**COMING EVENTS**

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Hello Everyone

How quickly the term is moving along, the Easter break is almost here. Our first report for the year will be sent home on Friday (except for Kinder). This report gives information on how students have settled into the year and highlights any concerns teachers may have. Reports are not the only method of communication and teachers value the conversations they have with parents before and after school. These conversations are a great way to share information and reinforce to your child that you and the teacher are working together to support their learning. If you are not able to come into school as often as you would like don’t hesitate to make a phone call or request that your child’s teacher phone you for a chat.

Congratulations to our talented Maypole dancers who did wonderfully well at the St Patricks Festival on the weekend. Our students were definitely the star attraction. Thank you to Kylie Frost for the great job she did in preparing the students and teaching them all the intricate turns and whirls. We look forward to next year’s event.

Don’t forget to return the validation forms that were sent home last week; it is very important that we have current contact and medical details for your child. The office staff are currently updating our records and would appreciate the prompt return of forms.

A reminder to students who are interested in participating in the Band and Instrumental Program, your forms need to be returned as soon as possible. Mrs Borton will be visiting soon to finalise numbers and organise lesson times.

**DISCLAIMER**

Parents should note that advertisements for educational services, companies, activities or similar events are published as a community service. Westbury Primary School is in no way liable for the quality, supervision or integrity of the provider and strongly suggests that parents make their own enquiries before engaging with the advertised event.

Alison Brooks, Principal

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

The staff, students and wider Westbury community wish the following students a very happy birthday for next week:

Z Shannon Foskett, Gabriel Robins
PROBUS COOKING ROSTER
Thursday 21 March  Tracey Webster  Kathryn Pearton  Emma Clarke
Thursday 18 April  Tricia van Dijk  Kim Rootes  Kerryn Gatenby
Please leave cooking in the Parent Room by 9.00am on the morning of Probus.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS
The next meeting for the Parents and Friends will be held on Friday 10 May at 2.00pm in the Parent Room.
All welcome to attend.

MAYPOLE
On Saturday 16 March some Grade 5-6s did maypole dancing at Westbury St Patricks Day. We danced in the rain and cold, but all had fun.

Thank you to Kylie for teaching us the dances, organising the costumes and preparing the maypole.

5-6 Maypole Team

ATTENDANCE
School attendance is mandatory for all children between the ages of five, until the end of the year in which they turn sixteen. All schools in Tasmania have a legal requirement to maintain accurate records of all student attendance.

If your child is away for any reason we would ask that you contact the school office to inform us of their absence on the day/s they are away. This then allows us to ensure accurate records of attendance at all times.

This Thursday there will be a performance by Bravehearts and we have included some information about this program in the newsletter. The focus of the performance is about helping our children be safe. There will be a parent information session at 1.30pm on Thursday in the GP Hall for any parents who are interested in finding out more.

Enjoy your week.
Alison Brooks
Dear Parent/Caregiver,

In the near future your child will have the opportunity to experience our Personal Safety Education Program “The Ditto Show”. Bravehearts are extremely proud of this program and believe that by providing children with the basic principles of personal safety, we are providing them with the tools to stay safe.

Just as teaching children the road rules cannot guarantee our children’s safety on the roads, no program can guarantee to “abuse-proof” our children. But, by teaching them the principles of personal safety we are giving them the knowledge they need to stay safe and know what to do if anything does happen.

The ‘Ditto Show’ is live performance with “Ditto” being the star attraction. The show runs for 35 minutes (and we have a 20 minute one for our under 5’s).

Our program has been delivered throughout other states in Australia since 2006 empowering over 200,000 children. The content has been reviewed and supported by the Tasmanian State Government.

‘Ditto’, the Bravehearts’ mascot comes to life as the star of Ditto’s Keep Safe Adventure Education Program to ensure the program is delivered in a fun, interactive and engaging manner.

Specially written songs for the show include “Private Parts” and “Run and Tell Someone You Can Trust”. These are catchy songs and our experience shows children are remembering them in the same way they remember common nursery rhymes. Feedback from schools and centres has indicated that children are singing the songs in the playground. Ditto’s Keep Safe Adventure Program and resources are NOT SEX EDUCATION. Private Parts are simply explained as the mouth (as we don’t just go around kissing anyone) the chest, between the legs and our bottoms). The main aim of the program is to enhance children’s emotional literacy.

The findings of an independent evaluation suggest that the delivery of the principles embedded in this program can reduce the prevalence of not only child sexual assault, but also other forms of abuse including family violence and bullying, in a range of settings.

Topics covered throughout the show consists of “Yes” & “No” Feelings, The Body’s Warning Signs, Private Parts, Secrets and what to do if you feel unsafe or unsure.

If you do not wish for your child to attend the show please notify your school/centre. Should you have any questions about the program please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Kind regards,

Bravehearts Education Team

www.bravehearts.org.au
Local Office: 03 6327 4704 National Office: 07 5552 3000 | Fax 07 5552 3088 | Freecall Crisis Line: 1800 BRAVE 1
Postal: PO Box 7720, Launceston TAS 7250 | Email: taseducation@bravehearts.org.au ABN 41 496 913 890

Our performance is on this Thursday 21 March at 2.00pm. A Parent Information Session will be held at 1.30pm.
Are you heading to AGFEST?
Bracknell Primary Outside School Hours Care are pleased to announce that they will be offering Vacation Care to AGFEST patrons on Thurs 2nd & Fri 3rd May. We are also running our regular Vacation Care Program from Fri 19th April – Fri 3rd May. We offer full days, half days and casual (min 2hrs) bookings.

For more information or to make a booking please call 0429 327 370.

Please book early to avoid disappointment - only limited spaces available.

BLUE & WHITE DISCO
By Deloraine Little Athletics Centre
Friday 22nd March 2013
9 yrs & under 5.30pm - 7.00pm
10 - 16 years 7.00pm - 9.00pm
At the Rotary Pavilion, Alveston Drive, Deloraine
Entry fee $2.00
Kiosk available on the night for purchase of drinks & snacks. Lucky Door & Lucky Spot Prizes.
All Welcome
For further information contact Colina Eley on 0432 389 526