

TERM  
ONE



# Brunswick South PRIMARY SCHOOL

*imparare insieme ♦ creare insieme ♦ vivere insieme*

## WHAT'S INSIDE

LE NOTIZIE DI TREVOR,  
SCHOOL COUNCIL REPORT

End of Term 1



26 march 2020 issue 4

# NEWSLETTER

**our values** –  
the moral fibre which  
guides our culture

CONSTANT LEARNING  
MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITY  
COMPASSION  
SENSE OF POSSIBILITY

## CALENDAR DATES

**APRIL**

**TUES 14** Curriculum Day

**Wed 15** Term 2 First Day Back

Term 2 Commences  
Wednesday 15 April

# LE NOTIZIE DI TREVOR

## C O M M U N I T Y

**This has been our integrated learning focus this term, underpinning our work in Reading, Writing, Speaking & Listening and aspects of Mathematics. As we progressed through the term, we looked at this through a curriculum lens; identifying different members of our community and their roles, understanding how a community is made up of diverse members, considering the history of communities within Australia, how different communities have interacted and how we use community to bring about change in society.**

Unexpectedly, about to underlie all of this was the real life examples of community and connection we have experienced over the final few weeks of the term. We've made some very real life connections during this time and all of us have a renewed understanding of the importance of community in our lives.

## STAFF

Our staff have come together with almost no notice and carved out new ways of working. Moving to online platforms, redesigning curriculum and changing the idea of our traditional concept of what school looks like. They did this with minimal time and without external supports or formalised professional learning. A testament to our teachers and their agility in times of necessity!

## FAMILIES

We have felt the love and appreciation from all of you and your overwhelming support. We know many of you are doing it tough and are facing some challenging times ahead. We've also had many community members living this event concurrently in Italy and Australia, compounding the impact. As we move forward, our focus will be on maintaining connection with and between families. We can have a fantastic home learning program, but it achieved nothing if engagement between school and home is low. Our School Council, Parent Carers and Community & Fundraising Sub Committee are all considering ways we can maintain connections virtually in the coming weeks.

## STUDENTS

The real leaders during this time have been our kids. Some of you have looked to us adults with an expectation that we know how to handle each and every situation, but in this instance we can look to you. It truly has been business as usual for our kids during this time. They've been resilient, thoughtful and adaptive in navigating through a very unusual time for all of us.

## COMMUNITY CONNECTION

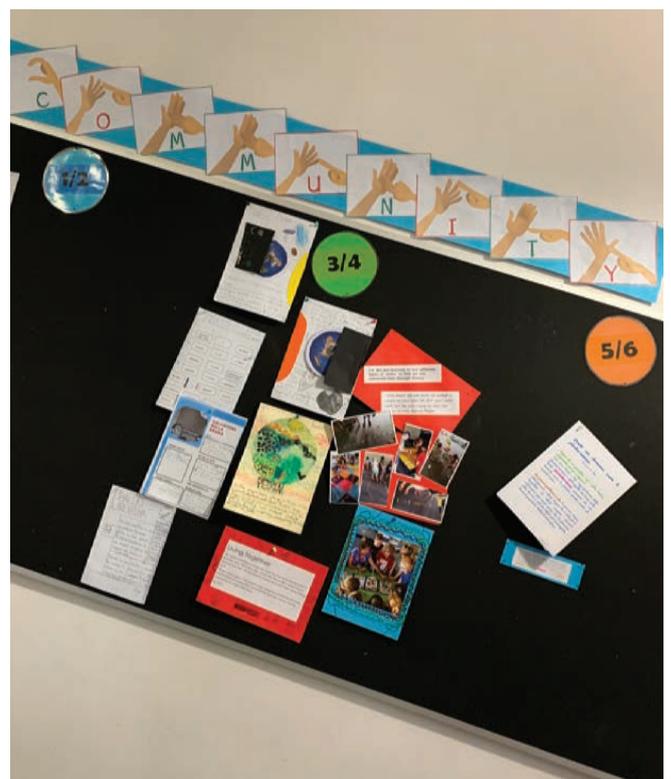
We usually switch off over the school holidays and take the chance to recharge, but we know this holiday break may be different. Over the break, we will continue to check the school email address and action anything we can remotely. To support you even further we have activated a temporary mobile phone number in the event you need to reach us urgently, the number is 0422 938 014.

Stay tuned to our social media channels on Facebook [www.facebook.com/brunswicksouthps](http://www.facebook.com/brunswicksouthps) and Twitter [www.twitter.com/brunsouthps](http://www.twitter.com/brunsouthps) - we have some exciting new things in the pipeline and will start engaging with you in different ways!

You can also join the Facebook group, 'Parents and carers of Brunswick South' to connect with other families from the school. Please note this group is a parent group and not moderated by the school. You can access the group here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1316786888379485/?ref=share>

**Take care. Be well. Ciao for now!**

**Trevor**



# SCHOOL COUNCIL

Hello Families

Further to Trevor's summary of the last School Council meeting on 17 March, the school council wishes to extend best wishes to everyone during this difficult time. Our meeting focussed heavily on the current State of Emergency and what Coronavirus means for our school at this time.

I have always thought that Olympic years were good years. Try and think back to a dud Olympic year.....there isn't one - they are all even (84, 88, 92, 96, 00 - Cathy Freeman....), fun and exciting times and you usually receive an extra day in February. With the postponing of Tokyo until 2021 my theory holds, because this year is certainly awful.

There are three points I would like to make:

1. This is a time where the health of everyone is the first priority. Most events the school has planned and we all look forward to are now cancelled. The school will adapt to an environment of remote learning and as the situation evolves, so too will our decision making. We are following the best public health advice and will continue to have the health of our kids and teaching staff guide the way forward.

2. We are conscious of the economic impact these events will have on people within our community. We are lucky to enjoy a school community that includes many people working in creative industries, which have already been severely impacted. For anyone who has vulnerable employment during this time, you are in our thoughts. Similarly we are thinking of our Italian Communities both here and abroad. Please contact the school and let us know if there are things that can be done to support you and your family during this time. If we help and support each other and those doing it toughest, perhaps we can partially shift our attention from

the challenges ALL of us are facing.

3. We need to be conscious of the pressures and potential loneliness that the required "social distancing" (what a horrible verb) and self-isolation will bring. School communities naturally look to promote connections and closeness, and there is something insidious about this virus, where the appropriate response is completely counter intuitive. The council is actively considering platforms and activities that can allow for virtual activities as a next best thing to actually coming together. We would appreciate input into developing these activities.

Lastly, we feel lucky to have a committed principal and staff at this time who have been communicating information as it comes to hand and thinking deeply about the impacts decisions will have on our community.

Who knows how long we will be living with this uncertainty, but we all look forward to working through this period together and coming through it together.

If you are keen to be involved in or connect with (albeit it virtually at the moment) in a sub-committee (Building and Grounds, Finance, Fundraising, Policy or our Bilingual Program) or have any other queries, please get in touch with School Council via [brunswick.south.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:brunswick.south.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au) or my email address directly via [henry.james.r@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:henry.james.r@edumail.vic.gov.au)

Best Wishes

*James Henry*

*School Council President*

## BSPS SCHOOL COUNCIL

- ◆ **President** James Henry
- ◆ **Vice President** Madeleine Aikenhead
- ◆ **Treasurer** Dan Ziffer
- ◆ **Parent Members** Vicky Wilson
- ◆ **Community Members** John Hajek, James Henry
- ◆ **DET** Trevor Strolla, Marg Weymouth, Ivana D'Aprano

## SUB COMMITTEES

- ◆ **Building and Grounds** James Henry
- ◆ **Policies** Marg Weymouth
- ◆ **Community and Fundraising** Jean-Pierre Masclef
- ◆ **Bilingual** John Hajek
- ◆ **OSHC** Vicky Wilson



Thanks for the coffee Trevor, you are a superstar

In this incredibly difficult time, thank you for all your communication and for the learning program. I can barely imagine what it must be like trying to manage all that is going on in the swirl of information and notifications from government and elsewhere and continue to run the school. You are doing a superb job.



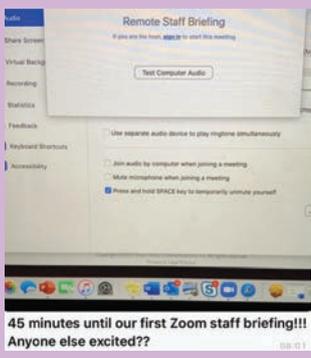
We wanted to say a HUGE thank you for the work you have put together we busy working at Hogwarts Primary School which is the name of her new school.



# THANK YOU TO OUR AMAZING STAFF



Just to say THANK YOU and "GRAZIE" to you all, to Trevor, Marg, all the teachers, office staff - you are doing an amazing job in very difficult circumstances, and we very much appreciate it! And hope that you can have at least somewhat of a relaxing weekend!!



THANK YOU!

Thank you to the 3/4 teachers for providing such clear information and resources for at home learning. We would be flailing without it.

I have a renewed respect for the work you do. Teaching is **HARD work!!**



I want to thank you and your whole team for the incredible job you are doing over this challenging time. Thank you for the clear and regular updates, the care and the strong leadership. This has helped us to help us feel connected and supported within the school community. We are finding the Foundation home learning program great to use. So impressed that the teachers have managed to put this together so quickly while still fulfilling all of their other duties under such pressure.



Thank you for all the work you're doing to support the children, teachers and the community. You must all be exhausted! I hope you can take care of yourself and your family over the coming week or two as responsibilities there die down a little.

# BSPS STUDENTS LEARNING FROM HOME

# CONGRATULATIONS LEARNING LEGENDS

