



BPS MONTHLY NEWS

MARCH 2019

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

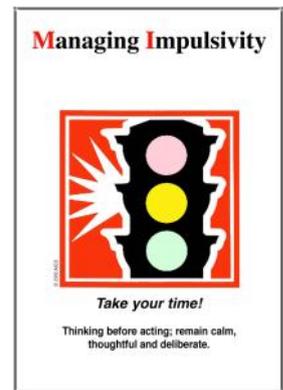
Dear Parents,

It is unbelievable to think that, as you read this newsletter, we will have come to the end of the First Term of 2019. How time flies when we have fun!

In the previous newsletter we spoke about our plans for 2019. One of those plans was to develop our learners' thinking and reasoning skills, thereby becoming a fully - fledged 'thinking school'. We implemented certain strategies in order to achieve our objective, starting with the Thinking Hats, then moving on with the Thinking Maps, and this year, focusing on the Habits of Mind. There are 16 Habits of Mind (HoM) which we will work through with the learners. Lessons and assemblies have focused on two this term: Persisting and Managing Impulsivity. The Habits of Mind are closely related to our BPS values. Every Habit of Mind is always accompanied by a visual picture, which helps the learners relate to and identify with the quality which we are trying to instill. With constant reminders, learners are able to internalize the message, and then apply it in their interaction with others.

So why teach the Habits of Mind? In the 21st century, success is not measured by test scores, but rather by how a learner thinks and solves problems in all spheres of life. The Habits of Mind are dispositions that are skillfully and mindfully employed by characteristically intelligent, successful people when confronted with problems which at first seem to have no solution. When we draw upon these Habits, the results are more powerful, of higher quality and greater significance than if we fail to employ them. As we move through the year, you will hear more about the other Habits of Mind as we unpack them at school.

We wish you a wonderful time of rest and rejuvenation. To all those who will be travelling, we wish you traveling mercies .



Dates to Diarise 2019

- 02 Apr: Start of 2nd Term"
- 05 Apr: Soapbox Derby Day—wear civvies
- 05 Apr: School dismisses for all learners at 12:15 due to Staff Development
- 05 Apr: Sun Valley Championship Shield
- 06 Apr: Sun Valley Championship Shield
- 08 Apr: Start of Extra-Mural Programme
- 10 Apr: Foundation Phase Parent Workshop @ 7pm
- 11 Apr: Grade R Sports Day
- 12 Apr: Meadowridge Library Reading Competition
- 13 Apr: Senior Musicthon
- 16 Apr: Gr 4 Outing—CCE
- 18 Apr: Gr 1 Outing—Muizenbeg Beach
- For more Term 2 Dates please visit the D6 Communicator**

WCED GRADE 3 & 6 SYSTEMIC RECOGNITION

The Western Cape Education Department has once again recognised BPS for maintaining excellence in the annual Grade 3 & 6 Language and Mathematics Systemic Tests written in October 2018. These achievements would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of our passionate teachers, our learners who display a positive work ethic, and our supportive parents. I am sure we realise that success must become a habit, and is only attained through consistent effort and striving to do our personal best.



WCED ADMISSIONS PROCESS FOR 2020

The WCED Online Admission 1st Phase Enrolment closes on 15 March 2019. Any applications logged after this date will be considered as late. The BPS Admissions Policy will then apply, and only applicants who meet the requirements set out in the Admissions Policy will be contacted during the 2nd Term. Grade 7 parents who have applied for Grade 8 in 2020 are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the procedures at high schools to which application has been made. Should you have any admission queries, please do not hesitate to contact our Admissions Secretary, Mrs Ursula Vermeulen.

BPS PRIVATE PARTIES POLICY

At BPS we understand your desire to celebrate your child's birthday, and perhaps some other important milestone events in their young lives. Whilst not wanting to discourage such celebrations, we feel it appropriate to inform parents that such parties and celebrations are not planned or discussed with staff at the school, as they take place outside of school hours. In short, they are private functions/events and can never be called official school functions, even if the participants attending such gatherings are learners or staff at Bergvliet Primary School. Any incidents of any nature, injuries, physical or emotional, or any damage to property or possessions which may take place during the course of such celebratory activities, are therefore not the school's responsibility. BPS can most certainly not be held liable in any way. Our advice to parents whose child(ren) have received an invitation to any event is to find out all the necessary details pertaining to the supervision, safety and security of the venue. The usual information regarding venue and any dress code requirements should also be made available.



It is always a good idea to remind children that, as parents, you will expect them to display good manners and appropriate behaviour at all times. When planning these events, please take into account the age range of the children invited to attend, and make sure that all activities are appropriate to the enjoyment of those present.

RESPONSIBLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY FOR CHILDREN & BPS CELL PHONE POLICY

As social media impacts our daily lives more and more, we urge you to be involved in monitoring your child's usage of online apps and to familiarise yourself with the legal requirements thereof. Please see the very informative resource on the D6 communicator, which offers advice on how to manage your child's digital devices, as well as the legal age for certain apps.

Along with many other schools, we have noticed a concerning increase in the number of social media related "incidents" that are surfacing at school. Most of these incidents involve WhatsApp, Messenger or Instagram accounts. Learners are participating in inappropriate conversations with their friends, and sometimes strangers, via private messages or group chats after hours. The fallout from these conversations is then felt at school and in the playground. This can be avoided if we only utilise these "smart" devices in the correct and appropriate manner, making "smart" choices.



The current BPS Cellphone Policy indicates that no cellphones are allowed at school without consent from parents or guardians. If for some reason, your child brings a cellphone to school, it should be handed in to the class teacher in the morning for safekeeping and returned in the afternoon. Learners are not allowed to be on their phones in the morning before school, or in the afternoon especially on the playground, as this poses unnecessary security risks for your child. Smart watches are treated in the same manner as cellphones, and are discouraged from being worn or brought to school.

KARRI APP

We have partnered with Karri, an app which helps parents with sending small sums of money to school at the click of a button. The app has benefits for both parent and school and will help reduce the need for money to be held on the school premises. Please note, should you wish not to download the app, you will still be able to send your money to school in same manner as in the past. The app can be downloaded in the Play or App Stores.



WEDDING BELLS ARE RINGING

Congratulations to Ms Mullins, our Grade 5 Educator who recently tied the knot with Mr Reagon Jones. We wish Mr. & Mrs. Jones every blessing on their union and wish them many years of wedded bliss.



LEARNER ACHIEVEMENTS

Some of our Grade 7 learners recently competed in the Spine Road High and Sweet Valley Primary Inter-School Mathematics Challenges. These events allow our learners exposure beyond the normal curriculum coverage, and extend them by offering them the opportunity to get to grips with solving complex mathematics problems.

Our Mini-Cricket Team participated in the Sun Valley and Cannon's Creek Mini Cricket Festivals recently. The team more than held their own, winning all 6 games they played during the two festivals.



FUNDRAISING NEWS –SOAPBOX FUN DAY

Much to the disappointment of all concerned, we woke up to rain on the day. After much deliberation, especially considering the safety of our learners, it was decided to postpone the “go-kart” portion of the Soapbox Fun Day. The games portion of the fundraiser continued in the Hall, to the delight of children and parents alike. Even though space was limited, we made the most of the day and chaotic fun was had by all. Thank you to all Class Reps, BPA members and other parents who were involved in any way. We would also like to thank parents for the prizes and families for returning their sponsor cards and donations.



QUOTE FOR THE MONTH—GROWTH MINDSET

“It's okay to not know; it's not okay to not try”

WOOLWORTHS AND MY SCHOOL CARD:

Thank you to all family and friends who continue to swipe their MYSCHOOL card and have BPS as a beneficiary. Every swipe helps BPS, no matter how big or small. Please swipe during the holidays. If you need a new card, please contact Mrs Bettie Shaban who will gladly assist you.



Find us on Facebook for latest news!
Please note you will need permission to join the group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/108530946149333/>

GRADE 6 CAMP: HIGHLIGHTS 2019

I loved Bootcamp because of all the sergeants. They were all funny and kind to me. I got to swim in a river twice a day. I think it was the Berg River. I liked camp because of the food which was very good. We got burgers, pasta, hot dogs, eggs and lasagne.

Blaine Coleman

I enjoyed Bootcamp because the sergeants were kind. We had so much fun and did amazing activities. The food was amazing and I wish I could have stayed at camp for longer

Dylan Early

I enjoyed all the fun games we played with our team. The river was amazing as it cooled us down when it was scorching hot. The highlight for me was when we did the Amazing Race, which was stressful, but fun.

Azrah August

I enjoyed the "Night Walk" when we walked around the Buffalo Drift area. I absolutely loved the different activities we did. My favourites were—the debate, the slack line and paintball. We had something called the Amazing Race. We had a bonfire where we sang songs and told stories.

Rachel Rigby

My camp highlight was the Amazing Race. It really helped us with our teamwork, and it was also a lot of fun, especially when we had to jump into the splash pool just to get an apple, then getting uncomfortably soaked. But if I'm really honest, the entire camp was the best one yet!

Calla Charles

I really enjoyed the team work on the camp, because we were faced with many challenges, which we thought were impossible, but we competed and did our best.

Daniel Gubb

My camp highlight was when we all sat around the warm camp fire, side by side, all happy and forgetting about all things bad, and being excited about what the future holds.

Imtiyaz Patel



OUTREACH—TERM 1 2019

We held a 'Love your School' Civvies Day on Thursday the 14th February. The aim was to raise money for ongoing social projects at Bergvliet Primary School and to assist Holy Cross Primary which experienced a devastating fire recently. Our parents were most generous and we were able to raise R5000 for Holy Cross Primary. They were most grateful and selected books to this value to assist their library to start replacing what was lost. Our grateful thanks go to all who generously contributed to this worthy cause, enabling us to live out our value of caring for others.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - 2019

We are always in need of volunteers to assist in various areas of the school. We wish to strengthen our BPA, with more parents being involved in fundraisers and the planning of events. We also require volunteers to help with reading, tuck shop, uniform shop and recycling. Another area where we are in need of parent volunteers is in assisting our learners who require a reader or scribe when doing assessments and exams. We will provide training to parents and grandparents. If you are able to assist in any of these areas, please call the office or e-mail secretary@bergvlietprimary.co.za. If you have an hour to spare, we would be extremely grateful. Together we achieve more!

