

**BELMONT PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
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 Principal: David Houghton



**BELMONT BULLETIN**  
**NO.1 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018**

<b>DATES TO REMEMBER</b>			
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> February</b>	<b>3.00-3.30pm</b>	<b>ASSEMBLY – PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DAY &amp; TIME</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> February</b>		<b>Icy Pole Sales Commence</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> February</b>		<b>BioLab Excursion – Grades 5's</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> February</b>		<b>School Banking Commences</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> February</b>		<b>School Lunch Orders Commence</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> February</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>School Council Meeting</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>		<b>Toon School Incursion Grades 1-6</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup> February</b>		<b>Welcome BBQ</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> March</b>		<b>School Photos – more information given out closer to date</b>
<b>Tues-Fri</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> March</b>		<b>Grades 5/6 Swimming Program</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> March</b>		<b>Labour Day Holiday – No school for students</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> March</b>		<b>Whole School Walk-A-Thon</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>		<b>Summer Lighting Premiership – Grades 5/6</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup> March</b>		<b>Biocats Visit – Grade 6</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>2.30pm Finish</b>	<b>Last Day of Term 1</b>

**PRINCIPALS REPORT**

**WELCOME BACK** to all of our students, parents and wider school community. A very special welcome to our 41 new **Preps**, parents new to the school and several new staff pictured here busy at work Day 2.

We have a small number of **new students** and families to the school who started yesterday. We trust these new students will feel most welcome and their families equally so.

Rumour would have it many of our new Prep parents (20+) enjoyed a morning tea together Day 1 of approximately 1400 days of Primary school. Our Preps made a fabulous start and looked a treat in their new uniforms.



**Staffing News**

Rose Carollo who has been a long standing staff member since 2003 has this week announced her retirement. Rose's position will be advertised as we seek a new Italian teacher to fill very large shoes! More on Rose's contribution to BPS in a later newsletter.

**Staffing Updates**

Here is our line-up for 2018:

**Classroom**

- Prep Adelle Preston
- Prep Phoebe Gowers
  
- 1/2 Paul Mc Ardle
- 1/2 Dee Dearnley 4 days
- Georgina Edgar 1 day
- 1/2 Lorann Elkington
- 1/2 Shanelle Craven
  
- 3/4 Temae Mc Cormack
- 3/4 Lucinda Eales
- 3/4 Megan Leishman
  
- 5/6 Susie Lewis
- 5/6 Julie Keating
- 5/6 Craig Corker

**Specialist Staff**

- ART** Yvonne Mc Donald
- LOTE (Italian)** Rose Carollo
- PE** Rachel Ryan

**ES staff:**

Maree Koch, Fiona De Paoli, Bec Gillett, Deb Krupa, Lisa Bauerle & Naomi Barnes.

**Administration Staff**

Jacqui Eddy, Alannah McCooke, Kelly Wilde

**IT Support**

Pete Williams, Therese Sellars

## ASSEMBLY this Friday from 3.00pm

As a staff we have decided to trial moving our assembly from Monday mornings to Friday afternoons. Many schools prefer Fridays as a celebration of the week just gone and increasing learning time when students are at their 'freshest' on Monday mornings. We'll see how we go.

**School Magazine** Our school magazine was distributed yesterday to those families who indicated to us last year that they would like a hard copy. This offer was repeated in our newsletter over several weeks last year. For those families who missed this or did not want a hard copy the good news is an on-line version will be available very soon.

A special thank-you again to Lanny Mc Cooke who edited our magazine this time and our three generous sponsors.

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Contact Luke today on  
**0433 545 779**

**Our School Captains** begin their important leadership role across the school. Pictured here left to right: Anthony Serra (SC), Ashlinn Mc Lean (SC), Yoyo Zhong (VC) and Patrick Macpherson (VC)



We congratulate them again on their appointment to this very responsible role.

A **Welcome Picnic / BBQ** has been planned for Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February. More on this event in next week's newsletter.

While many of you have been able to get away or just enjoy a break we have been super busy here at Belmont getting ready for the start of our 2018 year.

## Completed over the break

- Garage doors replaced with heavy duty panelling.
- Senior playground garden bed and surrounds completed.
- Sand for long jump and Junior sandpit topped up.
- Internal school clean completed. All carpets steam cleaned.
- Oval back filled and safety panels begun.
- Oval surface works and final stages (irrigation, levelling) Turf will be half completed by the time you read this newsletter but will be OOB for 3-4 weeks minimum for our students.
- Cubbies repaired and now in correct positions. (Now open)
- Safety cage installed over water meter.
- BER space cleared and sorted.
- Work shed cleaned out



## **Irrigation installed**



## **Grass goes in**



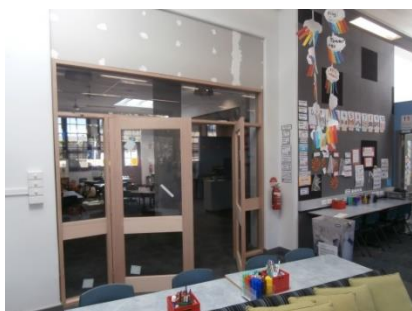
## **Cubbies arrival and now in place**





I congratulate and thank our staff and Administrative staff on the preparations they made in the days prior to our start making sure students came back to attractive and highly organised learning environment.

**This time last year we were installing a new LOTE wall.**



**And two years ago** we had poured a new pathway, installed 2 new classrooms, built a back fence and we were partially flooded.



### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**Food allergies** Parents are advised that we have several students with food allergies and other allergy forms here at Belmont. In particular **nuts, eggs and kiwi fruit** are among the foods we would prefer are not sent to school due to the risk and potential for serious and life threatening results. Thank-you.

**SLIP SLOP SLAP** All parents are reminded that Term 1 all students must wear a broad brimmed school hat. These can be purchased from PSW, Malop Street Geelong.

**Owners risk** Parents are reminded that personal or valuable items brought to school by students (staff or parents) are not covered by Department Insurances. Such items become the responsibility of the owner in every instance.

**School Diaries** are an important communication tool between home and school. These are checked regularly but students are encouraged to hand the diary directly to a teacher where a parent has written a note and wants to make immediate contact using the diary. Parents can call the school at any time to seek clarification of any information. No question is a silly question. We are here to help.

**Attendance Slips.** It is the schools strong preference that parents use our pink attendance slips or our **Skoolbag App** for every absence.

**ATTENDANCE SLIP**

Please complete this slip and return in your child's diary as soon as possible.

Many thanks,  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Grade: \_\_\_\_\_  
Absence dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Illness  
 Appointment  
 Medical  
 Injury  
 Dental  
 Other (please specify)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

**Electronic emails.** Please note we have provided every family with a hard copy of the newsletter today, however the school began transitioning to an electronic version last year with many parents electing to receive the newsletter as an email. It has been a great first week for us all and I thank our school community collectively for this wonderful start for our students.

Regards,

**David Houghton**  
Principal ☺

### FRUIT CUTTING – FRIDAYS

Fruit cutting begins tomorrow at 9.00am. All helpers most welcome!

### LUNCH ORDERS

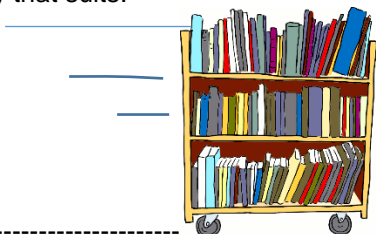
Please note that lunch orders will start **next week Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February**. Please use the **NEW** lunch order listing that will be attached in next weeks newsletter.

Thank you ☺

### **WANTED: Wanted Librarian assistant**

We have a regular task (Friday) a parent or parents may be happy to help with returning student library books to their correct shelves.

This task carries no payment other than the joy that comes from helping us out which of course benefits all of our students. Training will be available but, it is a relatively easy task I believe. Please let the office know. If we have a few parents we will roster you on a Friday that suits.



### **Student Requisites for the 2018**

The system of material and resource distribution has changed and to date we have been really pleased with our parents support with dozens of families using the two payment days we provided to finalise payments and large numbers of parents organising payments in 2017.

Your payment for essential items and any voluntary contributions made can make a significant difference for your children and our school.

No other request for payments of this type will be sent to parents.

So in summary for 2018:

1. **Essential costs** - sent out last week. For most students the essential cost is around \$180 per child for the whole year. Government Schools can ask parents to pay this component. This equates to around \$4.40 per school week per child. The school buys these items in bulk and this provides our parents with great value and our students identical quality materials appropriate to their age and work needs.
2. **Voluntary costs**- Voluntary costs between \$0 and \$130. This money directly supports the purchase of new equipment and to maintain our gardens and school environment.
3. **Excursions**, camps, swimming, sporting activities and incursions. These costs and requests for payment will sent out separately as they arise. We send out a summary of expected costs some weeks ahead where possible. This was requested through parent feedback in 2016.

Please return the **WHOLE form** when payment is made. We are happy to make a copy for your own records if you wish.

Parents are also welcome to pay on-line using **BPay** but please send your forms in also.

**Payment by instalment** is also welcome. Please make arrangements with David or Jacqui through the office..

### **PARENTS CLUB**

Welcome to all new and returning families!

Belmont Primary School has an active Parents Club and our purpose is to:

- Contribute to the wellbeing of the school community
- Encourage the participation of all parents in the life of the school and the education of their children
- Provide opportunities for parents to get to know each other and to be informed about their child's school
- Work in cooperation with the School Council
- Assist with fundraising activities

There are many ways you can become involved, so please join us at our next Parents Club meeting to learn more. All parents are welcome to attend Parents Club meetings and the school is very appreciate of the contributions our parents make. We'll confirm the first 2018 meeting date in next week's newsletter.

### **Committee Positions**

In 2017, we had 3 formal positions:

President	Rebekah Hughes
Vice President	Fiona Martin
Secretary	Emily Jolley and Emily Emerson

Some of the tasks the Committee are involved in are:

- Organising and promoting meetings
- Putting together small working groups for events such as Mother's Day and Father's Day Stalls
- Brainstorming fundraising ideas
- Taking minutes from Parents Club meetings and emailing to the school office
- Promoting Parents Club activities and events via newsletter articles and the Facebook group

These formal positions will be declared vacant in March and we will be seeking volunteers to fill these roles for 2018. If you'd like to know more about what's required, you're welcome to call me on 0438 316 240 to have a chat. Otherwise, please let David Houghton know that you're interested!

## FACEBOOK GROUP

'Belmont Primary School Parents Group' is a closed group for families of current BPS students. It's a great place to ask questions, share information, buy and sell school uniforms, lost property etc.

Just a reminder that questions relating specifically to your child or a specific situation are best addressed by the classroom teacher or David Houghton.

Jo Manderson, School Council President, is the page administrator who will approve requests for new members.

## ANY QUESTIONS?

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about Parents Club on 0438 316 240.

Have an amazing week,  
Rebekah

## SECONDHAND UNIFORM ITEMS

Next Mon-Wed after school (3.30-4.00pm) there will be secondhand uniform items available to purchase for a gold coin donation.

These items remained in lost property at the conclusion of last year as they were un-named. We would prefer them to be re-homed with BPS families rather than take them to the opp shop.

Stock is mainly jumpers, some with the school logo (old & new) and others just generic brands. Stall will be set up outside the canteen area (between Arkinstall Hall & the BER entrance).

Come along and find a bargain.

## FROM THE ARTROOM

Welcome back everyone, hopefully the holidays were enjoyable for all our families.

As most people are aware our art program always begins with a celebration of Chinese New Year. Why? Because it's colourful, interesting and fun and gives our students a wonderful insight into a different culture.

I will write more about this next week but today I wanted to share a sample of responses from children in grades three to six when they were asked the following questions..... What is art?, Why is art important? And what do artists do?

\* Art is a thing that dates back hundreds of years. Art can make people happy and art can make a moment come to life again.

\* Art is a wonderful way of expressing yourself and your feelings, explaining something without words, using your imagination and drawing your dreams.

\* Art is fun because you can let your imagination run wild.

\* Art is important because we can decorate the world.  
\* Art is important because life would be dull without it, it gives people colour and enjoyment.  
\* Artists use their minds to make fun, new, inspiring stuff.  
\* Artists take their time and concentrate.  
\* Artists create all different things. They can also get famous.

I loved reading all of their responses, if you would like to see more they can be found for a short time in the area outside the art room.

Yvonne McDonald  
**Art Specialist**

## ADVERTISEMENTS