Hi everyone,

On Friday, nine of our students will participate in the district swimming carnival. More information is being sent home to these students today. We wish our swimmers well!

Please remember our pancake breakfast next Tuesday 4th March from 8.00am - 8.45am. We already have fifty people coming along which is incredible! Please make sure you reply by this Wednesday 26th of February so we can make sure that we have enough pancake mix!

Today we had sessions about “Responsible Pet Ownership.” Please ask your child about some of the messages which were shared.

As per the flyer on Friday, we are having a morning tea for Sarah Kohne on Wednesday at 11.am. This will be followed by a short assembly at 11.30am. Please come along if you are free.

Last Wednesday I met with five members of the Bethanga Men’s Shed who are keen to come along and work with a group of our students on woodworking skills. Ideally we would love to have a whole school “learn a skill,” afternoon on a regular basis. If you would be interested in sharing your expertise in an area, please see us at school. Stay tuned for more information.

I wish to run some information sessions on assisting your child to develop effective reading strategies. The first session will be for parents of F-2. Please fill out the slip if interested and we will find a suitable date for everyone.

On Friday we will write messages of thanks to our fire fighters on red balloons and hang them from our fence. A red balloon can be purchased for a gold coin and all money raised will go to our local CFA.

Tomorrow I will be in Benalla for a Principal workshop on writing our annual implementation plan for 2014. This day will also provide information on the new strategic review process.

Have a wonderful week.
Please ensure that electronic devices and precious toys stay at home: It has been wonderful to see the imaginative play and games which are currently very popular in the yard. It is important that electronic devices and precious toys stay at home to prevent loss or damage. We do have a cd player available for our keen dancers and students are able to bring along music on cds as long as the lyrics are appropriate.

NATIONAL DAY AGAINST BULLYING AND VIOLENCE—FRIDAY 21ST MARCH

As a follow up to our whole school work on a safe, caring and respectful school community, we will also be exploring age appropriate understandings of what bullying is and how we can all stand up to it together. The role of the bystander cannot be underestimated and we will be equipping our students with strategies to use if they witness bullying (what to do or say or who to tell.)

Bullying is repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons.

Behaviours that do not constitute bullying include:

- mutual arguments and disagreements (where there is no power imbalance)
- not liking someone or a single act of social rejection
- one-off acts of meanness or spite
- isolated incidents of aggression, intimidation or violence.

However, these conflicts still need to be addressed and resolved.

Cyberbullying refers to bullying that is carried out through information and communication technologies.

http://bullyingnoway.com.au

A focus on wellbeing and the expectation upon positive words and behaviours will always occur in an ongoing manner at our school. At times though, there may be instances where students make weak choices and demonstrate inappropriate behaviour. If these weak choices impact on others e.g physical or verbal aggression or threats, inappropriate language, damage to property etc then the student will spend time out of the yard completing a reflection sheet. This sheet will be sent home for parents to discuss with their child, sign and return to school. A sheet is attached for your information.

Extremely serious weak choices may result in suspension.

Please feel free to contact me at school if you wish to discuss any aspect of the reflection sheet or process.
School Hats and Sunsmart behaviour: Our red bucket hats are compulsory for term one and this will be reassessed at the beginning of term two. Please assist/remind your child to apply sunscreen prior to coming to school. We do have sunscreen available at school but students will need to take responsibility for remembering to apply it.

Uniform: We have a small selection of second hand uniforms for sale. We also buy back uniforms in good condition so if you have any uniforms that your child has outgrown, please bring them along to school and we will buy them back from you.

Head Lice: We have had some reported cases of headlice so please be vigilant and check your child’s hair at least a couple of times each week. Please remember that whichever form of treatment you use, you need to follow the instructions and treat more than once. Richard at the Bethanga Store stocks Moov Headlice Solution for $17.50.

Parent Contributions: All parent contributions need to be paid by 28 February please.

175 Nights of Reading: Each child who reads 175 nights during the school term will choose a free book at the end of the year. Diaries need to be signed by an adult each night.

Bank day: We had 10 books for collection which was fantastic! Great remembering!!!

Message from the MARC Van:
Hi to all parents and students
We look forward to tons of interesting library lessons and opportunities to borrow books this year (every 2 weeks - check the school calendar to stay up to date).

HOWEVER - it is SOOOOO important that each family chase up any overdue library books. As current caretaker of the MARC van, I'm very concerned that there are many, many overdue books spread throughout the cluster of schools currently accessing the van.

The sad part is that most of those overdue books are the new books. It means other kids do not get to access them.

I am aiming to do a mammoth chase up of these overdue books and ask families to do a serious look at home for any requested books, then report back to their class teacher.

Thank you for your support. Mrs K at Tawonga Primary School.

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE - Application for EMA close on Friday 28th February. If you are eligible to claim the EMA allowance, please complete the application form sent home with the first newsletter of the year. If you need another application form, please contact the school.

Late applications will not be processed.
## What’s Coming Up at BPS?

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<th>Activities and Notes</th>
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<td>Monday 24th February</td>
<td>Responsible Pet Ownership sessions at Bethanga Primary</td>
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|      | Tuesday 25th February | Deb at Benalla for briefing regarding Annual Improvement Plan and Strategic Plan  
                 Sue Reid - year 5/6/ program  
                 Madonna in 2/3 class |
|      | Thursday 27th February | Southern Mobile Library  
                 Return books to the white basket in the office. |
|      | Friday 28th February | Red balloons to thank our fire fighters  
                 Bring a gold coin to purchase a balloon, write a message and attach to our fence.  
                 Money to go to local CFA |
| 6    | Monday 3rd March | Deb will be at the Network Principals' Meeting in Wangaratta for the whole day.  
                 Madonna will work in the 2/3 in Deb’s absence. |
|      | Tuesday 4th March | Pancake Breakfast to raise money for Uniting Care to support homeless  
                 Please invite family, friends and community members. Let us know of numbers by Wednesday 26th February. |
| 8    | Friday 21st March | National Day against Bullying and Violence |
| 9    | Monday 24th March | Presentation of our own Peace Flame from Wodonga West Rotary and Albury/Wodonga Peace Flame Committee  
                 A special assembly will be held at 3.p.m. Please come along for this special ceremony. Our children will sing. |
BETHANGA AUTOMOTIVE
& SMALL ENGINE REPAIRS
Mick Childs
Ph: 6026 4881 Mob: 0414 425 413
(Please leave message if not answered–landline preferred)
bethangaauto@bigpond.com
mazz.mick@bigpond.com

Vehicle Services and repairs to cars, tractors, trucks, small and stationery engines.
Starter ropes and Caltex oils and lubes available
Workshop facilities
Onsite repairs (when viable)
Competitive rates.

BETHANGA GENERAL STORE
AND COFFEE SHOP

• Takeaway food
• Coffee, tea, milkshakes
• Cold Drinks
• Groceries
• Papers and magazines
• Gas and Fuel
• EFTPOS available
• Friendly Service

Please ring through all orders on 02 6026 4215
Open: 6.30am-7pm Monday-Saturday
8.00am-7pm Sunday

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Smiles on Dials

Disco & MC for all occasions
Albury/Wodonga and surrounding areas

Mark Lee
Tel: 0404 370965
smiles.on.dials@hotmail.com

Rumble Tumbles Indoor Play Centre & Café
Unit 1 919 Calimo Street
North Albury
Phone: 6040 4450
Rumble Tumbles entertains the children and allow parents a place to be able to come and sit, read the paper, have a coffee and enjoy a bite to eat while the kids wear themselves out!
Party at Rumble Tumbles....... Rain, Hail or Shine, that peace of mind that your party is organised and hassle free is priceless.

OPENING TIMES:
Tuesday to Friday 9.30am to 3.00pm
Saturday & Sunday 9am to 4.30pm
NSW & VIC School Holidays
Monday to Sunday 9am to 4.30pm
Private parties available outside these hours by arrangement.
For further details Phone 6040 4450.

ADVERTISING SPACES FOR SALE
If you would like to advertise on this page of our newsletter please email your advertisement to bethanga.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au as soon as possible and we will send you an invoice. If you do not have email facilities, please drop your advertisement into the office.