, recipes, music, etc from their cultural background or a county you may have visited. Staff have shared photographs, money and souvenirs from countries they have been to.



Signing in/out hygiene procedures

Parents/carers are reminded to either wash their hands with soap or use the hand sanitiser at the iPad, prior to signing in or out.



This year's Challenge finishes on Friday 4 September. We are aiming to have 100% participation this year. Please encourage your children to continue with their reading and fill in their PRC form. If you need a new Student Record Form they are available on the PRC website or from the Resource Centre. Once their form is completed and handed into the Resource Centre their name will be added to the PRC mural in the Library (mural designed and painted by Mrs. Brown and Room 8).

This year the rules have been relaxed because of COVID-19 and students can add any books to their form (the books do not have to have PRC dots on them).

School Banking

Just a reminder, Banking Day is WEDNESDAY.

Don't forget your bank books as there will be special rewards coming soon for everyone who made a deposit in Term 1.

Let's get saving!! Woof!!!



Parents & Friends Committee

Due to the evolving COVID-19 situation and related restrictions many fundraising events of the Blackwood Primary Parents & Friends Committee were put on hold. However, we are back with a fun new fundraiser that will be running later this term. Kids will get a chance to purchase fun socks for their entire family and help our school raise money for a much-needed defibrillator. A variety of sizes will be available, so don't forget to order now and return the order form to school.

We would also love to see some new faces at our next meeting on Tuesday 11th August at 6pm in the school staff room. P&F committee is a great opportunity to bring parents and teaching staff together to build a supportive school community. Come and say "hello"; the committee and BPS need your help! There will be many opportunities to get involved in various events.

We are looking forward to seeing you there!

