



Brunswick South
PRIMARY SCHOOL
imparare insieme ♦ creare insieme ♦ vivere insieme

20th July 2018

Dear BSPS families,

Welcome back! We are now more than half way through what has certainly been a busy and rewarding year. I have loved seeing the students so eager to be at school each and every day and witnessing firsthand their learning progress. We have settled back into a new term with ease and have picked up right where we left off.

Welcome

A special welcome goes out to our new families joining us this term, some have come from local schools and some from further afield as international enrolments. We also welcome a couple of new(ish) faces to BSPS with Lisa Donoghue joining the 5/6 team, replacing Maree while she is on Long Service Leave and Kylie Doust, replacing Cinzia as an Italian Language Assistant while she is on leave.

Curriculum Day

Our dedicated staff returned bright and early on Monday morning and engaged in Professional Learning for the first part of the day. Our session was on **Differentiated Teaching** and, as a team, we looked at how we can provide instruction to each child that is at their point of need. Differentiated teaching provides appropriate challenge for all students in a group. It does so by responding to student differences in readiness, interest and learning profile. This allows the teacher to provide learning opportunities at the 'right level' for all students that balance both their success and effort. Differentiated teaching increases the learning capacity of all students – not just a select few.

Student Led Conferences

This year we introduced Student Led Conferences to further build **learner agency** in our students at BSPS. We want to give our kids increased responsibility and ownership over their learning and learning goals. This is to support them to develop into independent, life-long learners. Our SLCs will be happening on Tuesday 31st July and Wednesday 1st August.

What is a 'Student Led Conference'? It is an authentic way to encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning, actions and decisions. This process demonstrates to your child that we all support their learning in partnership, we acknowledge and value their accomplishments and respect their own view of themselves as learners. Some of you indicated you'd like more time with your child's teachers and, this semester, we have managed to increase the length of each session to 15 minutes. The extra time may not seem like much, but with 332 students, it's an extra commitment from our teaching staff.

Please note that you are always welcome to arrange a time to meet with your child's teachers outside of these times. Our staff are very accommodating in meeting these requests within the working week. If you haven't booked your conference yet please head to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and enter event code **X D E M G**.

Access to School

Please remember that our school yard is supervised from 8.45am – 9.00am in the morning and then from 3.30pm – 3.45pm in the afternoon. Any child in the yard outside of these times needs to be in Out of School Hours Care (OSHC). Our 3.45pm bell is a reminder that all students in the yard who haven't been collected need to go to reception. Families who are still in the yard at this time are asked to vacate the grounds as the students in OSHC use the school grounds.

Please note: students who are at school outside of the supervised times will be sent to OSHC at the expense of the family. We are unable to supervise students at the office before or after school.

Traffic and Road Safety

We have had some families recently witness unsafe behaviour on the roads around our school, especially during the busy drop off and pick up times in Park Street. These roads are extremely busy and require us to exercise a high level of caution at all times. We ask that all families adhere to local traffic restrictions including parking and school speed limits. If you witness any unsafe behaviour we encourage you to make note of car make, model and registration numbers in order to report any incidents to the local police.

Working Bee

Put Sunday 5th August in your diaries. We will be having a working bee on this day to help tackle some little (and not so little) jobs in the school grounds. More information will come shortly from the Buildings and Grounds Sub Committee.

Whole School Science Day

During Science Week 2018 (11-19 August 2018), we will be celebrating all things STEM on a dedicated Science Day on Thursday 16 August. The school day will differ from normal in that it will be filled with science-related activities and the students will be learning in our cross-age groups. The schedule for the day is yet to be finalised and more details will follow, however if there are any parents, carers or community members who would like to volunteer on the day to help with the activities or even to run an activity, workshop or demonstration, please contact Madeleine (parent and STEM Working Group coordinator) at bpsstemwg@gmail.com

Update

Last term we let our community know that Ros was undergoing treatment for cancer. We are very pleased to let you know that she has now been given the all clear! I know Ros was very grateful for the well wishes and support from our school community.

Important Dates

Monday 16 th July	First day of Term 3 (No students)
Tuesday 17 th July	Students return
Tuesday 31 st July & Wednesday 1 st August	Student Led Conferences
Monday 13 th – Wednesday 15 th August	Year 3/4 Camp
Thursday 16 th August	Whole School Science Day
Thursday 23 rd August	BSPS Parent Forum – 6.00-7.30pm
Tuesday 11 th September – Thursday 20 th September	Foundation Swimming
Friday 21 st September	Last day of school – 2.30pm finish

Thanks for a great first week back,

Trevor