# Newsletter Term 1 - Week 8



No. 4

# From the Leaders

We have been holding NAPLAN tests spaced over the last couple of weeks and we have been impressed by the concentration and effort our year 3 and 5 students have demonstrated. For some it is a daunting fortnight and they've had to dig deep, whilst others look forward to testing themselves. We all learn in different ways don't we?

NAPLAN takes a snap shot of where children are at on one day, twice during primary school years. We like to concentrate on the whole journey and beyond. One way we are doing this is through a teacher inquiry project around the areas of impact as described in South Australia's Strategy for Public Education (Our strategy for public education in South Australia).

#### These areas are:

- Wellbeing
- Equity and Excellence
- ♦ Effective Learners
- Learner Agency

Teachers are working in professional development teams to explore an area of impact and designing an inquiry project which they believe will have a positive impact on student learning in the BPS context.

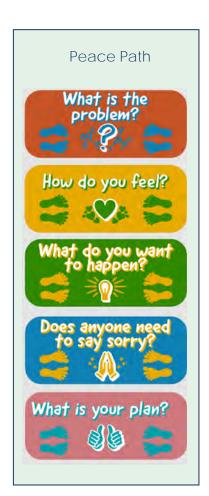
One thing which makes BPS great is the richness of expertise, experience and passion we can draw upon collectively with our teachers. There have been challenging and insightful conversations around the staffroom and our teachers are highly motivated and determined to make a big impact on their students.

Their work is being strongly supported by DfE and has been singled out in the Mount Lofty partnership of schools and Paul will be sharing our journey with other colleagues soon.

#### Peace Path

A new addition to the school yard is our Peace Path, situated right next to our Peace Pole near Studio 9 and the M-Frame play equipment.

Bridgey has had a longstanding commitment to teaching Peer Mediation to our young people. This involves children learning how to resolve conflict through a mediation process. There are 5 steps and these are what make up our Peace Path.



#### Peace Path continued....

Conflict and disagreement are a normal part of social interaction. Peer mediation helps students to learn to resolve this with help of teachers or student mediators. The goal is to independently use the Peer Mediation model to sort out issues when they arise. The Peace Path is a place where students can walk together and seek a resolution together.

This is a great model which is of benefit to us all. Why not try it at home next time your kids are squabbling? Why not model it as parents if the opportunity arises? It is a skill which we never grow out of needing!

# Curiosity didn't kill the cat-erpillar

There has been great excitement and curiosity in the garden outside Studios 3, 4 and 6 this last fortnight.

Many students can't wait to get to school to see the resident caterpillars and chrysalis. We love the curiosity, close observation and care which starts each day.



What do you think young lepidopterists? Are we expecting Monarch Butterflies to emerge? Keep your eyes peeled, we can't wait to see what happens!



# **DIARY DATES** Term 1 - 2024 WEEK 9 Hot Cross Bun Breakfast Wed 27/3 Order through QKR! **PUBLIC HOLIDAY** Fri 29/3 **Good Friday WEEK 10 PUBLIC HOLIDAY** Mon 1/4 **Easter Monday District Athletics (selected** Wed 3/4 students) **SCHOOL PHOTO DAY** Thur 4/4 Please wear school uniform Fri 5/4 Assembly 9:10am in Gym WEEK 11 - Parent/Teacher interviews **PHOTO CATCH UP DAY** Mon 8/4 **BPS Kindy visiting DAGGY DAY** Fri 12/4 2:15pm EARLY DISMISSAL

# CYBER SAFETY POLICE VISIT

Lucas from the Mount Barker Police has worked with our students over the last two Fridays.

Lucas talked about cyber safety and police work in the community.

The children asked some great questions!

Thanks for visiting Lucas!



### **Lunch and Crunch Volleyball Competition**

Last Wednesday our year 5 and 6 students attended the annual "Lunch and Crunch" at Heathfield High school. This involved several schools coming together to experience mini volleyball games on different surfaces.

The day started with an excited (insert: loud) bus ride and meet and greet at the high school. Year 8 students were given the task of leading their groups around grass, beach and indoor courts. Our BPS students did us proud with their enthusiasm, team spirit and can do attitude. It was also evident that they have an awesome coach in our very own Victoria, with some skilful serves, digs, sets and spikes witnessed.

Overall the students had a great time and were inspired to keep on practising and improving their skills.

It was fun playing with my friends - Finley U.

Lunch and Crunch was fun, and I got to play with people I don't always play with - Josie A

The best part of my week was 'Lunch and Crunch' because I played volleyball with my friends and my year 8 instructor was nice – Winnie K.

I had a super fun time - Denver L.















#### **MURAL BY GYM**

You might have noticed an amazing transformation on the brick wall near the gym.

Late last year a team of artists, led by our very own 'Artist in Residence' Heather V.K., took on the task to renovate the wall with a colourful mural.

The children decided that as this was a sports area near the gymnasium, it should depict sport and sporting people. They were also very keen on the artist Banksy, and so the final piece of the mural shows a young girl with balloons (Banksy style), with the slogan 'Never Give Up'.

Sonny, one of the artists, said "We wanted to remind everyone to keep trying and don't give up on your dreams."

Artists involved in the project were Harley K, Hunter D, Jake K, Lachie W, Joey H, Sonny G and Topper F. Thanks for making this an inspiring and colourful place team!

Hilary Agar





