

# The Cassowary

Official Newsletter of Beverley Hills Primary School

30<sup>th</sup> October 2008, Number 15



## FORWARD WITH THE BASICS

In Canberra they are talking about an Education Revolution – turning back the clock in our school to a time when the 3R's were considered the essential basics of education. The improved teaching of spelling, punctuation and grammar are now back on the agenda of the new interim National Curriculum Board. Phonics teaching too is also to be taught more rigorously. These changes will result in improved educational outcomes for our nation's students as the agreement goes.

As Principal of Beverley Hills I read these comments not only with interest but also with a sense of "I told you so". You see we never moved away from teaching these skills. Yes, we modified and modernized the way we taught but we never stopped emphasizing the importance of basic skills, the essential part phonics plays in early reading education and the importance of teaching formal grammar. While others flirted with useless innovations we accepted change when there was reliable research evidence to support it and our experienced staff taught these skills essential as a foundation for future learning – This attitude and approach accounts for the excellent results Beverley Hills's students achieve in National Tests and academic competitions.

## YARD SUPERVISION

It has come to my notice that a number of students are coming to school early (i.e. before 8.30am) and staying late after school (i.e. after 4.15pm). Parents are reminded that the school grounds are supervised from 8.45 – 9.00am and from 3.30 – 3.45pm and of course during lunch and recess times. Students in the grounds outside these times are unsupervised. Children arriving at school prior to 8.30am and/or remaining after 4.00pm will be taken to the BHOSH program and parents will be billed at the normal child-care rate.

## WORKING BEE THANK YOU

Thank you to all those parents and children who attended the Working Bee last Sunday. Mr Higgs, our part time general maintenance person, was especially pleased that we completed all tasks set for the day. Most stayed for an informal sausage sizzle and enjoyed the company of other parents.

## Calendar

### OCTOBER

- 30<sup>th</sup> – Transition (Week1)
- 31<sup>st</sup> – Fruit Day
- 31<sup>st</sup> – Halloween Disco Night
- NOVEMBER
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Curriculum Day (Student Free)
- 4<sup>th</sup> – Melbourne Cup Day (Public Holiday)
- 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> - Grades 4/5 Forest Lodge Farm Camp
- 6<sup>th</sup> – Transition (Week 2)
- 7<sup>th</sup> – E.C.U. Camp Experience
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Trivia Challenge (Monash University)

### NOVEMBER

- 10<sup>th</sup> – P&F Meeting
- 11<sup>th</sup> – P&F Biggest Morning Tea
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Senior School City Walk
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Transition (Week 3)
- 17<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> Grade 4/5 Swimming
- 19<sup>th</sup> – School Council Meeting
- 20<sup>th</sup> – Transition (Week 4)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – Trivia Night (Thriller Theme)
- 27<sup>th</sup> – Transition (Week 5)
- 28<sup>th</sup> – 'Art Show' (5.00pm – 8.00pm)



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Principal: **Malcolm Corr**

**HOOP TIME REGIONAL FINAL**

Our Senior 'Hoop Time' basketball team has entered the next phase of the competition. Having qualified at the district level, our young champions will now compete at the Regional level this Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October. We wish Liam, Zane, Tommy, Chris, Callum, Josh, Jack, Jayden and Jason, the very best of luck. Thank you to Yasmin and Catherine for driving our team all the way to Mill Park.

**BASKETBALL FROM ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE**

Phys-Ed week activities provided the opportunity for our Grade 6 students to experience basketball from another perspective.

A visiting wheelchair basketball player candidly detailed the circumstances of an unfortunate accident that saw him confined to a wheelchair and answered numerous questions from very inquisitive children.

Students were given a sobering reminder about the consequences of dangerous activities and the fragility of the human body.

In addition to having a little fun, the children learned a very valuable lesson as well.

**SWIMMING**



Last week the swimming program began at Nunawading Swim Centre. The majority of ECU children, who attended the lessons, had a wonderful time. The children were grouped according to their abilities in the water and spent an hour with their instructor.



**TRANSITION PROGRAM**

The Transition Program commenced this week for Prep Children enrolled at Beverley Hills in 2009. We look forward to meeting our new 2009 Prep students who will assemble in the Prep Playground at 9.00am.

**BEFORE CARE WEEK 1 PROGRAM**

MON	Free Play
TUE	Games
WED	Art & Craft
THU	Pool
FRI	Imagination

**BEFORE CARE WEEK 2 PROGRAM**

MON	Construction
TUE	Art & Craft
WED	Nintendo
THU	Games
FRI	Free Play

**AFTER CARE WEEK 1 PROGRAM**

MON	Cooking
TUE	Outdoor Games
WED	Movie
THU	Craft
FRI	Free Play

**AFTER CARE WEEK 2 PROGRAM**

MON	Free Play
TUE	Craft
WED	Movie
THU	Outdoor Games
FRI	Cooking

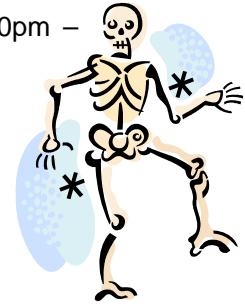
**MARKET FRESH PROGRAM**

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October. ECU Children 11.30am – 12.30pm Senior School 1.30pm – 2.30pm

**HALLOWEEN DISCO Reminder**

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October, cost will be \$5.00. Children can dress in their favourite spooky costume and dance the night away. We will have prizes for best costume and best dancer. It will be great night!

TIMES: E.C.U - 5.30pm – 6.30pm Senior School 7.00pm – 8.00pm

**TRIVIA NIGHT**

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November and the theme will be 'Thriller Spooky Night'. Get cracking and organise a table with your friends, neighbours and family, as there are hundreds of prizes and lots of the usual fun, music and of course trivia. We are asking for donations (costing between \$5 -\$10) items such as chocolates, cosmetics, home wares, sporting goods, books etc...

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of P & F will be held in the Staffroom on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 8.00pm. Please come along and join in, meet some other parents and help support the school.

**President** – Susan Kent - P.9891-7037

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

**'ART SHOW'****It's Time!!!!!! FRIDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2008**

Our Art Show is just around the corner and what a great event it promises to be this year. We have planned a family picnic night to launch the event and P&F are also making a BBQ available. The children have been working very hard to get their work ready for display, and are very excited about the prospect of presenting it to a larger audience.

We will have 'Ivano' – a caricature artist coming to draw for us and our usual highlights of musical performances, young artists at work and a 'Dutch Auction'.

If you haven't been to our previous Art Shows, you need to bring the family along to see what you have been missing.

The children at Beverley Hills are budding artists, eager to show you what they can do!

**PUPIL-FREE DAYS 2009**

In 2009, the first three days of Term 1 (**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2009**) will be pupil-free days. Students will begin school on **Monday 2 February 2009**.

The fourth pupil-free day will be the third-last Friday of Term 2, **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2009** for student assessment and reporting purposes.