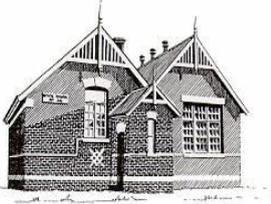




BELMONT PRIMARY SCHOOL
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 Principal: David Houghton



BELMONT BULLETIN
NO.36 17th November, 2016

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday	25 th November		Grade 5/6 Blue Light Disco
Tuesday	6 th December		Orientation Day – Grade 6 Students
Friday	9 th December		Xmas Dress Up Day – Gold Coin Donation for Adopt a Family
Friday	9 th December		Zen Bakery Special Lunch Order Day – Forms to come home tomorrow
Monday	12 th December	8:00am	Finance Committee Meeting
Tuesday	13 th December	7:00pm	Grade 6 Graduation
Wednesday	14 th December	7:00pm	School Council Meeting
Tuesday	20 th December	9:00 - 1:30pm	Last Day of Term 4

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Remembrance Day Last week we had some of our Senior students (Ella, James, Stephanie and Sean) run a short Remembrance service over the school PA. We listened to a short poem and remembered our fallen soldiers with a minute of silence.

Have you ever seen the The Last Post played on a violin. This young lady did so to honor both of her grandfathers who paid the ultimate sacrifice in war.
<https://www.youtube.com/embed/NqHx1CDRQkc?rel=0>

Curriculum Day last Monday all staff including our Educational support staff met and began important work on establishing whole school approaches in the area of Welfare and Well-being across the school. We have agreed on a common approach across the school which will see us move from a series of rules to just two RIGHTS and two RESPONSIBILITIES. These will be displayed and understood in every classroom.

Our approach is one that has proved enormously successful in the Northern Region of schools with more than 100 schools taking on elements of an approach which raises the importance of working as a team to maintain the rights of the group and less dependence on a teacher to enforce a rule.

Several of our grades this year have already been working under this approach successfully.

The staff also have agreed on common approaches for dealing with any behavioural issues both in the classroom and playground. It will not matter if you are in Prep or Grade 6 the same process will be followed. We have very few behavioural issues here at Belmont but importantly a consistent approach remains an important element is helping keep our students feeling

safe and our classrooms working well. We will share much of this with parents as we roll out these agreed

approaches and build strong consistency within the school.

We also examined school data including attendance and spent part of the afternoon working with a consultant who has a strong background in Well-Being work that schools are using to raise 'connectedness and student morale' particularly.

I recognise these days can be inconvenient for parents but are important for time poor staff to work together on common school needs and school initiatives.

Vintage Fair 2016 Well the last of the Vintage Fair flags and displays have been packed up for another year (or two). Thanks to many parents who have provided us with some feedback.

Here are a few comments of those that have been returned. Of particular interest to the school will be those suggestions we have received from staff and our many parents and students about how we can improve our very first School Fair. I can announce this week that the fair raised a clear profit of **\$10,000**. This was an *outstanding result* given just a four hour window of time.

Here is a small selection of comments from the 14 surveys returned so far....

What did you most enjoy about the fair?

- The excitement and atmosphere it created amongst the school community- everyone working together.
- The amazing food on offer
- The huge variety on offer for all ages

- The sense of community
- Family fun. The school looked great.

Grade compositions also remain unchanged with 2 x Preps, 4 x 1/2s, 3x 3/4s and 4x 5/6s.

How could this event be improved?

- Food near the stage, stalls outside
- Too spread out hard to find some things
- Better communication beforehand to delegate the workload...
- A map of where things were
- A better stage area to allow a different range of performers.

Should the school make this an Annual or Bi-annual event?

Annual: 8

For excitement and community building. If bi-annual might lose momentum. Annual it will result in the community being more likely to remember to attend.

Bi-Annual: 5

It's a lot of work and those who contribute shouldn't be expected to do every year. Rounding up that much parent help might be tricky. Huge effort for those willing to contribute time in lead up.

Either: 1

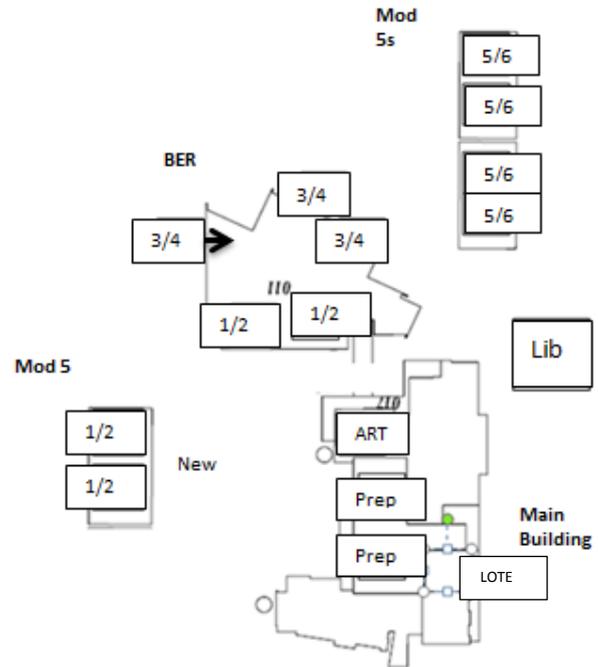
Class requests Each year I receive a small number of written requests from parents regarding the placement for their child(ren). Parents who wish to make such a request need to please contact me by letter / handwritten note or email if they have a specific request they would like us to consider in the grade placement of their child(ren).

The school takes into account a number of factors when placing students ensuring grades have a solid mix of students abilities, gender balance, important family considerations (eg Twins) and other factors. Requests from parents are always taken into account but may not always result in the change or positioning they have requested. This should be done by close of business next Friday 25th November.

As the school staffing is not yet finalised grade teachers are yet to be announced.

School Magazine All families will again receive one free copy of the school magazine. Extra copies must be ordered by Friday week at a cost of \$10 per copy.

2017 Grade placements In stark contrast to last year, we will have no movement of class areas in 2017. Where grades are now positioned will remain unchanged for next year. Specialist areas also will remain unchanged including ART, LOTE and our Library.



Final Day of school this year is Tuesday the 20th December. Students will be dismissed at **1.30pm** on this day. Last year the trial to start earlier at 8.30 am and finish earlier did not prove successful or popular with parents. Hours will be 9.00am – 1.30pm.

Bike Education Year 3/4 (Week 3 of 6)





Sponsors for our 2016 Yearbook.

Would you like to be a sponsor for our year book? We have several levels of sponsorship starting at \$100 through to \$500. Sponsors feature on our back cover. Please contact our school office as soon as possible if you would like to be involved.

Building works

The school requires some structural building works that will need to be completed over the next holiday period. If you are a Registered Builder (or know a good one) and would like to quote on this work please contact the school office. The work includes an additional inside wall to separate the existing Prep room and LOTE room, repairs to some old external timber windows which form part of the staffroom and the building of a small step to assist Preps.

Puberty sessions for our Seniors (Years 5/6) have recently finished. For the most part I have been very proud of maturity our students have shown during the sessions and outside of the sessions. I hope all students managed to bring home some of the work they did and provided a way for parents to engage with them around this important learning.

Puberty Session for our Grade 4 GIRLS

This session has certainly grown in popularity since its introduction in 2014. This session will be run soon (see below). Starting at 2.30pm -3.30pm, mothers join their daughters and Kimberley Thomas (Puberty Educator) for an afternoon tea. Kimberley shares with the group 'age appropriate messages and information'. Our feedback from parents who have attended previous sessions has been hugely positive and many have commented that the session proved to be a good starting point for their own discussions even at this very young age.

GRADE 4 Girls

Wednesday 7th of December at 2.30pm

Come and join Kimberley Thomas of Totally Random for a cuppa, a treat and a chat about the awesome changes that girls go through.

Come and begin a really important conversation with your daughter!

Cost is \$10 per mother/daughter or \$5 per girl
 At Belmont Primary School . Notes home today!



Gastro

We have had just the one report of a school family and one report of a staff member this week. I encourage all families to please keep any students at home should they be affected by this nasty bug for at least 24 hours after all symptoms have gone.

Prep Transition



Prep transition has now been completed. After three weeks of transition our next wonderful group of Belmont students will be ready for their first day in 2017. My sincere thanks to Adelle Hosking, Lillian Moore, Jenni Koehler and Deb Krupa who supported this important work to help our youngest inductees.

Looking for:

A steel supplier

The school is examining the idea to use steel sheeting to create an increased edge to some of our existing garden borders to better retain mulch and leaves etc. This will help improve safety keeping our pathways cleaner and free of garden dirt and bark. Do you have a contact? Have you done this in your own garden?

Skoolbag continues to grow and has recently hit over 700 downloads. If you have not yet jumped on board yet I encourage you to do so. The school is selective as to what we send out so you can be guaranteed we won't drive you 'batty' with messages. There is no cost to parents using this service.



3/4E were shocked at how much waste we produced in ONE day! We are looking at ways to reduce the amount of waste we produce, or to reuse or recycle more items that would end up in landfill!



Alan and Laurie from Geelong South Barwon Lions Club presenting a cheque for \$500 to Skye from 5/6L. Skye was also successful with a grant from Sport Victoria for \$800 through their Excellence Scholarship Fund. A great result for the family.



Regards

David Houghton (Principal)

FROM THE ART ROOM

Great excitement in the art room this week as we have started our work about SHADOWS. The foyer near the art room has been blacked out, we have a projector screen set up and a very bright globe hanging behind for our light source. All grades are working on this topic and are making hand shadows and simple shadow puppets at this stage. Please keep the cardboard coming as we are ploughing through it with enthusiasm.

Our focus points have been... What is a shadow and how is it made? Are shadows only made by the sun? What is the difference between a shadow and a silhouette? and Can shadows be coloured? Some great discussions have arisen around these questions. I'm having fun with this topic (despite the incredible mess it makes) and I know that the students are too.

Yvonne McDonald
Art Specialist

VICTORIAN PRIMARY SCHOOLS REGIONAL GOLF FINALS

On Tuesday (15/11/2016), Anna N and Jack M competed in the Victorian Primary Schools Golf Regional Final at Curlewis Golf Club. Anna finished in equal 5th place (Girls section) while Jack finished in equal 14th place (Boys section). Well done to both players.

BOOKCLUB

Did you know that you can easily order and pay for your Book Club order online, through Scholastic's LOOP system? No need to fill in and return the order form to school or find those pesky coins! Ordering online through LOOP means you can view your current and previous orders, access information and resources on books and there are often special offers for LOOP orders.

Simply visit scholastic.com.au/LOOP or download the app!

Book Club orders are due Friday 25th November at 9:00am!

Thanks, **Michelle and Jo**

ADVERTISEMENTS



GEELONG AUXILIARY CHRISTMAS MARKET

Supporting The Royal Children's Hospital

Saturday 26 November 2016

8am - 1pm

Scout Hall
Barrabool Road, Highton
(Next to the Farmer's Market)

Christmas gifts for friends and all the family,
Christmas decorations, Christmas food,
Kris Kringle and teachers' gifts

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS
Lions Club of Grovedale Waurn Ponds
Safeway (Highton and Waurn Ponds)

— THE ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL —
AUXILIARIES
— SINCE 1922 —



Friday 18th November 2016
4pm-8pm

Rides • Food • Live Music

also show bags, cake stall,
Bunnings Craft activities, Scouts and
Narana Creations activities, handball
competition, C.F.A. Fire Truck and more.

Fun activities for all!

Mandama Primary School
Corang Avenue, Grovedale

Friday
25th Nov

4-8pm
Camden Rd,
Newtown

Christmas Fair

FYANS PARK PRIMARY

Come along and enjoy the fun with
rides & showbags
great food & drinks too
Santa & his Wonderland
cakes & preserves
raffle, silent auction
recycled hand made homewares
& live music including Dennis Walter

Gold coin donation welcome at the gate

 www.facebook.com/FyansParkChristmasFair

