**Lyn’s Lines**

Quite unexpectedly I received an e-mail from Cerberus offering us some ‘free’ labour to assist us in work around the outdoor area of the school. Mr Durrington & Mr E have been liaising with Ian McMaster and have created a priority list of jobs that need attention around the grounds. It was with great delight this morning to see the defence bus at the Bittern station and a team of Navy personnel making their way towards our school. It’s a great way to see how the Navy contributes to the community and a fantastic opportunity for our students to see how the Navy supports us in many ways. Hopefully this is the beginning of a successful community partnership.

**What are our students learning at school?**

Want to find out more about what your child is learning at school in each subject at each year level?

Need practical tips about what you can do at home to help support your child’s education?

SchoolMate is an essential App for parents of school-aged children in Victoria, Australia.

Produced by Victoria’s Department of Education and Training, SchoolMate will provide parents with a roadmap to help aid their child’s learning at home and at school.

**School Mate Fact sheet**

**What is SchoolMate?** SchoolMate is an app for Victorian parents to help them understand what their kids are learning and get more involved in their child’s education.

**Who is SchoolMate for?** Parents of students from prep to Year 10 in Victorian government schools.

**Where can I get SchoolMate?** You can download it now for free in the App store and in Google Play. Just search for ‘SchoolMate’.

**Does SchoolMate work on all phones and tablets?** SchoolMate works on all iPhone 4s, 5s and 6s and all recent iPads. It also works on all current Android phones and tablets.

**What will I find in SchoolMate?**

SchoolMate will:

- Show parents a snapshot of what their children are learning in each subject at each year level according to the Victorian curriculum (AusVELS)
- Provide tips as to what they can do at home to help their kids in the best way possible
- Suggested related apps, books, events and activities relevant to each subject area.

**Will SchoolMate tell me everything about what my children are learning at school?** No. SchoolMate is a snapshot of the school curriculum (AusVELS) which our school uses as the basis for the learning programs we deliver every day. Parents should always talk to their child’s teacher with any questions about what their child is learning.

**Who created SchoolMate?** The Department of Education and Training’s Digital Comms team, with lots of help from the VCAA.
Annual Report to the Community

The purpose of the annual report to the school community is to inform parents and the wider school community of the school's successes, activities and achievements throughout the year, and to meet legislative and regulatory requirements under the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 and the National Education Agreement 2008.

Schools are required to submit a school annual report to the Department each year.

If you would like to see the 2014 annual school report there are copies available in the office or you can view the report online.

GREAT BITTERN BAKE OFF!!
We have many budding cooks at Bittern Primary School to accommodate this hobby we are having a ‘Bittern Bake Off’ where students can bring a cake decorated in a book theme to be displayed throughout the day followed by an auction of the cakes at the end of the day!!! Bake a cake at home to represent a story. This is run in conjunction with our annual book fair where students can buy from a vareity of books and other stationary ‘knick knacks’ with some of the money raised goes to the school. Last year the auction was a great success and loads of FUN!!! Don’t miss out!!

On arrival at school please bring your cake to the multi purpose room.

Auction starts at 2.30pm on Monday 15TH JUNE in the multi purpose room.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL CAKES NEED TO BE LABELLED WITH FULL INGREDIENTS.

Some examples maybe: The Rainbow Fish

Students can come dressed as a book character, we will have a small parade around the courtyard in the morning to share our fabulous outfits.

Master Chef watch out!!

CSEF PAYMENTS

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILIES

These payments are being made available to those families who currently have concession cards. Applications can be downloaded, or collected from the school office.

If you would like more information, or did not receive a flyer, please call into the school office.

Applications close on 26th June.
SCHOOL UNIFORM

School uniform sends a message to the community as to the values and beliefs of the school. Unfortunately some students are regularly coming out of uniform which does not send a good impression to the wider community.

Benefits of School Uniforms

School uniforms have a positive effect on students AND teachers!
School uniforms promote a single standard of dress. Therefore, school environments become less competitive and more focused on learning. Similarly, research has shown there is a link between a student’s appearance and teachers’ expectations. High expectations means high achievement!

School uniforms boost school spirit!
Helping to build a sense of community within the school, uniforms create an atmosphere of belonging. This essence of unity can positively effect a child’s attitude toward school and can lead to better learning and improved attendance. A child excited about school is a child ready to learn! "Hurrah!" for school pride!

School uniforms promote a safe, healthy learning environment!
No doubt about it! Education professionals agree that a safe school environment is essential for learning to take place. The safer the environment, the more likely children will attend. Uniforms make it easier for school officials to identify non-students while promoting a safe and comfortable atmosphere.

School uniforms make mornings easier!
Uniforms eliminate the need to argue over what to wear to school everyday. Through simplicity, uniforms promote time efficiency, organization, and neatness. Parents and students agree that getting the morning off right is the key to a productive and happy day.

The school uniform for Bittern Primary School is compulsory. The supply of the uniform has been outsourced to a uniform company: Beleza Pty Ltd., at the Somerville Store in the shopping centre. If you have any questions please contact either the uniform shop (phone: 5977 5277) or the school office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Winter Uniform</th>
<th>Summer Uniform</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tunic</td>
<td>Summer dress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy blue pants (school approved)</td>
<td>Navy blue shorts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pale blue polo shirt with logo</td>
<td>Pale blue polo shirt with logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy blue polo shirt with logo</td>
<td>Navy blue polo shirt with logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunic windcheater with logo</td>
<td>Navy blue slouch hat (logo optional)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crew neck windcheater with logo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pale blue skivvy (no logo)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woollen beanie with logo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vest</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bomber jacket</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

School approved navy blue pants include navy blue track pants, cords, drill pants and leggings. Jeans, brand names and fashion wear are excluded.

Footwear
No bright colours.
When visible, socks should be navy blue, pale blue or white.
For safety reasons shoes must not have platform soles or open toes.
For PE and PMP suitable sports footwear must be worn.
Black school shoes or sports shoes.

INDIVIDUALISED SPORTS TOP

Please ensure that students are in uniform at all times.
If you are experiencing financial difficulties please come and let us know as we are able to assist in this area. Attached is the uniform list.
2015 FEES
Please be advised that all Essential Items and school contribution payments are now **OVERDUE**, these fees were due by end of term one. If you are unsure of the amount owing, please contact the school office. Reminders have been sent home, payment as soon as possible would be appreciated.

Junior Ranger Program "Winter Wonders Wander" for 6-10 year olds
Monday 29th & Tuesday 30th June, Monday 6th & Tuesday 7th July, 2015, 1.00 - 3.30pm
$16 per child, booking and pre-payment essential. 5974-3686 or the.briars@mornpen.vic.gov.au Meet at the Visitors Centre.
Come along and join Ranger Fi's wondiferous wander in winter. Rug up and explore along Harrap Creek then up to the historic homestead. Learn about the way plants and animals survive the cold. We'll finish up by the cosy fireplace in the homestead.

Ranger-guided Spotlight Walks
Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th June 2015, 7.00 - 8.30pm
$10.70 per person, booking and pre-payment essential. 5974-3686 or the.briars@mornpen.vic.gov.au Meet at the Visitors Centre and bring a small torch.
With so much of our native wildlife coming out after dark, a guided night walk is the best way to view them in their natural surroundings.

BOOK FAIR
Our annual Book Fair will be held in the Junior Library from Wednesday 10th June until Thursday 18th June. The Fair will be open before and after school each day, and will remain open until 9.15am each morning, to give parents a chance to look at the items without the children being present. A colouring competition will be run for the children to enter (at no cost) and there will be prizes awarded for each year level (not home group).
There will also be a “guess how many mints are needed to freshen a dragon’s breath” competition for all children to enter and the winner will receive a book.
Please help make this our best fair ever so that all money raised can be used to purchase new books for all our children to enjoy.
On Tuesday 26th May Gradas Prep to 6 went to Scienceworks. We went by bus. I sat next to Abigail. First we had play lunch. Next we went to Alice in Wonderland and then we went to Sportworks. I liked the running race. Then we went to Nitty Gritty Super City. I liked the blocks. After that we had lunch. We had a play in the playground. Later we went to the Planetarium. We watched a space show. Finally we were back at school.

Scienceworks is a place where there are thinker heads. There are climbing holes. It is very high up. We were in Sportworks. There was a race. It goes up. I beat 2 people. It was Chloe and Maia. Our group teacher was Mrs Christia. Then we went upstairs. There was a pirate ship. It had a pretend anchor. It was very very fun. After that we went to Nitty Gritty Super City. There were buttons. There was a lot of Melbourne. There was some keep in it. After that we went over to the digger. There was a cage full of balls. There was a box full of bricks. I could lift it high. There were 3 buckets next to it. 2 were easy. One was hard to pull. Near that were some mirrors. You looked really weird in them. There were musical instruments. Some made the same noises and some were different. It was very fun. We went to the Melbourne Planetarium. We watched a cheeky dog named Tyko. He loved to watch the night sky. The next day he found a space ship. He drove it out in space. He went to the moon and went far away from the space ship. There was a hole on the moon and then they took lift off. They were going to the sun!!! It was very scary but Tyko saved them. They were going home. They made it on time at home. In the night sky you can make animals and stuff. From their kitchen I saw a scorpion, an emu, possum and one hunting dog. The possum was a person first. He stayed in the tree too long and turned into a possum his name was Brian the hunter. He had a long stick with a mental pointy end and the seats that we were sitting on, they could lean back. The show was on the roof. After that we hopped on the bus and went back to school. Alex, Chloe and Nat took me home. It was the best day ever.
DON’T FORGET HOT DOGS THIS FRIDAY

Hot dogs will be available this Friday, at a cost of $2.50.
If you would like your child/ren to purchase a hot dog, please complete the order form and return it to school this Friday, together with the correct money.

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HOT DOG ORDER FORM
I would like to order _____ hot dogs @$2.50
NAME: __________________ GRADE: _____
Please find enclosed $______________

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