

Term 1	
1 st February – 31 st March	
9 weeks	
February	March
17 th Friday – Meals on Wheels	13 th Monday – Labour Day Public Holiday
17 th Friday – District Swimming, Wodonga	17 th Friday – Meals on Wheels
20 th Monday – Cycle 2 Swimming Program	20 th Monday – Parent Teacher Interviews Start
21 st Tuesday – Cycle 3 Swimming Program	21 st Tuesday – World Harmony Day
23 rd Thursday- Junior School Council	27 th Monday – JSC Halogen Conference
23 rd Thursday – Special General Meeting 6.30pm	31 st Friday – Last Day Term 1 1.15pm finish
27 th Monday – Building commences on site	
Term 2	
18 th April – 30 th June	
11 weeks	

From the Committee of Management

Susi Allen - Consulting to the school

We are very pleased to announce the return of Susi Allen to Beechworth Montessori School. Susi taught for a number of years as a Director and also assisted in the running of the school in the early days when it first became a primary education provider. Her expertise in education and Montessori philosophy and pedagogy will be well utilised as she coordinates the reregistration processes and assists with the day to day operations of the school.

Susi will only be with us short term as she will need to return to her business in Vanuatu, however we feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to engage her services at this time and believe the benefits to the school and it's community will be long term. Welcome back Susi.

Reminder of Special General Meeting Thursday 23rd February 2017 at 6.30pm

A friendly reminder that the special general meeting of the Association will be held on Thursday 23rd February 2017, commencing at 6:30pm in the school foyer. The purpose of the special general meeting is for the membership to approve the revised Rules of Association. An electronic copy of the rules are available on the school website and printed copies are available from the front counter at the school.

Approval of the new rules removes a key risk identified in last years audit report and is required to support school reregistration which will occur during 2017. In order to conduct the 2017 AGM under the new rules they must first be accepted by Consumer Affairs a process which can take some time. At this stage our intention is to hold the AGM in late March, however this may need to move to April depending on Consumer Affairs approval timelines.

If you have any questions in relation to the new rules of association please email Dean Cleave-Smith at president@bms.vic.edu.au

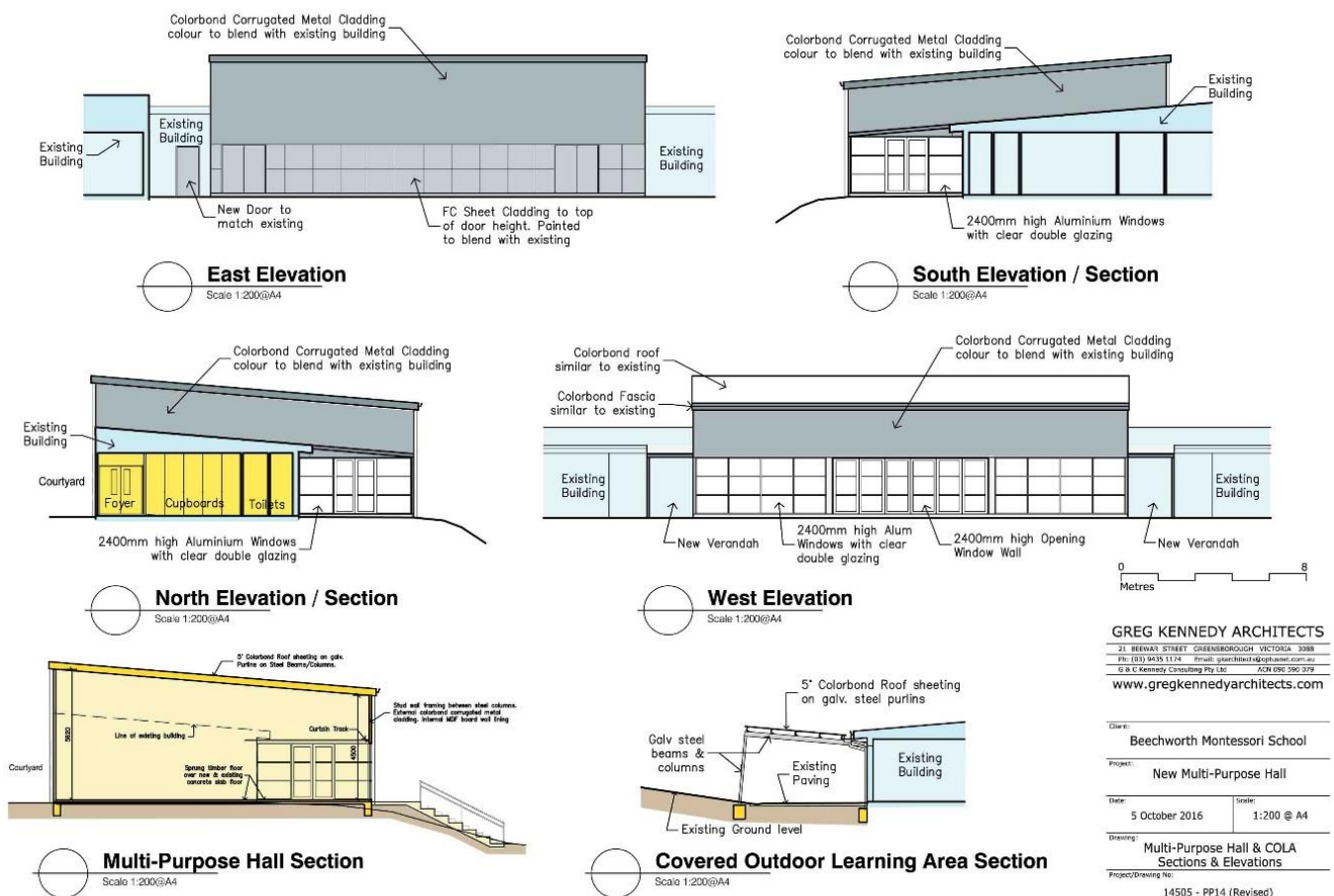
Multipurpose Hall Update

The tender process for the Multipurpose Hall is now completed and Alltim Pty Ltd from Rutherglen is the successful tenderer. They will be commencing construction of the project on the 27th February 2017. At this time they will fence off the site and entry will not be permitted for the duration of the project. The safety of our children, staff and families is paramount and correct measures and processes will be in place at all times. Part of the cycle 2-3 playground will be available for our children to enjoy outside activities and sport, and the building project will be an added bonus when it comes to the learning opportunities available.

The project includes four main components:

1. **Multipurpose Hall** – timber sports floor, marked court, stage (portable), black out curtains, evaporative cooling, heating, AV equipment, pinboards, lighting, double glazing and bifold doors on Cycle 2/3 playground.
2. **Heating and floor coverings** – Classrooms, hallways and the foyer will have carpet and ribbed entry matting near doors and vinyl for the wet areas, and a hydronic heating system throughout the classroom and administration areas.
3. **Covered outdoor learning area (COLA)** – steel frame with colourbond roof including tinted roof sheeting in front of kitchens to let light in.
4. **Other alterations** – widening link passage outside to Cycle 2/3 playground, alterations to the staff room and storage rooms.

Greg Kennedy is the Architect who has worked with the Multipurpose Hall subcommittee to develop the design, and will project manage the implementation. The project is due to be completed mid this year.



District Swimming

A number of staff, parents and Cycle 3 students are at Chiltern Swimming Pool today for the District Swimming Carnival. We, as a school had taken on the responsibility of organising the event which is a massive job, considering all the schools and students involved. Thank you Kat for all your work in making this happen, it is greatly appreciated. Thank you also to the support of the staff so Kat could do this work and the parents who are there today assisting wherever necessary. Look for a report and photos in the next newsletter.

Extended Play

Towards the end of last year, some concerns were raised about the amount of outdoor playtime available to students. To respond to these concerns, the school has organised a trial of an additional 20 minute period of outdoor play each morning from 8.30am to 8.50am, along with eating outside at lunch time to allow children to commence playing as soon as they have finished eating.



THE WALKING SCHOOL BUS IS BACK IN 2017
WALKING ON TUESDAY MORNINGS

COMMENCING TUESDAY 7TH FEB

MEET @ BEECHWORTH POST OFFICE @ 8:25AM
WALKING TO BEECHWORTH PRIMARY, MONTESSORI & ST JOSEPH'S

PICK UP A REGISTRATION FORM AT YOUR SCHOOL OFFICE OR
CONTACT ANNA AT BEECHWORTH HEALTH SERVICE
E: ANNA.MACKINLAY@BHS.HUME.ORG.AU
P: 5728 0200



Congratulations

to Geraldine & Gavin on the birth of Gillean Kaus William who was born the 15th of December 2016. We hope you are all settling in well and look forward to a visit soon 😊

School Lunches

A reminder regarding what food to send to school as per our Parent Information Books....

*Children require a healthy lunch. **Please ensure no sweets, soft drink, or juices are included.** Filtered water is available at all times. Beechworth Montessori encourages children to eat healthy foods for snack and lunch. The children are encouraged to drink water regularly throughout the day. Fruit, cheese and biscuits, vegetable sticks, sushi, healthy sandwiches, rice and pasta are just some examples of delicious healthy food to bring for lunch. Please leave chocolate bars, chips, lollies, sweet icing on cakes, pre-prepared and packaged foods with preservatives, artificial additives, and high sodium content at home. Rubbish free lunchboxes - "Nude Food" - are encouraged. Lunches can be heated but cannot be cooked. In hot weather, food should be placed in an insulated bag with an ice brick if it requires refrigeration as we do not have sufficient refrigeration facilities for food.*

Thank you.....

- to Dean, Melissa, Richard, Alistair and their families for volunteering their time last weekend at very short notice to help raise funds for the school. Thank you to Karen for the bread collection and eskys, Kat for the loan of the esky, Ritchies for the donation of sliced onions, Quentin for the invaluable use of the ute. Also to Dana & Eva for pulling it all together and working so hard to make it happen.
- to the wonderful families who spent time weeding the front garden last weekend. It looks fantastic!

Early Years News

From the Ruby Room

Hello everyone,

We had a very busy couple of weeks, children are settling in to the program and getting to know their friends and the educators. We have few new families with young children, new to Montessori and the area, I'm sure they are enjoying getting to know our community.

Ruby room is trying to spruce up the outdoor area and the sleep room in to a nursery. If you have things you would like to donate that would benefit us please speak to Rangi. The children have been doing some gardening and cooking in the afternoon. We have a daily journal near the sign in sheet so feel free to browse.

Enjoy the sunshine and stay cool

Tiny tots and ECP

Rangi

From Cycle 1 (Amethyst & Emerald

WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to all our children and families who have returned this year, and particularly to those who are new to our school. Emerald room welcomes Louisa, Mia, Emmie and their families, whilst Amethyst welcomes Amber, Roscoe, Ralph and their families.

MORNING WORK CYCLE

Our rooms are open from 8:30am each morning for all children. We begin the day with outside play until 9:30am and return to the classrooms until 12 noon.

AFTERNOON PROGRAM

This year, Amethyst and Emerald children are again joining together each afternoon. This term we will be doing maths and language activities, participating in various activities encompassing the theme 'My Place', creating works of art using various mediums, exploring the five senses, and going on nature walks through Mayday Hills.

LUNCHES

Lunch is eaten in each classroom, sitting around a set table. The children practise social courtesies, such as eating with their mouth

closed, asking for an item to be passed, using cutlery, etc. Lunch boxes in both rooms are kept in the kitchen cupboard as we have limited space in our refrigerator. We therefore request that parents put an ice brick in their child's lunchbox to keep the food cool. We have a microwave that we can use to heat your child's food, however please be aware that regulations require us to heat all food to a minimum of 60°C for a period of two minutes. As such, some families prefer to send food in a thermos. **It is important to note that we have a NUT and FISH FREE policy in Early Years due to allergies (shellfish are okay).**

PARENT HELP

All families are welcome and valued in our rooms. Please feel free to approach us if you have a skill you can offer, would like to help out in any way, or your child would like to show you the room or an activity. **Please note that all volunteers/helpers must have a current, valid Working with Children Check.** You can fill out an application online (www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au) then finalise the application at the post office. A copy of this card is to be kept on file at the office.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Cycle 1 children have their PE lesson on Thursday afternoons with Josh, starting next week. It is important that the children bring appropriate footwear for movement and exercise, and a water bottle.

OUTSIDE

On our first day back, the children selected equipment that they would like to play with outside. This was set up on the outdoor trolley for the children to utilise during the morning and afternoon play times. The children are displaying their co-operative skills and are thoroughly engaged in activities encompassing the entire yard. Our kitchen play area is more popular than ever thanks to the handy use of some pallets (donated by Adrian Rodda), which Lisa erected to enlarge the space. Dress-ups are much sought after, and the sandpit and art areas are beautifully shaded and cool. Jessica and some of the children used huge pieces of sturdy cardboard (again thanks to Adrian) to make a cubbyhouse. It was hugely popular – so much so that it was unable to stand up after a couple of days.

Cycle 2 News

From the Moonstone & Turquoise Rooms

Well the year certainly started with a bang; hot weather combined with swimming and new classes left most feeling very tired after the first full week at school. A reminder to families to please provide sun smart clothing, drink bottles and cups at school every day with many children consistently without them making it difficult to run excursions and keep children hydrated and safe in the warm weather.

The children in Turquoise have already commenced lessons on Europe and the Timeline of Man after listening to the third great story which introduces the development of man and how he meets his needs across time. The cooking program this term will follow the European theme as will art.



The children in Moonstone are working hard at our new look spelling program. We are studying Asia, which is fortuitous as two children have just spent some holiday time in Asia, and are able to share their experiences with us. We will follow this Asian theme with our cooking and art programs. The children are enjoying having the choice for supervised outside time in the morning, though it means an early start for families (8.30 to 8.50).

Karen, Nicola, Sonya, Martina and Sue.

Cycle 3 News

From the Tigereye & Topaz Rooms

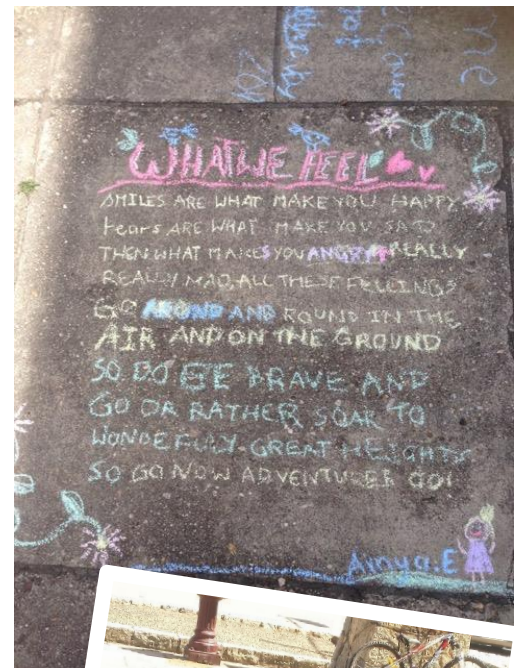
Cycle 3 has had a busy first few weeks. On our first Friday of term, students took part in a cycling workshop at lunch, which they greatly enjoyed. After lunch, we walked to town to watch the arrival of the cyclists in the Jayco Herald Sun Cycling event. Although it was hot, the students had a prime position right on the finish line and delighted in making a lot of welcoming noise with the cowbells they were given. Then came...icecream...The queue at the icecream shop stretched out the door and round the corner.





In Week 2, the children's work really commenced for the term, as we all brushed off the maths cobwebs that had gathered and polished up class structures. Students quickly came up with their own projects, diving into reading, writing and creating models with enthusiasm. Some initiated the production of a Cycle 3 play, with auditions scheduled to take place throughout the day in Week 3.

On Friday of Week 2, the students participated in Street Poetry an event organised by the Beechworth Writers Festival. After walking to town (sweltering in the heat!), students used coloured chalk to record their poems and drawings on the sidewalk in front of the Post Office. Following lunch at the park, we were able to cool off at the pool, as our 5 day swimming program started. What a relief!



Topaz and Tigereye have come together regularly for afternoon activities, including singing, outside games and sport, and we look forward to continuing this close contact during the coming term.

Kat and Alison



Montessori Matters

5 Helpful Back to School Tips: Montessori Style

by emilyj from www.ageofmontessori.org

Well is it that time already? Yes, the beginning of a new school year is here and you'd like to help your child with this upcoming transition. Here are five back to school tips borrowed directly from the Montessori Method which will help your children feel more confident and prepared when returning to school this year.

1.) Build Confidence by Helping Children Help Themselves.

No one could sum it up better than Maria Montessori herself:

"...beyond a certain point every help given to a child is an obstacle to its development."

Encourage independence in your children by allowing them to do for themselves. Look for learning opportunities in everyday tasks: children are far more capable than we realize at times. Yes, this requires some patience on our part, but teaching children how to accomplish a task, rather than just hurrying through it (something I am often guilty of myself) will pay off in a number of different ways.

Most importantly, children gain a sense of empowerment in knowing what they can achieve themselves; and self confidence leads to a happier, more independent young person. The best opportunities are those which your child shows interest in. The next time your child asks "can I try?", jump at this timely chance to foster his/her self development. My children love to help in the kitchen. Reading instructions or measuring/ mixing ingredients are some of their favorites!



2.) Allow Children the Freedom to Make Mistakes



Do you remember the last time you were being shown something new? Did your instructor hover over your shoulder offering a continual stream of instruction? Were you allowed the time to come to your own conclusions, or were you rushed through the process? If you are anything like me, you may have had to review later, at your own pace, before you could really absorb the new information.

Likewise, children must be allowed uninterrupted time to experiment, make mistakes, and repeat tasks to thoroughly learn the "lesson." Of course, it is important to keep kids safe during this process, but do so from a little distance. Give the child a chance to grow, out from under a shadow.

3.) Allow Time for Concentration and Cut-out Distractions

Part of giving children the time to absorb information involves turning off the TV and other distractions. Flashy programs with exciting music and visuals will usually win the contest for your child's attention.

Additionally, it is important to minimize the number of times we adults interrupt our children. Allowing time to focus helps to develop a longer attention span and teaches courtesy and respect. When you must stop a child mid-activity, leave the project out and untouched; then allow the child to return to it at the next possible occasion.



4.) Provide a Sense of Order

Children actually thrive in an orderly environment (...yes, really!) Starting from a very young age, let children know that everything has its place, and encourage them to return things properly before moving on to another activity. This will require that shelves and drawers be accessible and sized appropriately for little people.

Schedules can also be orderly. Children are more comfortable when they know what to expect. Obviously, life does not always fit neatly into an agenda, but having some daily routines can give children a sense harmony. For starters, try establishing consistent morning, evening and/or mealtime customs.



5.) Learn from Nature

This goes for you and your children. Slow down a bit, even if it is for only a half-hour a day. Go outside with your children. Take walks, go to the park, sit and watch birds, or draw pictures. Let your child take photos or collect leaves and flowers, or whatever might strike their fancy. Talk to them about what they find and research the names of plants or animals you have seen together. Perhaps your little ones will want to share some of their summer discoveries in the classroom this year!

Community News

DANCE & ACRO



Ballet, jazz dance and acrobatics classes for preschoolers & school-age children
\$10-\$13/class

Monday afternoons at
Beechworth Primary School

Miss Claire 0439 488 378

TAI CHI QIGONG

STANLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL GROUNDS
2 x 4 WEEK TERMS – \$80 FOR 8 SESSIONS

FIRST TERM

- **SATURDAYS – MARCH 4, 11, 18 AND 25**

- Commencing 10:30am - **Qigong** – Shibashi 1
- Commencing 11:30am - **Tai Chi** for Health & Falls Prevention

- **THURSDAYS – MARCH 9, 16, 23 AND 30**

- Commencing 9:30am - **Qigong** – Shibashi 1

SECOND TERM

- **THURSDAYS – APRIL 20, 27 AND MAY 4, 11**

- Commencing 9:30am - **Qigong** – Shibashi 1

- **SATURDAYS – APRIL 22, 29 AND MAY 6, 13**

- Commencing 10:30am - **Qigong** – Shibashi 1
- Commencing 11:30am - **Tai Chi** for Health & Falls Prevention

BOOKINGS/ENQUIRIES - Rob & Lee Whamond
(03) 5728 6640 Email: qigong@stanleygoose.com.au

Further Information:

Shibashi 1 - www.taichi18.com

Tai Chi /Falls Prevention – www.exercisemedicine.com.au



VICTORY
Lutheran College

2018 SCHOLARSHIPS

FOR YEARS 7, 10 AND 11
IN 2018 ARE CLOSING SOON

With spaces available in our secondary years, apply now for an academic scholarship and see how an education at Victory can give you a leading edge.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE:
Wednesday 1st March 2017
for Scholarship Testing Saturday 18th March 2017

APPLY ONLINE
www.vlc.vic.edu.au

Learning today.
Leading tomorrow.

Aldi MiniRoos - Registrations Now Open go to our website for more information and to register <http://myrtlefordsoccer.com.au/registration/registration>

MiniRoos Information: MiniRoos Kick Off Program will start 21 March to 6 June (2 weeks off for School Holidays) Tuesday night from 5pm - 6pm. Registration Fee \$60
U10's are able to register even though it says 5-9yrs. Gala Days will be advised by the Coach



For any further information please contact Danielle Caponecchia email: dcappa@live.com.au or mobile: 0408 645 231. Any parents interested in helping with the program, please advise Danielle as all help is greatly appreciated.

U13 Girls – We invite girls born in the 2006, 2007 and 2008 to come to training 28 Feb 6pm and try before the season starts,

No commitment to play just see how you go and see if you like it, we would love to have you.



MSSC Training Times @ Savoy Park - All new players welcome to come and try.

U11's	Tuesday 28 Feb 6pm to 7.15pm
U12's	Tuesday 5pm to 6pm
U13Girls	Tuesday 28 Feb 6pm to 7pm
U14's	Tuesday & Thursday 5.45pm to 6.45pm
U16's/Thirds	Tuesday & Thursday 7pm to 8.30pm
Senior & Reserve Women	Tuesday & Thursday 7pm to 8.30pm
Senior & Reserve Men	Tuesday & Thursday 7pm to 8.30pm



The Scots School Albury is proud to host

The Resilience Project

*This is a **FREE** event for teachers, parents and anyone in the community looking to learn new life skills.*

Tuesday 28 February

6.30pm to 8.00pm

Alistair Todd Chapel Hall

(entry via Perry St and Young St)

The Scots School Albury

Resilience has been described as 'the capacity to cope with change and challenge and bounce back during difficult times.' Research tells us that resilience can be learned and that one's level of resilience can be nurtured and developed.

'The Resilience Project' have presented to sell-out audiences around Australia. Do not miss the opportunity to come along and be inspired. You will reflect on your own life, your concept of happiness and your own ability to cope with the challenges that life brings. You'll also develop some strategies to support your family on their road to greater resilience and happiness.

Please use the following link to register your attendance

<http://go.tssa.nsw.edu.au/resilience>



positive partnerships

Working together to support school-aged students on the autism spectrum

Free Two Day Workshop for Parents and Carers

Melbourne

Metro

21 & 22 March 2017

Positive Partnerships is coming to a location near you!

Join us for 2 days of learning with other parents and carers of school aged children on the autism spectrum, designed to help you foster productive school, family and community relationships to provide the best kind of support for your child. Our workshops are for parents, carers and grandparents wanting to understand more about autism and learn practical strategies using evidence based resources to help maximise their young person's learning.

What will you gain by attending this workshop?

- An increased understanding of the impact of autism
- Further knowledge about how to develop effective partnerships with your school
- Information to help you access further support both inside and outside of school
- An opportunity to be part of a support network where you can share strategies and experiences with other parents/carers
- An understanding of a planning tool that can be used to share key information related to your child

Workshop details

Venue: Treacy Centre
126 The Avenue
Parkville VIC 3052

When: Tuesday 21 and Wednesday 22 March 2017
9.30 am – 2.30 pm (Registration from 8.45 am)

Catering: Morning tea and lunch is provided. Please advise any dietary requirements upon registration.

Register Online: positivepartnerships.com.au Registrations open 7 February 2017 and close one business day prior to the workshop. Register early as places are limited!

Questions? If you are not able to register online please call the Positive Partnerships
Infoline : 1300 881 971 or email parentcarer@autismspectrum.org.au

The Positive Partnerships Initiative is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education and Training through the Helping Children with Autism package and is delivered by Autism Spectrum Australia. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government or the Department of Education and Training.

