



Term 4

Week 8 – 26 November 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

6th October – 17th December

10½ weeks

1 public holiday – Melbourne Cup 4th November

1 pupil free day – Report Writing 3rd November

November

26th Wednesday – Grandparents Day Cycle 1, 10-11am, Cycle 2&3
1.30-2.30pm

28th Friday – Gum Tree Pie order delivery for pick up from 12noon

28th Friday – Graduation Presentation whole school gathering 2pm

- Graduation Dinner for Grade 6 children and parents 6pm

December

1st Monday – Return date for all forms for 2015

2nd Tuesday 2014 School Concert – Memorial Hall. 1.15pm

7th Sunday 7.30pm Carols by Candlelight Town Hall Gardens

8th Mon – 12th Fri – Cycle 1 Prep Parent Teacher Interviews.

10th Wednesday – Volunteer Afternoon Tea 1.30-2.30pm

10th Wednesday – Major raffle tickets returned

12th Friday – Reports distributed

16th Tuesday – Major raffle drawn – at school

17th 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

Graduation Assembly

All members of our community are invited to the Graduation Assembly to be held in the Cycle 2&3 playground area this Friday, commencing at 2pm. The ensemble band will perform and the graduating students will present their graduating speeches and be presented with a leaving memento. We hope that you can join us at this special event.

Please enter via the foyer, sign in at the Visitor's Register and head straight through the building to the back door that leads to the playground.

Don't forget to sign out when leaving.

2015 Parent packs

These have been distributed via students this week. There will be one pack per family, distributed via the eldest child.

This pack will contain – a Vision & Values document, 2015 Parent Information Book relevant to the enrolment of your child, Fee Payment Agreement, Emergency Contact Sheet, Satisfaction Survey, School Calendar, School Stream notification, Bus Service Agreement and information, Uniform Order Form, Stationery Lists, details of sessions for children in Cycle 1.

Reminders of important dates for the return of forms. All forms are due Monday December 1st

- 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)
-
- 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)

From the Principal

It's that time of the year when we look to the future for staffing – I'm delighted to say that there is very little movement in staffing for 2015.

Ruby Room – Michaela Director Tots, Transition and After Session Care with support from Lisa in ASC and Melanie as Transition Assistant (subject to numbers enrolled)

Emerald will remain with Lynda as Director, and Wiggy and Geraldine as assistants.

Turquoise will remain with Karen as Director and Sonja as assistant.

Moonstone – will remain with Susi as Director and Sally as assistant.

Tigereye – Kat Director

Topaz – Terie Director

Music – Conrad

Physical Education – Josh

Blueearth - Daniel

Andrea has advised that she will not be continuing as the Italian specialist. We will commence advertising and as soon as an appointment is made parents and students will be informed.

There will be changes to Amethyst staffing and families have been communicated with prior to the newsletter. Tameeka, Melissa, Lisa and Zoe will all continue working in the rooms however the hours and responsibilities within the room will change to allow both Tameeka and Melissa to finish their training which will see them both obtaining an early childhood and Montessori qualification. If they continue in their current roles they will not finish their training within the required time frame and therefore be unable to work. We will be advertising for a shared Director's role within the room and as soon as an appointment is made we will inform parents of the staffing schedule and introduce the new staff member. We are very appreciative of the support and positive comments of the families of Amethyst who can see the logic behind the scenario that we have presented for staffing. I am also equally grateful to the staff who are always willing to embrace the possibilities that change brings – it allows us to be responsive, reflective, and to continue to offer the highest quality service that we can whilst meeting the needs for government compliance. At all times the children are our priority and we strongly feel that this model will meet their needs. This model will enable Tameeka to obtain her qualification and return to her current role in 2016.

Parent packs for 2015 have been distributed and they contain a number of important documents, some of which are required for return to school by Monday Dec 1st. This will enable us to roll over systems in preparation for the 2015 school year so we would greatly appreciate your support with the prompt return of forms. We have revamped and updated the parent information books and I encourage you to read the information contained in them so that you are fully informed of how the school and rooms function. In addition each family has received the new Vision and Values document that guides the strategic direction of the school. We hope that you find the information contained in the packs informative and useful. Keep them handy and refer to them throughout the year.

Schoolstream is an app that is available to school community smart phone users for free. We have invested in the purchase of this technology and are keen to have our community embrace the opportunity the app provides. Information is included in your parent pack and parent information book on how to install the app. This will be our primary means of bulk communication with families, in addition to emails, the newsletter and the newly created website (to be live for the start of 2015 school year). You will need an annual password. This is included in your parent information book – see the section on schoolstream. There is also a sheet of information and the password in your 2015 parent packs.

Advance notice that in 2015 we will streamlining the communication system via email with staff. All staff will have a school email with consistent addressing firstnameinitial@bms.vic.edu.au. You will however need to ensure that you spell the staff member's name correctly. The newsletter usually includes the staff members for each room and the letters sent home in parent packs specify staffing.

Kind regards, Heather

General News

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. 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.

Cycle 3 Canberra Camp

Students from our school recently attended an education tour of the national capital. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$20 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

Wanted

Giant boxes (fridge, freezer, packing etc) for the Cycle 3 play "Misfortunes of Camping" to be performed at the 2014 School Concert on Tuesday December 2nd. Please bring to school or let the office know details. Thanks – Charlotte and Mia, Topaz Room

Carols by Candlelight

Sunday December 7th 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.

Weekly Silver Creek Sourdough School Bread Order



To help raise funds for the Corena Solar 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 12pm 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	Rye Sourdough
Spelt and Honey Sourdough	Rye with Fennel and Caraway Seeds

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
0143 087 563
silvercreeksourdough@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/silvercreeksourdoughbakery>

Silver Creek Sourdough



Mini Yoga Classes being held at Beechworth Montessori School starting Monday 24th November - Friday 12th December Mondays & Fridays 4-10yo 3.30-4pm Open age Maximum 10 kids per class Cost: GOLD COIN DONATION Money to go to school fundraising Phone Deb Reeves (Matilda & Kendra's Mum) 0407 531 510 to enrol

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 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 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.

P & F in 2015 And finally, our last P&F meeting for the year was held late last month. There was some enthusiastic discussion around ideas for fundraising and social activities for 2015. One idea was that we focus on one 'big' event for the year rather than many small and often labour intense activities - a festival, a fair, something that could involve many people and be lots of fun for the whole community. Put your thinking caps on people. We'll meet again early in term 1 next year and look forward to hearing your ideas.

2014 Raffle

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 \$100

3rd Prize:
Mixed half dozen wine from A. Rodda, Beechworth value \$220

Tickets \$5

Tickets drawn Tuesday 16th December 2014

Ruby Room News

Hello everyone, I would like to thank Mel, Lisa and Khy for filling in for me while I was on teaching practicum in Sydney, a truly valuable experience.

The children have been making milkshakes and icy poles with the left over mixture. Ingredients we used were milk, either cow or rice, bananas, strawberries, mixed spices and dates. This is a very simple healthy treat you can use fruit in season. The children enjoyed the preparing of the food as well as the consumption of it. We will be making wrapping paper for gifts at Christmas time, baking Christmas treats as well as decorations over the next few weeks.

There have been children in transition moving into their prospective Cycle 1 rooms, having visits where they can settle in and feel comfortable at their own pace. Thank you to the parents who have been staying as helpers to enable Mel and myself the opportunity to take the children over knowing there is assistance with those children in Ruby room.

In ASC we have been focusing on using our words to help us express what are our needs especially in our relationships with other children in ASC, and how we are feeling about things, what makes us happy, sad, excited or scared. We are using word picture cards to sound out isolated sounds that are a little difficult for some children to pronounce such as; 'th', and 's' and practicing saying these words.

If you have a toddler who is at the stage for toilet learning summer is a great time for this. There is information available in Ruby room with some helpful instruction to assist you and your child in this exciting time in their progression towards further independence, pop in and see me for it.

Enjoy the short time left of this term

Thank you, Michaela, Lisa and Mel

Cycle 1 News

Amethyst

Africa

Amy concluded her work with the children last week by making an African chocolate treat, the smell of cocoa filled our room. Thank you Amy for sharing your language and culture with us in Amethyst this term.

Last week we also looked at a honey bread recipe from Ethiopia but because of time constraints we couldn't bake it so instead we made honey muffins inspired by the Ethiopian honey bread.

- 1 cup SR flour
- 1 egg
- ¼ cup honey
- 1 teaspoon ground coriander
- ¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- ¼ teaspoon ground cloves
- ½ cup milk
- 4 tablespoons oil

Put flour, coriander, cinnamon and cloves into a mixing bowl. Add egg, oil and milk and stir. Add honey and mix until smooth. Spoon into muffin tins.

Makes approx 10 muffins

The Animal Kingdom

This term the children have been engaged in activities to do with the animal kingdom. They have been particularly interested in the insects and spiders, and the reptiles and amphibians. Some school aged children have been working on small projects and then sharing their projects with the rest of the class before taking them home.



Plant Waterways

We continued with the plant waterways work and put celery into coloured water.

The children were all able to state what was going to happen easily given the coloured flowers experiment we had already done, the joy of this experiment was when the children cut up the celery to discover the coloured veins. It caused a lot of discussion amongst the children.

Sewing

There has been sewing on the shelf in practical life and what I had planned to be attaching 2 pieces of felt together has turned in making small pillows. The children have demonstrated patience and concentration.





Show and Tell

Show and tell continues to be a favourite circle time activity for all the children. Recently we had Angel bring in his dog who did some tricks for us. If your child has the purple show and tell box then return it as soon as possible so we can keep circulating the box over the next 3 weeks.

Tameeka, Melissa, Lisa, Zoe

Emerald

Our chicks and ducklings are growing so quickly. Thanks to everyone who has taken them home overnight to care for them. Unfortunately the ducklings have outgrown their home and will be sent off to a permanent home. The chicks will still be available to be cared for this week but are likely to be too big after the weekend for any further overnight stays. We have tried to ensure that everyone who expressed interest has had a turn to take the animals home. There is a roster for the remainder of the week next to the sign in book. If you have missed out this time, our apologies –

WE ARE STILL SEEKING PERMANENT HOMES FOR TWO CHICKENS. Please see Lynda or Wiggy if you can help.

The diary of our learnings about the hatching and lifecycle processes will be on display near the sign in book when we have finished fostering out our hatchlings – you can view the experiences from the classroom and various families through this amazing experience.



Our chooks in the playground have really started laying – 6 eggs over the weekend. We are offering these for sale near the cycle 1 sign in books. \$2 per half dozen will help fund our chook food.

Our comprehensive studies of Asia have come to a close and we will spend the remainder of the year considering Australia. This topic will continue on into term 1 next year. This term we'll consider the map, states and territories, land forms, flags, animals and icons. Next year we'll be learning about history and Indigenous culture.

We will be commencing discussions and activities related to Christmas in the coming weeks. As in previous years, our approach will be to discuss how we all acknowledge and celebrate the festive season differently. We will also consider the traditional cultural practices relevant to children's family backgrounds. If you have any particular views about the acknowledgement of the festive season or family practices to share, please see Lynda.

Thanks again to our fantastic community of families for your generous contributions to our program this semester. It has been a busy and informative time for us all.

Lynda, Wiggly, Geraldine

Montessori Matters

Continuing the notes from the parent information session “supporting your Montessori child in literacy” held Wednesday Nov 5th at school

Cycle 2 – approx. 6-9 years of age

Cycle 2 focus for literacy is in comprehension strategies – reading isn't just reading the words. It involves predicting, visualising, activating prior knowledge, questioning, building vocabulary knowledge amongst other things.

Assist your child by reading slowly, look at the pictures, discuss. Predict by talking about the story/book – the child can look and consider, ask questions to get the child's ideas what the book is about. Read the blurb on the book.

To encourage your child to read find their interests, choose fiction with rich language, non fiction in their interest areas, newspapers, song lyrics, poetry.

Often after the first year of Cycle 2 a recommendation may be made if the Director believes that your child may be experiencing difficulties and you will be advised to seek specialist advice. We encourage parents to act on these requests because we don't make these recommendations lightly.

Cycle 3 – approx.. 9 – 12 years of age

Students are developing critical thinking skills and formulating opinions on issues and need guidance and support in developing the ability to back these up. They are encouraged to talk about issues in class. Keep them talking with you, the parents but look at the manner that they use – is it “at” you or “with” you? Use restorative practice methods of conflict resolution.

Play board games, not electronic games – allows for social interaction and language skills. Create an environment that encourages your child to use literacy skills – hammocks, bean bags, a haven for their space and time.

Read a book, not always ebooks – there is physical movement in reading a book and different brain pathways are utilised. Read the book first then watch the movie.

Encourage appropriate ratings for electronic games and moves – ratings are there for a reason. M rated is not appropriate for a developing mind. Know your child's social media habits. When in restaurants engage over the food, not with devices.

Community News

2015 WANGARATTA MARATHON & FUN RUNS

SUNDAY 22 FEBRUARY
WANGARATTA SHOWGROUNDS

MARATHON HM 10KM 5KM 2KM

MORE PEOPLE MOVING MORE OFTEN

20M PRIMARY SCHOOLS

20M FUN COURSES

Over \$12,000 in cash and prizes
 • BA CHIP PRIZES FOR ALL EVENTS
 • CUSTOMISED MEDAL FOR ALL FINISHERS
 • FOOD AND BEVERAGES POST EVENT
 • FREE ENTRANCE MONEY
 • EXCEPTIONAL VALUE ENTRY FEES
 • FREE FUNT ACCOUNT COUPONS (NIM/YAM Marathon & HM)
 • HOTEL, RESTAURANT COUPONS

WWW.WANGARATTAMARATHON.COM.AU

Beechworth COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS
Bringing the festive cheer and the spirit of Christmas

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 6th 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!
- Vege 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!

A free community event celebrating International Day of People with a Disability.

Interchange in conjunction with Wangaratta Council and other local services are providing a free event for all to enjoy

Friday 5th December, 3pm-7pm

King George Gardens

Rowan street Wangaratta Opposite the Cioema

Ice Cream

Music Freebies from local services

Free activities hosted by local organisations

Jumping Castle

Bring your picnic rug, a bottle of water and sunscreen and come and enjoy the day

Rural city of Wangaratta Wangaratta YMCA Oak FM Radio
 Open doors neighbourhood house The Centre Wangaratta Special School

Doll and Bear Suppliers - Needlecraft & Quilting - Reproduction Dolls

Albury Wodonga

Doll, Bear & Hobby Show 2014

*Proceeds to: Age Concern Albury Wodonga Inc
 Angel Baby Nappies
 Knitted Knockers Inc*

Saturday 29th November 10am - 4pm
Sunday 30th November 10am - 4pm

MIRAMBEENA COMMUNITY CENTRE
 Martha Mews,
 North Albury NSW 2640

*Admission: \$5.00 Adults \$2.00 Children
 Children under 3 years - Free Entry*

Morning, Afternoon Tea and Lunch available

Booth Holders & Competition Entries welcome

*For further details contact:
 Chris Jones Ph: 0260 215 416 A.H M: 0428 545 329
 Sue Pringle Ph: 0260 214 203 A.H M: 0402 827 813*

*Antique Dolls - Hobbies and Collectables - Soft Toy Competition - Doll Doctor - Craft - Scrap Book Design
 Doll and Bear Competition - Doll Competition - Dolls Competition - Displays of Stuffed Dolls*

Stalls of Dolls Items - Laces - Ribbons - Materials - Wigs and Shoes

Doll, Bear & Hobby Show Inc. - ABN 87 159 194 262 - PO Box 564, Albury, NSW 2640 Copyright 2004-2014