

The Cassowary

Official Newsletter of Beverley Hills Primary School

20th August 2008, Number 13



GOOD PARENTING STRATEGIES

For this newsletter I would like parents to consider some thoughts of Mel Levine a Professor of Paediatrics at the University of North Carolina. His area of expertise is Neurodevelopment Dysfunction as it affects learning - particularly learning at school. In short, he is interested in why some students find learning difficult. The particular chapter I have focussed on in these extracts is -

'Parenting that Cultivates Output'

1. *Kids deprived of mental-work practice at home may never acquire the habits of self-discipline that promotes high output throughout life.*
2. *When kids generate low levels of work output, they become susceptible to distraction and diversions that demand little or no mental effort. They gravitate excessively and perhaps obsessively towards television screens, telephones, computer games, and other passive paths of least resistance.*
3. *Down deep, kids, and grown-ups too, feel good about what they have been able to do and bad about what they have not been able to do.*
4. *Provide work incentives. Although we would love to see boys and girls become workers for their own personal satisfaction, there is nothing indecent in providing incentives, even material ones.*
5. *At home, arrange for optimal working conditions. Kids need to work in a quiet environment, one that is relatively distraction free. It is hard for a student to be productive while the rest of the family is howling with laughter over their favourite situation comedy. It is best, in fact, if everyone is engaged in quiet activities while the student strives for high output.*
6. *Set up and enforce consistent work times. Consistency is paramount, yet it is not that easy to achieve in our culture. But just as many people are setting aside time each day for physical fitness, kids need to have specific slots for mental workouts, which may or may not involve only homework.*
7. *Limit TV viewing and other passive or hedonistic activities. Relaxation is a necessity, and most contemporary kids take advantage of modern telecommunications and other forms of electronic wizardry to rest their weary brains. But high levels of brain-free relaxation are likely to be detrimental to output. Although some television viewing is actually beneficial and culturally revealing for all children and adolescents, it is easy for kids to become mesmerized and far too dependant on the device.*
8. *I have found that the most effective parents are those who offer accessible homework consultation without doing much of the work for the child or teenager. Parents should take every precaution not to come across as a child's harshest critic. Never forget that there is no one a child wants to impress more than his/her parents.*



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Principal: **Malcolm Corr**

Calendar

<u>August</u>	<u>August</u>
22 nd – Canteen Closed	8 th -12 th – Grade 6 Canberra Camp
29 th – Crazy Hair Day	12 th – Matinee Movie in the Hall (4.00pm)
<u>September</u>	17 th – Zone Athletics Day
4 th – District Athletics Sports	18 th – Footy Fun Day
5 th – CSIRO Science Incursion	19 th – Term 2 Ends (2.30pm dismissal)
5 th – Fathers' Day Stall	



TRIVIA CHALLENGE FINALISTS

The Trivia Challenge Teams from Grades 3-6 recently completed the on-line Semi finals. We are very proud to announce that all teams were successful. They will now compete in the Preliminary Finals to be conducted at Monash University on Sunday 9th November. Students from Private, Catholic and Government schools from all over Victoria will compete fiercely to secure a position in the Grand Finals. Historically our students have had considerable success in the Challenge and we hope this year will be no exception. Whilst we all look forward to an exciting and successful day, we must acknowledge our students' success to have reached the final phase.



CADBURY CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER

Families who have sold and returned their money for chocolates and wish to sell another box of chocolate may request another order form from the office. Complete the form and return to the school office and chocolates will be sent home.

INTERNATIONAL FOOD DAY

Tuesday 19th August – Thank you to all parents who donated food and attended the day to help serve out the wonderful food to children.

FATHERS' DAY STALL

A Fathers' Day stall will be held on Friday 5th September. Children will have the opportunity

to purchase a variety of gifts priced from \$1.00 to \$5.00. Please arrange for your child/children to bring some money to school on this day if they would like to purchase a special gift for 'DAD'.

CRAZY HAIR DAY

Friday 29th August – Gold coin donation.

GIRLZ NITE IN

Special thank you to Duncan's East Doncaster Cellars one of our sponsors on the night.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting - 15th September 2008 in the staffroom

President - Susan Kent - P.9891-7037

Secretary – Helen Drossinis – P.9842-7213 **Treasurer** – Yasmin Tibb – P.9842 4875

**PREPS CELEBRATE
THE BEIJING OLYMPICS**



The five Beijing Olympic mascots have inspired the preps to make their own mascots and when put together with the Olympic torches they made it resulted in a very colourful curtain across our classroom.

Here they are holding their Australian flags which they will use as they represent Australia in the Olympic Sports Day at school.

**PREPS ENJOYED INTERNATIONAL FOOD
DAY AT SCHOOL!**



Just Gorgeous!

This is Hannah from Prep L dressed in her National dress from the province of Hovin in NORWAY.

Hannah wore this National dress for International Food Day at school where children from all grades experienced tasting food from various countries of the world.

WHAT WE THINK WE WILL SEE DURING THE OLYMPICS Grade 2P

I think there will be a lot of sports. There might be five mascots – YingYing, BeiBei, JingJing, Huan,Huan and NiNi. I really want to see gymnastics. Lauren

I think that we will see lots of marching, flag waving, dancing, and musicians playing at the Opening Ceremony for the Olympics. Justin
I think we'll see running, swimming, jogging, soccer, footy and racing. Calvin

The Olympics begin on 8th August. I think I will see the athletes play alot of sports. Edwin

I think that on the Olympics I will see athletes doing sports. Angel

I cannot see the Olympic Ceremony. I know there will be fireworks. Steven

At the Olympics I think I will see soccer. Jonathan

For the Olympics opening ceremony I think I will see some of the biggest fireworks. I think I will also see all the mascots and the flame being lit. Serena

ECU ASSEMBLY Grade 2P

At the ECU assembly every class had to sing or do a project. Our class did I Know An Old Lady and three children did their project and three children did their Winter poem. Maryan

On 25th July we had an ECU Assembly. We sang I Know An Old Lady who swallowed a fly. It was fun! Ben

On 25th July we had an ECU Assembly. I read the first page of a book called I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly. Daniel

On Friday, 25th July, we had an ECU Assembly. We read I Know 'An Old Lady who Swallowed a Fly. The Grade Threes talked about Olympic Games. I liked the ECU Assembly. Monique

On the ECU Assembly our class did I Know An Old Lady. Brett

ECU Assembly was 25th July, 2008. I thought that all the ECU did a good job. Victoria

The ECU Assembly was on Friday, 25th July. Our grade said poetry, showed projects and read a story book. The book was called 'I Know an Old Lady'. It was great! Anushri

On Friday, 25th July, it was the ECU Assembly. We performed I Know an Old Lady. We read it to the audience. It was so much fun! Vianna



PAT'S BABY PHOTO COMPETITION

The Baby Photo Competition is well underway with several photos on display in the Hall foyer. Entries will close Friday 12th August at 2.00pm. The lucky winners will be announced at Assembly on Monday 15th August with some great prizes being handed out. More entry forms are available at the office. Help raise money for our sponsor child 'Pat' - only \$1.00 - per entry (enter as many times as you like).

BEFORE CARE WEEK 1 PROGRAM

MON	Nintendo/Pool
TUE	Games
WED	Art & Craft: Paper
THU	Free Play
FRI	Doll's House

BEFORE CARE WEEK 2 PROGRAM

MON	Active Play
TUE	Free Play
WED	Children's' Choice
THU	Construction
FRI	Art & Craft: 3-D

AFTER CARE WEEK 1 PROGRAM

MON	Games
TUE	Movie
WED	Free Play
THU	Cooking
FRI	Craft

AFTER CARE WEEK 2 PROGRAM

MON	Craft
TUE	Cooking
WED	Children's' Choice
THU	Movie
FRI	Games

BHOSHKids is constantly looking for new ideas and themes to include in the program. Families are encouraged to participate in this process by sharing any special interests or insight into family culture or backgrounds with the children. If you would like to contribute to the program, please speak to the Co-ordinators. The aim of the service is to accommodate the needs of families wherever possible and your input, ideas and opinions are always welcome.

