Gala Day Float - This year’s theme

"Alpine Life"
This beautiful piece of art work which is the backdrop for the float was painted for us by Indiah Fletcher-Jackson’s grandmother

Rosie and Glenn are busy building the cattleman’s hut which is the central piece of the float. I hope that you have all worked out what you will be wearing.

After school Softball

Tuesday May 3rd will be the start of our after school softball sessions. The sessions will go from 3.45 – 5 pm

Bright Fun Run

Sunday 24th April

April
24th Bright Fun run
25th Anzac Day
27th Life Ed
29th prep/1 swimming

May
3rd After school sports 3.45-5 pm
4th First sports day Myrtleford.
6th 2/3 swimming
9th-19th NAPLAN testing
13th 2/3 swimming
20th 4/5/6 swimming
20th Walk To School
23rd Grip Leadership
27th 4/5/6 swimming

June
3rd 4/5/6 swimming
8th Sports day Myrtleford we will miss this one.
6th - 10th Fifteen Mile Creek
15th Sports day Myrtleford.
17th 4/5/6 swimming
24th 4/5/6 swimming
24th Last day term 2

July
13th Back up Sports day Myrtleford

This week’s Reminders

NAVY TEE-SHIRTS TO BE WORN UNDER POLO SHIRTS AVAILABLE FROM TARGET IF AN EXTRA LAYER IS NEEDED. PLEASE NO SKIVVIES

BEANIES HAVE BEEN ORDERED AND WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON

WE HAVE LOTS OF LOST PROPERTY. PARENTS PLEASE CHECK THAT YOUR CHILD HAS THEIR JUMPER AT THE END OF EACH DAY

STAR PERFORMERS

These children are doing a great job and making real progress with their learning: Ollie, Molly S and Elkie

What happened this week?

Art van Anthony Lawler was here.

Builders still have further work to do; so please keep the traffic flowing in the right direction morning and night.

ANZAC DAY activities led by the leadership team

School council met, however we unfortunately did not have a quorum. Another meeting is scheduled for Wednesday April 27th at 7.30pm
This week I have been reminded of how important it is for children to crack the code to read and write early in their school life. I was really moved this week when we witnessed a delighted slide down the stair rail (*no not allowed, but as a celebration of success allowable*) and another child performing an impromptu dance in the staff room whilst hugging a box of readers. Such was the delight from two little boys who for the very first time have begun to believe that there is a light at the end of the tunnel. That never ending jumble of letters and sounds has slowly begun to make sense.

The frustration and desperation that they must feel when everyone else has cracked the code and have begun reading and writing, while letters and words remain a complete mystery is almost impossible to imagine. The inability to learn literacy skills results in a wide range of avoidance behaviours, loss of self esteem and even resentment towards teachers who are trying to help. The longer it is before help is arrives the harder it is to break through the child’s lack of belief and motivation start them on their learning journey.

Learning is a step by step process that needs a really strong foundation of basic knowledge to progress. Without that solid start and a clear understanding of how language is used learning can be a struggle, sometimes for life. I cannot stress strongly enough that consistent attendance in those first three years of school is vital for learning success.

I realise that families need holidays, and that prepps and year 1 and 2 children seem so little that missing school doesn’t really matter, but unfortunately it does. Learning literacy skills is a step by step process and if steps are missed the learning sequence is broken and important strategies for decoding words are not learnt. Learning requires consistent practise and repetition until knowledge is consolidated. It is frustrating for staff who know how hard a child has tried to start moving steadily forward, to then see them have an extended break from class only to return to find that their peers have moved a head of them and the gap between them has widened again. To avoid this happening, if you are planning a holiday during classtime please ensure that you speak with staff and have a learning plan and program for each day that you are absent from school.

At the Principal meeting in Wangaratta this week we were told that 15 days a year equates to an absence of 6 months over the primary schooling years. Absenteeism does matter and Principal’s need to try to arrest the high rates in schools. That is a lot of time to try and catch up on peers who have had consistent school attendance.

We were also given a brief overview of the new Victorian Curriculum by a dept representative who has worked with the development of this new curriculum. I think the only changes that families will notice will be the introduction of the new capabilities and also new subjects like digital technology. This curriculum will be introduced at Wandiligong 2017 and I will provide information on this in the newsletter.

This week a round of applause goes to:

- Sarah Higman for driving the swimming bus for us on Friday.
- Imogen for rounding up some helpers to start culling the readers 😊
- Thank you 😊

Reminder that Kristie usually works on a Tuesday and Thursday. Money, notes and forms are to be posted in the mail slot in Kristie's office door if she is not at work.

Attitude to Schools Survey

Students from Year 5 to 6 completed the Attitude to Schools Survey this week. The survey asks students questions based on their personal wellbeing at school and also how they perceive the teaching and learning at our school. Once the data has been submitted, processed and returned to us here at school we will use it to select priorities in teaching and learning and also evaluate if our current student wellbeing and engagement strategies are successful.
NAPLAN Testing
The National Assessment Program- Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2016 tests for Years 3 and 5 students will be held on Tuesday 10th May, Wednesday 11th May and Thursday 12th May 2016. NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in writing, reading, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The results of the tests provide information for students, parents, teachers and principals, which can be used to improve student achievement.
All students are expected to participate in the NAPLAN tests. During test week, catch up tests will be available for individual students who are absent on test days. These students may undertake catch-up tests on the days in the test week after the scheduled test, up to and including Friday 13th May 2016.
A pamphlet explaining NAPLAN in greater depth will go home with students soon.

STAR PERFORMERS this week

ANZAC DAY
Congratulations to the leadership team led by Indiah who provided a respectful, responsible and well planned sequence of activities to commemorate ANZAC DAY. The march gave everyone a sense of how it feels to participate in a parade and then the activities were interesting and engaging. Each group circulated between classrooms with Mrs Manning overseeing poppy making and wreath making, Mrs Reid overseeing medal making and Mrs Lodge was with the boys Will, Owen and Maximus who read a story about why we remember the ANZACs to each group. Each group worked well as a team and Indiah ensured that everyone moved on time so that all activities were completed. Indiah, Owen and Ella then conducted a small ceremony at our flag pole and the wreaths were laid.
Soccer is a great team sport for both boys and girls. We train on Saturday mornings at 9am at the P-12 College and every few weeks we have Gala Days and play games with neighbouring soccer clubs. The season will begin on the Saturday 16th April and will run to mid-September.

There will be two Registration Days - Saturday 16th April & Saturday 23rd May at 9am followed by training.

The cost is $70 for the season for the first child. Each child after that costs $65. This includes FFA registration insurance and club membership. New players will require a uniform for training and gala days. The Compulsory Uniform pack is around $60 for each player. This includes a shirt with their name on the back, shorts, socks and shin guard.

Previous players can register online on www.myfootballclub.com.au - You'll need to find your child's FFA number or do a search. New players can register and create their FFA number on the same website. Our club name is Bright SC.

Payment is made directly to the club by cash or cheque at the Registration Days or by direct credit to the Bright Soccer Club. BSB 013 545 Acc Number 493978938 using your child's surname and initial as a reference. There are forms to be filled in on the Registration Day as well.

If you have any queries, please call 0409 501 465 or email joshuahoare@bigpond.com

New players can register & create their FFA number on the same website.

Please bring your e-invoice on registration day. Any queries, comment below or PM me.

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING THIS WEDNESDAY
APRIL 27th at 7.30pm.

Councillors please attend so that we can elect office bearers and co-opt new members for 2016.

Since nominations were called for the school council election this year we have had 2 meetings and an extra ordinary meeting. None of these are legally counted towards the required 8 per year, due to no nominations being offered for the vacant positions at the March meeting. I need a legally constituted council to ensure that we meet required time lines for submission of documents.

So councillors please try to make it to this meeting so we can begin to move forward this year. 🤗