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Monday, 17 September 2018

Dear BCCS Community,

“What you believe, defines your actions and frames your identity.”

(Numbers Chapters 13 and 14)

This simple statement operates in our lives at every level and on a daily basis; no matter whether you are a child, young person, adult or old. If what you see becomes a frame for what you believe, then you have a picture of how you look in behaviour, action and response.

As we begin to close off the 2018 school year with Term 4 just ahead, there is one question I have for us all...What do you see?



When you look at the pictures of our Year 3/4/5 class learning through enrichment activities...What do you see?

A photo of our Year 6 students adventuring in Melbourne...What do you see?



When you look at our school...
What do you see?



What do I see?

BCCS is on the **move** from a good school to a GREAT school. A school that will enrich the entire neighbourhood, the ecosystem of the Bairnsdale community, by seeing our available resources differently, more creatively, and using them to create learning environments that allow individual students to thrive and flourish.

However, this cannot be achieved by the School on its own. It is our partnering with you as parents, and the broader Bairnsdale community, which empowers our school members to be the best that we can be. We shouldn't ever become complacent about developing and enhancing the myriad of relationships found within and beyond our school community.

From Admin,

THIS FRIDAY is the last day of Term 3 - as is tradition, students may wear free dress for a gold coin donation to support our sponsor child. There will be an assembly at 12:30pm and our day ends at the earlier time of **2:10pm** to ensure our bus students can still travel - please ensure non bus students are collected at this time.

Our last Canteen for the Term is on **THIS Friday, 21 September**. Order forms attached are due **THIS WEDNESDAY 19 SEPT.**

Intention Letter for 2019 were sent home with the last newsletter, please return before the end of term.

The Office Sign In process will be digital from Term 4.

uEducateUs is critical to the smooth running of our school and it is a requirement that all families have access to this in some form, either via a browser on a computer or using the app on a phone. We will be making contact with all families over the coming Term to help ensure everyone has access and to audit the personal and emergency contact details we have listed.

Term 4 Calendar attached - please remember this is subject to change.

Scripture Encouragement

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

Hebrews 11:1

Prayer Points

- Safe and enjoyable holiday break for our School and Kinder community
- Good health and restoration for immune systems over the break
- Enrolments for 2019

Praise Points

- Fantastic experiences for our Year Six students on camp
- New staff coming into our community, Amy in the ELC, Glenys as a CRT and Robyn in the Office

New Membership

The developing plans for Secondary School have begun and to ensure that we set our school and our students up for success, the School Board have decided to support a request for BCCS to become a member of Future Schools Alliance (FSA). Our membership has our school belonging to a collective group of like-minded schools, committed to significantly improving the lives of young people through supporting us in becoming a unique, future focused, learning community. This collaboration provides resources and support for BCCS to truly shine and grow. Peter Hutton (CEO of Future Schools Alliance) visited the school and checked out our area last week, providing an outsiders view and challenging us to consider what this next step looks like. The discussion, questions and reflections, also affirmed that we have the capacity and potential to be a school which offers our students greater hope and a future. I will keep you further informed as this relationship grows.

What do I see?

Our sense of community and inclusivity which is not found in all schools and is, indeed, a true treasure of our School. As a bonded together community, we must all corporately and individually protect this treasure with all our might. A genuinely caring, positive and forward-thinking community, who doesn't leave even one to feel alone. Let us all speak with integrity, truthfulness, friendliness and engage with passion and genuine care for each other, in the hope that we can enrich the life of another person. Let's continue to open the communication further.

Introducing

Ms Robyn Robinson

Robyn is our successful applicant for the Office Administrator role. She is a young lady from Hobart and comes with a number of years of experience managing office routines and procedures within the retail industry. Robyn officially becomes a member of staff on October 1, with Alana returning to do hand over early in that week. We thank you for your patience as we travelled through this process. Please make Robyn feel welcome as she comes on board and we continue to ask for your patience as Robyn becomes familiar with our school community.

Preparing for 2019

Enrolments

If you haven't returned your 2019 intention form, please do so as soon as you can. We are also open for new enrolments in all year levels. K4 is the most in demand but we still do have a small number of places available. If you know anyone who is looking for a great school to be a part of in 2019, please let them know we are open and keen to provide a tour and answer any questions they may have. We are a great school and have an awesome community within, and we always look forward to welcoming new families into our context.

Communications strategy

BCCS has a strong commitment to becoming a more sustainable school. Helping our children to understand the impact their actions have on their environment is very important, but becoming role models and leading the change are essential for our students to fully grasp a more sustainable world in the future.

In 2019, going paperless is an integral step in our school's sustainability program. The steps taken to become a green school also saves our staff time and is very budget friendly. Reducing paper costs, printing costs and time spent printing/assembling/distributing has been proven time and again to be a significant help for all schools. To do this from 2019 our fortnightly paper newsletter provided to all families will move to a pdf version available online. To reduce the number of notes coming home (and getting lost!) we will increase our use of uEducateUs, for event notifications, permission forms, reminders and important dates.

Alana, throughout Term 4, will be prioritising contacting families who are struggling to connect into uEducateUs and provide support and assistance, to ensure that we are all ready for 2019. Emails and Facebook will continue to be our Newsfeed and community announcement processes.

Uniform

In response to many community members making comment about BCCS uniform, we are in the process of making some changes. I am very appreciative of Carolyn Betts, and other members of the P & F, who has done a lot of investigating and research on updating our uniform and supporting my thinking to adjust to the context of our area.

2019 will see the following uniform changes:

Year 6 shirt: current year 5 students will have the opportunity to design a year 6 polo shirt that they can wear as an alternate shirt to the school shirt. This will be an additional cost for our Year 6 parents, however, it is about developing a ceremony and initiation in recognising our Year 6 students transitioning from childhood to youth hood.

School Shirts: we are still awaiting a sample shirt to confirm design and colour base, the current discussion is based around a mid/royal blue, with maroon panels and light grey trimming. Once we have a sample we will be able to be more specific.

Girls Uniform: Culottes are being replaced with a Midnight Navy Skort.



This can be worn all year round with Navy Blue **tights** underneath. Families and Girls who still wish to wear the existing winter uniform can continue to wear it until stocks run out.

Boys Uniform: remains with the current structure of navy blue shorts being worn all year or moving to the long pants during winter.

Still being reviewed: sport short material and style, shoes guidelines.

Blessings, Lynn Morrison

