



*Full newsletter is distributed fortnightly with a brief memo in alternate weeks.*

### From the Principal

Thanks to everyone that attended and helped with the Bush Dance on Friday. Conrad and Squidjig kept the hall moving and special guest fiddler Kat Beaton was an excellent addition to the band. We had over 100 attend and it was suggested that we should hold these at least once, if not twice a year as it was great fun and mixed everyone up from across our community. Thanks to Nicola who is the person on staff that ensured the event happened on Friday, when we had 3 staff away, and those left were all working extremely hard back at school. Nicola's simply planned decorations for the hall of wattle, hessian and blossom looked great, she spent all afternoon setting up, so the night was a success. Fee, Melissa, Karen and Martina all helped with cooking, collecting money, tidying up and dancing. Lou's bread was delicious, as were the soups, thank you if you brought one, or donated goods to the raffle, which was won by Martina. Quentin's amazing table (not the actual prize, but similar to it) held pride of place in the entrance of the hall, and we will be continuing to sell tickets for this, up until our concert, when the winner of the table will be drawn. In all; between the raffle and the dance, we took nearly \$800, so the night also proved to be a great fundraiser. We have dedicated monies donated from Ritchies Community Benefit donations to pay for the band, so thank-you also to our local supermarket, and to all families that list us to receive rewards. However most of all thanks to the children for their hard work leading up to the Bush Dance, and fun on the night!

The Cycle 1, 2 and 3 staff have all worked before and after school over the last couple of weeks, making themselves available for parent teacher interviews. I hope these have been great conversations, and helpful to ensure we all understand and best cater for your child/ren's learning.

I am pleased to be able to confirm that Rangi Perera will be joining our Early Years next term, working primarily in Ruby Room and facilitating Tots. Please note, we are presently advertising for a Cycle Director, and a Communication, Compliance and Human Resources Officer. Information about both opportunities are on our and the MAF website.

As you are all aware, it has been a long term with lots of illness. I think everyone, children, parents and staff are ready for a well-earned break. Thank you to all staff who have worked extremely hard this term. I will be taking leave between Thursday 22 and Thursday 29 September, but am available early next week, should you wish to catch up with me about anything.

Kind Regards, Bron Martin



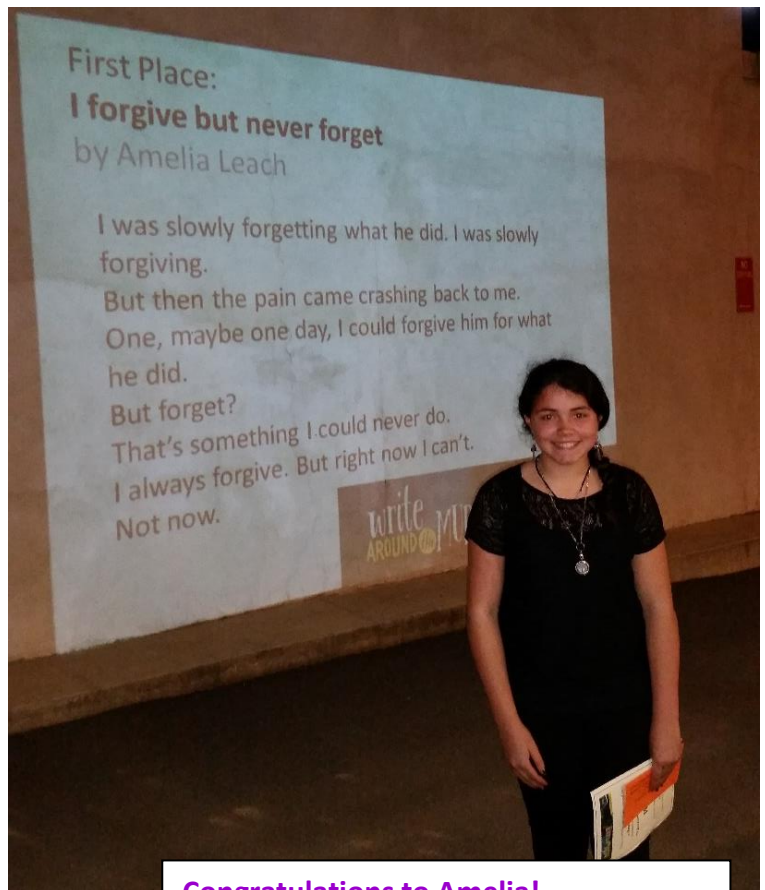
### Lost Property

- On Monday afternoon an **Apidra Solostar Insulin Pen** was found on the steps outside the front of the school. If it is yours please pick it up from the office.
- Last term an ipod and a watch were found (independently of each other) in the car park. If you think they might be yours please come and see us in the office.
- After school finishes on Friday all items in the Cycle 2 & 3 lost property will be taken to the op shop. Please check before the items leave the school forever!

### Invitation to see the children in action in Moonstone

Moonstone students are showcasing their projects for parents, friends and family on Thursday 15th September. You are invited to join us at any point during the day.

The projects do not capture a specific theme but are glimpses of what has interested the children throughout the term so they are wide and varied in terms of ideas and passion.



### Congratulations to Amelia!

Amelia was one of 3 winners out of 618 participants in the Write Around the Murray Nano bite competition. She won the Grade 5/6 age group and was presented with her prize at the Albury Library Museum on Thursday 8th September. Her poem is being projected on the wall at the museum for the next month.

## Soccer Holiday Clinics



**Locations:**  
South Wangaratta Reserve  
Yackandandah Sportpark  
La Trobe University, Wodonga

**Special Guest:**  
Former Soccerroo Josh Kennedy on Wednesday  
28th September at the Wodonga Clinic

**Cost**  
\$40 per day or  
\$100 for 3 days (Wodonga  
Only)

**Times**  
9am - 1pm

**Ages**  
5-14 years



**Wangaratta: Monday 19th September - Tuesday 20th September**  
**Yackandandah: Thursday 22nd September - Friday 23rd September**  
**Wodonga: Tuesday 27th September - Thursday 29th September**

To book a place, please email [admin@murrayunitedfc.com.au](mailto:admin@murrayunitedfc.com.au) or call 0402 421 297 today!



**BRIGHT RED**  
POTENTIAL TO EXCELLENCE



### A few things.....

- Tiny Tots is not running this week. It will restart again next term from Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October facilitated by Rangi.
- The first day of Term 4, Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October is a **Pupil Free Day** as all our staff travel to Melbourne Montessori for professional development. Please make a note of this in your calendar.



## Learning at Beechworth Montessori

### The Critical Importance of Literacy, Part 2:

***“There is no such thing as a child who hates to read; there are only children who have not found the right book yet.” Frank Serafini***

#### ***Know your Lexile level!***

Realising we are about to break for the holidays and also building on the information in last week's newsletter, I wanted to provide all of our families with some further information that can help you and your budding or accomplished readers select some great reading material over the break. This tool is the Lexile.

The Lexile is a measurement tool or framework that seeks to evaluate how difficult a text is to read. It does this through measuring word frequency and sentence strength, among other things, with the aim of having a standard scientific measurement system that can be used across any book or text. The Lexile scale begins at BR (Beginning Reader), which is a level below 0 L (Lexile), and runs to above 2000L (Lexile). There are over 100 million books, articles and websites that have been graded according to their Lexile level to date.

Here are some examples of books graded according to Lexile:

Book Title	Author	Lexile
The Cat in the Hat	Dr Seuss	260L
The Very Hungry Caterpillar	Eric Carle	460L
The Giving Tree	Shel Silverstein	530L
Charlotte's Webb	E.B. White	680L
Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone	J.K.Rowling	880L
A Tale of Two Cities	Charles Dickens	990L
The Hobbit	J.R. Tolkien	1000L
Gone with the Wind	Margaret Mitchell	1100L

Like any measurement system, the Lexile is not without its faults and it certainly doesn't take into account a child or person's interest in the subject matter, (something very relevant to a child's engagement), nor can it be relied upon without question. Nevertheless, choosing books at the right reading level for children can make reading more fun, less frustrating, more successful and therefore more likely to occur in an ongoing capacity. Lexile levels can also provide a means of stretching children to try something a little harder or to read a particular text with the help of an adult, who can support them to try something more difficult than they would otherwise choose for themselves.

If you would like to check the Lexile level of any book or text, try using this link:

<https://www.lexile.com/fab/results/>

Beechworth Montessori children from Prep to Cycle 3 have all been assessed for their reading level so that we can best tailor reading to their specific ability, strengths and weaknesses. If you would like to check the assessed reading level of your child please speak to your child's Director.

If you would like any further information on using Lexile's please don't hesitate to contact me.

These holidays remember, ***“Children are made readers on the laps of their parents.” Emilie Buchwald***

Kind regards & enjoy your break!

Nicola Bussell

***“One of the greatest gifts adults can give, is to read to children.” Carl Sagan***



International circus artists Xavier and Zoe Pinard are pleased to offer circus classes in the public hall, Yackandandah.

Through skills such as trapeze, tumbling, handstands, juggling or pyramids, your children will have fun while developing core strength, balance and agility.

For more information or to enrol please email Zoe. [xavierzoe@mac.com](mailto:xavierzoe@mac.com)



We Learn. We Build. We Play.

## SCHOOL HOLIDAY WORKSHOP

using LEGO® Bricks

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> Sept

Themes include Clash of Bricks (based on the popular Clash of Clans computer game) and Robotics (with EV3 Mindstorm technology).

Lots of fun building and playing with LEGO bricks for ages 5+ (robotics 9+)

Half day (\$35) or Full day (\$70)

For a full description and to book online visit

[www.bricks4kidz.com.au/mansfieldvic](http://www.bricks4kidz.com.au/mansfieldvic) or email

[kynobi@bricks4kidz.com](mailto:kynobi@bricks4kidz.com)



UNDERSTAND ALZHEIMER'S  
SUPPORT AUSTRALIA  
FIGHTDEMENTIA.ORG.AU

# Introduction to dementia

## An information session for the community of Beechworth

This session aims to build the knowledge and skills of the Beechworth community to support those who have dementia to live well.

Content covered:

- How the brain works
- What is dementia?
- Communicating well
- Supporting and engaging the person with dementia



## WHEN

**WEDNESDAY  
21 SEPTEMBER 2016**

2:00pm - 3:30pm

## WHERE

Beechworth Health Service Function Room  
52 Sydney Road (Entrance 3)

## BEECHWORTH

**COST** Free

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

RSVP to Beechworth Health Service

03 5728 0200

[anna.mackinlay@bhs.hume.org.au](mailto:anna.mackinlay@bhs.hume.org.au)



Zumba people are shinier and happier. And also - more fit. Fit people are able to get more out of their time on this planet. Come join Beechworth's first Zumba group (Latin music inspired cardio dance workout). Beginning Sept 7th, every Wednesday from 9:30am to 10:30am and every Thursday from 6pm to 7pm, at Quercus Beechworth (previously known as the Neighborhood Center - 30 Ford Street).

Visit

[peggyleung.zumba.com](http://peggyleung.zumba.com)

or join "Zumba with Peggy" on Facebook for more details and future class schedule.

\$12 casual visit. \$10 punch card per visit.

## You are not alone

For information, support and advice

**CALL 1800 100 500**

VIA AN INTERPRETER  
**131 450**

**GO TO [FIGHTDEMENTIA.ORG.AU/VIC](http://FIGHTDEMENTIA.ORG.AU/VIC) FOR MORE ON DEMENTIA AWARENESS MONTH**

The National Dementia Helpline and Dementia Awareness Month are funded by the Australian Government.