Issue No: 26 - 25th August 014

A Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

Tribute to our dear friend and former colleague Brenda Pevitt:

We were saddened by the news of Brenda’s sudden and untimely passing. Brenda worked for the Department of Education for 31 years and retired in December 2012 after teaching at South since 1987.

Many, many children and families have had the “Mrs P experience”! My own daughter Laura learnt to spell after a year with Mrs P! She worked hard and planned diligently to ensure that every child received the best opportunities to learn in her classroom.

Since retirement, Brenda has enjoyed some overseas trips, read plenty of books, relaxed, cleaned out cupboards, had time to care for her mother and more recently started planning for her first grandchild’s arrival in September.

Brenda met with Mrs Morton and Mrs Gibbons (sometimes Ms Hayden too) for lunch every Tuesday and organised our Friday night teas each week. Throughout this school year she has returned to volunteer in the 2/3/4M classroom—having to get herself a Working with Children Check after letting her teaching registration expire!!!!

Brenda was here at school last Tuesday working with some girls to improve their ‘fraction’ work. She went to lunch as always afterwards. Sadly, she won’t be walking through our door any longer.

We are thankful that Robyn Bowen, school psychologist, and Caroline Shepherd, manager of the school support staff, have been able to provide some counselling support to our students and staff members. We have received so many wishes of support and love. We appreciate everyone’s thoughts.

We extend our loving thoughts and condolences to Brenda’s husband, daughter, son-in-law, son and mother.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS... Brenda’s funeral will be held at 1.00pm this Wednesday, at St Stephen’s church. In order to enable all staff to attend Brenda’s funeral, and allow us to honour Mrs P for one last time, the school WILL BE CLOSED ALL DAY WEDNESDAY. If you are having difficulty making care arrangements for your child, please call the school TOMORROW to discuss.

Members of the school community are invited to contribute to a book of tributes to Mrs P. Please call at the office to write or paste your sentiments into the book.

Family night to celebrate and learn in Literacy and Numeracy Week—Thursday 28th August:

We would like EVERYONE to join in the fun. It will be a great night with a little bit of learning thrown in. See the details later in this newsletter. Please send in the REPLY SLIP to let us know how many of your family members will be here for the pizza tea so that we can order enough. Orders due tomorrow morning!

Have a great week everyone!

Marg Millard—Principal
Congratulations to all those who received an award at our last assembly. We love to celebrate success at Portland South and love that there are many opportunities to do so.

**HAPPY GRAMS**


**READING AWARDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>50 Nights</th>
<th>100 Nights</th>
<th>125 Nights</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>150 Nights</th>
<th>200 Nights</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lauren Place</td>
<td>Shinae Briggs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PERSISTENCE STARS**


**MATHLETICS**

For Outstanding Achievement...

Dallas Little, Emma Govers, Aishia Brydson.

**STAR STUDENTS**

Natalie Smith & Kaitlyn Malseed

“having the confidence to help others with their work”
**IMPORTANT DATES**

**Tuesday 26th August**

Children’s Book Week Book Activity Day—dress up as your favourite book (not movie) character, activities based on this year’s award nominated books. Parents welcome!

**Thursday 28th August**

Family Night—keep the date free!

Please see our website for the full list of important dates for Term 3 and the Clubs Program timetable and groups.

**Thursday 11th & Friday 12th September**

Year 2 sleepover and excursion

**TERM 3 FAMILY NIGHT**

**Thursday 28th August - Literacy and Numeracy Week**

FREE pizza tea for the whole family at 6pm followed by DISCO FUN in the hall for all school-aged children and their older siblings. Pre-schoolers will be looked after in the library.

Mums and dads (or carers) will go “BACK TO SCHOOL” to discover how we teach your children in English and Maths.

It will be fun for everyone with a little bit of learning thrown in for parents!!!

The evening will conclude at 7.30pm.

See the National Literacy and Numeracy Week website for more ideas: www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au

---

**YOU CAN DO IT!!**

This week we begin our focus on the foundation of CONFIDENCE. Confidence means feeling I can do it.

Confidence also means not being afraid to make mistakes or to try something new.

It means standing tall and speaking with a clear voice—not too loud, not too soft.

This week’s Star Student focus is Someone who “speaks loudly and clearly with CONFIDENCE”

---

**“AFTER HOURS” SCHOOL TOURS**

After hours school tours have been scheduled for the following times.

Please promote these times to those who can’t attend during school hours for a tour.

- **Tuesday, 26th August** 6.00pm
- **Friday, 29th August** 5.00pm
- **Wednesday, 3rd September** 6.00pm
- **Thursday, 4th September** 6.00pm
- **Monday, 15th September** 6.00pm

---

**THREE FOR ME HELPING HAND /JOB LIST:**

**Please help if you can…..**

1. We have made some A4 posters to put up around town promoting our school—can you help to distribute them?

2. There are some garage sale and market leftovers that need to be taken to the Recycle Shed at the Tip. A trailer or ute is needed for this job!

3. The vegetable garden needs digging over and replanting!
SCHOOL COUNCIL VACANCIES

We still have one vacancy for our School Council—would you like to join our happy team?

Please consider joining our School Council by collecting a nomination form from the office.

Meetings are held twice per term on the third Thursday of the month at 7pm in the staffroom.

Next meeting—Thursday, 18th September.

ALUMINIUM WATER BOTTLES

Parents, please check your child’s water bottle that he/she received from Portland Aluminium.

Many are reporting that the Portland water makes the aluminium alter on the inside of the bottle.

Sorry about this….I have notified the suppliers.

If anyone notices some deterioration, please bring the bottle to school so that we can show the suppliers.

FAMILY NIGHT—REPLY SLIP (please return by Tuesday 27th August)

FAMILY NAME: ____________________________________________

NO. ADULTS /TEENAGERS ATTENDING: _____________

NO. PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN ATTENDING: _____________

NO. TODDLERS ATTENDING: _____________

ANY DIETARY REQUIREMENTS? ____________________________________________

BOOK CLUB

Book Club orders will be sent home today.

Orders close—
Tuesday, 2nd September at 9.00am.

AUGUST IS ES MONTH

A big thank you to our Education Support staff who help us in so many ways and are a valued part of our staff team

- Julie
- Brett
- Mall
- Dyan
- Mr Whitehead
- Mrs Rogers

JUNIOR TWILIGHT NETBALL

Our season starts again on the 15th September with Registration night on 8th September.