



MALVERN PRIMARY SCHOOL

17 Toorong Road, Malvern : 9571 6281

Principal : Mr Richard Bennetts

Assistant Principals: Mrs Dorothy Hayes

: Mrs Judy Carter

Business Manager : Mrs Valerie Brown



An Internationally Accredited School

Newsletter

No 4 25th February 2009

Website: www.malvernps.vic.edu.au

E-mail address : malvern.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au





Mission Statement

Malvern Primary School will provide an education that enables each student to achieve their full potential within a safe and caring environment.

Calendar



Sunday 1st March Family Fiesta – Penpraze Park 5-7pm

February		Friday 13 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grade 4 Water Safety Life Saving Program Commences Grade 6 Camp returns
Wednesday 25 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Council Elections – Notice of Meeting and Call for Nominations. Nomination forms available from the office from this date. 	Monday 16 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents' Association Meeting 9:00am
Thursday 26 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bushfire Relief Walkathon - am Parent Teacher Meetings 4:00pm – 6:00pm Grades 1 – 6 Penpraze Park Committee of Management Annual General Meeting – Staffroom – 6:30pm 	Wednesday 18 th 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ballot Closes for School Council Elections Building and Grounds Sub – Committee Meeting 7:30pm Education Sub-Committee Meeting – 7:30pm
Friday 27 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District Swimming Sports – am 2009 School Contributions to have been paid 	Friday 20 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finance Sub-Committee Meeting 8:30am Grade 4 Life Saving Program Grade 1 Social Function 8:00pm Racecourse Hotel
March		Sunday 22 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working Bee – Grade 5
Sunday 1 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2009 Family Fiesta Penpraze Park 5:00– 7:00pm 	Monday 23 rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Council Meeting 7:30pm
Monday 2 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preps Commence full days at school Grade 4 Camp Arrabri Lodge – Postponed to May 11, 12 and 13 2009 Spring Fair Meeting – Staffroom – 7:30pm 	Friday 27 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grade 4 Life Saving Program 
Wednesday 4 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nominations for School Council Close 4pm 	Monday 30 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Council Election Meeting 7:00pm Annual Reporting Meeting 7:30pm
Thursday 5 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Tour 9:30am Parent Teacher Meetings for Grades 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. 4:00pm – 6:00pm 	April	
Tuesday 10 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zone Swimming Sports Grade 5 Camp – Postponed to May 26th Grade 6 Camp Departs – Lakewood Park  	Wednesday 1 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easter Pageant – St John's Church - 2:30pm 
		Friday 3 rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grade 4 Surf Life Saving End of Term 1 – 2:30pm Dismissal
		Monday 20 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Term 2 Commences

Principal's Report

Grade 6 Working Bee

Many thanks to the considerable number of Grade 6 parents who attended the working bee on Sunday morning. The school grounds were looking fantastic on Monday morning and your hard work is very much appreciated. Special thanks to Paul Collier and Henry Rubinstein for their work as coordinators and the class coordinators for organising morning tea.

Swimming Sports

Our Swimming and Diving Team will compete in the Caulfield District School Sports Association Swimming Sports at the Caulfield Swimming Pool on Friday morning. Best of luck to all members of the team as they attempt to win the sports for the twenty second consecutive year.

Ice Breaker

Thank you to everyone who attended and enjoyed the Ice Breaker on Friday evening. Many thanks to P.A. members, Mary Meysztowicz, Helen Henzell, Julie Mills, Kate Hocking, Sally Voukelatos, Julie Hetherington, Liz Carter-Weir, Lynne Carson, Sally Wilson and the Batsilas Family for organising and hosting a very special event.

Penpraze Park Committee of Management Annual General Meeting

Most of the Malvern Primary School playground comprises Penpraze Park of which we have exclusive use from 8:30am – 4:30pm. The park is managed by a committee of management. This body will hold its AGM and first committee meeting for 2009 in the staffroom at 6:30pm tomorrow evening. Parents and local residents are very welcome to attend.

Badge Presentation

Students elected to leadership positions will have their badges presented by the School Council President, Paul Collier, at 2:45pm on Friday afternoon. It looks like it is going to be a very hot afternoon but at the moment the presentation is going ahead as planned.

Junior School Councillors

Every class from Grade 3 to 6 has elected its Junior School councillors for 2009. Congratulations to all the students whose names appear below. I am sure you will represent your classes very well.

Junior Council Representatives - 2009

GRADE	NAMES
3P	Annabelle Motteram Alastair Richards and Gjermund Almas (for Term 1 only)
3N	Olivia Mond Maximillian Mackie
3PR	Alice Deighton Andrew Blaher
3C	Sarah Wilson Louis Power
4M	Milly Hines Ben Rozen
4G	Kelsey Higgins Hamish Mcllroy
4S	Ella Woodman Luke Kemelfield
4B	Olivia Hayne Alex Chambers
5C	Olivia Spanos Archie Roberts
5H	Bella Armstrong Dimitri Raptis
5D	Georgie Johns Jordan Siamoa
6R	Chloe Betts Max Simpson
6A	Annika Wagar Jamie Westaway
6F	Raquel Tomaino Oscar Langdon
6P	Natasha Spanos Christopher Fahlbusch

Choir Captains

Congratulations to Laura Robinson and Harrison Nicholls who have been elected Choir Captains for 2009. Congratulations also to Jessica Cranage, Charlotte Nicholls and Dominic Shrimpton who will be choir Vice Captains.

Band Captains

Matt Collier and Olivia Gregson will be our Band Captains for 2009. Band Vice Captains are Emily Palmer and James Gordon. Band members are reminded that practice begins at 8:00am tomorrow morning in the Junior Hall. The band's first goal, to prepare for the Melbourne Bands Competition to be held in May.

Walkathon

The Malvern Primary Walkathon to aid State Schools Relief and the Bushfire Appeal will take place tomorrow morning. Please encourage the children to get as many sponsors as possible and return money as soon as possible. Donations may be made via the My Cause site. Go to the My Cause site, search for the Malvern Primary School Walkathon and follow the instructions.

Family Fiesta

All school families are invited to attend the annual Family Fiesta in the park area between 5:00pm – 7:00pm this Sunday afternoon. Please bring a picnic, some drinks, rugs or chairs and join other families in celebrating the start of the 2009 school year. There will be some activities to aid fundraising for the Bushfire Appeal. I would prefer to not see children involved in water wasting games during the fiesta as has sometimes been the case in past years. Parents please monitor this.

School Council

School council held its first meeting for 2009 on Monday evening. Main items of business were as follows:

- Discussion of the traffic situation and parking problems in the streets near the school, Victoria Road North in particular. The school will work with the Stonnington Council Safety Officer to address these issues but there will not, be any changes to the current regulations in the short term. Parents are reminded to obey parking regulations and be respectful of the school's neighbours. Children should walk to school whenever possible
- Discussion of the Federal Government's Primary Schools for the Twenty-first Century. A concept plan to include new music and language arts teaching spaces and several new, permanent classrooms was put forward.
- Arrangements for the Grade 6 camp were approved.
- The 2009 Annual Implementation Plan was approved.
- The Statements of Receipts and Payments for December and January were approved.
- The 2009 School budget was discussed and approved.
- A revised Spelling Policy was ratified. A copy is included in today's newsletter.
- Changes to school camp arrangements were discussed and approved.
- Arrangements for Education Forums in 2009 were agreed.

School Council Elections

Parents are reminded that as per last week's newsletter, nominations for school council open today and close at 4:00pm on Wednesday 4th March. Nomination forms are available from the school office.

Parent Teacher Meetings

Parent Teacher meetings will be conducted between 4:00pm and 6:00pm on Thursday 26th February and Thursday 5th March. Meeting times have been sent home by the teachers. Please be punctual. We ask all parents to remember to bring the information sheets to the interview if they have not already been returned.

2009 Spring Fair

The first Spring Fair Planning meeting for this year will be held in the staffroom at 7:30pm next Monday evening. We look forward to seeing a large and enthusiastic crowd in attendance.

School Tours

School Tours for 2009 commence at 9:30am on Thursday 5th March. If you know of anyone interested in seeing around our fantastic school please let them know.

*Richard Bennetts,
Principal*

House Points for week ending 20th February 2009

1 st	Gold	House	387
2 nd	Green	House	220
3 rd	Blue	House	211
4 th	Red	House	169



Malvern Netball Club

Grade 3's

Waverley District Netball Association runs a Netta program for Grade 3 children who are interested in netball. Netta is a modified skill and development program and Malvern Netball Club encourages all Grade 3 children who would like to play in Grade 4 to attend. Winter Netta starts Saturday 14th March at Ashwood Netball Courts, Cassinia Avenue, Ashwood. Registration is held on this day and also training commences. Registration forms will be distributed to any interested Grade 3's this week. The session time is still to be confirmed. Netta is not compulsory for team selection in Grade 4.

Grade 4's

Just a reminder that we will be holding two more pre-season training sessions for any interested Grade 4's on Wednesday 25th February and 4th March. These sessions are run by Grade 6 netballers with adult supervision. They are held at lunchtime (1:15-1:45) in the Rec. Centre. If you have any queries please contact Sally Potter 0407 554 704

APOLOGIES

School and House Captains Item in last week's newsletter.

We apologise to Zac Tsigaras for the incorrect spelling of his name as one of the Blue House Captains. We hope Zac and all house captains and vice captains enjoy their year.

We also apologise to Rosie Walshe for incorrectly spelling her name. We congratulate Rosie and Lachlan Christie on being selected as school captains for 2009 and wish them well with their responsible leadership positions.

The Newsletter Team

GREEN SPEAK

A big, resounding "WELL DONE" to all the parents and students who enthusiastically embraced the Nude Food challenge last week. The participation rate was spectacular - there were so many winners in every classroom!!!! It is so wonderful to see our school community unite for the good of our environment. Let's make sure that we don't lose momentum after this fantastic effort - let's make sure our food is nude every day of the year!!!!

Congratulations to the Nude Food Raffle winners Ella Torossi and Johanne Almas & a big THANK YOU to Fred Atkinson for organising the Nude Food Challenge.

Some Nude food tips:

- Bulk is best - As a general rule, buying bulk or larger packets and then making your own smaller version with plastic containers greatly reduces packaging waste. Food ideas where this works well are dried fruit, tinned fruit, yoghurt, cheese and crackers, crunchy cereal snacks, chips/twisties etc.
- Grease paper – As an alternative to cling wrap, grease paper is extremely hardy. Wrap by twisting it at both ends to ensure tightness.
- Bake - Slices of healthy cakes and various muffins are great snacks. Bake up a storm on the weekend and then freeze in a plastic container or aluminium foil.



Stay tuned - in the next few weeks we will be introducing some fundraising ideas which will make it easier to send our children to school with nude food every day.

If you have suggestions or ideas regarding "nude food" please share them with us at mpgreenteam@gmail.com.

Family Fiesta BBQ Roster

Thank you very much for offering to help 'turn the sausages' on Sunday 1st at the Family Fiesta – it is greatly appreciated.

The time you have been allocated is set out below.

Time	Who	Oldest child	Contact No.
4.30-5.00	Andrew Walker	Isobel Walker 2H	0411 251048
	Rosa Ragusa	Jake Ragusa 3C	0421 223253
	Tim Roberts	Archie Roberts 5C	0417 505548
	Jackie Schroeder	Patrick 4M	04173 50231
5.00-5.30	Karitlson Tusan	Sebastian 1B	0408 136996
	Sam Russell	Ed Russell 6R	0412 051001
	Lynette Greenshields	Kyle 4G	0413 387170
5.30-6.00	Gordon D'Rosario	Hana 1B	0423 299136
	Jamie Potter	Zoe Potter 6F	0407 554704
	Simon Hetherington	Grace Hetherington Prep Q	0408 100694
6.00-.6.30	Hocking	Charlie 3PO	9576 0640
	Sandy Nadenbousch	Sophia 5D	0418 738876
	Dino Bruni	Sabrina Bruni 3PO	0409 350684
	Andrew Walker	Isobel Walker 2H	0411 251048

**Please let Andrew Walker on 0411 251 048 know of any changes.

Foundations for Achievement, Happiness, and Relationships What Every Student Should Know and Be Able to Do. The Foundation of Getting Along.

- This term the students will be learning about the **Foundation of Getting Along**. The following actions can help students initiate friendships with others.
- Invite someone new to do something with you after school.
- Tell your best friend something nice about your new friend while your friend is present.
- Smile and say hello every day this week to a new friend.
- Offer to help a new friend with a homework assignment.
- Tell a new friend something you like about them. Pay a compliment to a different person each day this week.
- Notice a time when your friend is doing something well. Tell the person they are doing a good job.
- Invite your best friend to do something with your new friend at recess.
- Find out three things you did not previously know about your new friend.



Barb Byrt and Chris De Lange

Advertisements

The Monday Series Presents

Dr Helen McGrath

Bully me no more....

Every person has the right to feel safe at school and to learn without fear of harassment.

Bullying needs to be dealt with wherever it occurs within the school, outside the school or within the home. Problems resulting from bullying can have far reaching effects on all involved, including the victims, the bullies, the bystanders and other family members.

Dr Helen McGrath will address these issues and offer effective ways of addressing the bullying in the wider community.

The Monday Series is a forum for all parents at Wesley College, offering information and discussion sessions on topics of current interest. Family members and friends are welcome to attend.

RSVP: eryn.tooey@wesleycollege.net Tel: 8102 6594



Part-Time Nanny Available

I am a 20 year old female currently studying a Bachelor of Arts Media and Communication. I am looking for a nannying job for Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday all day. Monday I am available from 2:00pm onwards and Thursday 12:00pm onwards. I have had six years experience and have looked after children as young as 6 months, so I am very confident. I am also available for evening babysitting and weekend care. I love working with children and provide a caring, friendly and fun environment. I am also happy to help with ironing, washing, cooking, and anything else you need. \$20.00 p/h. Please don't hesitate to email me for further information or references. Romy Baker romy_baker@hotmail.com 0413 180171

Melbourne Grammar School

"Discover Wadhurst" Open Afternoon for boys in Year 5 and 6

Tuesday 31st March 2009 1:45pm – 3:30pm for future students and their families.

The transition from primary to secondary schooling is a vital step in the educational journey and at Melbourne Grammar School we have a dedicated Year 7 and 8 campus Wadhurst.

This is a wonderful opportunity for prospective parents and students to see the school in action, meet current students and staff, tour the school and ask any questions.

The "Discover Wadhurst" day is a prime opportunity for families to see the school together and experience the school at work

Korowa K-Carnival Friday 27th February

Twilight fair and Market 3:00pm-9:00pm

Korowa Anglican Girls School
Ranfurlie Crescent, Glen Iris 3146

Rides. Market Stalls. Activities. Live Entertainment. Wine and Dine.



Local Maths and Physics Tutor Available

\$25.00 per hour

For Year 10 Maths, Year 11 and 12 Maths Methods, Specialist Maths and Physics.

For all enquiries please call Oliver Chambers on 9569-2120 or 0448 916 639

Wanted House Cleaner

If you have a good cleaner who would like more work in the area, please pass on my contact details.
Sharon 0407 312 200

Montreux is on the move

We are moving to: 545 High Street Prahran 9510 9100. Next to Spoonful –cnr Chatsworth Road
New store opening Friday 27th February
Come in and see all our fabulous new stock.

If anyone finds Harry Costello's longboard

(a longer than usual) skateboard which was taken from outside the Malvern Primary Gym last Wednesday night please call 0433 085 022.

Found

A wooden bat (brand new) near the nets in the playground in January. Please call 0412 980 750 for identification and return.

Malvern Memorial Kindergarten

currently have a vacancy within their 4 year old program. Please contact Sue Mihailovic on 8481-1117 for further information.

Piano For Sale - Yamaha Upright

Model C113 - Black, mirror gloss

2 yo - As new: used sparingly!

Retails \$5K; Sell \$3,500

Call Denis 9509 3660/0411 017 027.



For Sale

1 x Violin Made in Czechoslovakia

¼ size Stradivarius Ex. Cond. \$340.00 Neg

1 x Trevor James flute TJ 10X 66362

Ex. Cond. \$575.00 Neg

1 x Wertheim Upright Piano Concert Pitch

Ex. Cond. \$1,900.00 Neg

Please call Kerrie 9568 8930



General Yoga Classes:

Monday & Wednesday mornings 9:30-11:00am,

Monday evenings 8:00-9:30pm

Gentle Yoga: Thursday mornings 10:00-11:30am

Starting after Easter holidays – Mother & Bub

Yoga & Beginner Yoga classes (To express

interest and make bookings, contact Erue

0403267000

Casual rate is \$18/Yoga Pass-\$150 for 10

classes or \$80 for 5 classes anytime

Classes @ Academy of Dance and Movement –

4 Clarence St, East Malvern.



Malvern Primary School

SPELLING POLICY

RATIONALE:

The major purpose of learning to spell proficiently is to enable the writer to convey his/her meaning as clearly as possible, and to enable the reader to read easily and understand what is written.

The overall aim of a spelling program should be for students to:

- understand that the primary purpose for learning about spelling is so that others can read their writing
- know that their writing is valued regardless of the developmental stage of their spelling
- develop an interest in words and want to become good spellers
- learn how to apply spelling strategies to help them spell unfamiliar words
- learn to spell high frequency words correctly and automatically
- know how to use a variety of resources to help with spelling

GUIDELINES:

Spelling programs best support students when teachers:

- provide correct models of language so that students have a clear understanding of what they are working towards
- provide varied and authentic writing experiences so that there is a purpose for learning about the written language
- know the key understandings and skills required by successful spellers
- are aware of the spelling skills and knowledge students demonstrate in their writing and spelling
- explicitly teach the principles and patterns of spelling- visual, phonological, morphemic and etymological knowledge
- understand that spelling is a developmental process with each stage reflecting the student's current knowledge about speech sounds (phonemes), the relationship of these sounds to letters and letter strings (graphophonic knowledge), and the units of meaning within words (morphemes),
- value students' approximations as they move through the developmental stages on their way to becoming conventional spellers
- model conventional spelling through class writing activities
- encourage an interest in words and word origins (etymology)
- assist students to form generalisations about the regular nature of the English orthography
- view spelling as a problem-solving activity where students are encouraged to reflect on, articulate and take responsibility for what they have learnt and apply this knowledge to new situations
- understand that reading provides models of spelling

IMPLEMENTATION:

The needs of students are best met when teachers, within the context of daily writing experiences, provide systematic, structured learning that leads to a developing knowledge of the spelling system and of strategies to use when writing unfamiliar words.

Teachers need to provide:

- opportunity within the context of the writing program for the students to practise their spelling skills
- a sequential and structured approach based on their knowledge of the key understandings and skills required by proficient spellers
- regular and explicit teaching appropriate to the level of student's development taking into account what they already know
- a consistent whole-school approach based on the development of skills and knowledge in the four areas of the spelling system- phonological, morphemic, visual and etymological knowledge
- a strong emphasis in the early years on phonemic awareness (an essential prerequisite for spelling development)
- a supportive environment where students understand that their writing is valued regardless of the stage of development
-

RESOURCES:

As spelling is part of the English VELs (Victorian Essential Learning Standards), resources for the spelling program are included in the English budget. The English VELs committee is responsible each year for formulating a budget for the coming year based on the projected needs of the English program.

EVALUATION:

The aim of assessment is to promote and support successful learning and teaching. Systematic observation, together with a range of additional evidence from classroom activities should provide an overview of each student's strengths and weaknesses. Ongoing and careful monitoring and evaluation will ensure that every student benefits from the teaching and learning that takes place.

Student Progress:

Evaluation of student progress will include a balance of both objective and subjective measures which include:

- Anecdotal information obtained from teacher observation
- South Australian Spelling Test results (grades 2-6) -recorded in individual student cumulative files at the end of each year
- ICAS English Test results (grade 3-6)
- ICAS Spelling Test results (grade 3-6)
- Measuring progress against VELs English Standards
- Work samples
- Teacher designed assessment tasks
- Student self-assessment
- Other diagnostic and standardised tests where appropriate
- Early Years Observation Survey tasks as appropriate (dictation and vocabulary tasks)

Program Evaluation:

Mid-year and end of year teacher reports.

Schedule 4 Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Malvern Primary School.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by **4 pm on Wednesday 4th March 2009**.

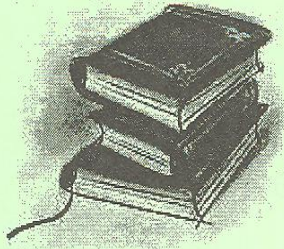
The ballot will close at 4 pm on Wednesday 18th March 2009.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows –

Membership category	Term of office	Number of positions
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2009 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2011.	4
DEECD employee member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2009 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2011	2

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

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Richards Bennetts
Principal



Junior Times

HOUSE CAPTAINS

RED

C. Georgia Paine
V. Steph Aitken
C. Ben Slack
V. Lachie Hines

GOLD

C. Mimi Hoyle
V. Bella Happell
C. Jono Cohen
V. Ned Baxter

GREEN

C. Lucy Hammon
V. Sachi Skurnik
C. Zac Tsigaras
V. Marcus Burke

BLUE

C. Sammy Valk
V. Sophia Georgakis
C. Freddie Young
V. Nick Symon

School Captains

Rosie Walshe

Lachlan Christie

Band Captains

C. Olivia Gregson

C. Matt Collier

V. Emily Palmer

V. James Gordon

Banana Bread

Preparation Time: 15 mins

Cooking Time: 50mins

Makes 1 loaf

Ingredients:

Melted butter, to grease

265g (1 and 3/4 cups) self-raising flour

40g (1/4 cup) plain flour

1 tsp ground cinnamon

140g (2/3 cup, firmly packed) brown sugar

125ml (1/2 cup) skim milk

2 eggs, lightly whisked

50g butter, melted, cooled

2 overripe medium bananas, mashed

Preheat oven to 180°C.

Brush an 11 x 21cm (base measurement) loaf pan with melted dairy spread to lightly grease. Line the base and 2 opposite sides with non-stick baking paper, allowing it to overhang.

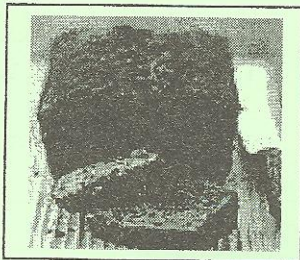
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Sift the combined flours and cinnamon into a large bowl. Stir in the sugar and make a well in the centre. Place the milk, eggs, melted butter and banana in a medium bowl, and stir until well combined. Spoon the mixture into the prepared pan and smooth the surface.

Bake in preheated oven for 45-50 minutes or until a skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean. Remove from oven and set aside in the pan for 5 minutes. Turn onto a wire rack to cool completely. Cut into slices to serve.

ENJOY!



Congratulations to the winners of the nude food raffle.

Could everyone please try to make an effort to bring nude food to help save our environment. Remember to always pick up your rubbish.



The year sixes are involved in a writing competition. It has been set up by a school in Turkey. Its topic is "I want to live". Good luck to all students.

Top 5 Movies to see.

- The Tale of Despereaux.
- Pink panther 2.
- Ice Age 3.
- Watchmen.
- Night at the museum 2.



Colour in Pooh Bear and you could win a prize. Colour him in then cut him out and write your name and grade on the back of the sheet.

Good Luck!



Curriculum Overview

The Curriculum

The curriculum, called The Peace Pack, is based on the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh, the founder of the Bahá'í Faith. Bahá'u'lláh's teachings centre on unity and the building blocks for world peace. The teachers, who are trained volunteers and registered with the Department of Education, use 'hands-on' activities like craft, drama and music to teach the curriculum.

The Development of Character

One of the main purposes of Bahá'í education is to help students grow spiritually. This largely means the development of good qualities or virtues. Virtues such as kindness, honesty, love and courtesy, which are the building blocks of character, are explored in depth. Bahá'ís believe that every child is a storehouse of virtues waiting to be developed. By noticing when a child is practising a virtue, and by encouraging a child to practise the virtue, we support the child in their spiritual development. The development of spiritual qualities, or virtues, in individuals is the foundation of a peaceful world.

The Unity of Faiths

Another purpose of Bahá'í education is to foster in students the understanding of the unity of different faiths. The students learn that the world's faiths are like chapters of one book – the title is different but the story continues. In addition to the principles of the Bahá'í Faith, major faiths of the world, such as indigenous spirituality, Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, Judaism, and Islam are briefly covered and students learn about them from a Bahá'í perspective. The teaching of virtues is like a golden thread of commonality that runs through them all.

A Peaceful World

In addition, the students explore the universal principles taught by Bahá'u'lláh that lay the foundation for a peaceful world. Some of these are: that we are all one human family, no matter our colour, race, education, or nationality; promoting unity and valuing diversity; the equality of women and men; the need for the elimination of all forms of prejudice; caring for our environment and the skills of peaceful problem solving through consultation.

Inner Peace

The students learn that peace in the world begins with inner peace and that prayer, meditation and service to humanity will help them along this path.

Independent Thinking

One of the fundamental principles of Bahá'í education is to facilitate the development of children's capacity to think, independently and objectively, and actively seek truth by this means. Thus, Bahá'í education does not seek to convert or indoctrinate. Students are encouraged to question and explore.

Further Information

An information folder about Bahá'í Education Classes is available at the school office. For further information contact:

Bahá'í Centre of Learning for Victoria
Contact 03 9500 8843 or by email
education@vic.bahai.org.au. For information on
the Bahá'í Faith visit www.bahai.org.au.

All students need written permission from their parents or guardian to attend Bahá'í Education Classes. Permission slips need to be returned by: 1 / 3 / 09 (Date)

Permission Slip

I, [Parent or Guardian's Name]: give permission
for my child [Student's Name]: of Grade:
to attend Bahá'í Education Classes.

Contact details (e-mail and / or phone number) would be very useful
in the event that the Baha'i Class teacher needs to make contact
(privacy details would be respected).

If willing to provide:

e-mail address: _____

Phone number: _____

Signature
[Parent or Guardian]

.....
Date: / /