**February 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 12th</td>
<td>PFA meeting 9.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>13th</td>
<td>District Swimming</td>
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<td>17th</td>
<td>School Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>18th</td>
<td>Interviews</td>
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<tr>
<td>19th</td>
<td>Ride to School Day: Prep Family Night</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 10th</td>
<td>Labour Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>12th</td>
<td>Athletics Trials 3/4/5/6</td>
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<td>17th</td>
<td>School Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>19th</td>
<td>Twilight Sports</td>
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**TERM DATES FOR 2014**

**TERM 1**
- 28th January - 4th April

**TERM 2**
- 22nd April - 27th June

**TERM 3**
- 14th July - 19th September

**TERM 4**
- 6th October - 19th December

**PRINCIPAL’S NEWS**

**A GREAT START**
Welcome back everybody! I hope you all enjoyed a relaxing holiday and spent quality time with family and friends. It’s great to see everyone again, looking ‘bright eyed and bushy tailed’ Once again we were impressed with how our amazing students settled back into their school routines. On behalf of our school community a special welcome to our new families, particularly our Prep students who have begun their school lives here at The Basin PS. They all settled incredibly well, thanks to the wonderful support of their parents and indeed our Prep teachers. I’d also like to take this opportunity to welcome our new staff members Mrs Elyce Boyd (Prep), Mrs Jessica Leach (Grade 3) and to Mrs Bec Beed (Grade 4)

**FACILITY NEWS**
Firstly, thankyou to our amazing maintenance man - Pat O’Neill who worked exceptionally hard to tidy up our schoolyard before the year commenced. Over the holidays the extension to our multipurpose room was completed and now will accommodate our two extra grades comfortably. For assemblies seating for parents will be provided along the side of our students as well as some standing room at the back. New cupboards and sinks were installed in the artroom and a dividing wall was built in the Library creating another classroom for our German specialist program. Computers in the Lab have now been distributed to all classrooms.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT - BUSHFIRE ALERTS**
Last Monday we sent home details of our Emergency Management Procedures given we are a BARR school - Bushfire At Risk Registry. I would like to acknowledge families who have already returned their contact details for our new SMS TEXT MESSAGING SYSTEM which we will be launching next week. If you haven’t returned this contact list can you attend to this by next Monday please?
SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

On the same letter requesting current mobile details for the SMS system we requested parents with internet access to sign up via our website to receive the weekly newsletter. This will greatly help reduce our paper costs and our environmental footprint. Already quite a number of parents have completed this request and we thank you. Our website is - www.thebasinps.vic.edu.au. Hard copies of our newsletter will only be distributed to families without access to the internet. Please notify the office if that is the case. The Basin PS website has a great deal of information for parents and families in addition to the newsletter.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - PFA

Next Wednesday 12th February we are holding the Parents & Friends Associations Annual General Meeting. The meeting will commence at 9:30am in the staffroom. A report will be tabled along with the election of the 2014 President, Vice President and Secretary. We would also like to form a small committee. We’d love to see some new faces and or hear about new ideas, so come along and meet some amazing people. There will be no expectation or pressure to take on roles!

IT'S NOT OK TO BE AWAY

‘It’s just one day mum.’ your child might say, but attending school each day is the best way for your child to do well – they can’t learn if they aren’t at school. Each day’s learning builds onto what was done the day before. When a child misses a day, a building block is missed. If a child misses one day a week, that equates to nearly half a term of learning missed each year. Please approach your child’s teacher for help if your child does not want to come to school. The Education Department quotes that – ‘Children and young people who regularly attend school and complete Year 12 or an equivalent qualification have better health outcomes, better employment outcomes and higher incomes across their lives. It is important that children develop habits of regular attendance at an early age.’

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent / Teacher interviews are being conducted this term on Tuesday 18th of February commencing at 2:00pm through to 8:00pm. Next week the eldest child in each family will be handed details of the interview process and interview times. Parents are requested to return their interview time preference sheets as soon as possible. We endeavour to organise times close together for parents with two or more children. Having the forms back early makes this process simpler. This first interview is a great opportunity for parents to meet their child’s 2104 class teacher to discuss matters of mutual interest and to ensure that the year is a most successful experience for all involved.

SURPLUS TABLES AND CHAIRS

We are currently compiling a list of unwanted student tables and chairs along with some old metal cupboards. These items have been replaced by new furniture. A garage sale will be held one Saturday morning soon.

SCHOOL SPEED ZONES

The Education Department has requested we remind parents/carers about the speed limits in designated school 40 km/h speed zones during the following specified times - 8.00 to 9.30 am and 2.30 - 4.00 pm.

WEEKLY ASSEMBLY

Each Friday we hold our whole school assembly to celebrate the week, share student achievements and provide community announcements for the week ahead. Assemblies are held in our multipurpose room commencing shortly after 9:00am to 9:30am and parents are welcome.
**SUNSMART**
Please remember that at this time of year the Sun’s UV rays are extremely dangerous and as part of our Sunsmart policy all students are required to wear an approved school hat, which is available from our uniform shop. Students without hats will be required to play in the undercover area. Using puff paint to name your child’s hat, on the outside, is a great way of preventing other students from taking the wrong hat out to play.

**PARKING & TRAFFIC CONDITIONS**
Parking is an ongoing issue for us at the best of times and I extend our thanks to all parents for their patience especially as our enrolment has grown. Great care is required by parents when entering and exiting our parking zones. Please set a good example to all our children by using the footpaths on either side of the internal driveway and not cross the busy driveway. We do not want any accidents with parents and children crossing over the busy driveway.

**SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2014**
Do you want to be involved in the school and feel like you’ve made a difference? Each year four parent and two staff vacancies occur on School Council as current members complete their two year term. Notice of the School Council Election Schedule is as follows-

- **Monday 10th February**  
  Call for nominations
- **Friday 21st February**  
  Nominations close
- **Monday 24th February**  
  All candidates and nominators will then be posted.
- **Tuesday 25th February**  
  If nominations exceed the number of vacancies a ballot papers will be distributed
- **Monday 10th March**  
  Declaration of Ballot
- **Monday 17th March**  
  School Council AGM 2014

Nomination forms are available from the office. The expectation is attendance at School Council meetings held on the third Monday of each month totalling nine meetings for the year, as well as becoming a member of Council Sub committees which include Finance, Education, Buildings & Grounds, Publicity and Parent & Friends Association.

I have included the following information to assist candidates.

What is a School Council and what does it do?
All Government schools in Victoria have a School Council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within Departmental provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the School Council?
There are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent Category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not employed at the school.

- A mandated elected DEECD Employee Category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

- An optional Community Member Category. Members of this category are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members. The term of office for all members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.
Why is Parent Membership so important?
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?
The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant. In view of this, you might seriously consider - standing for election as a member of the school council or encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?
No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?
The Principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent Category. DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council where their child is enrolled.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the timeframe stated on the Notice of Election Schedule. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt following the receipt of your completed nomination. If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

If you require further information please drop in for a chat.

It’s going to be another great year at The Basin PS!

Graeme Russell
SWIMMING TRIALS

Congratulations to the 38 students from Grades 3/4/5/6 who took part in yesterday's swimming trials. All competitors are to be congratulated on their determined efforts. From these trials our school swimming team is selected and will take part in the district swimming carnival next Thursday 13th February at Knox Leisureworks. (12.30-2.30p.m.). Thank you to Colin Hartley and all of our parent helpers for their assistance during the trials.

Dale Goldsmith
Phys-Ed & Sport
**PFA NEWS**

The first PFA meeting for this year is on Wednesday 12th February 9.30am. It will include the annual general meeting, so if you would like to take on a roll on the committee, or you just have some great ideas or you would just like to know what is going on in our school community, please come along. The meeting is held in the staffroom in the office area.

Hope to see you there!
Fiona Jackson

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**PLAY GROUP CUPPA & CHAT**

Next WEDNESDAY the 12th of February, we are again running this wonderful session. It is open to the whole school, new prep parents are most welcome. It gives parents with young children the opportunity to read to your older children, while your little ones play together. This is taken in turns, so some parents will stay and some will go and do reading. You can just come along and get to know some other parents from our welcoming school community.

Play Group, Cuppa and a Chat mornings run every second Wednesday, starting next week.

**TIME:** 9.00am
**WHERE:** The Multi-purpose room

Tara Callaway
Co-ordinator:
Hope to see you there!

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**Happy Birthday to the following students**

**January**
- 2nd: Jordana Lutwyche
- 3rd: Bridget Williams
- 8th: Ruby Jeans
- 10th: Lily-Grace Murrell
- 13th: Brody Londregan
- 14th: Rose Cox
- 15th: Mikaela Wagstaff
- 17th: Skye Price
- 18th: Joshua Fox
- 19th: Jazmine Lacy
- 20th: Nathaniel Newby
- 21st: Brayden Stewart
- 22nd: Lilly-Ann Stewart
- 23rd: Sophie Gill

**February**
- 1st: Lachie Groves
- 2nd: Chase Prescott
- 5th: Bethany Lobb
- 6th: Darcy Stephen
- 20th: Zavier Edward
- 21st: William Donald
- 22nd: Ryan Moorfoot
- 23rd: Charli Ellicott
- 25th: Harry Evans
- 26th: Kasey Driscoll
- 27th: Will Mays
- 29th: Mia Crowhurst
- 31st: Tahj Garrity

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**February**
- 1st: Shaun Massie
- 2nd: Sarah Hassing
- 3rd: Angel Winsor
- 4th: Kylah Mitchell
- 5th: Samuel Collins
- 6th: Luka Healey
- 7th: Leylah Revell
- 8th: Kylie Frattura
- 9th: Connor Stephen
- 10th: Lincoln Foster
- 11th: Tim Brown
- 12th: Nathaniel Newby
- 13th: Brayden Stewart
- 14th: Lilly-Ann Stewart
- 15th: Sophie Gill
- 16th: Lachie Groves
- 17th: Chase Prescott
- 18th: Bethany Lobb
- 19th: Darcy Stephen
- 20th: Zavier Edward
- 21st: William Donald
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Pupil of the Week</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PB</td>
<td>Marcus Hewson</td>
<td>for a great first week at TBPS! Welcome!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Heath Major</td>
<td>for a super start at TBPS! Welcome!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH</td>
<td>Lily Grace Murrell</td>
<td>for having a go and getting it right in her reading.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PW</td>
<td>Ashlynn Geoghegan</td>
<td>for settling into Grade 3 with a fantastic work ethic. Keep up the hard work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1D</td>
<td>Jasmine Willoughby</td>
<td>for the happy and positive attitude she brings to school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4B</td>
<td>Allanah Major</td>
<td>for having a positive attitude in all areas of her learning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5C</td>
<td>Flynn Nielson-Hughes</td>
<td>for a hard working and enthusiastic start to the school year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2D</td>
<td>Nathan Thomson</td>
<td>For his excellent thinking during brainstorming sessions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6H</td>
<td>Maya Lee</td>
<td>For her excellent reflective writing on her history as a reader.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6R</td>
<td>Daniel D’Alanno</td>
<td>for settling into grade 5/6 with a positive work ethic. Great job Daniel!</td>
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The Basin Primary School
Lunch Order Menu
(Effective Monday 3rd February 2014)

Lunch orders are available on Mondays & Fridays. Please clearly label bags/envelopes with name and class. Where possible please try and enclose the correct money however, change will be given if required.
Please note that there is now a 5c charge for paper bags.

**SAVOURY ROLLS**
- Cheese $1.40
- Cheese and Bacon $1.90
- Cheese, Bacon and Pineapple $2.10
- Cheese, Bacon and Capsicum $2.10
- Cheese, Bacon and Onion $2.10
- Cheese, Bacon and Mushroom $2.10

**SNACKS**
- Small Wagon Wheel $1.80
- Gingerbread $1.60
- Cinnamon Donut $1.00
- Iced Donut $1.10

**HOT FOOD**
- Steak Pie $3.50
- Vegetable Pastie $3.50
- Sausage Roll (Plain or Savoury) $2.10
- Spinach, Cheese and Potato Roll $2.50
- Party Pies $1.10
- Party Quiches $1.10
- Hot Dogs $2.80
(Sauce 20c extra)

**DRINKS**
- Juice Man 250ml - Tropical
  - Apple
  - Orange $2.00
- Flavoured Milk 300ml - Strawberry
  - Chocolate $2.50
- Water 600ml $2.20

**SANDWICH BAR**
(White or Wholemeal Bread)
- Ham $2.60
- Chicken $3.00
- Strass $2.60
- Salami $2.60
- Vegemite $1.50
- Cheese $2.00
- Salad $2.60

**Extras**
- Lettuce, Tomato, Carrot, Cucumber and Capsicum 40c each
- Cheese 60c
- Rolls 30c
**Piano Lessons**

Simply Music is a revolutionary, Australian developed piano learning method that offers a breakthrough in music education. **Learn music by playing music.**

Classes available for Term 1 at The Basin Primary School.

For more information, please contact:

David Bremner  
Associate Teacher – Simply Music  
0400 065 788  
david_piano@hotmail.com  
www.simplymusic.com

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**Billanook College**

**Academic Scholarships Year 7, 2015**

Applications are now invited from students currently in Year 6. Examination will be held on Saturday 1 March 2014.

**Saturday Morning College Tour**  
1 March 10.30am > RSVP Essential

**The Best Pastoral Care + Great Academic Results**

A co-educational school of the Uniting Church  
Early Learning - VCE  
A member of Round Square

**Scholarship Applications close Friday 21 February**

For further information, please contact our Registrar  
Tel: 9724 1179  Email: registrar@billanook.vic.edu.au  
197 Cardigan Road Mooroolbark

**Apply online at**  
> www.billanook.vic.edu.au

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**Billanook College 2013 VCE Results**

The Best Pastoral Care + Great Academic Results

- **9.2%** of students achieved results in the top 5% of the State with an ATAR over 95
- **16.3%** of students achieved results in the top 10% of the State with an ATAR over 90
- **35.7%** of students achieved results in the top 20% of the State with an ATAR over 80

**2014 Saturday Morning College Tours**  
Saturday 1 March (Year 7, 2015 Scholarship Examination)  
Saturday 3 May  
Saturday 21 June  
Saturday 8 November (Crescendo Exhibition)

**2014 School at Work Tours**  
Tuesday 18 February  
Wednesday 26 March  
Thursday 27 May  
Friday 15 August  
Wednesday 3 September  
Monday 13 October  
Tuesday 18 November