

Term 3
Week 7 – 26 August 2015
Distributed weekly on Wednesday

03 5728 2940
03 5728 2500
info@bms.vic.edu.au
www.bms.vic.edu.au
42 Gilchrist Avenue
PO Box 306
BEECHWORTH VIC 3747
Find us on facebook
@beechmonty

From the Principal

Term 3 13th July – 18th September

10 weeks

2 pupil free days – Staff qualification updates and networking with
Montessori Australia Foundation Advisor

To Be Advised

Cycle and room excursions if conducted and other events if the need arises

August

28th Friday – Cycle 2 Excursion to Beechworth Library for Book Week
- Amethyst Bakery Excursion 9.30-12

31st Monday – Maria Montessori's birthday

September

2nd Wednesday – Father's Day Night 5-6pm

4th Friday – School Athletics Carnival

7th Monday – Pupil Free Day – Staff networking & MAF
Representative meeting

8th Tuesday – 17th Thursday – Cycle 2&3 Parent teacher interviews.

Rooms schedules to be communicated prior to this date

10th Thursday – Cycle 3 Athletics, Wodonga

15th Tuesday – International Peace Day Celebrations 1.30pm

18th Friday – End of Term 3. 2.15pm finish

Last term our Early Years programs were assessed under the National Regulations and we have now received our final assessment and rating report and result.

The service was rated overall as **Exceeding** the National Quality System with exceeding ratings in 6 of the 7 quality areas. This

is the result of a great deal of hard work over a consistent period of time from a great group of trained and skilled educators and administrative team. I'm very proud of the result and the work of everyone involved.

Heather


General News

Father's Day Night – Cycle 1, 2 & 3 rooms Wednesday September 2nd 5-6pm Spend some quality time with your child. See what work they do, have your child become your teacher.

Lunch Orders – Week 8

Sushi – vegetarian (carrot, cucumber, capsicum, avocado) or tuna (tuna, carrot, cucumber, capsicum, avocado) \$1.50 per roll

Service Approval Number: SE-40001241



Beechworth Montessori

has achieved the following ratings:

Quality Area 1	Educational program and practice RATING: Exceeding NQS
Quality Area 2	Children's health and safety RATING: Meeting NQS
Quality Area 3	Physical environment RATING: Exceeding NQS
Quality Area 4	Staffing arrangements RATING: Exceeding NQS
Quality Area 5	Relationships with children RATING: Exceeding NQS
Quality Area 6	Collaborative partnerships with families and communities RATING: Exceeding NQS
Quality Area 7	Leadership and service management RATING: Exceeding NQS


The overall rating for a service is determined by the combination of the Quality Area ratings achieved.

If a service is rated below the National Quality Standard in any Quality Area, the overall rating will reflect the lowest Quality Area rating. To achieve an overall rating of Exceeding National Quality Standard, a service needs to achieve Exceeding National Quality Standard in four or more Quality Areas of which two must be from Quality Area 1, Quality Area 5, Quality Area 6 or Quality Area 7.

This service is rated overall at
Exceeding NQS

Department of Education and Training
Date of issue: 10 August 2015
This service has been assessed against the National Quality Standard for Early Childhood Education and Care and School Age Care and these ratings have been awarded in accordance with the Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010 and the Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

ASR-00011062
Department Reference Number



Italian

Students have been learning about “dove abiti?” (Where do you live?) and house labelling. They learnt how to label in Italian their rooms and their homes using pictures, drawings and even computer software.

We studied ordinal numbers such as “Primo, secondo etc” up to tenth.



Also as part of their review, students have been creating a movie in their Italian classes using typical questions such as “come ti chiami?”, “quanti anni hai?” etc. They created their own scripts, backgrounds and characters. They were very imaginative with their selections, some chose to be a shark,

a vampire, a cow, a bird, Frankenstein, a fairy and even a talking brain! Everyone worked really well and enjoyed the movie activity.

Cycle 2&3

Food Safety, Microwave Use and School Lunches

Children are welcome to bring food that required heating and/or refrigeration to school. However, a few friendly reminders for families...

1. Parents are encouraged to send food to school in insulated lunch boxes to help keep food at safe temperatures.
2. Children are responsible for putting food that requires refrigeration into the fridge – staff do not check lunch boxes for food that requires refrigeration
3. Hot food can always be sent in a thermos and therefore heated to appropriate temperatures at home before school
4. Children are responsible for reheating their own food in the microwave – staff do not do this. As such, you need to be aware that Government Health and Safety Regulations suggest that food should be heated to 70°C for 2 min prior to consumption to reduce the risk of food poisoning– this is extremely hot and the children would rarely, if ever, achieve this. Whether or not you send food that requires heating is therefore a family's choice, and you need to decide if your child has the skills to safely reheat food.
5. Please reconsider the use of plastic containers in the microwave. See explanation below.

Containers for microwaving

If possible, when using the microwave, we encourage families/children provide glass containers or to transfer food to one of the plates or bowls available in the classroom kitchen. We encourage you not to send food for reheating in plastic containers that are not deemed as ‘microwave safe’. A Choice article from 2014 (<https://www.choice.com.au/food-and-drink/food-warnings-and-safety/plastic/articles/plastics-and-food>) about Plastics and Food makes the following recommendation:

“While some plastics such as polypropylene (often used for take-away containers) seem to be OK, as a general rule it's probably safer to avoid using any plastic containers when cooking or reheating food in a microwave oven. Use glass containers for high-fat foods, as toxic chemicals are more likely to migrate into fatty foods at high temperatures.”

Further articles on this topic:

<http://www.abc.net.au/health/thepulse/stories/2010/05/06/2891787.htm>

<http://www.csiro.au/en/Research/Health/Food-safety/Microwave-oven-safety>

Ruby Room News

Hi everyone,

We were fortunate to have staff from the Beechworth Childcare Centre coming to observe our classroom and it was helpful to have their positive feedback. We also have Nick Smith on placement for his Certificate III placement in the early years classes at our school. He will be spending 2 days in Ruby Room and Sally from Moonstone and Melissa from Amethyst will be coming in for observations as well. So if you see adults sitting around and writing notes this is why and I hope everyone is comfortable with this. Please let me know if you are not.

If you have a tasty, healthy recipe that your child enjoys to eat then send it to me so I can add it to the pile of recipes beginning to collect for our recipe booklet. My email address is michaelarouch8@gmail.com

Parent tip: It may be quicker for you to put your child's activity away but you are depriving her the opportunity to develop the pathways in the brain that are formed when doing something with their hands and head. It is also the conclusion of their activity and reinforces them seeing through or finishing off of a task started. If they need assistance it is possible to encourage them with your help but they do the bulk of it. If your child is too young to carry the basket to the shelf you can show them how to put it back.

Enjoy

Michaela, Geraldine and Lisa

Cycle 1 News

Amethyst

Zoology

The children have been studying mammals. Here are some sentences they wrote;

Mammals are vertebrates.

Mammals have live babies.

Mammals drink their mother's milk.

Mammals breathe with their lungs.

Most mammals have 4 legs.

Mammals have hair.

A dolphin is a mammal.

A bear is a mammal.

A kangaroo is a mammal.

A person is a mammal.

Cooking

Last week we cooked pea soup. Most of the children couldn't get past the colour of it but there were a few in the class (and the teachers) who really enjoyed it.

Ingredients	Method
2 tab olive oil 20g butter ½ tsp ground cumin 2 tsp grated ginger 1 onion finely chopped 1 potato cubed ½ bunch coriander 500g peas 3 cups stock 2 tab sweet chilli sauce 200ml sour cream juice of 1 lemon	1. Heat oil and butter 2. Add cumin and ginger 3. Add onion potato, stock and coriander 4. Add peas and boil 5. Puree, then add lemon juice 6. Serve with sour cream and sweet chilli sauce

On Friday (28/8/15) the children from Amethyst will be visiting the Beechworth Bakery to make shortbread biscuits and bread, and engage in discussion about the job of a baker. Yesterday we began our bread-making program: we baked basic white rolls. We will bake more bread in the room during the week leading up to the excursion. We also plan to get some sour dough starter from Tigereye to make our own sour dough with, and to make flat bread and baguettes.

"Books light up our world."

This week is book week and the children in Amethyst have been invited to bring their favourite book to put on the bookshelf and share with their friends. During circle we will read as many books as we can. We have read Tameeka's favourite

childhood book, "The big Orange Splot", Martina's husbands favourite "The Giant Jam Sandwich" and Angel's favourite "Mr Noisy". We are focussing on identifying the title, the author and the illustrator. Then we discuss what we can see on the front cover and try to make predictions about the story. Once we have read the story the children respond to how it made them feel and answer some comprehension questions. We are looking forward to reading the children's favourite books during the week.

Perceptual Motor Program

We continue with the perceptual motor program (PMP) on Wednesday afternoons. Last week the children were engaged in rotational activities with balls:

1. bounce ball with dominant hand
2. throw ball onto target drawn on wall
3. hit ball into target with a bat
4. bounce and catch ball around witches hats
5. throw and catch ball while walking along balance beam

Tameeka, Melissa, Martina, Lisa

Emerald

With the dreadful winter bugs, we have had a few children and Lynda away for extended periods of time. Please be mindful that the bug currently affecting people takes a long period of time to get over. Your child may return to school and be functioning well for a day or two, then may need to have a rest day. (I know this is certainly the case for me as I recover).

Many thanks to Wiggy for providing the consistency, routine and continuity for the children during my absence. Also, thanks to Khy and Katrina for so ably stepping in.

Lou Ritchie visited our class on Monday morning to introduce the notion of a sourdough culture to the children. She brought in some dough which children made bread with and left us with a culture to feed and look after. We have talked about how we will use the culture and plan to separate it for baking, and will use the remainder to conduct some experiments and undertake observations over time. We have developed a booklet called the "Scientists Observation Notebook" and will be recording notes in it each day to monitor the progress of the culture. We will also be conducting some experiments to determine the impacts of temperature and differing amounts of food and water on the culture. This will kick start a broader interest in science and experiments over the remainder of the term.

Lynda, Wiggy and Geraldine

Montessori Matters – Part 1

Cybersafety Education Parent Education Session at BMS 19/8/15 presented by Leon Higgins, Youth Resource Officer Victorian Police Force.

Issues

- Cyberbullying
- Sexting
- Online grooming and unwanted attention
- Online privacy and digital footprint

Facebook is trending down in use.

Instagram, Snapchat, instant messaging are increasing in use.

Technologies used – mobile devices, laptops, desktops, internet enabled devices.

Platforms – social networking sites, instant messaging, video conferencing, websites, blogs, forums, online games, SMS and emails, in-apps.

Negative behaviours:

- Repeated insults
- Pranks and threats
- Personal image/media sharing
- Rumours and personal information
- Defamation and identity theft
- Masquerading
- Hate/voting/rating sites

- Sexually explicit/offensive images

Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying is the use of technology to bully an individual or a group with the intent to cause harm. The intended harm may be social, psychological and, in extreme cases, physical. Cyberbullying can cause fear, withdrawal, shame, guilt, loneliness or depression.

Cyberbullying follows you everywhere, 24/7 and to a large audience.

The internet is largely an adult space and children accessing it are exposed to unlimited dangers. If children are not happy with parents/adults looking over their shoulder at the screen, then they probably shouldn't be doing what they are or looking at what they are.

Children must be discouraged from interacting with people that they don't personally know.

Parents must be aware of what technology and platforms their children are using and what behaviours are being exhibited by their child and others.

Cyberbullying can lead to up to 10 years in jail. Now a crime under the Crimes Act S21A. It applies to everyone. Age makes no difference. Over the age of 10 years of age it is presumed under the law that a person can form a guilty mind.

Tips for preventing cyberbullying

- Talk openly with children about cyberbullying.
- Work out strategies for potential issues together.
- Let them know that you will support them.
- Ensure that they are using age appropriate services and that they are able to block and report unwanted contact.

- Next week – Sexting, Online grooming and unwanted attention, Online privacy and digital footprint

Community News

Registrations close on the 30th August 2015 for the upcoming Myrtleford Basketball season. To register google Myrtleford District Basketball Association & follow the links. Get in quick so you don't miss out!!



This Friday night!



Indian Vegetarian Curry

Amandhi will teach you how to make traditional chapathi (flat bread) and amazing lentil dish as well as paneer. Then you will dine as a group in the historic BNC hall.

All recipes included. Please BYO alcohol to enjoy with your meal.

Where: Beechworth Neighbourhood Centre, 30 Ford St, Beechworth
When: Friday 28th August
Time: 6.30pm – 9.30pm
Cost: \$55.00

HURRY, only 3 places available for this course so please book your place by calling us on 03 5728 2386