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**Monday, 28 May 2018**

**Dear BCCS Community,**

In recent weeks, I have been challenged through circumstances to work on being deliberate and intentional about being grateful. In many ways I have discovered that being grateful is a hard thing to accomplish in a culture that wants everything now and is quick to move onto the next best thing. However, what we know from Science and research is, by being grateful we learn to become sensitive to the feelings of others, develop empathy and strengthen our ability to view situations positively. Grateful people look outside their one-person world and combat the growing feelings of entitlement and perpetual disappointment.

So far, 2018 has been a very busy year for BCCS, but there are many things in which we can celebrate and give thanks. As the new Principal, I firstly celebrate and give thanks for our Godly heritage as a school and community. It is my heart's desire that in word and deed, BCCS would demonstrate the God-given values of wisdom, honour, respect, and gratitude towards each other, both past and present, our community and ourselves. To fulfill God's purposes in us being a great school community and partnering with you, the parents, in providing quality Christian education, to equip and grow the next generation of leaders, mums and dads, workers and citizens.

Living and actioning gratefulness is not easy and I am very sure there are times where we fall short; however there are many times where we excel and highlight how amazing the community, team and members of BCCS really are. Some highlights of the year to date:

**Feedback from parents:**

Thank you to the parents who have joined me for a 'fireside chat with the principal'. It was great to have your feedback, share ideas and thinking about our focus on teaching and learning at both the BCCS school campus and Foundations ELC. Although we haven't had many parents in number, there has been several ideas discussed regarding our School's community profile, our areas of service and the challenges of change. It would be great to see if we could broaden the opportunity for more parents to be a part of this feedback process, so would appreciate your input in regards to starting the chat an hour earlier?

**Let the Spirit awaken our hearts.**

*"Come Holy Spirit, renew the face of the earth and kindle in us the fire of your love".*

Our students throughout Term 2 have been challenged to develop a spirit of love, sacrifice, endurance and courage. As they grasp hold of who Jesus is in their life, they will become emboldened and enabled to live out their mission to transform our world.

**From Admin,**

**School Swimming** has begun. Swimming will be once per week for the next 3 weeks. In final 2 weeks of Term there is 3 swimming lessons each week, running Mon, Wed and Thur. Lessons for Yrs 3-6 at 12pm and Yrs P-2 at 12:45pm, parents helpers most welcome.

**Grandparents Day** is this Friday, 1 June. Students should have brought home an invitation last week. Starting with open classrooms from 9am followed by a whole school assembly at 10am and then morning tea for the grandparents. **Could all school families please send along a plate to share for the morning tea as we have done in previous years. Thanks.**

**Cadbury Chocolate Boxes** have been distributed. Additional boxes can be collected from the school office, students will need a note from parents to do this. There is a massive 5kg box of Cadbury favourites as the first prize incentive, and a dozen other prizes for the children.

**Next Newsletter** will be distributed on Friday, 8 June due to the public holiday on Monday, 11 June. **Canteen forms for Pizza on the last day of Term will be sent home on Monday, 25 June - due back Wed, 27 June.**

**Scripture Encouragement**

*My soul finds rest in God; my salvation comes from Him.*

*Psalm 62:1*

**Prayer Points**

- Carpenter & Blair families
- Health across the BCCS community
- Ongoing safety at School Swimming
- All the grandparents, those attending our Grandparents Day and those unable to come along

**Praise Points**

- Great participation at Division Cross Country held at Nagle
- Overall effort in NAPLAN testing
- The positive things we have been able to reflect on in our Annual Report and AGM process.

Across our term there has been many sporting endeavours where we have seen our students excel in giving their best and seeing others.

- James Carroll, stopping during the initial start of his cross-country race to assist a fellow runner who had fallen beside him.
- We had a great team of runners attend the district Cross Country, who achieved some significant personal best performances and represented our School authentically as they persevered and committed to supporting others.
- Our year 5/6 students demonstrated a terrific attitude of enthusiasm, commitment and fun at the district Winter Games last week.
- Zoe Clay who despite her fear of swimming classes and with the support of an amazing staff team, courageously stepped herself through the process to overcome her fear and participate in the first swimming lesson of the year.

### **BCCS' Army of Volunteers**

I am so thankful to God for the growing number of people who are so willing to assist us with educating and growing our students here at BCCS.

- Rod Twining - thank you for your commitment and dedication to supporting student learning and reinforcing the essential skills of literacy strengthening our student's confidence and learning growth
- James Eckersley - thank you for sitting with and guiding students through their personal social emotional struggles; it has made such a difference to their learning engagement and progress.
- Liz Taylor - Thank you for volunteering your skills and working with a class of students to build their social and emotional understanding of who they are as a member of community. Our year 3/4 students declare that it is a great session in their week and they are growing in their skills of self moderating and working with others.
- Our Grandparents of the school - Elsie and Beryl. Thank you for coming and just checking in or putting your hand to the plough, wherever it is needed. Our students and staff are so blessed by your words of wisdom, kindness and love.
- Rachel Turnley - thank you for facilitating the Year 6 students in their involvement with the Rotary Young Leaders Community Award. We look forward to some great achievements of service amongst these young leaders.

### **Parents and Friends**

To the committee, we salute you as you work behind the scenes for the benefit of the school. Thank you parents for your support, involvement and commitment to sell chocolate, buy plates and involve yourself where you can to make our school a great place. Next newsletter will be full of the outstanding resources, opportunities and adventures the fundraising provides in our school. Pictures and stories will be included. If you are a parent who is wanting to become more involved in partnering your child's school then there is opportunity and space on the P & F committee for your ideas, thoughts and practical gifts. Please contact Bronwyn Carroll or the school admin office to express your interest.

**NAPLAN** - Our belief as a school is that these tests are a 'point in time' test and while they give some data about a child's progress, there are many other pieces of information that fill out the picture. Students handled themselves quite well during the tests, although it was apparent that some find a test situation very stressful and the results do not reflect their true ability - therefore, when assessing your child's learning progress our dependence is on other forms of data which is being collected as part of everyday learning. NAPLAN results will be available some time in third term.

Blessings,  
Lynn Morrison  
Principal

### **Week 9 Reminder**

Week 9 is a 3 day school week for students. Monday, 11 June is a public holiday and Friday, 15 June is Report Writing Day.

### **Working With Children Check**

A reminder that we are now required to have a copy of your Working with Children Check on file if you are wanting to volunteer your time in any capacity within the School community or at School events.

An example is: if you would like to attend an event such as a swimming lesson to watch your child without assisting we will not require a copy of the Check however as soon as you are providing assistance to other children in any capacity we will need the WWCC on file.

A WWCC can be obtained by visiting:  
<http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/>

### **Grandparents Day Bookstall**

We are excited to say that Helen Rose (First Port of Call) will be doing a book stall for Grandparents Day. This is a great opportunity for Grandparents / Special friends to purchase a book to donate to the school library. This stall will be available from 8:30am-3:30pm.

Helen will also be available at school the day before, Thursday, 31 May for parents to purchase books that they would like for themselves. This stall will be available from 8:30am-3:30pm. There will be a great variety of books for adults to young children.

