



ELDO'S

Bethal Primary School & Kindergarten 5186

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Wednesday 15th February	Meet the teacher interviews. Interschool sport notices due Grade 5-6. Book Club orders due. No late orders.
Friday 17th February	Doxa Camp notices and payment due. Music notices and payment due.
Friday 24th February	First Interschool sport meeting. Grade 5-6.

From the Principal:

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Welcome back for the 2017 school year. A special welcome to all our new students and their families. I'm sure they will all settle in quickly, make new friends and learn lots. Everyone is looking forward to another exciting year. This year the 3/4 students will continue to be involved in the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program. All students in Grades 1 to 6 are going to be involved in the Spanish Arts program again this year.

The instrumental music program will be offered to all grade 3 to 6 students this year and grade 2 children will have the opportunity to learn the ukulele. A very big thank you needs to be extended to the Two Friends Foundation for their continued funds. It is due to their generosity that we can offer music tuition at the much reduced rate. If you would like your child to learn to play an instrument please return the permission form which will be sent home. Those children who performed at our end of year concerts demonstrated the benefits of learning an instrument.

Thank you to the community for helping to look after our school over the Christmas holidays. We had no major damage to the school building but we have had some adult members of our community stealing the garden sleepers and 4 panels of our wire fencing. They have been caught on camera. It is very disappointing to think that we have adults who need to steal from a school. They obviously have no regard for public property and the mess they leave behind and the inconvenience of having to get the fence and garden beds repaired. Someone in the community must have seen them or know who has recently done some gardening at their home, especially when they are taking them away through the front of the school. A reminder that if you see anyone in the school grounds acting inappropriately to call the police.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Are you interested in being on School Council?

There are a number of vacancies on School Council this year. We are seeking nominations for the vacant positions. If more nominations are received than there are positions, we will conduct elections. If you are interested in being a school councillor please come and talk to Mrs. De Mercurio or Mr Stafford. Nomination forms can be collected from the office. You can fill in either the Self Nomination form or get another person to nominate you by filling in the other nomination form. Talk to past school councillors about the position to find out how rewarding it is. You don't need to have any experience but you need to be available for monthly meetings. These have been held at 5.00pm on a Tuesday for about one hour. Meeting time will be negotiated with the new council.

If you have a child enrolled at Bethal and would like to nominate to be on School Council, please fill in a nomination form and return it to the Office before 4.00pm on Friday 24th February.

Staffing

Welcome back to all our staff members and a special welcome to Mr Stephen Stafford, Assistant Principal and Ms Yarni Rengger- Thorpe, grade 1 teacher. Teachers are in the following roles.

FA	Ms Kaur
FB	Ms Francione
1A	Ms Krajisnik
1B	Ms Yarni
2A	Ms Whiting/ Ms Flint
2B	Ms Walsh
3/ 4 A	Ms Kaygisiz
3/ 4 B	Ms Elliott
3/ 4 C	Ms Patane
5/ 6 A	Mr Warren/ Ms Abrey
5/ 6 B	Mr Wilson
5/ 6 C	Ms Hicks
EAL	Ms Selamet
Physical Ed.	Ms Monkcom
Spanish	Ms Garcia
Arts	Ms Borelli

Ms Augello will be sharing the grade with Ms Whiting until Ms Flint returns from leave.

Assemblies

Our whole school assemblies will continue to be held in the multipurpose room on Monday afternoons at 2.45pm.

All parents and guardians are welcome to attend. Please come and support your children.

School Captains

This year our school captains are Remose Shamon and Oliana Yokhana. Our vice captains are Carolin Gorghis and Yasin Allilech. Congratulations to these students.

Library

Teachers will be taking their own classes for library lessons. Students will be able to borrow books from the school library by the end of February. All students should have a library bag and the foundation children will be getting red welcome bags, which they can use as library bags. There won't be any excuse for children not borrowing books.

KINDERGARTEN UPDATE

We are now operating the second room at the kinder. Ms Eunice Chang will be the teacher and Ms Sara Melek will be the assistant in the new room. Ms Sutton and Ms Geetha will be staffing the other room. We have a few more vacancies available at the kinder and after these positions are filled, future enrolments will go on a waiting list.

PARENT FUNDING SUPPORT

Parents will be supported with their children's education in a variety of ways. Camps, sports and excursions fund (CSEF) is available to all families with a valid **Health Care or a Pension Card**. Please bring your card to the office and fill in the application. Eligible families will receive \$125 per child for camps and excursions. These families will also receive all booklist requisites. All other families will need to pay \$90 per child for the booklist and they will also need to pay for all excursions.

BREAKFAST CLUB

The breakfast club at Bethal will be run each Thursday morning from 8.15 to 8.50 in the multipurpose room. Any child wishing to attend should ensure they are at school early enough to eat breakfast.

We will be providing a nutritious breakfast. Thank you to Kim Larsson- Dempster and Julia Sheedy for volunteering to assist with breakfast club.

Any other parent who can spare an hour on a Thursday morning to help out with the breakfast club should see Danielle so that we can organize a roster.

The first breakfast will be held on Thursday 17th February

From the Assistant Principal:

Firstly I would like to thank all staff, students and community members for making me feel so welcome at Bethal Primary School. I am incredibly excited to be at Bethal and look forward to meeting all of the community, please come up and say hi when you have a chance.

Meet the teacher interviews.

Just a reminder that Meet the Teacher interviews are taking place next Wednesday the 15th from 2pm to 6:40pm. These are a great opportunity to meet your child's teacher and exchange any relevant information about your child to assist them having the best possible year at Bethal in 2017.

We encourage all students to attend these meetings with their parents and all families who attend will be automatically entered into a raffle. Meetings will take place in your child's classroom. Times will be sent home this Friday.

The Foundation team will be running an information session for families from 3:30pm to 4:00pm in the Foundation Unit instead of meet the teacher meetings.

Attendance.

This year we will be continuing to focus on, '*Every Day Counts*', a state-wide focus that emphasises the importance of children and young people attending school every day from the beginning of the school day at 9am.

I will be tracking the attendance of each class every week and rewarding classes with the best attendance in each area.

The class that achieves the best attendance in the school each month will receive an out-of-school uniform day at school. I will present this data at school assemblies. At this stage with 15 school days in February to go, 1A, Miss Krajisnik's class is in the lead with 100% attendance so far! Keep it up!

Mr S. Stafford
Assistant Principal