

TERM
TWO



Brunswick South PRIMARY SCHOOL

imparare insieme ♦ creare insieme ♦ vivere insieme

WHAT'S INSIDE

LE NOTIZIE DI TOBY,
YR 3/4, YR 5/6, SPECIALISTS
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13 June 2024 issue 8

NEWSLETTER

our values -
the moral fibre which
guides our culture

CONSTANT LEARNING
MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITY
COMPASSION
SENSE OF POSSIBILITY

*Brunswick South Primary School
has zero tolerance to child abuse
and actively works to respond to,
listen to, and empower children.*

ASSEMBLY DATES

Mon 17 June 9am Foundation Hosting

Last Day of Term
Friday 28 June
2.30pm Finish

CALENDAR DATES

JUNE

Fri 14 Trivia Night 7.30-10pm

Sat 15 Working Bee 2-4pm

Fri 28 End of Term 2.30pm Finish

JULY

Mon 15 Curriculum Day No School

Tues 16 Term 3 Commences

LE NOTIZIE DI TOBY

I am in a fortunate position to be able to show prospective families around our school every week on our school tours. Much of the feedback that I receive during the tours is very positive, with families commenting on the students' engagement, the calm learning spaces, and their amazement after seeing our incredible bilingual program in action!

Our Bilingual Program

On my last tour, after watching a Year 1/2 Lettura lesson being taught through Italian, someone on the tour asked with a big smile on her face, "How old are those kids again?" – she was clearly blown away by how actively our junior students were responding and participating in a lesson taught entirely through Italian! Seeing our students learning content from the Victorian Curriculum through two different languages every day, we sometimes forget how lucky we are to be able to provide our students with such a rich learning experience.

Learning in a bilingual setting has an array of cognitive benefits for our students and strengthens all their learning. Because our lessons in English and Italian are 'mirrored' (with the same learning intentions and success criteria) our students are constantly making connections throughout the week as they learn concepts and vocabulary in both languages. Another wonderful benefit of our bilingual program is the respect, empathy and understanding that our students develop of other cultures. I have been told by a number of past BSPS students and their families of the passion for languages that was formed while at BSPS and how it has led those students to pursue language learning (both Italian and other languages) and subjects with a focus on intercultural understanding into their secondary school education.

Upcoming Visit from the Italian Consul General

Victoria has a rich history of Italian migration and has many established and well-respected organisations that advocate for Italian language and culture. Throughout our immersion program journey, we have developed and fostered some strong connections with these organisations and with the wider Italian community in Victoria and Australia. We are very grateful to have **Hanna Pappalardo**, the Italian Consul General, visiting our school on **Monday 24 June** to donate books to our school. This will be followed by a workshop for our

students with the children's book illustrator, Erica Facchini. A big thankyou to **COASIT** and **COMITES** for organising this fantastic Italian literacy experience for our students. **Nancy Cozzo** has written about this upcoming event in the 'Italian Bilingual News' section of this newsletter, so please read for additional information!

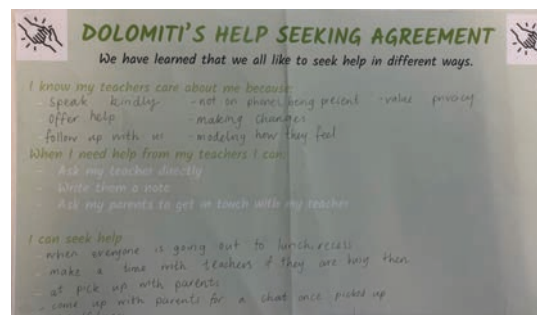
Attitudes to School Survey

Student voice and agency are one of our priority goals in our School Strategic Plan and is something that we are working to embed in how our students learn at BSPS. The Attitudes to School Survey is mandated by the Department of Education, and we view it as a fantastic opportunity to hear from our students so that we can improve student engagement, wellbeing, and quality of instruction. The survey is conducted with our Year 4-6 students once a year, and this week we began interviewing our current students. Students are asked about their thoughts and feelings in relation to school, their learning, peer relationships, bullying, and life in general.

Earlier this term, we acted on some of our student responses from the 2023 Attitudes to School Survey by taking focus groups with our 5/6 students to dig deeper about some of their responses about seeking help from their teachers. The teachers shared back with their students what they heard in the focus groups and worked with them to co-construct a 'Help Seeking Agreement' for each class.

Buon fine settimana

Toby



Student Illnesses

We're coming into the winter months, and this often means illnesses. If your child is unwell at the beginning of the day, please do not bring them to school until they are feeling better and do not have any symptoms.

You can enter your child's absence via Compass or call the school office on 9380 1231.

STEM



This term, the Year 3/4 students are participating in a design unit called The Eggletons' Big Adventures... and Misadventures. The objective is to design a series of different vehicles and gadgets to safely transport an egg (Eggleton) such as a zipline, boat, swing, and falling device. They are using 'crash test dummies' (fake eggs) to provide the parameters for their prototype (first model) and after making some improvements, test their device using a real egg.

The Year 5/6 students have started working on their native bee-attracting garden on Park Street Reserve. The garden will comprise native plants that flower at different times of the year creating a steady flow of pollen for the bees, information boards to educate the local community on Victoria's native bees, and insect hotels. The students are preparing their garden beds for planting and propagating their plants from seeds and cuttings. C. Fulton Garden Supplies very kindly donated 4.5 cubic metres of pH-neutral loam to the project. The students have been very busy breaking up the existing soil and mixing in the new soil in preparation for the planting that will occur at the start of next term.



YEARS 5/6

ITALIAN

Scrittura

In italiano in Scrittura, facciamo il Testo esplicativo. Un testo esplicativo è molto simile a un testo informativo, ma è più descrittivo e ha più fatti. Un esempio di testo esplicativo è il ciclo di vita delle farfalle. Spiega una cosa passo per passo.

Lettura

In lettura, stiamo analizzando i testi espositivi. Vediamo le idee principali e le parole chiave. Anche' vediamo parole tecniche, titoli, didascalie, illustrazioni tecniche e sottotitoli. Per esempio, un testo sui vulcani forse ha parole tecniche o parole chiave come la parola faglia, o vulcani.



ENGLISH

Maths

In Year 5/6 Mathematics, we have been learning about variables, which are letters that can represent any number. We have also been performing multiplication using variables; for example, $a \times (b + c) = ab + ac$. We understand that whatever is on the left side of the equal sign is equivalent to what's on the right, albeit expressed in a different mathematical form. We have been collaborating to solve some of these mathematical problems, while also working independently.



Writing

In Year 5/6 Writing, we have been studying the structure of explanatory texts and distinguishing them from informative and procedural texts. An explanatory text is a non-fiction piece that elucidates how something

functions. An example we've examined is "The Life Cycle of a Frog," which describes how a frog begins as a tadpole, loses its tail and gills, grows legs, develops its mouth, and transforms into a frog.

Reading

In Year 5/6 Reading, we have been learning about sentence structures, clauses, and the three text relations. The first type of sentence is a simple sentence, which must have a subject and a verb. The second type is a compound sentence, which is formed by combining two simple sentences and connecting them with one of the FANBOYS (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so). The third type is a complex sentence, which consists of an independent clause and a dependent clause. An independent clause is a sentence that makes sense on its own; however, a dependent clause must be paired with an independent clause or it will not make sense. The three text relations are: text to self, text to text, and text to world. Text to self involves comparing the text to oneself. Text to text entails comparing the text to something else one has watched, read, or listened to. Text to world involves comparing the text to real-world events.

SPECIALISTS

Sport

In Sports, we have been learning how to play soccer. We've been practising how to kick balls properly and we have currently been learning different tricks. We have been playing whole class games and trying to score goals.

Arts

In Arts, we recreated Vincent Van Gogh's "Starry Night" by affixing string onto a black and white photo of the original painting. Currently, we are exploring perspective, which is the technique of making a 2D drawing appear 3D. The method we are studying involves a "vanishing point," which is where all lines converge. For instance, when drawing a road, it would resemble a triangle, with the vanishing point located at its apex.

Performing Arts

In Performing Arts, our focus has been on contrast and exaggeration. Contrast involves juxtaposing opposites in what you're doing. For instance, transitioning from a sad scene to a happy one. Exaggeration, on the other hand, entails amplifying everything beyond its normal scale. For example, if you're supposed to portray a subtle smile but instead break into a wide grin, that would be an exaggeration.

STEM

In STEM, we've been exploring sustainability and pollination. Sustainability entails caring for our planet and preserving the environment, such as choosing metal straws over single-use plastic ones. Pollination, on the other hand, is the process in which bees gather nectar from flowers, collecting pollen on their bodies and transferring it to other flowers. This process also involves ensuring that the stigma (the male parts of the flower) and the pistil (the female parts of the flower) come into contact, facilitating the flower's transformation into a fruit or seed.



YEARS 3/4

ITALIAN BILINGUAL NEWS

Italian Consul General's School Visit

We are delighted to announce that the Italian Consul General, Hanna Pappalardo, will visit our school on **Monday 24th June, 2024**.

Her visit will begin with a quaint Welcome Ceremony where some of our senior students will say their Acknowledgment of Country and our Foundation students will sing their Buongiorno song to her.

In Unit of Work: **The Blue Marble** we have been making dioramas representing Merri Creek and how the animals interact in their ecosystems.

Last Term, (Term 1) we went on a CERES excursion where we learnt all about nature, plants, animals and indigenous food.

Don't forget we will be having our classroom open day on Thursday 20 June! We hope to see you there.

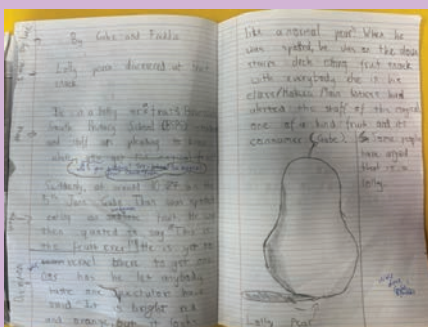
Tanni and Dorothy

In Writing we have been learning about the structure and features of news reports: Title, Hook, By Line/ Date, Introduction, Subtitles, Paragraphs, Image and Caption. See some examples of our News Reports pictured!

Bauti

In Maths we have been learning about multiplication, division and the vertical classroom. There are some pretty cool rhymes for multiplying too like Two is very fast and fun quickly double and you're done. What's that you say, be more precise? Okay then, just add it twice!

Pernille



Writing by Gabriel Tham and Freddie Vince

During this ceremony, the Consul General will donate numerous copies of two books: **'PIMPA TRAVELS IN ITALY'** featuring the character Pimpa, and

'A THOUSAND WONDERS IN BLUE. Discovering Italy from the Sea' featuring Geronimo Stilton.



This idea was initiated by the General Directorate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, dedicated to promoting Italy and its rich cultural heritage among children and youth. These two exclusive illustrated publications were created as a special edition for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI). We are appreciative for this wonderful initiative and look forward to sharing these books with our F-6 students, fostering a love of Italian culture, history and language.

Furthermore, there will be 7 interactive panels, shared with our school for a period of one week, where Pimpa illustrates to children the beauties and excellences of Italy in various sectors, including sports, space, ecosystems and biodiversity, cuisine, and design.

Italian Art Incursion: Illustrator's Workshop

Following this ceremony, (on the same day), the Italian Cultural Institute (IIC) in collaboration with the Consulate General of Italy, CO.AS.IT e COMITES has organised the Italian illustrator, Erica Facchini, to visit BSPS for an Italian bilingual Art Incursion. The incursion will consist of short workshops where our F-6 students will explore story telling through the illustration of Pimpa and Geronimo Stilton.

We would like to thank the Italian Consul General, Hanna Pappalardo, the Italian Cultural Institute (IIC), CO.AS.IT and COMITES for providing our students with this Italian bilingual literary and artistic learning experience!



ITALIAN



STORY STUDIOS AUSTRALIA/
MELBOURNE YOUNG WRITERS' STUDIO

YOUNG WRITERS GET PUBLISHED IN SEMESTER TWO!

Join Story Studios Australia for a free trial in a weekly Creative Story Writing Group in Term 2 for the chance to become a published author in Semester Two.

Creative story writing sessions for kids and teens. Immersive, fun and a great way to extend skills and confidence.



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HEALTH AND WELLBEING



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR AN ANXIETY PROGRAM for Grades 2 - 6

In term 3, Brunswick South Primary School will be offering the Cool Kids program to selected students. The program will be run during school hours by Caro.

The following information explains what the Cool Kids program involves and who may find the program helpful.

About the Cool Kids Program

Cool Kids is a structured program that teaches children and their parents how to better manage a child's anxiety. The program is based on Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT), involves the participation of children and parents, and focuses on teaching practical skills. Topics covered in the program include:

- ◆ Learning about anxiety
- ◆ Learning to think realistically
- ◆ Parenting an anxious child
- ◆ Facing fears using stepladders
- ◆ Learning coping skills such as relaxation or problem solving

The Cool Kids program was developed by Macquarie University over the past 25 years, has been translated into a number of languages and is used in clinics, schools and hospitals around the world. The program has undergone continual scientific evaluation and development to include the latest understanding of anxiety and its treatment. Current results indicate that most young people who complete the program show significant improvement. Following treatment, there are marked increases in school attendance, confidence, number of friends and involvement in extracurricular activities and decreases in worry, shyness, fear and family distress.

How is the Cool Kids Program Delivered?

Cool Kids sessions will be run by Caro, our Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader at BSPS. She has done the training to facilitate these sessions.

For children, Cool Kids will involve 10 group sessions, held once per week during the school day. Groups will include six to eight students and each session will run for approximately one hour.

Parents will be invited to attend 2 parent information sessions (with other parents who have children who

are completing the group) in the first few weeks of the program and you will also have 2 one-on-one telephone sessions to discuss your child's progress in the second half of the program.

Between sessions children will be asked to practice skills at home and at school.

Would my child benefit from Cool Kids?

The Cool Kids program is being offered to children in years 2 to 6 whose main struggle is with anxiety. Cool Kids covers a broad range of fears and worries including:

Separation fears. Kids who worry that something bad will happen when separated from mum or dad. They often refuse to separate, e.g. won't go to school, sleep over at friends' houses, or be left at home with a sitter.

Social fears. Kids who are shy and who worry about what others think of them. They avoid social situations, performing and often have difficulty making friends.

Specific fears: Fears of particular objects or situations like dogs or water. The fear is so bad that they avoid situations where they might come across that fear.

Generalised anxiety. These kids are worriers. They worry about many different areas including school work, competition, family, and anything new. They ask for reassurance and may feel sick, get headaches or have trouble sleeping.

Cool Kids is not suitable for children whose main problem is low mood, aggression, hyperactivity, oppositional behavior or if they are autistic.

What else is involved?

Children who participate in Cool Kids will be asked to complete an online assessment. This will gather information about the concerns that you have for your child and will also include questionnaires for yourself and your child about thoughts, feelings and behaviour. The online assessment will be used to determine if your child is likely to find Cool Kids beneficial. Additionally, after the program is complete you would be asked to complete the same online assessment a second time so that we can track your child's progress.

How to nominate your child

If after reading this information you would like your child to be considered for the program, please complete and return the Cool Kids Expression of Interest (available from the school office).

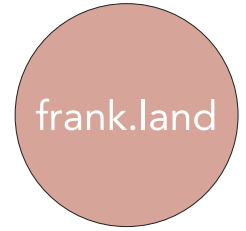
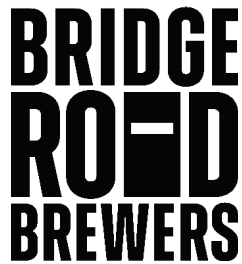
Completed expressions of interest will be reviewed by Caro and the Wellbeing Team and decisions on who will be offered a space in the program will be made jointly by our school leadership team and the Wellbeing Team.

What Should I Do If I Have Questions?

If you would like to discuss Cool Kids or whether your child may benefit from the program please talk with Caro by emailing or calling the office.

brunswick.south.ps@education.vic.gov.au or 9380 1231

THANKS TO THESE BUSINESSES FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL



COMMUNITY NOTICES



HEIDELBERG

TeamKids have another amazing Winter Holiday Program planned!

Come along and experience the TeamKids difference:

- Learn new skills and make new friends
- Qualified and REMARKABLE Educators
- Digital detox with our no screens policy
- Delicious and nutritious morning and afternoon snacks
- CCS-approved care

Head to <http://downloads.teamkids.com.au/brunswick-south-primary.pdf> to checkout Brunswick South Primary School's program + secure your spot today!



BOOKINGS OPEN NOW! >>



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