

BPS MONTHLY NEWS

JUNE 2019



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Principal's Desk</i>	1
<i>Becoming a thinking school</i>	1
<i>Responsible use of Tech</i>	2
<i>Fundraising News</i>	2
<i>Music News</i>	3
<i>Admissions 2020</i>	3
<i>Sport Highlights</i>	4



Dates to Diarise for Term 3 - 2019

- 09 Jul: Start of Term 3
- 12 Jul: Early Closure—12:15 due to Staff Development**
- 15 Jul: Start of Extra-Mural Programme
- 18 Jul: Mandela Day Civvies
- 19 Jul: Mandela Day Assembly
- 23 Jul: Hooked on Books
- 26 Jul: Grade 3 Cake Sale
- 27 Jul: Ladies Tea—BPA Fundraiser
- 03 Aug: Staff Development
- 09 Aug: Woman's Day—Public Holiday
- 17 Aug: Junior Musicthon
- 13 Aug: Grade 4W Outing
- 14 Aug: Grade 4Y Outing
- 15 Aug: Grade 4L Outing

For more Term 3 Dates please visit the D6 Communicator

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Parents

How time flies when you are having fun! We have certainly had loads of fun at BPS this term. We continued with our usual academic programme, and in addition, learners were granted many opportunities to participate in exciting events, such as the Music Eisteddfod, the Musicthon, the World Scholars Cup, various Maths competitions, sports festivals, school fundraisers, Eco Club activities, charitable outreach to those impacted by the floods in Mozambique, our rich extra-mural programme, and so much more.

We certainly feel fortunate to be part of a school which offers myriad opportunities to extend and empower its learners. At BPS there is something to interest everyone. We can take pride in living out our school vision of "Holistic Education that nurtures and inspires extra ordinary human beings"

I wish to applaud all our learners for making use of the opportunities offered to them, but would also like to thank all our staff for everything they do to create these opportunities, for going the extra mile, and for showing care and concern for every child at BPS. Their hard work ensures that our learners are given every possible opportunity to fulfil their potential, and be the best that they can be.

I also wish to thank all our supportive parents who have volunteered their time, whether as class reps and BPA members, parents helping with lifting, supporting on the sidelines, ensuring homework and tasks are done—your hard work is appreciated! Thank you for encouraging your children to grab the opportunities on offer.

We wish all our families and friends a happy holiday. To all those who will be travelling, we wish you travelling mercies and look forward to seeing you on the 9th of July.

BECOMING A THINKING SCHOOL

During recent months, much has been said about preparing and embracing the 4th Industrial Revolution and how schools and the workplace must prepare learners for the 21st Century. What has come through very strongly is that, although technology will play a pivotal role in the future, children must still have a set of core values, employ a growth mindset, practice mindfulness and most importantly, must be able to think critically and creatively in order to solve problems, communicate effectively and collaborate with others. Through our Habits of Mind and thinking skills programme, we are putting into motion all of the above at BPS. In the future, rote learning will be superseded by the ability to take content and apply the knowledge they have been taught.

The Habits of Mind (HoM) we focussed on this term, are Thinking about your Thinking, (otherwise known as Metacognition), Listening with Understanding and Empathy, Thinking Flexibly and Managing Impulsivity.

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 internalise the message, and then apply it in their interaction with others.

<p>Thinking Flexibly</p> <p>Look at it another way!</p> <p><small>Being able to change perspective, generate alternatives and consider options.</small></p>	<p>Listening with Understanding and Empathy</p> <p>Understand others!</p> <p><small>Devoting mental energy to another person's thoughts and ideas; holding in abeyance one's own thoughts in order to perceive another's point of view.</small></p>	<p>Thinking about your Thinking – Metacognition</p> <p>Know your knowing!</p> <p><small>Being aware of one's own thoughts, strategies, feelings and actions and their effects on others.</small></p>
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RESPONSIBLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY FOR CHILDREN & BPS CELL PHONE POLICY

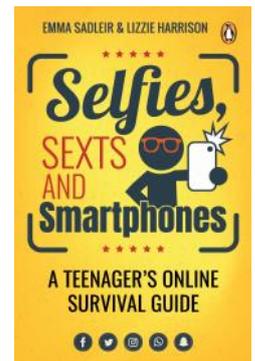
As we enjoy the 3 weeks of holiday, we would like to urge parents and learners to ensure that our learners use and make appropriate choices while using their mobile devices this holiday. As social media impacts our daily lives more and more, we urge you to be involved in monitoring your child's usage 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.

We would highly recommend the purchase of the book, "Selfies, Sexts and Smartphones" by Emma Sadleir and Lizzie Harrison which is available online as well as most bookstores.



FUNDRAISING NEWS

Apart from the ever-popular Grade Cake Sales, we had two other fundraisers during the second term. In May we had the annual Sports Derby Day which was well attended by learners and parents alike. Learners in each grade were put into teams and played hockey, netball and soccer against other classes in their grades. Moms and dads kept hungry tummies filled with food throughout the morning. At the end of the event we had a lucky draw, and the main prize was won by Ryan Jacobs in Grade Seven. Last Friday we had a disco which was very well attended. The children had a lot of fun and we are sure that they slept very well that night!

Please diarise the following dates for the Third term:

Friday 26 July	- Grade Three Cake Sale
Saturday 27 July	- Ladies Tea
Friday 30 August	- Grade Two Cake Sale
Tuesday 17 September	- Variety Show (morning and evening show)
Wednesday 18 September	- Variety Show (evening show)
Thursday 19 September	- Variety Show (evening show)

We would like to thank parents for their ongoing support at all our fundraisers.



BPS ECO CLUB

Our newly formed Eco club has participated in many exciting activities over the past two terms. We went on a short hike along the Alphen Greenbelt, made bird feeders, planted cacti, had a visit from the Two Oceans Aquarium and introduced new bins to the school for the recycling of plastic. Our learners are looking forward to developing our school into an Eco-friendly community that will cultivate a better understanding of how we can save our planet.



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 correct amount of money to school in same manner as in the past. The app can be downloaded in the Play or App Stores.



MUSIC NEWS

Our Junior and Senior Choirs participated in the Cape Town Eisteddfod this term. Our Junior Choir was awarded High Merit and the Senior Choir High Honours, as well as 1st Place. Well done! We are super proud of all our choir members who participated in the Eisteddfod and their outstanding achievements. Many learners also participated in the Individual Music Eisteddfod and excelled at the event. Many received plaudits and high honours. A huge BPS shout out must go to our music teachers, Mrs. Gordon and Mr. Barnwell, for the exceptional work they do with the Choirs.



WORLD SCHOLARS CUP

On Wednesday 8 and Thursday 9 May, thirty of our Grade 6 and 7 learners participated in the Cape Town Regional Round of the World Scholar's Cup.

Our teams debated against other schools, wrote essays and took on challenges for the two days at Curro Century City. They all performed well and received medals and trophies for all their hard work. We are proud of the hard work that went into these achievements by all thirty learners. They were such amazing ambassadors and lived out our values. A big thank goes to Mrs. Junor for planning, preparing and organizing our teams, as well as Mrs. Hector, Mrs. Whyte, Mrs. Drake and Mr. Edwards who supported the teams throughout the competition.



WCED ADMISSIONS PROCESS

All our Grade 7 learners should by now have received notification that they have been accepted to a high school for Grade 8, 2020. Parents have until 12th July at the latest to complete the acceptance online. If you have been fortunate to have been accepted by more than one school, please decline the ones you will not be attending in 2020, in order to assist schools to help place learners still needing placement for 2020.

QUOTE FOR THE MONTH—GROWTH MINDSET

“Love challenges, be intrigued by mistakes, enjoy effort and keep on learning”
Carol Dweck

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/>

SPORT HIGHLIGHTS

The Senior Hockey girls participated in the Grove Hockey Festival at Hartleyvale Stadium. The girls adapted well to playing on the astro. Despite playing two matches without a goalkeeper, the girls fought hard and gave it their all. The results are as follows:

Won 3, Drew 1 and Lost 1 in a closely contested match. The U13 boys and girls participated in the CPL 6-a-side tournament at Sun Valley. It was a great day on the astro turf! The girls played 4 games. Unfortunately, coming from the high of the previous tournament, we were taught the humbling lesson in sport that some days you win, and on others, you lose!

The boys played in a double round-robin format, playing 8 games in total. They ended 3rd overall. We are proud to announce that Ayden Naylor was the 3rd best - "Top goal scorer for the tournament", with 18 goals.

It was a great tournament, and we look forward to the next one. Our boys and girls will be richer for the experience and will stand them in good stead for the games ahead. The Under 9 Hockey Boys participated in the 6-a-side Kirstenhof Under Lights Hockey Festival. The boys really enjoyed themselves and gained valuable experience which will only help



BPS OUTREACH AND SERVICE

This term we were approached by Naptosa who were co-ordinating a drive for victims of the cyclone Idai in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi. Parents were asked to donate clothing, blankets and non-perishable food items. As usual, our parents showed compassion and generosity and we were able to deliver a wonderful contribution, with Gift of the Givers handling distribution.

Next term we will link our outreach initiative with Mandela Day, as usual. We have agreed to be a PLEDGE School in the Children4Children outreach, of which the beneficiary is Heaven's Nest. Each school participating will be allocated items to collect and we will let you have the details of this as soon as we are notified by Children4Children.



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!

