



BELMONT PRIMARY SCHOOL
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 Principal: David Houghton



BELMONT BULLETIN
NO.14 18th May, 2017

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday	19 th May	TOMORROW	Winter Lightning Premiership
Mon-Fri	22 nd -26 th May		Education Week – Healthy mind, healthy body.
Tuesday	23 rd May	8.00am	Building & Grounds Meeting
Wednesday	24 th May	8.30am	Finance Committee Meeting
Wednesday	24 th May	7.00pm	School Council Meeting
Friday	26 th May		Responsible Pet Ownership – Grade Prep
Friday	26 th May		Education Week Sporty Dress Up Day – Gold coin donation
Thursday	1 st June	7.30pm	Parents Club Meeting in the staffroom
Friday	9 th June		Report Writing Day, No students required at school
Monday	12 th June		Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
Friday	16 th June		Prep Lego Excursion

Student of the week

Congratulations to the following students whose efforts, behaviour and attitude have been recognised

Archie T	Prep H	For being a super star writer who listens carefully to feedback and eagerly applies it to his work. Way to go Archie!
Sebastien D	Prep P	For his outstanding writing about the cat with a net! You sounded out the words so carefully, what a super star you are!
Dylan S	1/2C	For always being engaged in our Guided Reading sessions and contributing happily.
Tommy B	1/2D	For his outstanding Tourism Brochure. Geelong would be proud of your detail and use of WOW words. Brilliant job Tommy!
Amelia H	1/2G	For writing amazing narratives this week and using fabulous adjectives! You're the queen of WOW words. Well done Amelia!
Heidi A	1/2J	For being SO artistic when drawing the landmarks of Geelong. Your Cunningham Pier and Ferris Wheel have turned out AMAZINGLY on our class Geelong Artwork!
Seb S	3/4E	For always sharing his interesting strategies during Maths lessons and for being a star at calculating the change required when working with money.
Liam B	3/4P	For his consistently high effort in all subject areas and the maturity he brings to our classroom. Well done Liam!
Neena C	3/4T	Being an absolutely sensational student who puts an outstanding effort into all work tasks every day! You are AMAZING Neena!
Kaitlyn B	5/6K	For her hard work this week in maths when adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators. Well done Kaitlyn!
Crystal S	5/6L	For being a Maths Wizz!! You have an amazing Maths brain and complete all tasks to a high level. Great job working with fractions this week Crystal.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT 2017

Education Week will be celebrated in many schools from 21 - 27 May 2017.

Student of the weeks:



This year's **Education Week** has the theme of Healthy Mind, Healthy Body so our activities across the week will reflect this theme and provide opportunities for our students (and parents) to get involved.

- **Monday**- Assembly Launch

- **Tuesday**- **Any time Tuesday**...Walk step count-
Can we make it to Mount Gambier over the Victorian border to SA? All classes combined tally. 457 kms x 1389 steps = Approx. 635,000 steps

-Wednesday- Lunchtime activities (House Captains) Skipping, hopscotch, elastics

-Thursday- Shared 'healthy lunch' together- BB courts (Parents welcome)

-Friday- Ride / Walk to school day / Sporty Dress Up- Gold coin to a worthy cause eg. Feedgeelong Lunchtime Yoga (Parents welcome)

Jolly Giovedì Gelato Day last Thursday. Many thanks to Mrs Carollo (LOTE-Italian) and her band of helpers who made this fun activity come to life!! Bravo!!



Illness It seems the winter bugs have arrived early at Belmont with numbers of students and staff being affected. When staff are absent we can generally approach a regular and trusted group of CRTs (Emergency Teachers) who the students will know and whom we trust to work hard and follow as best they can - class structures, learning and routine.



If staff are facing extended leave due to illness, we will sometimes write to parents and advise them. Extended leave due to unexpected illness can be difficult to fill with the same staff member but this is always our aim to minimise disruption to classes. For the most part students here at Belmont show great resilience and continue to show the same level of respect to our CRTs who often will tell me how great our students are and what a great day they have had.

NAPLAN finished last week and left in the post Monday. As I wrote in last weeks newsletter, National testing from a worldwide perspective is varied.

In Finland there are no school inspectors, no league tables, and no exams until the age of 16. Since they instigated wide-ranging reforms 40 years ago, children are not sorted into sets, nor do they spend their evenings in intensive cramming sessions – there is no private tuition industry, and charging school fees is illegal. Homework, even for a 15-year-old, is limited to 30 minutes.

Compulsory schooling begins at the age of seven, with

only a broadly-outlined national curriculum, and students wear their own clothes and call the teachers by their first names. It is a model that has seen education experts from all over the world make a beeline to Helsinki, to try and find out whether the Finns' magic formula can be translated into other countries.

Next week: Singapore

Source: Wikipedia

Lions Club of South Barwon came to make a special presentation to the school at our weekly assembly presenting the school with two cheques. They have generously sponsored the full cost (\$2400) of our safety netting now in position against the senior playground and a further donation of \$1000 to support students in attending camps and excursions. The school sincerely appreciates the support of this wonderful community service group; a near neighbour and friend to our school.



Pictured here from left to right Mr Bob Badham (Past President), Mr Gordon Kieselbach (Club President) and Mr Laurie Deans (Lions Club Member)

A suspected case of **Slap cheek** (Erythema infectiosum or Fifth disease) was reported this week in a Junior grade. This virus may start with a low-grade fever, headache, rash, and cold-like symptoms, such as a runny or stuffy nose. These symptoms pass, then a few days later the rash appears. The bright red rash most commonly appears in the face, particularly the cheeks. This is a defining symptom of the infection in children (hence the name "slapped cheek disease").

The rash typically lasts a couple of days and may itch; some cases have been known to last for several weeks. Patients are usually no longer infectious once the rash has appeared and rest is usually the best remedy. It is spread like most coughs and colds through contact with airborne particles.

Kids Dental Service Great news! It looks like we will now meet our required target to have this van on-site in 2017 with just over 50 of our students now registered. My thanks to all parents who have been able to commit to this new initiative for the school.

Recently we asked the service some additional questions that some of our parents had asked us:

Can other non-eligible students access this service and what would be the costs?

Yes, we can include students who are not eligible for free dental check-up scheme as well for a capped price of \$99 per student (normally is \$210) which includes general check-up, cleaning, minor filling (if required without injection) & preventive treatment.

Can parents sit inside the van while their children are treated?

Yes, Parents can be there at the time of treatment if they wish to but it is not mandatory.

Can parents who are eligible for the service be charged for any extras?

No, Parents won't be charged any extra cost and any student requiring further treatment will be referred to a dentist of their choice.



Chef for a month is now completed. Two of our students, Kyara and Jem, enjoyed the opportunity to attend the Gordon over a series of 4 weeks to work with a qualified chef in their kitchen and finish with a special presentation dinner attended by staff and their parents. In a few years we may even see them make the Masterchef kitchen. Well done. We acknowledge the kind sponsorship of this program by **Highton Rotary** and transport provided by a parent and staff.



Parent Feedback from Term 1 Communication. How are we doing?
(Newsletter, Seesaw, Skoolbag, Belmont Facebook)

Parent feedback:

- To communicate better using these recourses so that questions/ complaints don't arise elsewhere like on Facebook etc.
- Love the Seesaw interaction
- No Seesaw in senior grades – this would be good to see happen

- Teachers are doing a great job with Seesaw especially. It's so nice to be able to get a sneak peek into the classrooms fun.
- Assemblies are fantastic
- Facebook is great if comments are appropriate!

Response:

Seesaw is now in use across all grade levels having just recently been taken up by our 5/6 classes. The use of this tool will vary from class to class and grade level to grade level. Teachers are keen to capture some of the best moments across any given week or special activity. We hope parents enjoy these snapshots of the wonderful work being done across our school.

Our Belmont Facebook page is generally used in positive ways to help connect our parents and share information or ask questions of one another. The school has no active part in this site. All schools have their share of issues that arise from time to time and mistakes we make but it is the schools preference that any issues or concerns are *raised firstly* with class teachers, through the office or directly with myself, rather than published in this forum. Most concerns raised by parents are around the schools approaches, communication or simple misunderstandings. If we have made a mistake we will freely admit to this and seek to rectify or address this as soon as possible.

Maintaining the positive tone of this site encourages parents to join and be part of our community. It is always the intention and aim of our school to act in our students and parents best interests, listen and seek to improve.

We have been actively trying to involve more students in our weekly assemblies show casing their talents or interests. If you know of an opportunity or idea we could use at our Monday assembly please let us know.

Pictured here **Olivia** from 5/6M, one of our talented students who was recently recognised in her sport of In-line Hockey. Over the course of two events won several awards including Most Valuable Goalie 2017. Great work Olivia!



3/4 BOLLARD WALK

Prep enrolment for 2018

If you have a child who is starting next year in Prep and you have not yet contacted the school please do so. We have strong demand for places at the school. School tours are welcome. If you have friends with school age children who are in our area please encourage them to contact the school. Current enrolment at Prep stands at 32 students and a large Prep waiting list for students outside our local neighbourhood.

Woorabinda Camp 5 day camp has now been finalised with students selected at random in a public draw held this week. The school has been allocated 2 places for boys and 4 places for girls- far less than the numbers who expressed their interest. Parents of selected students should now have received an information pack and request for payment.

We have several students as reserves who will also receive the paperwork in the event a student cannot attend at late notice.

- *No payment will be required initially for these reserve students.*

School Funding

The Barwon Area has benefited from a substantial investment in our schools. These are the amounts promised recently to schools across Geelong:

- Ashby Primary School \$2,840,000
- Ceres Primary School \$653,000
- Chilwell Primary \$2,410,000
- Geelong East School \$1,025,000
- Hamlyn Banks Primary \$1,557,000
- Lara Lake Primary School \$1,809,000
- Leopold Primary \$3,220,000
- Mount Duneed Regional \$2,210,000
- Newcomb Park Primary \$141,000
- Newtown Primary School \$2,010,000
- Oberon Primary School \$1,407,000
- Queenscliff Primary School \$211,000
- Bellbrae Primary School \$754,000
- Deans Marsh Primary School \$492,000
- Winchelsea Primary School \$352,000

Our own school has benefitted hugely from grants like these in past years so it was of little surprise we were not on this list.

Assembly focus this week was around our school value of **Honesty**. Students were encouraged to show honesty even when it means they may face a consequence for a mistake or a poor choice they have made.

Chinese proverb of the Week

Dig the well before you are thirsty.

Enjoy the rest of your week.

David Houghton

Principal

On Friday the 12th of May, all the 3/4 students packed their back packs for an amazing excursion along Easter Beach for our Integrated Studies topic. We (the 3/4s) travelled from Eastern Beach to Rippleside Park. We were split up into small groups of between 4 and 6 people, and a teacher or parent helper lead the group. On the way we saw some incredible stuff, including; sting rays, jellyfish, lizards and of course BOLLARDS! We also saw the sunfish which was mistaken for a shark. I think that the bollards are awesome and I loved learning history about all the bollards, and spotting those amazing things! I would like to thank all of our teachers and parents for leading groups for our excursion!

By Hana Y

On Friday the 12th of May, we got to school and all the Grade 3/4s got on the bus to go on an awesome adventure from Limeburner's Point to Rippleside Park. I saw a sneaky rat, 3 jellyfish, a rusty bike, and I saw an awesome great white shark! (Which was actually a sunfish). I saw some fish and when they got close together it looked like they exploded! My bollard was Matthew Flinders. He found the You-Yangs and Corio Bay. I think that is very cool.

By Jake S

ITALIAN TERM 2

FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD (CIBO GLORIOSO CIBO)

JOLLY GIOVEDI GELATO DAY



Grazie, thank you to all who contributed to a terrific day. It started with Kellie and Bec who went to collect the ice-cream and the order couldn't be found but these amazing ladies sorted that out with little interruption to the event.

Thank you to the parents who let us borrow their ice cream scoops. I was inundated with scoops in the end and I hope they have found their homes again. Thanks to the parents that made alternative arrangements for students with allergies.

Thanks to staff who were so cooperative and supportive during this special lunch treat. And a huge thankyou to the army of Year 5/6 helpers, they were truly amazing and displayed so many of our school's values.

**Un gelato buono!!
Ciao, Signora Rosa**

PARENTS CLUB

Mother's Day Stall

Hope you all had a lovely Mother's Day! This year, students had 6 gift choices and we are very grateful to these local businesses who supported us by providing significant discounts on their products. We encourage you to support them if you can!!

- * Bee&Me reusable beeswax wraps
- * Jaeba soy candles
- * Freckleberry Chocolate block with Bubble Butt Bath Products (bath sprinkles, bath bomb or coffee scrub)
- * Kissy earrings - pink and charcoal
- * Fiona Martin's Salted Caramel Popcorn
- * Southern Ranges handmade soap

If you have any feedback about this year's gift selections, we'd love to hear from you!



Parents Club Meeting

Thursday 1st June - 7.30pm in Staffroom

Agenda:

Welcome and Introductions

David Houghton - What's happening around the school?

School Concert Raffle

Fundraising Ideas - what would you love to see at BPS?

We hope to see you there, everyone is welcome and a sweet treat is always on offer!

BPS Parents Club is a great resource for parents. It's an opportunity to get to know other school families, as well as being aware of what's happening in our amazing school. If you'd like to know more, come along to one of our meetings or have a chat with one of our committee members...Fiona Martin, Emily Jolley, Emily Emerson or Rebekah Hughes. Also, you can email us with any questions if you prefer: belmontsparentsclub@gmail.com.au

Have a terrific week,

Rebekah Hughes
BPS Parents Club

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9am - 5pm Monday to Friday

F Families with children seeking family support need only make one call.

I Information and advice for families.

R Referral to a range of family and community services.

S Support and guidance for families with children / youth aged 0 - 18.

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