Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome back and we hope you were able to have a wonderful break and enjoy some of the beautiful weather we had over Easter.

We have a few exciting things to look forward to this Term – Tennis clinics, swimming lessons and Sculpture Day. During our Education week celebrations we celebrate with our famous Book Character Parade, Book Fair, Mini beast incursion, D.E.A.R- Drop Everything and Read teacher swap and open morning.

Term 1 saw all classes getting to know each other and adjusting to life as either a Year 1 student or a Year 2 student. We continue to develop our responsibilities throughout the school, taking part in our Library program, Chicken and Garden duty, Streets Ahead- encouraging ACTIVE kids, Premiers’ Reading Challenge, ‘You Can Do It’ values, Mathletics and supporting B.U.P.S F.L.

We look forward to getting 10 new iPads in the Junior School. They will be used for Investigations, Literacy and Numeracy support. We have purchased new USB sticks for children to save any work they may have created during ICT. Throughout the last year we have had to purchase new camera SD memory cards, as these have gone missing in the past.

Please, if you find any can you return them a.s.a.p.

We would like to extend a thank-you to the PFA for the approval of purchasing new take home readers. Please make sure if you have any readers, encourage your child to change these over daily.

We thank you for all feedback for reading suggestions and have catered to your response to by purchasing modern texts that are linked you’re your child’s interest and should increase their engagement in home reading.

CURRICULUM – LEVEL 2

In Years 1 and 2, students continue to build on the knowledge and skills developed in Prep- (Foundation). During Investigations they will develop a deeper understanding of the the 4 R’s- Reduce, Re-use, Recycle and Rethink. Students will be encouraged to design box habitats and art works using recyclable materials. They are encouraged to create animals in our Creative area, re-using nature and items from our environment. These animals can be added to the box habitats, ready to go on our main display board. You will see our Construction area transformed into ‘Science Alley’, as we move towards investigating plant lifecycles, buddies in the ground, discovering what’s inside a seed and understanding flowers and pollination.

They are becoming more capable of concentrating on tasks for longer periods of time. Students are encouraged to be confident in discussing ideas, expressing opinions and listening to others at home and in the classroom. They understand that they need to work with others and be part of their class and school.

Stoney Creek Road, Beaconsfield Upper 3808 Phone: 5944 3591 Fax: 5944 3506 Email: beaconsfield.upper.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au Web: www.bups.vic.edu.au
AusVELS Domain: Science

Key Understandings:
Living things have a variety of external features.
Living things live in different places where their needs are met.
Environmental changes impact on living things, e.g. natural disasters.

Students will focus on the following skills:
- Research and inquiry skills
- Pose questions, make observations
- Identify prior knowledge, recount experiences
- Gathering, sort and identify key information
- Organise information – column, picture graphs, diagrams, graphic organisers, data chart, note taking

Thinking skills:
- Compare & contrast – venn diagram
- Collect and sort information using a Data chart
- Interpret data using a PMI or matrix table
- Organise data into lists, tables or graphs
- Reflect using matrices
- Creativity - solve problems, look at alternatives, make changes

Interpersonal and communication skills
- Present information in a variety of ways
- Share information with peers using oral and written language. Present ideas to other students, one-to-one, in small groups or to the whole class
- Work independently or in teams to complete tasks within a set timeframe.
- Learn to stay on task and share resources fairly.
- Self reflection - reflect on challenges and successes.

Personal skills
- Goal setting
- Making decisions
- Reflect on learning – knowledge
- Reflect on themselves as a learner – organisation, following inquiry process
- Reflect on skill development – time management, thinking of relevant questions, research skills

ICT
- Using different ways to present work e.g. MS Word, Powerpoint, Animations/storyboards, photoshoto, ENcarta kids
- Building independent logging in and using selected programs
- Filming on flip cameras

Subject specific skills
- Articulate prior knowledge
- Make predictions
- Pose questions

Literacy
In Level 2 we are continuing with our ‘Letters and Sounds’ program, focusing on synthetic phonics. We are opening up our Spellodrome program online, so that families can access spelling words to support their child’s learning. You can access Spellodrome at home, using your Mathletics username and password. If needed, we can provide an information session, further in the term.

Our whole school Text Type is Narrative Writing. We are developing this by exploring:
Who/Characters?
Where/Setting?
When/Time the story takes place?
What happened/problem? How/Solution?;

Spellodrome:
This can be accessed at home to support your child’s learning. You can access this when you log into Mathletics. Log in to Mathletics and click onto the Spellodrome icon and complete spelling activities that have been selected. Included in the Spellodrome program is ‘Writing is Fun’ by Jenny Eather. This is a wonderful program that supports students with their Termly Text type, writing assessment piece. You can come and look at your child’s writing progression. Your child’s writing folder is in the classroom just above their bag lockers and can be viewed anytime. If you have any questions or queries, please make a time to speak to your classroom teacher, as we would be happy to discuss this with you.

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NUMERACY:
During Term Two we will be revising the topics taught in Term One: Place Value, Addition, Subtraction, Measurement, Time and Money on a regular basis. We will also begin to explore the AusVELS strands of:

**AusVELS Domain:**

**Strand: Number and Algebra**

**Number and Place Value**
- Count, read, write, order, model and interpret numbers 0-100 and beyond incorporating larger numbers
- Count from 0 and skip count from different starting points by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, and 100
- Counting backwards from different starting points
- Using 10 as a group, using 10 and 100 in a group when adding or counting
- Describe place value in digits – 2 digit numbers, 3 digit numbers- modelling, reading, writing and ordering.
- Using number lines to order numbers and to add and subtract (number)
- Addition/Subtraction using one and two digit numbers – reinforcing strategies such as counting on/counting back, complements to 10, doubles, near doubles and fact families
- Using 100 counting chart to become familiar with counting patterns, including odd and even
- Problem Solving from authentic situations
- Mentally compute simple addition and subtraction calculations
- Exploring calculators

**Patterns and Algebra**
- Investigate number pattern formed by skip counting and patterns with objects
- Describe patterns with numbers and identify missing elements
- Describe, continue and create number patterns resulting from missing elements

**Strand: Measurement and Geometry**

**Location and transformation**
- interpret simple maps of familiar locations identifying key features

**Strand: Statistics and Probability**

**Data representation and interpretation**
- Identify a question of interest and gather data relevant to the question.

We continue to encourage our whole school 'You Can Do It' program, developing Persistence, Organisation, Resilience, Confidence and Getting Along. We are particularly looking at ‘Confidence’, encouraging students to ‘have a go’, ‘take risks’ and ‘believing in yourself’.

Notices have been going home; please take the time to read them and return where necessary after completing them correctly!

**Homework**

**READING**- Students in grade one and two are expected to read each evening to practise reading independently: building confidence, fluency and expression.

**MATHLETICS**- students in grades one and two are encouraged to log into Mathletics and complete approximately half an hour minimum of tasks each week to consolidate their understandings.

**Important dates:**

- **Tuesday 6th of May, 9-10am**: ‘Letters and Sounds’ Information session
- **Tuesday 13th of May, 9-10am**: ‘Letters and Sounds’ Information session
- **Tuesday 19th of May, 11:30**: Teachers visit from Clayton North P.S in P – 2
- **Thursday 22nd of May**: Book Fair begins
- **Monday 19th of May**: Education Week begins
- **Monday 22nd of May**: Book Character Parade
- **Tuesday 20th of May**: Science Incursion- Minibeasts
- **Thursday 22nd of May**: Open Morning - 9.30am - 11.00am
- **Friday 23rd of May**: DEAR- Drop Everything And Read- Teacher swap at 11:30
- **Tuesday 10th of June**: Possible Curriculum Day
- **Monday 16th of June**: Prep - 2 Swimming commences
- **Fastlane Haileybury**
- **Friday 27th of June**: Swimming ends

Tennis lessons –to be assigned when finalised by the tennis club.
Essential Questions:
1. What characteristics do living things have?
2. Why do living things have particular features?
3. How do living things adapt to survive within their environment?
4. What happens to living things if an environment is changed due to natural disasters?