Dear Families and Friends

Welcome back to all of our families and welcome to those who are new to our school. We are all energised and looking forward to a fantastic year of learning.

As we enter the 2017 school year we also enter a new school strategic plan. Last year we underwent the system school review and since then we have been busily developing and framing what we believe is essential learning for students at Bonython Primary. Our school review report, including the recommendations and commendations, is available on our website.

Our four main areas of focus this year that encapsulates all of the necessary and developmentally appropriate skills includes:

1) Developing and building an inquiry mindset in both students and adults in our school. We will be focussing on the importance that both engagement and passion for learning plays in developing new skills and working with students to ignite those passions. We will be putting information on our School Facebook page and Google Communities that will give context to this focus, identifying specific skills and understandings needed for 2017 and beyond.

2) A focus on effective sharing of learning intentions and next steps and to raise student awareness in understanding their role as a learner and the role they play in guiding their learning forward.

3) As a community rework our school values and link them directly to what we learn about and learn to do on a daily basis. This work will start soon with the formation of a committee comprising of parents, teachers and students. The committee will explore the necessary skills students need to develop to be successful citizens of the future: e.g. grit, integrity, embracing diversity. The committee will be asking the wider community for input in the near future.

4) Increasing leadership opportunities for students and more recognition of academic, social and extracurricular achievement and growth.
Last Friday we said goodbye to Trent Neddrie who has been successful in winning a position at Red Hill Primary School. Trent has been a very popular staff member with our team and the wider community and has been responsible for some fantastic additions to our outdoor learning areas. These include Allawah and the newly opened musical garden. Trent’s expertise and friendly nature will be missed. We are endeavouring to get Trent along to an assembly so the community can say goodbye. We will keep you informed about when that will be. The position will be advertised and filled permanently later this term. In the meantime we welcome back Wal Glennon who will be with us for the next month.

Again we strongly encourage you to join both our unit Google Communities and our Facebook page. We are finding, in particular Google Communities as the platform where we are able to differentiate information and examples of learning that’s more targeted to units and can be sent out in real time. Although we use Facebook to celebrate student learning we use this more for whole school messages and information. We plan to continue incorporating a number of our systems into these two powerful platforms.

Forecast temperatures at the end of the week are for high thirties. If this is the case please ensure that your child is well equipped for these days. Broad brimmed hats, sunscreen and plenty of water, are essential in these conditions. We will plan to also modify play routines if the temperatures are extreme.

The P&C have scheduled their Annual General Meeting at 3.30pm on Monday 20 February. Karin Craig has included a briefing later in the bulletin. I strongly encourage families to be active members. You don’t need to attend all the meetings to contribute and our current group of parents are very open to new ideas and suggestions. The school has a very close working relationship with the P&C and value the contributions that they make towards the culture of the school.

Finally I would like to pose a question that we recently explored on our Facebook page. Think of successful people you know. What do you think makes them successful? I would love to hear your thoughts on this and if you would like, you can contribute via our Facebook page, send me an email or tell myself or Marc Warwick (our Deputy Principal) in person.

Have a great rest of the week and weekend and I look forward to seeing you around the school.

Regards

Greg Terrell
Principal

2017 SCHOOL BOARD NOMINATIONS

We have 2 parent vacancies this year so please consider nominating to be a member of our School Board.

The School Board makes decisions based on the operational needs of our school and meets 5 times a year.

Nominations are now open and we encourage you to consider nominating. If you would like further information please contact the school and our Principal, Greg Terrell, will be happy to discuss.
The KM Unicorns and KW Koalas have started Kindergarten!

We’ve been exploring:

How can I be successful at big school?
Who is at big school and what is their job?
What is my job at big school?
ADMINISTERING PRESCRIBED MEDICATION TO STUDENTS

The ACT Government Policy for administering prescribed medication to students can be found at: http://www.det.act.gov.au/publications_and_policies/policy_a-z

Before the school can administer medication to any student the school must have written permission from the prescribing doctor. Please request the prescribing doctor to provide a letter stating the medication name, time medication needs to be taken, start and finish date for medication.

If a written letter is not provided by the doctor parents will need to come to school to administer medication to their child.

If you have any questions please contact the school on 6205 6565.

STUDENT INJURY

INSURANCE AND AMBULANCE TRANSPORT

The Education and Training Directorate does not provide any insurance cover for injury, disease or illness to students resulting from school activities or school-organised excursions. Claims for compensation are met where there is a legal liability to do so. Liability is not automatic and depends on the circumstances in which any injury, disease or illness was sustained.

As there is no automatic insurance cover for personal injury if your child is injured at school or during a school organised activity/excursion you should therefore consider whether taking out personal insurance cover for your child is warranted.

This insurance might cover contingencies including medical/hospital expenses, ambulance transport outside the ACT, and cancellation of transport/accommodation or loss of/damage to luggage.

The ACT Ambulance Service provides free ambulance transport for students who are injured or suddenly become ill at school or during an approved school organised activity within the ACT.

BONYTHON PRIMARY’S P&C

P&C’s are no longer about attending boring long meetings! It’s the 21st century and with the advances in technology P&C’s have be revitalised. We are an active group within the school community that focuses on a number of different areas to aid in the development and prosperity of our school.

The P&C is always looking to broaden its numbers and we would love to speak with families who are interested in all or any of the following:

- Extending their parent network within the school
- Socialising and organising events for the school kids
- Assisting with projects around the school (e.g. the vegie patch)
- Taking on minor fundraising activities
- Volunteering to assist with the canteen, uniform shop, school banking, or scholastic book club
- Provide input and direction into school based activities

The school has identified a number of exciting projects they would like to undertake in 2017 and we’d love to get more of our parents involved. If you can spare any time, day or night, for 15 minutes or 15 hours then come along and have a chat to one of our current members or any of the exec team at the Bonython Briefings (held on Monday mornings) and the school BBQ on Monday 20 February.
Kindergarten Health Checks are happening this year!

All kindergarten students in the ACT are eligible to receive a FREE health check

VISION CHECK  HEARING CHECK  HEIGHT, WEIGHT AND BODY MASS INDEX (BMI)

If you have not returned your child’s Kindergarten Health Check Consent and Questionnaire

FIND — Information packs will be sent home early in Term 1

SIGN — Complete The Kindergarten Health Check Consent And Questionnaire

RETURN — To your school by 17th February 2017

Your school can provide you with the date of the health check.

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SHOWTIME IN THE CITY
BRINGING CIVIC TO LIFE
#ActivateCivic
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development
As we start a new school year, we would like to remind you, parents and students about our services and how to best prepare for bus travel in the New Year.

Details of all school and regular bus services are now available for parents and students to begin planning their journeys. We ask that parents and students familiarise themselves with the most suitable route, times and stop locations for their children before the school term commences.

School bus services are available to school students only however, parents with young children may apply to travel on these services for a few weeks to help their child get used to bus travel. Please use the links below for further information on our bus services:

- School bus timetables
- Regular bus timetables

We are urging parents and students to check MyWay cards and top up if required. MyWay cards can be topped up automatically using the handy autoload service, online, over the phone via the Transport Canberra information line (13 17 10), or in person with a MyWay recharge agent. Passengers who top up using Autoload attract a further 5% discount on all fares.

New bus fares came into effect on 14 January 2017. Single trip concessions cash fares cost $2.50 and MyWay fares are now $1.16. School Students are almost $60 a month better off when using MyWay rather than paying a cash fare to and from school. Parents and students can find more information at transport.act.gov.au or by calling 13 17 10.

Transport Canberra would appreciate your assistance in circulating this information to students and parents using your existing communications channels, such as school emails, newsletters or notices.

We wish you the best of luck with the 2017 school year.

Regards,
Transport Canberra - Marketing and Communications

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**Canteen Roster**

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| **Week 3** |  |
| Wednesday | 22 February | Robyn Dalwood |
| Thursday | 23 February | **HELP REQUIRED** |
| Friday | 24 February | Irena Vukosa  Louise Peters |
"UNITED TAEKWONDO"
AT BONYTHON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Taekwondo is an effective and fun martial art that can build children’s confidence, coordination and respect for people and possessions. The children who participate in the Bonython Lunch Club practice effective and practical self defence skills and respect, and gain strength, flexibility and coordination. They will do partner empathy exercises and even experience basic meditation in a safe and friendly environment.

This is an ideal time for parents to expose their children to a wonderful physical activity without the hassle of after school clashes!!!

BONYTHON PRIMARY SCHOOL LUNCH CLUB

FRIDAYS 1.15pm – 1.45pm

If your child would like to give Taekwondo a try, please contact Instructor Sharon on 0401 476 050 or email utkdcanberra@grapevine.com.au. Training for the term is only $90.

First class is FREE!
Principal: Greg Terrell  Phone: 6205 6565  Email: bonythonps@ed.act.edu.au  Fax: 6205 6552
Board: Jenny Stergiou (Chair)  Board Email: bpsboard@hotmail.com
P&C: Karin Craig  P&C Email: bpspca@hotmail.com
Canteen: Jacki Osti 0417 022 292  School Website: http://www.bonythonps.act.edu.au/