



# Boort District P - 12 School

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February 1<sup>st</sup> 2023

Issue 1

## VISION STATEMENT

**Our vision is to empower our students and staff to work together to become active and valued community members. We provide a safe and supportive learning environment, which fosters independent, resilient lifelong learners.**

**BDS Motto: 'Achieving Excellence Together'**

**BDS Beliefs and Values: Pursuing Excellence in all Areas**



### DIARY DATES

#### **February**

8<sup>th</sup> Yr 12 'Look after your mate'  
10<sup>th</sup> Yr 7-12 House Swimming Sports  
17<sup>th</sup> Whole School Assembly  
20<sup>th</sup> Yr 7-12 NCD Swimming Sports  
22<sup>nd</sup> Elevate Study Skills  
24<sup>th</sup> Yr F-6 House Swimming Sports

#### **March**

8<sup>th</sup> School Photos  
9<sup>th</sup> NCD Triathlon  
10<sup>th</sup> Whole School Assembly  
13<sup>th</sup> Labour Day Holiday.

### **Principal's Report**

#### Welcome Back

As the new school year has just started, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back all students, parents and families. There are several new families to join the school this year and we wish you a happy association with Boort District School. We have one new staff member: Mrs Meredith Thompson (tutor). We also welcome back our tutor –Mrs Jenny Ritchie.

#### Student start to the Year

Our staggered start for students has worked well with the return of our senior students on Monday and our Year 4-10 students on Tuesday. The F-4 staff have been busy running the English Online interviews and talking to parents. We welcomed back our Year F-4 students today. Foundation students will not be at school on

Wednesdays for the next four weeks. They will start their first full week on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March.

#### Xuno

All Xuno welcome emails have been sent to our new families. If you have not received one or if you need me to resend a Xuno welcome, please ring the Office and leave your details; I will get on to it as soon as I can.

We use Xuno as our main communication and reporting tool, so I am very happy to meet with people and run through how to use the system. If you want to meet to do this, again, ring the Office and I will contact you to set up a time.

All teachers are available to be contacted through Xuno.

#### Free Education?

It is often stated that education is free and questions then are asked about why families pay for anything at school. The fact is that the 'free' part of education is the tuition or teaching of all students but not all the resources we use in class. Essential items are paid for by families and provide items for everyday use as well as maintenance for computers (lower Primary area), diaries, access to online programmes and consumable materials in all classes. Payment of these items supports us to provide everything a student needs in a classroom. Optional items like excursions, camps and music lessons are paid for separately as they do not form part of our essential items list. I hope that this will explain why education is 'free' but not really 'free'.

Lee-Anne Sherwell

Principal

**Principal's Availability Next Week**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
At School	At School	At School	At School	At School

**Mosquitoes**

Last week we had the outside areas of the school sprayed to reduce mosquito issues. We also have some mosquito repellent at school available for use by staff and students. However, if you would like to provide repellent for your child or apply repellent before they come to school, this may help to prevent any potential mosquito-borne infections. The Department of Education have issued the following message:

**Staying safe from mosquitoes**

Recent wet and warm weather has increased mosquito breeding. Mosquitoes can carry diseases that may be passed on to people through mosquito bites. A range of mosquito-borne diseases have recently been detected in mosquitoes in northern Victoria. Mosquito-borne diseases can cause serious illness, including infections of the brain, with children particularly at risk.

The best way to prevent mosquito-borne diseases is to avoid mosquito bites.

In line with community health advice, families can protect against mosquito bites by:

- using insect repellent that contains picaridin or DEET on all exposed skin if outdoors when mosquitoes are observed, from October to March
- wearing long, loose-fitting clothing outdoors if possible if mosquitoes are around and covering exposed skin as much as possible. Summer school uniforms, including polos and shorts, can continue to be worn, but students should use insect repellent on exposed skin if mosquitoes are active
- limiting outdoor activity when mosquitoes are active.

Further information

- Better Health Channel information about preventing mosquito-borne diseases.

**Irrigation works**

Starting last October/November, we have had a company at school replacing old watering pipes and installing sprinklers around the school. They have finally finished all the installation and our irrigation system is working. They still have to come back and just do some finishing touches. The following photos show some of the work done. Thanks to The Sprinkler Man for all the hard work.



Trenching for the pipes as it was done and the finished result. We are now waiting for the grass to grow over the pipelines.

**BPay Payments**

It is pleasing that we are receiving BPay payments from families. Please return the forms sent out at the end of last year, if no forms are returned remaining credit will be allocated to a magazine and Parents' Club.

### **Buildings and grounds Committee meeting**

There will be a meeting of the Buildings and grounds committee on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February in Room 21 at 5.30pm. If anyone would like to join us, you are welcome to do so. We will review the irrigation project and look at further works for 2023.

### **Farewell to Year 12 2022 class**

Presentation night gave us a final opportunity to wish the 2022 Year 12 class farewell and best wishes. It was great to see them there, relaxed and ready to move onto work or tertiary studies in 2023. They were presented to the school community and received their VCE/VCAL certificates, a portrait of the class plate donated by Parents' Club and a school pen.



### **Year 7 to 9 Mathematics – SQUIZYA Homework Program**

Students from Year 7 to Year 9 will be doing their mathematics homework on the sQuizya website. This is the interactive version of the Maths Mate homework program the school has used for many years.

The current Year 7 group, new to the online sQuizya site, will have received an email via their school email account giving them their passwords to allow them to do this.

Weekly homework tasks will be added by staff and results communicated through Xuno reporting.

There are eight homework tasks per term and at times extra homework may be set on class work being covered.

### **Due dates for each level:**

**Year 7 homework will be due by 9:00am on Monday each week.**

**Year 8 and 9 homework will be due on Tuesday by 8:30am each week.**

Students in Year 7 will be completing the first of these during class time to help them learn how to navigate the site. Their first independent task is due on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February.

The SQUIZYA site also gives students and staff access to a variety of skill building extras.

If you would like to see your child's results in more detail, you can go to the following website: <https://www.squizya.com/user/login> and use your child's login details to access their results.



If any family has internet issues that will impact on their child completing homework online please contact me at school to discuss options.

Noemi Dussin

Mathematics Coordinator

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Boort Netball Club.

Boort Netball Club is seeking expressions of interest for all junior grades. Under 14's (born 2009 - 2012) and Under 17's (born 2008 - 2006) who would like to play netball this season, please put forward an expression of interest to [boortnc@gmail.com](mailto:boortnc@gmail.com) by Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February, so the committee and coaches can get an indication of numbers for each grade and make decisions on the coming season.

Any enquiries, please contact President – Roxy Train 0423 383 264



**YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN**

**NOLEN'S PARK**

**PARKRUN**

**BREAKFAST**

**FREE**

**When:**  
SATURDAY FEB 11TH AT 8AM

**Where:**  
Starting at Nolen's Park, Boort near the exercise equipment

**What:**  
JOIN US FOR A HEALTHY BREAKFAST AFTER PARKRUN

It's healthy lunchbox week, 1 of 3 lunchboxes to be won for children and young people.

**PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY**

**NOCH**

Boort District Health

Healthy LODDON CAMPASPE

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

FIND US ON FACEBOOK @nolensparkparkrun  
OR ONLINE [www.parkrun.com.au/nolenspark/](http://www.parkrun.com.au/nolenspark/)

