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Dear BCCS Community,

At a recent social meeting, and not for the first time, I heard teaching being described as 'herding cats'. Although this statement was not referring to the profession in a positive light, it got me wondering about how do we (BCCS) change this perception. How do we continue to write the narrative of who we are at BCCS to reflect the wonderful and exciting privilege it is to walk with students on the journey of learning and becoming all that God wants us to be.

"Whatever changes you would like to effect in our society has to begin with you".
 - Adapted from Ghandi

In seven months at BCCS it has been my experience that there are many amazing ideas and wonderful teaching that happens on a daily basis in our school and classrooms. Our teachers are passionate not only about their job but also about the students that are within their classrooms and across our school community. As a professional community we are collectively taking responsibility to have our focus on seeing the individual student - their needs, passions and giftings; their uniqueness. While also acknowledging that, they are children and they need to be supported and coached in the way that they should respond, act, behave and serve, for our world and society to be the best. Over the remainder of this year at BCCS, you will see a continued change, a strengthening of all that is good and a building of new foundations for us as a learning community and educational service to grow and shine all that BCCS community stands for and is purposed to fulfill into 2019 and beyond.

As a collective professional learning team our statements are becoming the changes we would like to effect our students and society by being:

- Every moment an example of what we teach and counsel.
- Every action a reflection of our beliefs.
- Every word reflective of our own thoughts.

The most significant world changers are the reformers who were accountable and responsible for their own change. We as a school community are working towards our commitment for change, which has no days off, does not allow for excuses, does not allow for pardons. It is our commitment that we will lead with heart, a Godly heart, so each one of us can leave a stamp on this world by making our lives meaningful in a thousand ways and making the lives of others better than they ever thought possible.

From Admin,

K3 & P-6 Book Week Dress Up is THIS FRIDAY - 24 August! The parade will be first thing after the morning bell at 8:50am.

K4 Book Week Dress Up is this Wed, 22 Aug.

Assembly hosted by the 1/2 class will be held this Friday, 24/8 at **9am** - all welcome.

Canteen Forms are attached for this Friday's Chicken Schnitzel Burgers (24/8). Please ensure all orders are returned by 3:10pm - **THIS WEDNESDAY** - 22 August.

Run4Bibles is on again in Week 8, please find attached the sponsorship forms, we have provided one form **PER FAMILY** this year. If you required additional forms please ask at the Office.

Fathers Day Breakfast is on next Friday, 31 August. An invitation is attached, additional copies are available from the office.

Office Changes - with The Hubbard family relocating from 31/8 there will be some changes in the office for the remainder of Term 3. Some faces you may already be familiar with will be stepping in to help out until our new full time Office Administrator begins - hopefully in Term 4.

Scripture Encouragement

The Lord gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

Isaiah 40:29

Prayer Points

- Alkemade and Zhang families
- For Staff & Board members as they assess applications for job vacancies.
- For the Hubbard family as they transition to the Bass Coast
- Rain for our region, especially farms.

Praise Points

- The safe arrival of Asher Moore, a baby brother for Eliza in Year 2 and Hamish in K4.
- For new families coming into our school and kinder community
- For our daily small blessings

Parent Surveys

We want YOU, our parents, to provide us with feedback and to tell us what you think are the areas as a school we need to have as our focus from 2019 and beyond. If you haven't already, can I please ask that you prioritise this week your completing of the Parent Survey by Friday, 24 August. This is part of a 360 degree survey that is being conducted on our behalf by ISV L.E.A.D Schools research, so that as we move forward, we can improve our service and partnership approaches with all stakeholders within our school.

Year 5 and 6 students will fulfill their surveys, during school this week. If you are interested please take the opportunity to talk with our senior students to grasp their ideas about our school and the direction they consider is necessary to help meet their learning and life needs. Learning is Lifelong and the foundations that we establish in these Primary years are the foundations that further learning and life approaches are built on in the later years.

NAPLAN News

Families may have seen or heard news that the distribution of 2018 NAPLAN results may be delayed. ACARA as the testing authority have indicated that the results should be available soon. We will continue to keep you up to date as we get more information over the coming weeks.

Book Week

We are celebrating Book Week at BCCS from Monday 20th August to Friday 31st August. Our team has organised a range of fun literacy activities planned throughout the two week, with the Book Parade on Friday 24 August from 8.50 am with a Year 1/2 hosted assembly afterwards in the RCC Youth Hall. Hope to see you all at the Book Parade. Also, hope to see some Dad's or significant friends taking advantage of reading books with their child on the last Book Fair day at the Father's Day Breakfast on Friday 31st August.

I encourage you to take some time across these two weeks and share stories, reading and words with your child. It is the example that we set as teachers and parents which, speaks volumes to our children about the value, joy and life that reading has for life. I have included some tips to help you make that time meaningful for your child's reading skill growth.

TIPS FOR READING WITH CHILDREN:

1. Talk with your child about the book they are reading. What is it about? Do they like it? What do they think will happen next?
2. Reading should have meaning! Make it fun and quiz your child on the vocabulary used in the books to help them comprehend what they are reading.
3. Talk about the pictures, particularly with younger and less able readers. Pictures help children to understand the words.
4. Ask your child to read some of the words from the book in isolation to ensure they are not memorising the sequence of the text.
5. If your child is older or a more able reader, discuss the characters and the words and phrases used by the author.
6. When your child does not know a word, encourage them to make a sensible guess but don't let them struggle.
7. Encourage your child to sound out and word build phonetic words, by using letter sounds not letter names, e.g. 'a' as in pat. Help them to break down the longer words, e.g. im-por-tant. It is important that your child recognises all the letters of the alphabet and the sounds they make.
8. If your child misreads a word, stop him or her and say the correct word – although if it is a word which makes no difference to the meaning (for example, 'home' instead of 'house') it is best to ignore it.
9. Try to develop your child's expression and prediction skills, especially when they have become a fluent reader – draw their attention to punctuation, e.g. stopping at full stops and the use of expression when characters are speaking.
10. Use lots of praise and encouragement and avoid criticism. It is important your child becomes confident with their reading.

Fortnight Snapshot

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
Week 5	20/8 BOOK FAIR OPENS TODAY	21/8	22/8 K4 Book Week Dress Up Day Canteen orders due today	23/8	24/8 K3 & P-6 Book Week Dress Up Day & Assembly Canteen #2	25-26/8
Week 6	27/8	28/8	29/8	30/8 District Athletics	31/8 Father's Day Breakfast Prep Excursion Book Fair Ends Today	1-2/8

From Mr Micallef,

The 31st of July was a historic day for Bairnsdale Christian Community School as we welcomed Nicholson PS and Clifton Creek PS for the first Mitchell Cluster Athletics on our grounds. The sun was out, as was the team spirit, when students from all schools cheered on each other to do their best in each event.

It was great to see our K4 students come across the car park to take part in the different events. The junior primary students had a mix of activities, the highlights for most being the earthball and the big parachute. There were great results and sportsmanship from our senior students, which was pleasing to witness.

Twelve senior students are progressing to the District Athletics on the 30th of August. Permission slips for those involved are available in uEducateus.

A lot of effort and planning goes into these events and it would not be possible without volunteers helping get all the jobs done. So thank you to all that ran an event or stepped in to help on the day. A special thanks goes to Cooper and Aiden Hutton who helped set up the night before (until dark) and then were there helping again in the morning (just after dark). Also to Philip Quigley and Craig Hutton who cooked the BBQ and to the Family and Friends Committee who organised and donated the food. A big congratulations to Izaak Taylor, Melinda Wood, Cooper Hutton and Cody Stephens for being named age champion in their respective age groups.

From Class 5/6,

The year 5/6 students are having 2 fundraiser events this Term to donate money to the Hay and Hampers for Hope campaign. This initiative is part of the generosity theme of this Term and they will be applying their math skills when planning, purchasing and making the food that will be sold.

They will greatly appreciate it if you could mark the following dates on your calendars: **Tuesday 28/08** when they will be selling baked goodies and **Tuesday 11/09** when they will be hosting a sausage sizzle. There will be posters around school with more information on what is being sold and to remind the students of the events.

To the Book Fair and beyond!

The Scholastic Book Fair is **OPEN FOR BUSINESS!**

Running from today until Friday, 31 August. Open from 8.50am-9.30am each morning and 3pm-4pm each afternoon. We will price match any books from the current Book Club Catalogue. Students wanting to purchase books without an adult need a note giving permission for them to do so.

There will be opportunities to purchase books for yourself and the school, PLUS any commission we receive will help us donate books to Tawonga Primary School, which is a small primary school in northeast Victoria who are struggling with limited funds to keep a good selection of books for all ages and are so excited to receive whatever donation we are able to provide.

