



Dear BSPS families,

Welcome back! And a **special** welcome goes out to our new families and new staff members. What a brilliant start to the school year!

It was wonderful to see all students return yesterday and almost without exception, getting straight back into their routines. Right across the school we launched our '**Learning to Learn**' program which runs for the first two weeks of first term. This program sets clear and consistent expectations for the year and assists the students to transition into the new year comfortably and confidently.

**New faces:**

In addition to our new families we also welcome some new staff to our school:

Sarah Pavlidis - Foundation  
Celeste Oliver - Years 1/2  
Anna Nardo - Years 1/2  
Matthew Nguyen - Years 3/4

Sam Eason – STEM (6 weeks)  
Vicky Krstevski - Learning Support – Foundation  
Kylie Doust - Italian Language Assistant - 3-6

I will continue as Acting Principal at BSPS into 2019 as we continue to build on the fantastic work we have started together.

**Farewell:**

We had a very last minute farewell at the end of last year, in fact it was so last minute that it was after we had all finished for the year. Congratulations to **Elke Bleeker** on her appointment as Numeracy Learning Specialist at Pascoe Vale South Primary School. We are very sad to say goodbye to Elke after many years and many different roles at our school, but we are equally excited that she has such a great opportunity ahead of her. We hope Elke will be back at BSPS at some stage for a formal farewell. Sam Eason has joined our team to fill the STEM position while we advertise for a STEM teacher for the remainder of the year.

**Student toilets:**

We've heard from our students that the toilets needed a bit of attention, so over the break we spent some time giving all our student toilets a facelift. The work is mostly cosmetic and with some fresh, bright paint, new lighting, exhaust fans and some serious elbow grease our toilet areas are looking fantastic. We know our students will enjoy this fresh space and do their part to maintain the current standard of the area.

**Learning Centre:**

Spending the better part of last year without a functional and central library was challenging, but I have to say it was worth the wait. Our new Library (**Learning Centre**) is ready for students, staff and parents and makes a wonderful feature of our beautiful junior building. Now that we have this space, our next step is to invest in some new, quality literary material to fill it with. We are working actively with The Little Bookroom on some ways we can partner together to make the space even more engaging for our students. Thank you to **Kate Page** for doing such a fantastic job bringing this vision together and making such a wonderful space for our community.

**TeamKids:**

TeamKids kicked off their holiday program at BSPS early in January and have now transitioned into before and after school care for the new school year. I was at the school a number of times over the break and it was lovely to have many students use the service from other schools in the area. At all times the kids were engaged and active, with new equipment and resources to use. **Laura** has been appointed as the new Director of Service and will coordinate our before and after care for our school. We'd like to extend a warm welcome to Laura and the rest of the crew at TeamKids. They can be reached at: [brunswicksouthps@teamkids.com.au](mailto:brunswicksouthps@teamkids.com.au) or 0439 283 509.

## Assembly:

This term we are going to trial a new time and format for our assemblies – **Monday at 9am!** Our school is growing and the space we have is insufficient for us to meet as a whole school every fortnight. This term we will have **two whole school assemblies** (one at the start and one at the end of the term) and the others will be **Junior** and **Senior**. This will allow each assembly to be more targeted and relevant for the students and there will be more space to include parents and carers as part of the celebration. The schedule for this term is below:

Week	Location	Day/Time	Year level	Host
1				
2				
3 - 11/2/19	Outside	Monday – 9.00am	WHOLE SCHOOL	5/6
4				
5 - 25/2/19	Hall	Monday – 9.00am	Senior School	3/4
6 - 4/3/19	Hall	Monday – 9.00am	Junior School	1/2
7 - 12/3/19	Hall	Tuesday – 9.00am	Senior School	5/6
8 - 18/3/19	Hall	Monday – 9.00am	Junior School	Foundation
9				
10 - 5/4/19	Outside	Monday – 2.10pm	WHOLE SCHOOL	3/4

## Parent teacher communication:

The school will be using Compass as an online management system from the beginning of this year. The first stage of this will be for all attendance and roll marking to be done via the platform. As our staff get more accustomed to it, we will then roll out other features, including payments, permission slips and reporting – watch this space!

To help you get to know your child's new teachers and learning areas you will have two opportunities to meet formally with them.

1. **Information Afternoon:** (4.00pm-5.00pm) will occur on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February**. This is a long standing tradition at BSPS where we start out in the learning areas with an overview of the year.
2. **Student Led Conferences:** These will occur on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March** and **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March**. The purpose of these sessions is for our students themselves to share with you their Learning Goals which have been developed in conjunction with their teachers.

In addition, as always, we encourage any families to come and see the teachers with any pressing concerns about your child as soon as possible.

Keep your eyes peeled for the newsletters from your child's learning area next week – this will have the timetables and lots of other information from our teachers.

Finally for the beginning of the year, a couple of quick, general safety reminders that I ask be adhered to. These requests are important for the safety and wellbeing of our school community.

- Please observe all speed and parking restrictions around the school. The area can become very congested at pick up and drop off times and the safety of everyone is our priority.
- Students are supervised by staff from 8:45am until 3:45pm each day. To safeguard and maintain an appropriate Duty of Care for your children and to assist the TeamKids OSHC program, students and families are asked to follow our 'Access to School Grounds' Policy' (See A-Z on our website).
- If you are entering the school grounds during the school day, please report to the Office in the main building immediately upon arrival and ensure you sign in.
- Before entering the school grounds all students and parents should dismount from their bikes or scooters.
- Dogs in the school yard should be on a leash and controlled by an adult at all times and in accordance with our 'Dogs in School Policy' we ask that all dogs remain on the asphalt areas.

Thanks again for a great start to 2019 – it's going to be another fantastic year!

Trevor Strolla

Acting Principal

**Important Dates:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 5/6 – Carlton Respect Program
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Whole School Assembly – 9am
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 5/6 – Carlton Respect Program
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 5/6 – Carlton Respects Program
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	School Council Meeting – 7.00-9.00pm
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	Senior School Assembly – 3/4 Hosting
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 5/6 – Carlton Respects Program
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Learning Area Information Session – 4.00-5.00pm
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Junior School Assembly – 1/2 Hosting
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Labour Day Public Holiday – No school</b>
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Senior School Assembly – 5/6 Hosting
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	3/4 Swimming
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Junior Assembly – Foundation Hosting
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Student Led Conferences 4-6pm
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Student Led Conferences 4-6pm
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	3/4 Swimming
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Somers Camp (selected 5/6 students only)
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Learning Centre (Library) Official Opening – 6.00-7.00pm
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	School Council Meeting - 7.00-9.00pm
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April – <b>2.10pm</b>	Whole School Assembly – 3/4 Hosting
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Last day of term 1 – 2.30pm dismissal