GEOLOGY UNIT
BENEATH OUR FEET

The Middle Learning Community have been digging deep into our Geology unit “Beneath Our Feet” this term. This unit aims to provide students the ability to explain how soils, rocks and landscapes change over time and describe rocks and their features. Earlier in the term we were introduced to current scientific views about how our local beach landscapes are continuing to be formed and change. We have been investigating the rock cycle, types of rocks, how erosion is caused by water, wind, human/animal impact and what we can do to minimise the impact of erosion.

Rock types from student information reports:

KaBoom! So many Igneous rocks everywhere. Igneous rocks are made from magma. Igneous rocks make up 95% of the earth’s crust. An example of Igneous rock is Bluestone. Ethan Burnett

Wow it’s extremely hot down here. I can’t believe the pressure. Metamorphic rocks are compacted together deep beneath the earth’s surface. Heat and pressure can form different types of rock into Metamorphic rock. For example marble or slate. Lara Truong

Boom! Bang! Crash! The Sedimentary come down. Everyone is going crazy at the beach because the water, wind and weather is battering against the big rock. It is all different types of rocks formed in layers called strata forming into one big rock, Sandstone is an example. Kaleb Dhillon
Bellarine Sunset Run- The School and House Captains were amazing ambassadors!

Last Saturday evening the inaugural Bellarine Sunset Run was held. Approximately 700 runners and walkers were involved in the half marathon or the 10k events. This was our first official event for our SCHOOL captains and our HOUSE captains. The children were all placed at the finish line and presented all the competitors with their race medallions. The children all received a medallion for being a part of the event management team. They also received a free entry pass to the 2017 event.

The Sunset Run management team consistently referred to our school over the microphones throughout the event especially about the learning the children are involved in about their own health and wellbeing.

Our school was well represented with Lesley Allbutt, Lisa Gale, Gabrielle Smales and Jo Twomey from the staff participating. Our amazing parents- Claudia Augusto, Kathryn Brain, Tess Carr-Howard and Jo Pepyat gave their sandshoes a real workout too.

Our school provided a sausage sizzle at the event. Thank you to Ray Brown, Matt Corkin, Elena Dohl, Amanda O’Farrell, Laurie Porter, Paul Robertson and Kirsty Zuidema for helping with the BBQ. We really appreciated your help. The BBQ raised $412.55c which will all be donated to Bellarine Community Health to support the Mental Health programs for the youth on the Bellarine Peninsula.

Our school is very proud to be associated with this community event.
RUN to RIO

Plans are currently underway to measure out a track in the school grounds where the children can run/walk their way from Portarlington to Rio (the host city of the 2016 Olympic Games). Children and adults who are part of our school community can also participate with their own run/walk distances. Some children and grown-ups are using ‘fit bits’ (or other devices) to measure their distances. More information will be available soon.

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School Council Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

In the last newsletter we announced that we were seeking nominations for the school council elections. The timeline for the opening of nominations has been extended to this coming Monday at 4pm because the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies. Please contact the office for nomination forms. You must be able to commit to 8 meetings a year on every third Tuesday of the month starting promptly at 6.15pm.

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Protecting Children from all forms of Abuse and Neglect

Ministerial Order 870 - Commencing on August 1st 2016
Child Safe Standards-Managing the Risk of Child Abuse in Schools

The Government’s response to the Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry into the Handling of Child Abuse by Religious and other Non-Government Organisations will be driven by the VRQA-the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority and all schools.


Summary -
- We will be continuing to ensure that protecting children from abuse is part of everyday thinking and practice in our school. The ministerial order is about ensuring (and enforcing) that standards are in place for maintaining child-safe environments and the demonstration of a ‘zero tolerance’ mind set.
- The Order outlines Four key areas to start with.
  1. Information and education regarding the scope and effect of the key definitions used (child abuse and child connected work).
  2. Accountability for managing the risk of child abuse with school governing authorities- (policies, procedures and accountability mechanisms to regulate the conduct and decision making for the benefit of the students).
  3. Schools are required to take appropriate actions (as outlined by the Ministerial Order).
  4. The development of strategies to minimise or prevent the risk of child abuse.
- The school council and school community will kept up to date with the progress of Portarlington Primary School to comply with the order within the set timelines of the government.

Schools and those working in them have an absolute Duty of Care to our children. We are also bound by MANDATORY REPORTING legislation. Where, during the course of carrying out their normal duties, a school staff member forms the belief on reasonable grounds that a child is in need of protection, the staff member must make a report to Child Protection regarding this belief and the reasonable grounds for it as soon as practicable.  
(Children Youth and Families Act 2005) Primary and secondary school teachers and principals (including students in training to become teachers) are prescribed as mandatory reporters under section 182 of the CYFA.
Healthy Food Policy- Healthy Minds Learn Better

There is always media attention on schools that are trying to educate the school community about junk food. We are not the food police however we do have a responsibility to explain what we are trying to do to help our children be “the very best they can be”.

In consultation with our families, our parent Healthy Together Team and the school council, our school has taken a lead in primary prevention of disease and illness with regard to ensuring that healthy habits start early. Therefore our school culture is underpinned by the Healthy Together Framework and all of the School Council policies support positive Health and Wellbeing practices in this area.

We encourage all families to provide NUDE FOOD for their children for school. This means selecting food choices that are not ‘dressed’ in high levels of fat and sugar. Nude Food is also not dressed in ‘packaging’.

Children are only at school for about 20% of their day and our school believes that during that time the children should be consuming healthy food choices to support them to learn better and develop healthy eating habits.

Our Healthy Eating Policy is included in this newsletter.

Of particular importance is-

“to ensure that children are not sharing food” and

**Foods not allowed**: peanuts, cashews, eggs, lollies, soft drinks (includes cordial), flavoured milk.

The reason we don’t share food is because some children are not allowed to have certain unhealthy foods. Their parents are trying very hard to instil healthy habits. Also, some children have allergies/intolerances and they have adverse reactions. The chemicals, colourings and sugars in some foods affect the behaviour and learning of some children. For some children these allergies are life-threatening. Feedback from our parents who provide a healthy lunch expect the lunch to be eaten by their child, not swapped for a poor choice item which is full of additives. This is not responsible. It is positive for the child who receives the piece of fruit but it is not positive for the child who ended up with cheese and bacon balls.

Parents who are interested in joining our Healthy Together Team can contact our school office on 52592572 for more details.
HEALTHY EATING POLICY

Rationale:
- Healthy eating is fundamental to the physical and mental development and wellbeing of children. Portarlington Primary School believes they have a shared responsibility toward the community to provide education about nutrition, healthy eating habits and good food choices.
- Portarlington Primary School recognises that to develop a new habit, a good example needs to be provided. Having one day per week where Healthy Nude Food is implemented supports children and families to recognise ‘good’ food choices. It is the first step to normalising healthy eating.
- To ensure that children develop healthy eating habits which meet their nutritional requirements, Portarlington Primary School will encourage families and staff in the application of a whole school healthy eating policy which follows Australian Dietary Guidelines.
- Daily opportunities to practice healthy eating will embed the knowledge required for children to develop optimum health through good eating habits which will shape their quality of life.

Aims:
- To maximise learning potential for all students
- To increase the capacity of students and parent/guardians to make informed and better diet choices.
- To educate and encourage children, volunteers and staff to bring food to school which is consistent with a healthy eating policy.
- To provide continuity between Healthy Eating Policies of Portarlington Pre-School and Portarlington Primary School.

Implementation:
- The development of an appreciation of healthy foods and healthy eating habits will form part of our Health Promoting School strategy.
- To develop and make accessible to all children a breakfast program which provides a nutritious breakfast from an approved menu consistent with the Australian Dietary Guidelines for children
- Each class will have “Brain food” at 10am which is a piece of fruit or vegetable only.
- To discourage poor food choices at brain food, snack and lunch times and suggest alternatives.
- To develop a whole school approach to healthy eating that involves a consistent message from all areas including the classroom, breakfast club, special events and fundraising events.
- To introduce a regular weekly healthy nude-food day. Children will be encouraged to take home any packaged food brought to school on a healthy nude food day. A reminder note will be sent home to parent/guardians with any food returned.
- To provide occasional whole school breakfasts which reflect our healthy food policy.
To provide healthy lunches occasionally which reflect our healthy food policy.
Lunch orders will be available once a week if a local supplier is available.
To promote visual displays which help with good food choices for health and learning.
To educate about nutrition for learning through curriculum, the school newsletter and website.
To have a “sometimes food” day once a term which could be used as a celebration day.

**Foods not allowed:** peanuts, cashews, eggs, lollies, soft drinks, flavoured milk.
**Foods we avoid:** packaged foods including juice boxes, commercially made cakes and sweet biscuits, foods high in sugar such as donuts, chocolate bars; foods high in fat and salt - potato crisps, foods high in colour – twisties and cheesy rings.

**Home-made cooking** is encouraged as this does not contain commercial harmful additives.

**Roles:**
**Principal:**
- To ensure the school community is kept informed of the policy.
- To ensure learning programs are provided to support students’ learning regarding food and nutrition.

**Parent/guardians:**
- Support students’ learning by providing food that promotes student’s health and wellbeing
- Liaise with teachers to promote healthy eating whilst at school
- Support children to make good food choices
- Support the implementation of our healthy eating policy.

**Staff:**
- To implement the Healthy Eating Policy in all learning situations so that learning is complemented and reinforced.
- To not use food as reward in the learning environment
- To resource healthy recipes for classroom cooking.
- To model healthy eating within the school community
- To ensure children are not sharing food
- To inform the Student Wellbeing staff of any students who appear to be provided with inadequate lunches.
- To ensure that students have access to their water bottles during class lessons.

**Students:**
- Participate in all learning experiences to increase awareness of nutrition and its effect on learning and wellbeing
- Model healthy eating within the school community
- Eat foods and drink water frequently to meet Australian Dietary Guidelines
- Eat the nutritious food provided from home

**Evaluation:**
Lunch order Menu (if available) to be reviewed every year.
This policy was ratified by the School Council in **October 2013**
It will be reviewed as part of the school’s review cycle.
"please remember" that foods such as quiche, bacon and egg pie etc are not included due to our egg free policy.
WE NEED YOU!!

Dear Parents

Portarlington Primary School is currently inviting volunteers interested in joining our fundraising team. The purpose of this team is to develop and oversee fundraisers to benefit the school. We need creative people full of ideas and a passion for those we serve with a desire to get involved. Benefits of becoming a team member will mean you will make new friends, be involved in the community and assist in keeping your child’s school costs down. Please contact the school office to register your interest.

ACTIVE TRAVEL MAPS
are available from the table near our reception
School Crossing Safety

School Speed Zones are enforced from the commencement of the school year. There are speed limits in our school speed zones during specified times (8.00 - 9.30 am and 2.30 - 4.00 pm).

With the 2016 school year formally commencing, it is an opportune time for our school community to be reminded of the importance of road safety around our school. The children will be involved in road safety education and families are encouraged to also practise crossing the roads using the school crossings with their children.

Attendance – Everyday Counts - It's not ok to be away!

The Victorian Government has important measures to ensure students attend school every day and get the most out of their schooling. Children and young people who attend school regularly and complete Year 12 or equivalent have better health and employment outcomes and higher incomes throughout their lives.

The Department has released revised student attendance guidelines. Since 1 January 2014, amendments to the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 have come into effect in relation to the enforcement of compulsory school enrolment and attendance. New procedures to implement the legislation took effect on March 1st, 2014.

This new legislation means that parents have received an Infringement Notice if their child misses five full days of school in a year without a reasonable excuse. Please check your child’s 2015 December school report as it shows the days of absence that your child/ren had last year.
PRESEASON SOCCER SEASON IS ABOUT TO START AND THE BELLARINE SHARKS ARE AFTER NEW MEMBERS OF ALL AGES AND BOTH GENDERS. TEAMS RANGE FROM UNDER 5 TO SENIOR. ALL PLAYERS AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE WELCOMED INTO OUR FAMILY FRIENDLY “GOOD SPORTS CLUB”. LAST SEASON OUR SENIOR MEN WON THE DIV. 2 GRAND FINAL IN STYLE IN THE GEELONG COMPETITION. PRE-SEASON TRAINING WILL BE HELD ON THE BEACH AT COLLENDINA OPPOSITE THE SHOP AT THE END OF BONNYVALE RD. ALL PRESEASON WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY MORNINGS AS FOLLOWS: FEB. 14 AND 28TH 10.15-11, MARCH 13 AND 27TH 9.30-10.15. PLEASE REGISTER YOUR INTENTION TO PLAY ASAP WITH MURRAY ON 0417554828 SO THAT THE APPROPRIATE NUMBER OF TEAMS ARE ENTERED IN THE LOCAL COMPETITION.

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THE PORTARLINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE
PRESENTS THE
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY BAND
IN CONCERT
ON SUNDAY, 6TH MARCH 2016
COMMENCING AT 2 PM
AT PARKS HALL
NEWCOMBE STREET
PORTARLINGTON

Tickets @ $10 each are available from
Portarlington Neighbourhood House
29 Brown Street, Portarlington
Phone No.: 5259 2290
Keeping our Beautiful Children Safe in the Sun!
Hats must be worn outside commencing the 1st of September until the 1st of May each year.

The 2016 Calendar will be updated shortly.
FANCY A CUPPA? - PARENT CONNECT
Coffee (or tea or hot chocolate!) - Every Monday Morning at 9am in the Library

Our Parent Connect team has started a get-together of interested parents/carers (and some pre-schoolers who love playing with the toys). It is very informal. We have our great coffee and hot chocolate pods available (or tea if you prefer). It is a great way for our school community to get to know one another. Your children also see that you are connecting to our school in a positive way and that really helps to strengthen their sense of belonging which in turn supports them to be better learners.

Portarlington Market
Last Sunday of Every Month

Our monthly market is held at the park opposite the school and within the spacious facilities of Park Hall. The market is located on the picturesque Bellarine Peninsula overlooking the bay with views to the You Yangs mountain ranges. Inside and Outside stall holder spaces available.

Contact Details
Portarlington Primary School
100 Newcombe Street, Portarlington, Victoria, 3223.
Telephone: 52 59 25 72
Website: portps.vic.edu.au

Online Booking: trybooking
Mobile Telephone: 0408 108 869
Email: portarlingtonmarket@gmail.com

Follow Us!
Facebook: search Portarlington Market
Instagram: Portarlington Market
Twitter: @ppsmarket
Reminder - Student Supervision
Staff supervise the school yard between 8.40—9am, 11-11.30am, 1.40-2.15pm and 3.15-3.30pm. Children arriving at school before 8.40am must be booked into the before school care program, Kelly Club, no supervision is provided before this time.

Yard Supervision
Please discuss this with your child. Our school yard is always supervised. Staff wear fluorescent vests for easy identification. Staff members may also be found in the office and staff room during break times. Passive play operates (with a teacher), at lunch time in the library.

Walk to School Wednesdays
Wednesdays are Walk to School Days every week. Great to see so many active travellers already! Leave your car at one of the markers (Ann Nichol house, Wiffen Park, or either one in Newcombe St) and walk, ride, scoot or skate with the children from there.

Nude Food Lunch Boxes
Bring lunch and snacks that are not dressed in any packaging and food that is wearing less sugar, salt and fat.
Some Reminders for 2016

Second Hand uniforms:
We have a supply of second hand uniforms which are currently located in the corridor near the Indonesian room which is room 6. If you find an item which is suitable for your child, bring it to Margaret (Student Well-being) or Jo/Lisa at the office. They will help you. The stock of second hand uniforms is regularly replenished from unclaimed, un-named clothing which has been laundered. We will be buying some new racks to put the stock on and make it more accessible to you soon.
Thank you to the parents who have donated good quality uniform items which children have outgrown. We really appreciate your support.

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Absences and Late Passes:
If your child is absent from school – please phone the office before 10am to explain the absence. It is important that absences are accurately recorded on our data system.
If you are running late – you must sign your child in at the office and have Jo/Lisa enter the attendance on the computer. The child collects a Late Pass Card to take to the classroom teacher.

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Sprouts Lunch orders on Fridays:

Lunch orders are available every Friday. You will need to set up a log in at [www.sproutscanteen.com](http://www.sproutscanteen.com) and order from the Portarlington menu only.

If you had a log in last year, you need to do this again as a new system has been set up.

Payment is made online. Orders need to be lodged by 8am Friday morning but preferably the night before. Late orders will not be processed. The menu is delicious, so give it a go. Orders are delivered to the school in individual recyclable packs at 1.15pm.

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School Uniform:
The students are looking amazing in their complete uniforms. If you can’t find an item, please ask, as we will do our best to make sure that we keep them all looking part of a team.
Hair: hair that is past shoulder length is to be tied up
Nail polish other than clear is not welcome
Bike shorts are only to be worn under a skirt or dress, not as a uniform item.
Leggings (dark blue only) can be worn under shorts, dress or skirt, not worn by itself with a long T shirt.
Shoes – runners or black school shoes only
Hair ties – dark blue or red
Jewellery- only sleepers or stud ear rings. No necklaces or any kind for safety.

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Conveyance & CSEF Forms

Conveyance Allowance Application forms and Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund application forms are now available at the office. If you believe that you are eligible please contact Lisa or Jo.

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2017 Year 7 Information Evening
Tuesday, March 22, 2016 from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
Hall, Main Campus, Myers Street, Geelong

Open Day
Wednesday, March 23, 2016 with tours at:
9:00 am – 10:30 am and 1:30pm – 3:00pm
meeting in the Multipurpose Room, Main Campus, Fenwick Street, Geelong

Accelerated Learning Program Information Evening
Wednesday, March 16, 2016 from 7:00 pm
Multi-Purpose Room, Main Campus,
Fenwick Street, Geelong

For further information, contact Stuart Myers
(ALP enquiries) or Robyn Myers (general enquiries)
on 4243 0500 or matthew.flinders.girls.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au

Matthew Flinders Girls Secondary College