Principal’s Report

Our Vision Statement
There is a prosperous path for every child. Each journey is theirs to lead. There is a place in which every child can shine.

Our Mission Statement
Identify the talent, develop the confidence and create the leader.

Our Motto
Always Moving Forward

Bring Your Own Device Update
The BYOD program has had a positive start with students already purchasing the recommended device.

Enrolment Reminder
Currently 75 Preps and 8 students at other year levels have enrolled for 2017. Workforce planning for 2017 is underway and staff recruitment will commence this month. I would encourage parents with preschooler’s, and families planning to send their children to Parktone next year, to submit outstanding enrolment forms by Friday August 12th.

Gala Dinner
The tickets sales for the Gala Dinner have been very strong and it’s shaping up to be a fun night. The Parktone Social Group has put in a huge effort to ensure there will be great music, food and atmosphere.

School Council
Our next School Council meeting will be held on August 16th at 7:30pm.

Thought for the Week
In the end, we only regret the chances we didn’t take.

Have a great week.

Kind Regards,

George Danson
Principal
Assistant Principal’s Report

Last night the leadership team were privileged to hear Martin Heppell, a member of The Resiliency Project, speak passionately about the effect that gratitude, empathy and mindfulness could have in our own lives, our student’s lives and therefore on teaching and learning. We love the proactive approach Martin promoted to tackling issues of mental illness and well-being. Individually and collectively our team left the professional development inspired and excited. Inspired to put some of the many tips into practise within our own lives; inspired to share or pass on what we learnt, inspired to invest in the best strategies and curriculum we can to address the mental health needs of our students and proactively develop resiliency. We are excited because next year The Resiliency Project Team will be working with Parktine to help us embed resiliency as part of our Personal and Social Capabilities curriculum (http://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au/personal-and-social-capability/introduction/rationale-and-aims for more information on the curriculum).

Personally I have set a goal to write 3 things that I am grateful for each day before bed. I will do this for 3 weeks in an attempt to increase a positive mindset. Perhaps you could have a go too and let me know the effects. Apparently people who practise gratitude experience some of the following benefits:

**Physical**
- Stronger immune systems
- Less bothered by aches and pains
- Lower blood pressure
- Exercise more and take better care of their health
- Sleep longer and feel more refreshed upon waking

**Psychological**
- Higher levels of positive emotions
- More alert, alive and awake
- More joy and pleasure
- More optimism and happiness

**Social**
- More helpful, generous and compassionate
- More forgiving
- More outgoing
- Feel less lonely and isolated.

In other news, we now have several students who have already bought the recommended BYOD device and are making use of it in their classes. We were also able to negotiate the addition of an optional extended warranty so the device can now have a 4 year warranty. The warranty only starts at the time of delivery so for parents who wish to purchase the device later this year but have it delivered next year, the warranty will start next year.

Finally, we don’t communicate enough the great work of our classroom teachers. George has been conducting mid-cycle reviews with our staff, supported by the overwhelming positive growth data that we have seen from the first semester.
Assistant Principal’s Report cont....

A great deal of the growth has been attributed to the way we plan the curriculum. In many schools, teachers are given an outline and are required to decide how they will teach the topic. In most schools, the teachers are given an hour or two to sit in year level teams and figure out roughly what they will teach and what resources they will use. For the past 12 months Parktone staff has been increasing their planning effectiveness. The outline and general content along with a Key Assessment Task is planned the term before. When our staff meet each week, each member of the team is responsible for a particular area of the curriculum and they come to the meeting thoroughly prepared according to our expectations instructional practice documentation, to not only present what they have planned for the following week, but also to discuss how they will be teaching the content. The structure and method of our planning is so highly regarded that last week, Laura Wapling, George and I had the privilege of sharing Parktone’s planning methods with the entire network of Kingston Principals, who were suitably impressed!

Kind regards,

Caleb Peterson
Assistant Principal

GALA DINNER TICKETS

Don’t forget to purchase your Gala Dinner tickets at www.trybooking.com and search Parktone Primary School Gala. Tickets are selling fast. Please read the flyer below for further details.

First Aid Spar Uniform

The First Aid room is stocked with spare uniform thanks to the generosity of our Parktone community. In the winter months, children can end up with a very muddy uniform and so the lovely staff is able to give them a clean dry uniform. Unfortunately our stocks are getting low. If you have spare uniform at home, we would really appreciate it if you could return it as soon as possible so we can keep helping your kids.

Thanks so much!

LOST PROPERTY

We have a large amount of lost property in the First Aid room including:

- Pokemon and cow onesies
- Bike helmet
- Blanket
- Jackets
- And a large pile of unclaimed uniform

Feel free to come in any time to claim your property. If unclaimed then we will rehouse it. Thanks!

BYOD Cases

There are now device cases available on the Centrecom Parent Portal. Just visit:

http://www.centrecom.com.au
Last Monday the Preps celebrated their 100th Day of School! We had fun activities and a party altogether! They looked fantastic all dressed up for the occasion!
In 2017, Parktone Primary will begin the 3rd phase of a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device – Laptop) program. This program allows students to bring their own devices to school for educational use in the classroom.

The ICT philosophy at Parktone recognizes that in the digital age, and with rapid and continuous changes in the ways that people share, use, develop and communicate with ICT, young people need to be highly skilled in its use. To participate in a knowledge-based economy and to be empowered within a technologically sophisticated society now and into the future, students at Parktone Primary will be equipped with the knowledge, skills and confidence to make ICT work for them at school and at home.

Parktone Primary has prepared to meet the needs of all aspects of the program. Phase 1 of the program began at the end of last year with an upgrade to our wireless network capabilities and servers. Phase 2 involved meticulous research for selection of the ideal device for our teaching and learning needs. We timed the selection and purchase of 70 of the devices with the end of a lease program which will see 30 four-year-old computers replaced with the devices and provide our students, teachers and technicians an opportunity to test the full capabilities as well as discover any limitations to be overcome prior to commencement of the 3rd phase.

The following timeline has been determined for the full implementation of phase 3

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The personal computing device that is brought to school must meet the specifications listed below in order to operate with our network:

Operating system requirements: Windows 8 or higher
Minimum screen size 11”
8 hour battery life
Minimum 4gb RAM
Physical connected keyboard (no wireless or Bluetooth)
USB port
These are the same requirements expected of parents from Parkdale Secondary College. The device that Parktone Primary has sourced and purchased for our own use has superior specifications than the minimum required by Parkdale Secondary College. We are highly recommending the device (ACER SWITCH PRO 11) and future iterations of it as the preferred device for parents to purchase.

We have sourced the device from Centre COM which is a company that has provided Parktone’s parents with a portal to purchase the device and streamline the process of purchasing, distribution through the school, software installation by the school, warranty and repairs. At the moment Centre COM are prepared to offer to parents the same device that Parktone has purchased and is recommending, at the same prices that Parktone purchased 70 devices ($690 + GST), until stocks run out. It is anticipated the next version (2017 model) of the same laptop will cost between $850 and $900. The next version will be lighter and have a camera on both sides of the device.

It is our vision to significantly increase the number of devices available to our Prep to Grade 2 students and for every grade 3 to 6 student to have their own digital learning tool. At the moment there are only 5 devices per class which limits the range of online resources and software packages that can be used. Each class only has access to the computer lab once per week and if a class requires every student to have access to a computer at any other time the teacher is required to organise a time with three other classes when they are not using their devices so the students can borrow them. By providing students with their own digital learning tools organisational limitations will be removed and our staff will have access to methods of teaching that not only engage learners but enhance the efficiency of learning.

Imagine a class in which at the push of a button:
- a teacher is able to ‘push’ the content from their own screen to all of the students’ screens
- a student can ‘push’ what they have been working on to the interactive television for all to see/edit/provide feedback
- a teacher can ask key questions and instead of getting just one answer via a ‘hand-up’, every child’s thought/answer can be given and a teacher will receive instant and sometimes graphed knowledge of what the students are understanding.
- Students can hear what they have written, say what they want to write and make real time edits
- Students can create mini-films and take still shots to capture moments of learning, thought and work they are proud of
- And so much more!

Our School Council has endorsed this program.

Please direct any further queries to Caleb Peterson.
You Are Invited To The First Annual Parktone Primary School

GALA Dinner

SATURDAY 13TH AUGUST @ 7:30pm

Woodlands Golf Course, 109 White St, Mordialloc

$65 per head - includes:
3 course dinner
Complimentary drink on arrival
A great evening of fun & dancing

LIMITED TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE

Tickets available via www.trybooking.com
Search - Parktone Primary School Gala
eravue is coming to your school this term. Don’t miss the chance to forever catch this part of their lives forever.

What is ervavue?

Memories from school days are so often limited to stories, report cards and a range of photos - and not much more. At eravue we are turning moving images into the new normal and making school photos come to life.

Every year eravue will visit your school and produce a short film of each participating student for parents to receive. In addition, at school graduation, a compilation video of your child’s school journey will be created.

The resulting films are then able to be shared with anyone you wish, so they can watch and marvel at the growth of your child’s personality. Geography is no longer a limitation. You have the power to choose who can see your child’s film and distribute it globally.

The eravue concept has been designed to be easy and fun for students and forever enlightening and rewarding for parents.

We are asking for you to register your intention to participate by visiting http://ev.fyi/parktone_2016 and entering your details by Friday 19th August. We will then contact you directly with payment, dates and filming schedule.