

BATEMAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Independent Public School

NEWSLETTER

Issue No 7
21 May 2020



From the Principal

This week saw the return to near normality for us with 96% of our students attending and the other 4% staying away because of early signs of a cold or something similar. I have yet to hear from the Department with the exemption clause for COVID but when I receive it I will forward it straight to those parents who have enquired about it.

The morning and afternoon routines are working well at the moment and we will continue with these until parents are allowed onsite, at which time the afternoon dismissals will all go back to 2.50pm. The 'Kiss and Drive' is working really well in the mornings for the K – Y2 children and we may explore ways to embed this into our daily routine.

I have been asked by a few people about the delay to the DETECT program to be run by the Telethon Institute. At the moment the program has to be approved by 4 different ethics committees and while it has been approved by the Department's committee we are still waiting for it to clear others. Once this has happened we will be informed if we are in the 40 testing schools or the 40 survey schools and I will be able to send you some facts sheets and a video of the procedure if we are in the testing group.

Not that you can come onsite to see the work, but we had two projects commence yesterday. The installation of the long-awaited fixed basketball hoop in the early childhood area started yesterday and will be completed tomorrow. Yesterday we had some huge Yucatan plants removed which were dangerous and not in keeping with our garden themes and also the Department identified a very large self-shedding gum which it removed for the safety of our children. While we were sorry to see the gum tree go, their propensity for dropping huge branches means that they are not suitable for a school environment.

Next month we will see the Department spend \$190,000 upgrading all of the toilets in the school except for the new ones in the Kindy – Pre-Primary area. This is a long awaited upgrade and we are sure that it will make a difference to the toilets for our students.

You will have seen that cross-country training has commenced in the afternoons and soon you should hear that the Bateman Netball Club has started training at the school, using the COVID guidelines to inform the type of training.

Next Friday will be a professional development day for staff. We will be working on the school review process and other issues around mental health and workload management. We chose this date each year for a PD day to allow families a four-day break – in years when you can get away.

I again want to thank people for following the rules about parents being onsite and can let you know that it has certainly made it easier for us to ensure the safety of each and every child in the school. I would encourage you to make contact directly with your classroom teacher if you need to organise a face-to-face meeting and look forward to being able to welcome you all back to assemblies and events soon.

TERM 2 2020

Pupil Free Day
Friday 29 May

**KINDY ENROLMENTS
FOR 2021
ARE NOW OPEN.**

Families need to apply to enrol their children in a public school for 2021 if they are:

Starting Kindergarten –
4 years old by 30 June 2021
(born between 1 July 2016 –
30 June 2017).

Starting Pre-Primary - (first year
of compulsory school) 5 years old
by 30 June 2021.

Enrolment letters will be sent
home to our current Kindy
families early next term for
Enrolment into our Pre-Primary
Program.

Applications for **Kindy
Enrolments close 24 July 2020.**

All children from Pre-Primary to
Year 12 are guaranteed a place at
their local public school.

**See our website for full details
and links to our Application for
Enrolment Forms.**

**If you ordered a
2019 Graduation
USB; these are
available from the
school office.**

**Please contact School
Watch Security on 1800
177 777 if you see any
suspicious activity at
the school after hours.**

From the Principal...cont...

It seems as though some people have decided that the school is a great dumping ground between bulk rubbish collections. In the past months we have had lounges, tyres, mattresses and boxes of clothes dropped in the bush areas and yesterday it was an old car trailer. As well as this people often come before or after school or on the weekends and use our bulk rubbish and recycling bins for disposing anything from food scraps to household furniture. Not only does this cost us money which could be better spent on school resources but it sends a poor message to our children. Please keep an eye out for anyone dumping on our grounds and ring Ed Security on 9264 4771 or the Police on 131 444.

Music News

We have been having such a blast getting back into the groove of the Music Room! With the loss of our assemblies this term, the students have really missed coming together for our fortnightly Community Songs. This week, individual classes came together and sang a virtual Community Song following the PA assembly! I absolutely loved watching the students sing and dance together - and especially seeing some of the teachers getting involved too!



The new Community Song, The Middle, is now available by following the QR code link. This link can also always be found on the door of the Music Room.

Unfortunately we have received word that One Big Voice has been officially cancelled for 2020. The good news is that we are still permitted to keep and perform all of the music! This means that Senior Choir members still have access to all the website content and are welcome to continue listening to the music until such a time that rehearsals are able to start up again.

Wakakirri will resume in the first week of Term 3.

Thank you for your continued support!

Ms Wood

REMINDER! Please return your Student Update, Media Consent, BYOD and Computer Acceptable Use Agreement and Confidential Declaration forms. This information is important to ensure your child is safe and has proper access to all of the activities across the school.

Extra forms were sent home to students who had not yet returned theirs. If you could please complete and sign these forms and return to the school office it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

P&C News—Grounds Report

Bush Tucker Area

A sincere **thank you to Rob from Bourne Trees** who has provided the quality mulch for our Bush Tucker area. The loads have just kept coming and they're slowly turning a completely unused, horribly overgrown area into one of real wonder. We even have worms now working away beneath the soil making it distinctly better for all of the new plants. Please bear with us as we shift the loads from the area near the demountable onto the gardens. There will be even more in the next few days as the large gum tree was just cut down this week from the school's inner courtyard, in readiness for a brand new garden there.

Thanks again to Ethan B who loves that mini digger helping us spread the two huge loads of mulch on the corner of Dean and Adams Rd last weekend. Along with Glenn Beauchamp, Mike Baldwin, Sam and Lachie we worked tirelessly to cover the whole area - some of it still needs levelling but on the whole, it has given that tired corner a huge boost. **Mark, Chris and Lance who raised the new sign** and it now sits very proudly on the corner. It's amazing when the sun shines through the cut outs! Take some time to check it out, especially in the afternoon. Wait until we also finish the vibrant planting underneath then it will really pop! **Thanks also to Mark who then secured our final plaque and the new birdbath** for the Paws and Claws room. Planting of the sea of kangaroo paws will hopefully happen next week.



The Frog Pond has been re-weeded and is now fully mulched - the plants look amazing and I have been told there might even be some frogs in there now. We are currently working hard on the entranceway and will be putting a new path down to connect to the basketball courts as we have done from the other side. Plants from Dennis, one of the Bateman locals, are going in there this week. **Thanks Dennis - for the beautiful kangaroo paws and white bottle brushes.**

We are hoping to secure some Arts funding from the City of Melville who having recently seen our efforts and are thrilled with the outcome. A more formal opening will take place in Spring. They are very keen to support us to secure an indigenous artist to come into the school to take each year group for some Aboriginal artwork. Armed with that knowledge, we would like each year group to complete a totem pole that will be placed either side of our sign to complete the entrance way - How grand would that be?

The Piney Lakes Environment Centre through Lena has helped us secure more logs as they have pruned, and she has kindly delivered them to us as natural edging for the Bush Tucker gardens. We are also hoping to do some more engagement with Kent St SHS to obtain maybe a few seats or sculptures to fill the various spaces and walkways.

Finally, a huge **thank you** to Amanda Loo who has been coming down every day this week for an hour assisting me with some of the hard slog - the clearing, weeding, mulching and pruning. It goes so much quicker when there are many hands. It all needs to be done before any of the glamorous planting occurs. It is a great workout and no need for a gym membership! Therefore, if you have an hour or two to spare come down and join us, no gardening experience necessary. We'd love to see you as part of the team.

We can be reached on the P&C email batemanpandc@gmail.com or alisonmoore300666@gmail.com or Ali's mobile 0431 488 838.

P&C News

Men of Bateman Update

Hi all MOBsters,

The school family camping trip for the June long weekend has been cancelled for this year unfortunately.

The term 2 MOB events will be rescheduled with revised dates, however they are still being planned to occur this term. The changes are in part due to guest facilitator availability for the MOB Dads night. As soon as we have confirmed the revised dates, posters will be going out.

We are looking forward to getting back into the MOB events routine and continuing with the strong relationships we have established in this school. Please contact Lance Koyd or Glenn Elliott for further details.

Uniform Shop Update

While the shop remains closed, orders will be processed and items delivered to your child's classroom within a few days.

Order forms are available to download on the BPS website or they can be picked up from the front office. Once completed, please place the orders in the orange box in the front office.

Shop at Your Local



For new families to the school (and those that need a reminder) both **Winthrop Gardens Supa IGA in Winthrop** and **Gilbert's Fresh Market in Willetton** offer programs that generously give back to our school just by shopping with them.

So sign up in store at no cost and shop at your local.

Your Feedback and Get in Touch

We welcome any feedback and ideas you may have that would help benefit the children and school. Please email batemanpandc@gmail.com or come along to one of our regular P&C meetings.

What's Happening on Facebook?

Our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/batemanpandc/>, is frequently updated with events, pictures, videos and information on what is happening at Bateman PS.

Like us to keep up to date with what is happening and stay in touch



Next P&C Meeting - Monday 8 June 2020 (via Video Conference)

The next P&C meeting will be Monday, 8 June 2020 at 7.00pm most likely via Video Conference. Come along, get involved - it is your school too! Drinks and nibbles provided.

