

## Term 4 Week 9 – 2 December 2014

*Distributed weekly on Wednesday*

*A year calendar of events was distributed at the start of the year.  
This section includes those events and any updates.*

### **Term 4**

**6<sup>th</sup> October – 17<sup>th</sup> December**

*10½ weeks*

*1 public holiday – Melbourne Cup 4<sup>th</sup> November*

*1 pupil free day – Report Writing 3<sup>rd</sup> November*

#### **December**

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday 7.30pm Carols by Candlelight Town Hall Gardens

8<sup>th</sup> Mon – 12<sup>th</sup> Fri – Cycle 1 Prep Parent Teacher Interviews.

10<sup>th</sup> Wednesday – Volunteer Afternoon Tea 1.30-2.30pm

10<sup>th</sup> Wednesday – Major raffle tickets returned

12<sup>th</sup> Friday – Reports distributed

16<sup>th</sup> Tuesday – Major raffle drawn – at school

17<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Last day for students, end of Term 4, 3.15pm finish

***More dates to be added throughout the term.***

***Keep checking this section to stay informed***

- Parent Satisfaction Survey (optional but appreciated)
- Prep 2015 Immunisation Status Certificates – (only if Prep in 2015)
- Exit survey (Exiting students only)
- Stationery Lists (direct to Newsagents by Monday 8/12/14)

Thank you to all those families who have returned their forms from the parent packs. What a great response and this is so helpful for us administratively. If your forms are still to be returned we will send you a reminder email.

**The nit issue has arisen again – please everyone check all children’s hair weekly until the end of term so that we can eradicate them from our children.**

**All 2015 Enrolment forms were due Monday – return appreciated asap.**

- 2015 Fee Payment Agreement (signed)
- Emergency Contact Sheet (updated and signed)
- School Stream notification for non smartphone parents.
- Bus user agreement (if applicable)
- Uniform Orders (if required)

## From the Principal

### **Grandparents day**

What a tremendous turn up – almost 60 people across the rooms both the morning and afternoon sessions. Thanks to everyone who made the effort to attend.

### **Graduation assembly and dinner**

What a lovely way of acknowledging the graduating students – we couldn’t have asked for better weather. It was lovely to sit under the trees in the Cycle 2&3 playground and listen to the speeches from the children. There were tears and laughter, music and dance. This was followed up by the Graduation Dinner that was attended by the graduating students, their parents, staff and special guest Cathy McGowen. The Year 5 students acted as hosts in preparing the food and serving and were introduced as the 2015 graduates. Special memories were created I’m sure. Thanks to the students and staff, particularly Terie and Kat for their work with the students and in creating such a special event.

### **Concert**

Thanks to everyone for attending our 2014 School Concert. It’s always a joy to come together and watch each other perform. This year saw a change of format and time and for the children and staff there were many benefits of the earlier time. Thanks again to those people that could come along – we hope you enjoyed the event. There are many

tired children at this time of the year and yesterday was a big day for them. If you feel your child would benefit from a rest day before the end of the year, we encourage you to support your child in this.

### 2015 Junior Indigo Student Councillor

The Junior Indigo Student Councillor for 2015 has been elected. Mathilda Chambers will be our school representative. Students in Cycle 3 and staff Cycle 2&3 and myself selected the representative after they prepared a written response to why they wanted to be the school rep. These were anonymously presented to students and staff for voting. Congratulations Mathilda and we look forward to you continuing on with the good work of previous representatives Eadie Pfahlert (2014) and Indigo Walker Stelling (2013).

### Continuing Refurbishment Work

The Cycle 1 Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA) will be installed in the near future. We have been aware since relocating of the need for all weather outside space for the Cycle 1 children after this aspect of the project was not able to be completed during stage 1 refurbishment. Due to the increased size of the COLA it is not possible financially at this point to carpet the foyer, in addition to completing the flooring in the Cycle 1 and Ruby classrooms and build the COLA so the carpet in the foyer project will be delayed. Our priority is that the children have the prepared environment that meets their developmental needs.

### Positions Vacant

**Italian Language and Cultural Studies Director (part time)**  
Commencement 2015, ongoing

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced persons who are able to think outside the mainstream model of education to create and implement a rich, diverse specialist subject to deliver to primary aged Montessori students.

**Essential criteria**

- Ability to speak and teach the Italian language.
  - VIT registration.
- Certification in First Aid, Anaphylaxis and CPR.
- Experience in managing a multi-aged classroom.

• Demonstrated capacity to develop and implement curriculum for children aged 5-12 years.

- Ability to work independently but also collaborate with other staff.
  - Strong communication skills.

**Highly desirable**

- Montessori qualification or experience in a Montessori educational environment, understanding of Montessori philosophy.

Some flexibility around work arrangements regarding day/times.  
6.5 hrs per wk – 5 hrs contact

Position description, selection criteria and details are available upon request.

Please contact the Principal Heather Gerrard  
[principal@beechworthmontessori.vic.edu.au](mailto:principal@beechworthmontessori.vic.edu.au)  
03 5728 2940

Applications close Friday December 12<sup>th</sup> 2014

**Kindergarten Director Cycle 1 (3-5 years)**  
Full time, 12 month appointment Jan – Dec 2015

An exciting opportunity exists for the right person at our progressive Montessori school that caters for children aged from birth – 12 years.

Following a temporary restructure of roles due to qualification compliance and training, this opportunity for a leadership role in our school will be pivotal to maintaining the delivery of a [high](#) quality program.

**Shared responsibility role working alongside other Directors**

**Essential criteria:**

- Early Childhood qualification approved under the DEECD funding requirements.
- Current certification in First Aid, Anaphylaxis and CPR.
- Montessori qualification or experience in a Montessori educational environment, detailed knowledge of Montessori philosophy.
- Experience working towards and understanding of the NQF and development of the QIP.
- Experience in managing a multi-aged classroom and developing lessons and materials for this age group.
- Flexibility and ability to lead and work in a team.
- Strong communication skills and the ability to work collaboratively with other staff across a broad range of programs.

Provide current CV and evidence and examples addressing the essential criteria.

Phone 03 5728 2940 or email [info@beechworthmontessori.vic.edu.au](mailto:info@beechworthmontessori.vic.edu.au)  
Applications close Fri 12<sup>th</sup> December 2014

*Kind regards, Heather*

## General News

### Lost Property

Cycle 2&3 – please check the area over the next week as all unnamed items will be donated to the local welfare agencies after this time. Students are reminded that any items left on the floor or out in the playground or courtyard are placed into lost property. Named items are returned to the owners.

### Wanted

A responsible person to supervise children aged between 5-12 for approx. 30 minutes per day (maximum) in the afternoon after school at the Vline bus stop in Beechworth – commencing 2015. These children then catch a Vline bus to Bright via Myrtleford. Mon – Friday 3.20 – approx. 3.45pm. Please see Heather if you are interested. Could be a young adult or a responsible teenager. If an adult – a current working with children check would be required. For more information or to register your interest please see Heather. Please pass this onto anyone who you think may be interested, including grandparents and those members of the community seeking to be engaged with young children.

## Carols by Candlelight

Sunday December 7<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm – Anticipated in the Town Hall Gardens but to be advised due to building works being undertaken there at present. If relocated it will be to the Police Paddocks. Come along and join in our two songs – Aussie Jingle Bells and Light a Candle for Peace. All children welcome with families.

## Volunteer Arvo tea

Wednesday 10 December 1.30-2.30pm. Have you helped out in a classroom, attended a working bee, offered your times, skills, abilities to the children and staff, walked in a parade .... please come and share a drink and nibbles prepared by the children to say thank you for being part of our community.

## P&F News

### 2014 School Raffle

Just a reminder to please get raffle tickets back to the office within the next week. Prizes will be drawn Tuesday 16th December and they are great prizes!

#### 1st Prize:

Handcrafted 8 seater timber dining table from *Eucalypt Woodworks*, Milawa value \$4100

#### 2nd Prize:

2 nights accommodation at *1860 Luxury Accommodation*, Beechworth value \$590


#### 3rd Prize:

Mixed half dozen wine from *A Rodda*, Beechworth value \$220

## Beechworth Community Christmas Market and Family Fun Day -

Saturday 6th December 8.30 - 2 - see flier at the end of this newsletter. Beechworth Montessori will be there selling coffee and biscuits. Come and see us there for a coffee, help out for an hour or so, or even better, bake us a plate of biscuits

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*Volunteers  
Afternoon Tea*

**Wednesday December 10th  
1.30pm – 2.30pm  
at Beechworth Montessori**

Are you one of our many supporters who give of your time, your effort, your experience and your energy?  
Who contributed to our sense of community in 2014?  
Before this year draws to a close, we'd very much like to say 'Thank you!'  
Let the children be your hosts at a student prepared afternoon tea


RSVP asap for catering purposes

to sell on the day (Please contact Helen on 0427 283 221 if you are able to help in any way). Anyone who has a playdough making recipe, and/or a Thermomix please consider making a batch of coloured playdough for sale at the market. Chinese containers can be used – just like the ones in the foyer at the moment. These can be purchased cheaply from Mike's Bazaar.

## Parents and Friends End of Year Get Together

Another big year nearly over. Let's all catch up before the Christmas break. Please join us at Lake Sambell - Tuesday

### Weekly Silver Creek Sourdough School Bread Order



Silver Creek Sourdough

To help raise funds for the Corena Solar Electricity Project at Beechworth Montessori, Silver Creek Sourdough will donate thirty cents from each loaf ordered through and delivered to school. Bread will be available from 3:15pm every Wednesday. You can order for one week or the remaining 10 weeks of term.

**Types of bread (all \$6.00 per loaf)**

White Country Sourdough	Spelt and Rye Sourdough
Silver Sourdough	
Spelt and Honey Sourdough	

Traditional handcrafted sourdough made with Australian organic flours (white, rye, wholemeal, spelt), water, herbs, local honey, sea salt.

For more information or to place an order please contact Louise  
0413 087 563  
[silvercreeksourdough@gmail.com](mailto:silvercreeksourdough@gmail.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/silvercreeksourdoughbakery>

16th December from 5pm. Bring a salad to share and the P&F will cook up sausages and vegies burgers for all. BYO picnic gear (plates, knives, forks, chairs, rugs, drinks etc). Please rsvp to the office.

## Cycle 2 News

### Moonstone

The knowledge and understanding students have gained about the physical and cultural geography of Africa is phenomenal. Pour over an atlas with your child and learn about Africa with them.

The art program has kindled an interest in the beauty of geometry and symmetry. Students are making an African inspired mask reflecting the learning criteria to include a three dimensional element, use symmetry, natural colours and objects. Enjoy when the mask makes it way home.

Transition is a hot topic in Moonstone. We are welcoming Spencer Colson, Tilly Ryan, Luca Mallamace, Luka Engel and Adelle Croft from Cycle 1 and Taya McWilliam, Natasha Hall, Charlotte Le, Poppy Saunders, Jack Bussell and Arnya Engel are commencing transition to Cycle 3.

**Susi & Sally**

### Turquoise

#### Asia

Questions from the children for you to answer.....

How long is the great wall of China?

What language is spoken in Nepal?

Who is Malala Yousafzai

What colours are used on the Turkish flag?

What is the currency of Bangladesh?

When does the Malaysian civet sleep?

What is the currency of Vietnam?

What does the Sun Bear eat?

What is the capital of Japan?

What is the capital of China?

#### Science

The children have continued to explore the states of matter. They have been learning the difference between suspensions and solutions, experimenting with temperature changes on solutes, and practicing writing scientific reports.

#### Classroom

Our conversations around graciousness have continued as have our discussions around the differences between careful and careless, and the differences between accidents and acts of carelessness. We seem to have an unprecedented number of plates smashing due to carelessness through haste and I hope we can turn this situation around.

#### Art

The children have been making dragon masks. These reflect the learning around Chinese dragons – their meaning, representation and use in current day China. You may like to discuss the following questions with your child. From which other animals is the dragon made? What does the Chinese dragon represent? Do Chinese dragons breathe fire? How do Chinese dragons help humans? In which two festivals do the Chinese use the dragon?

**Karen & Sonja & Dina (relief)**

## Cycle 3 News



### Tigereye

It's been a busy couple of weeks with Grandparents' Day, our visit to the Mansfield Zoo, Graduation Day/Dinner and the Concert. With Topaz, we are in the process of making a camp newspaper with articles about the various activities. Recounts have also been written by all students about the Canberra camp and some students have written pages and pages that they continue to add to!



In Science, the Year 4s have been preparing some lessons on solids, liquids and gases for the Cycle 2s whilst the Year 5/6s have been discovering about acids and bases. There are many science experiments going on in the class at the moment, from exploding film canisters, kazoos and making slime.

Thanks so much to all the Grandparents who came in on Wednesday. I would particularly like to thank Kezia's Grandmother, Rose, who spent the entire afternoon in the kitchen helping Kezia and Akeidha bake cheesecakes.

**Kat**



## Topaz

On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 1:15, Beechworth Montessori School held a concert at the Memorial Hall. First up, Conrad, the music teacher performed some South African drumming with Cycle 1, 2 and 3. After this, the Massed Choir, sang *Sow It on the Mountain* and *Aussie Jingle Bells*. This was followed by the *Misfortunes of Camping* play. Written by Charlotte Hopp and Mia Davidson, it was their choice to take this on board themselves. All of the props and backdrops were made by students in Topaz. It all went well and everyone had a fun afternoon! Thankyou to all the students from Cycle 2 and 3 who gave up their lunch-times to rehearse. Thanks also to Susi and Kat for transporting the props and Terie for sourcing materials. Next time we would make our scenes longer and close the curtains less. Thanks for being a great audience!

**By Mia Davidson and Charlotte Hopp ☺**

**Terie**

## Montessori Matters

Here is the Principal's presentation to the community given at the Graduation Assembly on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Nov.

"Welcome to the 2014 graduation ceremony of the grade 6 Beechworth Montessori students.

We are delighted to be holding this event on our own grounds at our 12 month old facility – whilst there is still work to be done we are optimistic that in the near foreseeable future we will have a newly constructed multi purpose space ..... we are just commencing the application process for funding and if we are successful we hope to have a space to hold such events in by the end of 2016.

Today is an acknowledgement and celebration of the grade 6 children who are completing their primary education this year and moving to secondary schooling. This afternoon's ceremony will be followed by a graduation dinner tonight attended by the grade 6 students, their parents, and invited staff members. The grade 5 children have supported the event by preparing food for tonight and they will act as our hosts in serving and in the kitchens. Their turn will come in 2016.

Today we formally farewell

Jackson Haw

Elias Haebich

Stephanie Holden

Liam McMullen

Francis Duncan

Tasman Kearney

Indigo Walker Stelling

Finbar Moody

Some of these children have been here for Tots and three cycles of Montessori education, others have joined later. For the long termers they have seen many things change – from one classroom to 2, 2 classrooms to 3, 3 classrooms to 4, the opening of new rooms within buildings at LaTrobe/Mayday, new staff commencing, specialist programs expanding and then the big move to this site – their resilience to adapting to new ways is inspiring.

Others have joined us along the way, or even only recently. Wherever the entry point to Beechworth Montessori school is, these children are always welcome and equally regarded as a Montessori child. There is much to relearn and to learn to do differently ... the uniqueness of this way of learning should not be underestimated. The children who only know this way of learning take it as a given. The newer students are challenged to let go of what they hold as the right way – to take on a new way, to embrace their individuality and to learn to understand themselves. However long the child is in Montessori ... we say "Some Montessori is better than no Montessori".

The pathways for this group of children for secondary have expanded... In the past we have seen children attend a wide range of secondary options. In 2015 these children will attend Catholic College Wodonga, and the Montessori Adolescent program (MAP) commencing in 2015 at Beechworth Secondary College, Whichever model of schooling they move into, these children will take the skills of a Montessori learner with them and I look forward to hearing the tales of their successes and growth over the coming years.

I'd also like to take the opportunity to acknowledge that whilst today is about the graduates, it's not only the children who are leaving us.... But also the parents and extended families who will end their connection with our community. Many of them have been here since the start of the school, as committee members, staff members, parent and friend volunteers, or even just passionate advocates for the school. It is a testament to them that they have placed their faith and trust in a new model of education for Beechworth. I hope that they leave with the feeling that this faith and trust was well placed.

I'd now like to introduce the graduates individually.....they will present their speeches and receive a memento from the school. The Cycle 2 children will present these gifts.

The ensemble lunchtime band will now perform the "Heel & Toe Polka" and they invite the grade 6 children to dance. The grade 6 children will ask a staff member to perform the polka with them.

Thank you for attending our ceremony today. I would like to invite you to attend the 2014 school concert to be held from 1.15pm on Tuesday December 2<sup>nd</sup> at Beechworth Memorial Hall where all the children will perform under the direction of Conrad Forrer. A play entirely written, directed and performed by the students will also be conducted.

I'd also like to invite the extended families of our graduates to the volunteer afternoon tea to be held at school on Wednesday December 10<sup>th</sup> at 1.30pm. Our students would like to prepare an afternoon tea to thank you for the

support you have shown the school and them over the years. Anyone who has offered support to the school in 2014 is also invited to attend. Thank you for attending today."

**Heather**

## Community News



### GIRLS ONLY CRICKET HOLIDAY PROGRAM

For girls ages 5-14 years interested in learning basic cricket skills and how to play the Milo T20 Blast game

**Mon 19<sup>th</sup>, Tue 20<sup>th</sup>, Wed 21<sup>st</sup> January**

**9am -1pm**

Cost \$99 (Coaching & T20 Blast Pack)

Alexander Park, East Albury

Register by Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January

Go to [www.t20blast.com.au](http://www.t20blast.com.au), enter East Albury, select East Albury T20 Blast Girls

Only Holiday Camp and follow the prompts

Canteen and BBQ available

Enquiries to Tegan Rennie [girlscricket@hotmail.com](mailto:girlscricket@hotmail.com)

Nicole Rennie 0466805671



### PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS & CARERS OF CHILDREN WITH A.S.D (Autism Spectrum Disorder)

A new group has been established by other parents of children with an A.S.D. to support each other, share problems & swap ideas. We welcome any parents or carers with a child who is on the spectrum, to join us on **FRIDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER at 1.00pm** At the **Myrtleford Library, Meeting Room.**

All parents and carers are welcome to join us. It is a casual and relaxed set up, and if you need to bring a child along, that's okay too.

Parents are welcome regardless of whether their child has a diagnosis or not.

For more information please call Julie on 0428 877 878 or Sean on 0424 676 416 or email: [buffaloviews@hotmail.com](mailto:buffaloviews@hotmail.com) or just come along.



Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2014

Dear Ms Gerrard

I am pleased to announce that the Summer Reading Club is back at the Indigo Shire Libraries throughout the summer holidays! Registrations are open from December 1<sup>st</sup> 2014 through to January 31<sup>st</sup> 2015.

Registration is **FREE** and can be done at your local Indigo Shire Library branch or through the Summer Reading Club website at [www.summerreadingclub.org.au](http://www.summerreadingclub.org.au). When participants register at our library they will receive a Summer Reading Club pack.

Last year the Summer Reading Club was a huge success, 34,756 children participated across Australia and an estimated 234,468 books were read!

Now in its fourth year as a national program, it is hoped with the help of your school, this year's Summer Reading Club could be even bigger and better!

The Summer Reading Club theme for 2014-2015 is **ADVENTURE!!**

At Beechworth Library, Summer Reading Club activities will run from 11am-12:30pm over three Thursdays: 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015, and **bookings are essential as numbers are limited**. For every five books read, participants can also enter an in-house draw to win a \$20 book voucher from Beechworth Books.

National prizes are also up for grabs for those who participate in the online writing activities!

To encourage participation in the 2014/15 Summer Reading Club I am inviting the teachers and library staff at Beechworth Montessori to promote this program to children and parents as they enquire about holiday activities. Information about the Summer Reading Club could also be included in your school newsletter.

For more information on this year's Summer Reading Club, please contact Beechworth Library on 03 57288043 or by email to [katrina.mahoni@indigo.gov.au](mailto:katrina.mahoni@indigo.gov.au). We look forward to celebrating the summer adventures with your students participation!

Yours sincerely,

Katrina Mahoni  
Library Technician  
Beechworth Library



## Market and Family Fun Day

a celebration of, and by, our local community groups!

Once again the Beechworth Community Christmas Celebration is opening the '12 Days of Christmas', with the **Community Christmas Market** on the first weekend in December.

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December - 8.30am-2pm**  
**Beechworth Historic Precinct,**  
**Ford St, Beechworth**

Come down and chat with the CWA ladies, Lions Club, Mens Shed, Scouts, Childcare Centre, Schools, Landcare and others, support your community, join the fun and celebrate Christmas, Beechworth style!

- 👉 Handmade arts, crafts and Christmas produce – real gifts for Christmas!
- 👉 Veggie seedlings,
- 👉 Fresh coffee and crepes, BBQ, homemade lemonade for the kids,
- 👉 Face painting, balloons and kids activities,
- 👉 Displays, demonstrations and exhibitions by our local groups,
- 👉 Old fashioned family sports events by the Beechworth Rotary Club,
- 👉 Live music from our local young musicians,
- 👉 A performance by our fabulous Fruit Bats, and
- 👉 'Open mic' session for local performers – come down and be heard!

**All profits to our community groups!**