

AGM – 21st March 2018

Principal's Report for 2017

The beginning of the 2017 school year saw Belle Vue commence with an enrolment of 170 maintaining 8 classrooms from the previous school year.

2017 proved to be a big year for Belle Vue Primary School.

The 5/6 students began their school year on an adventure of sorts – where they were housed in rooms other than their own!

Rain damage during the 2016/2017 school holidays resulted in the carpet being replaced in 5/6G, 5/6R, Italian Room and corridor of admin building (outside of budget). The school financed replacement carpet in front of the office and staff room. (The staff room carpet was replaced with the carpet from the LOTE Room - which was relatively new and had no water damage). The roof of the Administration Building was cleaned/cleared and painted with an anti-rust material.

After years of lodging complaints regarding the sewerage system – and of course another torrential down pour into the Admin Building – (after the new carpets had been laid) and flooding and damage to the bulkhead in the BER (Junior Building), the DET finally approved for works to begin regarding an upgrade of sewerage line and roof works. In amongst that we also got approval to refurbish the student toilets, and breezeway – including the ceiling in the back of the LOTE room.

Term 2 was when the majority of the work took place:

- The sewerage works began at the bottom of the oval in the junior playground progressing all the way through to outside the Hall. The students lost the use of part of the junior playground and we also lost entry through the main gate.
- The student toilets were also given a long overdue makeover – with a complete refurbishment.
- Roof – Admin and BER: Due to the ongoing rains and continued water damage, the roof of the Admin building was given a different pitch allowing for over flow. Roof flashing on BER has been addressed and the bulkhead in the BER outside 3/4W was reinstated due to water damage.

In term 3 the Library guttering and brick façade – completely reinstated. Again – this work was all completed outside of budget.

**Ceiling in student toilets, breezeway, office in back of LOTE Room and the glue keeping the bricks together on the Library all contained asbestos. All have been removed according to regulation.*

** Term 2, when the majority of the sewerage works were undertaken, meant that we were not able to the toilets. Portaloos were installed on the oval (for students and teachers...it was a very fun time!)*

Term 2 also saw the installation of the Synthetic Surface (Soccer Pitch and Running Track). The 2012 Conditions Assessment Report Funding of \$27,000.00 allowed this work to be financed. The top playground was listed in the priority areas – so we were able to put this money, along with the funds raised by the BABBA night in 2016, additional PFA fundraising money and JSC money towards the installation of the synthetic surface.

While maintenance works and facilities upgrades were, time consuming – the teachers in the classrooms were carrying out the real work. Because of this work, Belle Vue continues to be recognised as a high performing school as evidenced by the Victorian Curriculum data and NAPLAN results for 2017 – especially when looking at relative growth compared to like schools. Belle Vue is a highly effective learning community providing challenging and varied learning opportunities. It is our goal that individual talents, interests and skills are identified, nurtured and developed so that all students achieve success, engendering a high sense of self confidence and a love of learning.

(Please see Annual Report 2017 for an overview of data sets)

Information and communication technology is successfully integrated into learning programs at all year levels. Each classroom is equipped with an interactive whiteboard and

has access to a bank of lap top computers (a new bank has been purchased with funds raised by the PFA at the Casino Royale Night in August). Our students have access to a variety of challenging educational software programs and learning support equipment (e.g. multimedia projectors, digital cameras, flip cameras, ipads). Ric Zalewski, ICT technician, began working with the Grade 5/6 students on Robotics and Coding. This proved to be highly successful and a Digital Technologies Program will be implemented across the school in 2018.

While catering for all ability levels and learning styles, the focus has been on students achieving the best possible learning outcomes in Literacy and Numeracy. Our integrated units of work and our capacity to provide high quality specialist programs have provided every child with the opportunity to experience success. A number of support programs have also been provided for those students who present in our weaker cohort in Reading and Numeracy.

All students had the opportunity to participate in the Italian, Physical Education, Visual and Performing Arts Programs. Students had the opportunity to celebrate Multicultural Day and participate in house events - cross-country, athletics and swimming. All students contributed to the annual Art Exhibition and were a part of the highly regarded mid -year Performance held at the Karralyka Theatre in Ringwood. A large number of students participated in private instrumental lessons – run by Mr Andrew Robinson and Janet Reynolds. Students also had the opportunity to participate in junior and senior choirs. These students performed at our Friday afternoon Performance Assemblies, at Bulleen Plaza, local kindergartens and at the Market Night held in December.

All schools within the Network are keen to identify and improve quality of student learning and quality of teaching practice. It is a pleasure to share with other Network colleagues the current learning and teaching practices; and the collaborative team structures which occur at Belle Vue on a daily basis. As part of the FISO (Framework for Improving Student Outcomes) initiative, we formed a Community of Practice with 4 other schools within and across our network – Birralee Primary, Deepdene Primary, Kew Primary and Beverley Hills Primary – as each of these schools had a focus on Writing in their Annual Implementation Plans (AIP). The five schools worked collectively on sharing best practice as a whole school and in levels; writing moderation activities and effectively analysing the writing data according to the Victorian curriculum; and putting together work samples of what writing looks like at each level as a reference for all schools to use.

As part of professional development all teaching staff are provided with the opportunity to enhance reflective practices and extend peer learning opportunities. Our teachers regularly undertake internal and external professional development; visit other classrooms; and also visit other schools as part of their professional learning and growth. Staff professional development during 2017 focussed on personalising learning (particularly in relation to social and emotional learning) and further developing teacher capacity, particularly in the area of teaching Writing and Peer Observation/Reflective Teaching Practices.

Staff weekly professional learning workshops saw them participating in:

- School Strategic Plan 2017 – 2020 development
- Annual Implementation Plan Development (AIP) including target setting
- Lisa McInnes Smith – professional learning workshop on Building Trust and Collective Responsibility (shared between Balwyn North, Deepdene and Belle Vue Primary)
- Kaye Fletcher (ACEP)– worked with individual levels as well as whole staff on the Peer Observation Process over two terms
- Marg Milne – You Can Do It Professional Learning for staff as well as a parent forum
- Continued work with our Community of Practice on our collective responsibility towards improving Writing outcomes (CoP – Kew, Deepdene, Birralee, Beverley Hills and Belle Vue Primary) – this work was primarily lead by Bryce Griesheimer for Belle Vue Primary School

- Victorian Curriculum – as well as the new reporting format
- VCOP Big Write – ongoing throughout the year (also formed part of our community of practice)
- Visible Learning Professional Learning – facilitated by Clayton Sturzaker – to be followed up in 2018.
- Performance and Development Plans – new process – worked on collectively.

Aside from the 'usual' level meetings and PLT meetings that are held on a weekly basis – where staff analyse the data to inform their teaching and planning.

The teaching staff work collaboratively in curriculum planning and delivery reflecting a strong commitment to teamwork. Equally, parents and teachers work in partnership to provide each child with rich learning experiences, optimising their potential and promoting a friendly, safe and secure learning environment over the seven years of their schooling.

Staffing 2017

Prep – Clare Woodhouse

1/2B – Sophie Brown

1/2D – Rachael DePrada

1/2P – Stacey Paterson

3/4D – Tanya Donaldson

- *Laura Hodges – took maternity leave at the end of term 2*

Tanya Donaldson was the successful applicant as Laura's replacement. Tanya was known to the school community having completed 2 lots of placements as well as volunteering for numerous camps, information evenings, performances etc.

3/4W – Carl Ward

5/6G – Bryce Griesheimer

5/6R – Brigitte Raymond

Art – Leanne Anstee

Phys Ed – Carney Kucharski

- *In line with the new EBA and the fact that Carney had been in his contract position for 3 years – he was translated into an ongoing capacity at his current time fraction.*

Italian – Andria Piacentini

Music – Andrew Robinson

Classroom Support – Andrew Robinson (3/4W, 1/2D and regular CRT)

ESS – Deidre Timms and Loree Spong

Business Manager – Annette Bruce

Principal – Cathy Caminiti

Buildings and Grounds – Leo Cooper

ICT (DET) – Gerard D'Orval (replaced in September by Scott Jakowitz) and Ric Zalewski

Our teaching staff deserve to be congratulated on the planning and implementation of the curriculum throughout 2017 and in their efforts to provide a vast array of extra-curricular activities for our students to participate in. These programs are only possible due to the commitment and dedication of our hard working staff.

In concluding staffing related issues, I wish to acknowledge the outstanding work of Annette Bruce in all that she does in her many roles as Business Manager (administration, personnel, secretary, first aid officer, HR, and dance instructor!). I feel very fortunate to have her as my support.

Before and After Care (Camp Australia)

Our Out of School Hours Care Program has shown a slight increase in enrolments in both before and after care and is well managed and resourced by Camp Australia. Jasnarinda Kaur took over from James Gray in term 4 as the Out of Hours Care Coordinator and has done an excellent job. Camp Australia administer and manage the program on behalf of the school.

Marketing

In line with our 2017 - 2020 Strategic Plan – we made 2017 a focus on promoting/marketing the strengths of our school to the wider community across Manningham and Boroondara. Staff supported this initiative by promoting the school and their programs through the school website (class news) which had a significant effect on school tours and in an increased enrolment in 2018.

- My First Child – Boroondara and Manningham Editions (3 months in each magazine)
- Progress Leader – Boroondara and Manningham Education Week, Opening of new soccer ground (Boroondara Leader only)
- My First day of Prep – Boroondara Progress Leader
- Chinese Directory (1 year subscription)
- Real Estate Boards – school fence line throughout the year. Manningham Council areas and Veneto Club beginning of year, Manningham private residence – intermittently.
- Clare Woodhouse and the Transition team worked with local kinders – visits to Yarraleen, Vista Valley, Glass Street and Belle Vue (taking prep students to talk about what it's like in prep). Closer work with Belle Vue Kinder – reciprocal visits and visits to mid-year performance rehearsals. Clare and Kathy (BV Kinder) attended a Transitions PD together on August 10th 2017 (strengthening relationships)
- Junior and Senior Choir visit to Bulleen Plaza – Saturday April 22nd (well supported by our staff and school community) *December visit was cancelled due to torrential down pour.
- Education Week Information Evening – was well attended
- School Tours – (Tuesday and Thursday) have shown a marked increase this year compared to 2016. Many for 2019 (parents of 3yo).

All staff got behind promoting our school and their learning programs in order to increase our profile within the local (Boroondara and Manningham) community. The work we have all put in has seen our enrolment increase from 170 at the beginning of 2017 to 200 starting 2018.

Hire of Facilities

- Greek School – all areas including Library and Hall on Monday evening 5 – 9pm
- James An College – a number of classrooms on Saturdays throughout the school year.
- Lioness Fitness – Hall and/or school grounds 3 mornings /2 evenings per week
- Sports Star Academy – Tuesday and Thursday afternoons
- Instrumental Music Program – Andrew and Janet

Parents and Friends

The Belle Vue Parent's and Friends (P&F) continued to be highly active under the coordination of Caroline Downey and the many (many) parents who volunteer their time to organise various activities held throughout the year. As well as supporting curriculum and facility initiatives the P&F can be thanked for their organisation of a wide variety of community events and activities. A snippet of these have included Fathers and Mother's Day stalls, the Open Air Movie Night, weekly lunches, icy pole sales, weekly banking, uniform shop, Book Club and other school community events. The efforts of our hard working parents' group not only fund-raise considerable amounts of money, but provide enjoyment for all students and a variety of social opportunities for all parents and staff. Highlights of the 2017 school year were the very successful Open Air Movie Night, which was a fantastic community/family event, the Casino Royale fundraising event in August, a successful night for just the adults and lastly our very first ever Belle Vue Christmas Market – which was a fabulous community event and a great way to celebrate the end of the school year.

School Council

Last year the Belle Vue Primary School community was well served by a hardworking and supportive School Council. Thanks again to all Council members for the support and involvement in Council. It is a challenge to keep people informed and discuss the complex issues involved in school policies, operations and accountability when we only meet for a few of hours twice a term. Council members give of their valuable time and endeavour to assist the effective running of the school when faced with such a vast amount of information. We are fortunate that we have a council that works together for the greater good of our school community. A special thank you to Loretta Gallesio and Carl Ward who have stepped down from council – after 5 and 2 years (respectively). Whilst we recognise and value the efforts of **all** school council members, each bringing valuable skill sets to council - a particular thanks must go to Kim McCormick in her role as School Council President. Kim has been a tremendous asset in her role – supporting, challenging and at times being an impartial sounding board, for some of the more complex issues that arise on a day to day basis.

Cathy Caminiti

Principal

AGM School Council President's Report 2017 (Kim McCormick)

The 2017 school year was a very productive and successful year for our School community. We saw an increase in our student numbers and completion of a number of key capital improvements works including drainage, student bathrooms, library building and the soccer pitch. These improvements, whilst causing disruption for a period of time were welcomed by our entire school community and particularly our students.

In 2017, the professional learning of all staff continued to be a strong focus. Whilst parents and students enjoyed curriculum days, our teachers and staff enjoyed workshops which were run by external consultant. This was in addition to ongoing sessions and workshops regularly throughout the year.

Our focus on sustainability is now embedded at Belle Vue and thanks to the leadership of Carl Ward, the Junior School Council and staff, the school has recently been awarded their third 'star' in becoming a five star sustainable school. The focus for the current year is now on water preservation and all the students are aware of this and will hopefully pass on their knowledge at home as well.

I would also like to acknowledge the staff for their efforts in providing a vast array of extracurricular activities that our children are able to enjoy. Given the size of our community and the number of staff we have – the opportunities our children are awarded are seconded to none. As a community we are very lucky to have such a dedicated group of teachers and staff.

School Council

In 2017, a major issue affecting both the School and our wider community was the announcement of Corridor A as the preferred route for the North East Link. Due to the efforts of our Principal, Council were able to arrange for the CEO of NELA to attend a School Council meeting so we could be briefed and ask questions. A submission to NELA on behalf of the School was also prepared. Engagement with NELA is continuing and Cathy Caminiti is working hard to ensure lines of communication remain open. Option A may have materially adverse effects for some members of our community and as a community we need to rally beyond those families. From a School perspective, the indicative route for the NEL Corridor A

as currently planned appears to be as favourable outcome as was possible under Corridor A in that any interchange will not be in the immediate vicinity of the School. We are hoping if anything that our continued engagement with NELA will result in improvements to traffic on Bulleen Road, near the School and better access to the School from Bulleen.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our councillors for their time and valuable contribution over the past year. Discussion was considered and respectful and directed to areas of council's responsibility thus allowing our Principal and her team to effectively manage their areas of delegation and authority.

I would specifically like to thank our outgoing councillors, Carl Ward and Loretta Gallesio. Their efforts over the years they have been on Council particularly on the Curriculum committee and overhauling our policy framework have been greatly appreciated. We are well positioned to continue to strengthen our governance framework in these times of changing standards particularly around the Child Safety Standards.

I would like to thank our Principal, Cathy Caminiti and Business Manager, Annette Bruce for their oversight of the School's operations and financial management. Communication with our parents and students is forever improving and this will enhance engagement with all members of our School community and their efficient running of School Council if appreciated.

Buildings and Grounds

The Buildings and Grounds Committee headed by Brigitte Raymond, needs particular commendation for its commitment and persistence to the well maintained school grounds. Our school grounds look fantastic and our new soccer pitch (thanks to the fundraising efforts of our P&F) was enthusiastically received by students.

Parents & Friends (P&F)

Belle Vue has a strong, dedicated P&F committed to continual fundraising and social activities at the school, the P&F runs many activities which not only provide much needed additional funds for the school, they also create a great atmosphere of community within the school. Weekly lunches and school banking on Friday are a very welcome part of the week for the children.

Our major events being, the annual Family Open Air Movie night, major fundraising event and a new addition being the night market were all successful in not only raising valuable funds for the School but in providing great social events to bring the school community together. I would like to thank Caroline Downey who served her first full year as the P&F Co-ordinator and representative on Council and all those who helped throughout the year. I would like to thank some outgoing P&F members in Audrey Moradi, Lisa Perry and Emma Pringle who left our School in 2017. All of them spent many years volunteering for everything from lunch orders to uniform shop and most things in between. Lisa organised the Grade 6 Graduation Dinner and Emma organised a Yearbook for the Grade 6 students which was welcomed by our Grade 5/6 teachers. It is volunteers like them that make P&F's contribution to the School particularly for our students so valuable. We look forward to welcoming new volunteers in 2018.

Finally, thank you to all members of the School Council and its committees. Hopefully we all feel we have made significant contribution to the working and running of Belle Vue Primary School.

Kim McCormick

School Council President
Belle Vue Primary School