



Term 4 Week 10 – 8 December 2016

Full newsletter will be distributed fortnightly with a brief memo in alternate weeks.

Have you returned your parent pack forms?
They were due back last week.
We would appreciate it if you return them by Friday 9th December.
Thank you.

Term 4, 2016 3rd October – 15th December *11 weeks*

December

9th Friday – Graduation Dinner
15th Thursday – Last Day of Term – 3.15pm finish
15th Thursday – Christmas Catch Up & Graduation at The Priory
15th Thursday – Last Day of Term – 3.15pm finish
19th Monday – Extra ECP 9am to 5.30pm
20th Tuesday – Extra ECP 12pm to 5.30pm

January

24th Tuesday – Extra ECP 9am to 3.15pm
25th Wednesday – Extra ECP 9am to 5.30pm

February

1st Wednesday – First Day of Term 1

Term 1, 2017 1st February – 31st March *9 weeks*

From the Principal

This week's newsletter will be a long one so we are going to wrap up the term next week with a newsletter on the final day instead of a memo.

I have been away sick this week but am back today. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the all the staff who are going above and beyond at the moment. In particular the directors for all the work they have put into reports. I have been reading them over the past two weeks and continue to be impressed at the level of knowledge and understanding of each child.

Reports will be finalised and distributed on Tuesday next week. I encourage you to contact your director if you have any queries in regards to the content of the reports.

Have a great week.

Kind Regards, Bron Martin

Christmas Gathering

Next **Thursday 15th December** is the Montessori Christmas Gathering in the gardens of the Priory. This is an opportunity for us as a community to come together, acknowledge the year that has been, celebrate our children, and as a community wish each other well for Christmas and the Summer break.

There will be some short formalities so please be at the Priory at 5pm for a 5:15pm start.

Marisa Quigley is playing live at 6pm.

There will be a barbecue dinner available and the bar will be open.

We hope to see everyone there.

It is helpful for catering purposes if you could let the office know if you are attending for the barbecue.

Please call me if you have any queries on 0422 337 735.

Thanks

Dannielle.

Beechworth Montessori School's Chinese Program

The elective Chinese program started this year with 2 classes (one for Cycle 2/3 and one for Cycle 1) on every Monday afternoon. In these classes, the children learn Chinese through a variety of activities such as singing, games, acting and art. They also had the opportunity to showcase their Chinese singing talent in the Guitar/Chinese concert at the end of Term 3.

I am very pleased with the children's progress through the year and it never fails to amaze me how much students can achieve through their persistence, patience and effort. Learning a second language is not easy. Apart from the general differences such as sentence structures and grammar, Chinese has the added complexity of intonation (which can sound unusual and confusing to non-Chinese) and the hundreds of thousands of different Chinese characters being formed with the combinations of 8 strokes!

Therefore, I would like to congratulate the Chinese students on their outstanding learning attitude and wonderful progress made. Here are some of the things the children in **both classes** have learnt and experienced this year:

- Many Chinese words
- Use a combination of words to form a more embellished sentence
- Sing nursery rhymes in Chinese and other Chinese songs
- Learn about Chinese Festivals
- Art and craft related to Chinese culture or the themes that they are learning
- Performed in a Guitar/Chinese concert in Term 3.
(For photos and videos of the concert, please go to www.facebook.com/bulmersinbeechworth)

Apart from those listed above, the Cycle 2/3 children are also able to:

- Recognise questions and answer accordingly in Chinese
- Recognise and write some Chinese characters
- Using their knowledge of words, they can understand my conversation in Chinese and translate what I said.

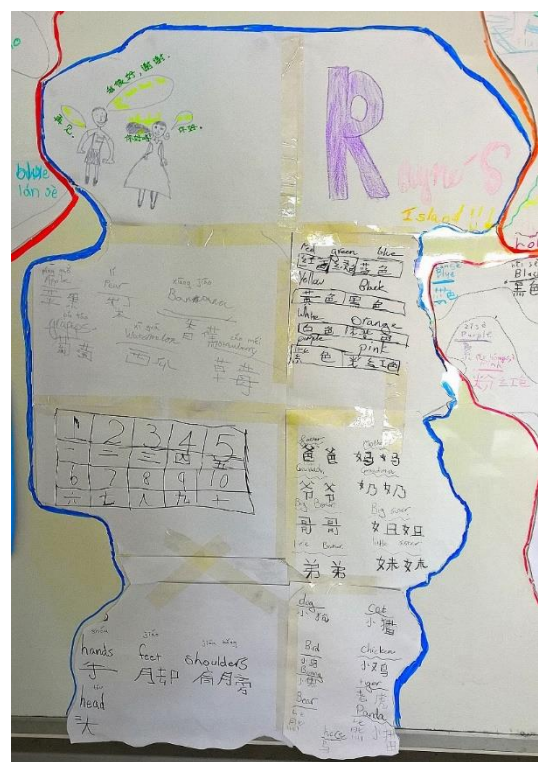
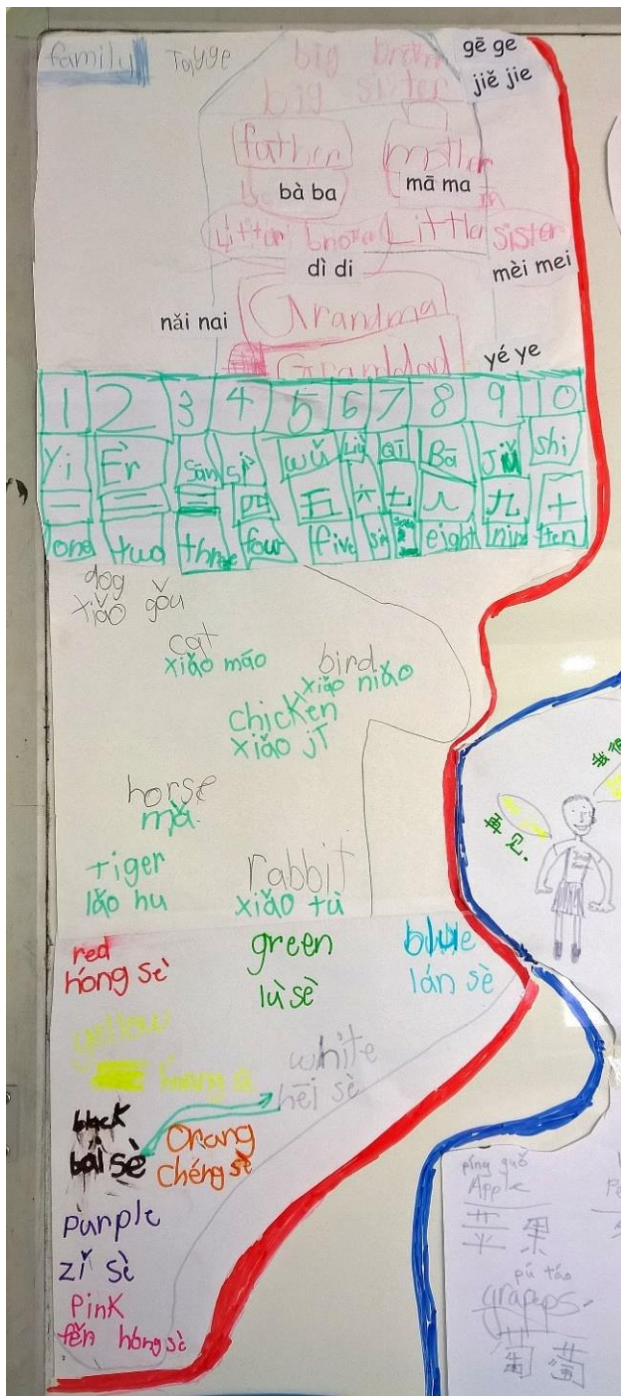
I'm looking forward to 2017, meeting new students (children or adults) and working with the continuing classes, who I will be looking forward to having more conversations with in Chinese! For those who are interested in the Chinese program or have any other questions, please contact me on leesokyi@yahoo.com or 0404 617 650.

You can also contact me through the contact form in www.bulmersinbeechworth.com or www.facebook.com/bulmersinbeechworth
Have a safe and happy holiday!

(Shèng dàn kuài lè) - Merry Christmas
年快乐(Xīn nián kuài lè) - Happy New Year



The Cycle 2/3 Chinese class created these maps with islands based on some of the themes they have learnt in Chinese classes. Have a look at the respective Chinese characters and Pinyin for each word!



Wood Fired Oven

It's been a really big year for many of us with commitments, unforeseen changes, and all the events, joys and dramas life brings.... as a result the building of our wood fired oven has not evolved quite as quickly as previously hoped. However, I'm pleased to say that it is evolving, slowly but surely.

Thanks to Matt Saunders for collecting the oven kit from where it has been stored for the past year, transporting it up to school and unloading the whole tonne of it with me, brick by brick!

Xavier Pinard has been invaluable in this project with his skills in design and construction in any medium, this time in cutting and laying a sort of massive jigsaw of calcium silicate board, which is the sub-floor insulation for the oven. We then mixed and moulded a layer of refractory castable (like cement but with better heat retention) over the top. This will act as a heat bank, which will allow for a longer cooking time.

The next step is to lay 267 bricks to be precise, starting with the oven floor and then building up the dome shape. The bricks are cut to various shapes - and all have very specific places they need to be fitted. The beauty of spending a bit extra on the kit is that the cutting and shaping has been done for us and we should end up with a nice neat dome shape.

We plan to finish this and hopefully the final stages of the oven in the holidays. If you're around in January and would like to participate, please give me a call and we'll count you in!

Beck Swift - 5728 1393 or 0429 336 182

SLUSHIES

We are raising money for the Syrian refugees.

Did you know there are 4.8 million refugees and 8.7 predicted to be inside Syria?

They get lots of air strikes and fires.

Do you know how lucky we are?

We are really lucky compared to them.

On Friday 9th December we are serving slushies to raise money for them.

Homemade Berry Slushies \$3 each

Place your order in the foyer.

We will also be serving them at the Beechworth Youth Festival this Saturday 10th December from 4pm.

Cooper, Bertie, Eli & Sophie

Thank you

To the Mitchell family for the kind donation of a lovely and very comfortable couch for our staff area. It will be put to good use as soon as we have the area organised.

To our cleaner, maintenance and all round fixit guy Dick Carey for his ongoing support around the school to us all. He always works out a way to fix any building issues, picks up items (like the couch) at a day's notice, loads the skips and is easgoing, helpful and flexible.

Early Years News

From the Ruby Room

A big hello from Ruby Room,
Wow!! We are in December. The children in the care program have been busy making Christmas ornaments and fireworks paintings. We have a beautiful Christmas tree branch decorated in the room with decorations made by children. A big thank you to all the families who have donated gifts to children under DHS in the region. Not many of these children will receive a present for Christmas so I've asked families if they could donate a (new gift in a gift bag with the age group written on the tag) to be placed under the Christmas tree in Ruby Room. Friday the 9th of December is the last day before delivery. This will make a special Christmas for those less fortunate so thank you for your thoughts.

Ruby Room has been busy helping to improve our soft fall area, we take a couple of trips to the cycle two/ three yard to get tanbark. The children take a wheel barrow, spades buckets and fill the wheelbarrow and bring it back to the Ruby playground.

Emerald Room have a beautiful baby duckling that we like to visit. The children call it "Zeek" the Ruby Room children were able to help give Zeek his first bath, it was very exciting.

Usually we do cooking activities in the afternoon, most of the children are quite hungry when they come to ruby room so it is a relaxing and fun activity they can fill their hungry tummies with. Last week we made blueberry and banana milk shakes and egg wraps.

Tiny Tots are enjoying their new friends and families and getting to know the room and the school. We have families coming from Albury, Wodonga, Whorouly and in between.

We welcome all the new families that moved from Melbourne and we hope you enjoy all the wonderful things this region and the Beechworth Montessori School has to offer.

Have a great week.

Rangi, Lisa, Sue and Geraldine



From Cycle 1 (Amethyst and Emerald)

FAREWELL MORNING TEA WITH GERALDINE

Geraldine enjoyed a week of kind words, well wishes and delightful gifts. On Friday the Cycle 1 children and staff had a morning tea in the playground for Geraldine, it was a lovely way to thank Geraldine for all her work and wish her well on her journey to motherhood.



HATCHING EGGS

Last week on Monday morning one egg was cracked. By 10:30am the hatchling was out. At 11:30am we found another cracked egg. The second hatchling was out by 3pm. Sadly, overnight one of our ducklings didn't make it. There were no more hatchlings. It was an unexpectedly low result, we have one lonely duckling, Zeek, who gets lots of love from the Cycle 1 children.



SOCCER

Last Friday afternoon the children participated in a soccer session run by Jayden and Matt from Little Kickers in Myrtleford. They had a lot of fun taking balls from Matt while he was sleeping, drumming on their feet, rolling the ball like a hotdog and pizza, and kicking goals.



FAMILY PICNIC

We had perfect weather on Tuesday for our family picnic. The children thoroughly enjoyed showing their favourite activities in the classrooms before moving outside to eat, socialise, and play.



Cycle 2 News

From the Moonstone Room

Please pack an extra shopping bag so we can take home all our creations, work and extras to enjoy over Christmas.

As the Christmas break approaches Moonstone students have been enjoying the excitement and anticipation of opening up 'windows' of an Advent Calendar. 'Advent' comes from the Latin word for 'coming' and traditionally marks the 24 days leading up to Christmas, the time we attribute to the birth of Jesus Christ. Just as we teach the culture and significance of other religions and cultural celebrations, we are taking the opportunity to teach the students a little about why we celebrate Christmas in Australia. Students have welcomed having a new topic to explore whilst undertaking their handwriting tasks, language exercises, grammar activities and art for the next week as the school year draws to an end.



We have been learning to be responsible for our own learning, we are also concentrating on following directions and listening to instructions. You can see we had to be attentive and careful as we made the sunflowers. They were tricky but we persisted and worked hard to make these colourful flowers. We have also been working in teams, this worked well as we held a 'trivia mapping session', the children whispered and worked together to answer the questions, and celebrated each other's successes. Time was spent celebrating children projects, they present their findings, in poster, picture and information format, then take them home to show off a little. We also ask for permission to add to our project book so the wider community is aware of what these wonderful children are capable of.

We wish you a relaxing and safe holiday. We are looking forward to a fantastic New Year

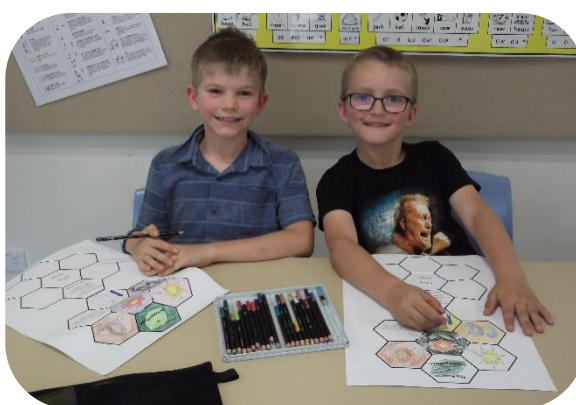


From the Turquoise Room

Geography: We have been learning about grid references on maps and then extend this into lines of latitude, longitude and GPS systems!

Botany: We have been learning about photosynthesis, what it means, what plant use and what plants make.

Art: We have made beautiful sunflowers to reflect the earning of this term—including corolla and seeds.



Cycle 3 News

From the Tigereye Room

Reflections....

Last week, I marvelled at some of the wonderful things going on around the room. Sometimes the best work just seems to evolve around you and all you can do is sit back and watch.

Here are some things I noticed happening last week... Some students were busy working on their model of Anzac Cove; some other students were busy moving our 'tree of life' (with all of the plasticine creatures!) out into the foyer, considering ways to prop it up and show the various branches; another student was doing some craft— making a Christmas star out of felt; some other students were preparing to film their scenes for an Australian history movie; someone else was writing up some numbers involving many decimal places on a very large piece of paper; someone else was making flyers for slushies that they are planning to make and sell to fundraise for Syrian refugees and someone else was drawing a map for a playground orienteering course. What a wonderful dynamic, evolving thing is a Cycle 3 Montessori class and how lucky am I to be able to be a part of it!

Lately, I find myself thinking about 'work' and what it really is. What comes to mind is a conversation I had with a Montessori adolescent student who had been working in the veggie garden with a friend, weeding some garden beds. A non-Montessori student passed by and said 'Don't you Montessori students *ever* do any *real* work?' and the Montessori student replied, 'This IS work!'

I really loved hearing this story as it made me think about what work is and how a Montessori perspective of work may sometimes be a little bit different. Sometimes work is something that really taxes the brain like some tricky algebra or a difficult comprehension task. Sometimes work is creating something beautiful with a needle and thread or some coloured pencils and a piece of paper, or a hand trowel and a bunch of weeds. Or maybe sometimes work is doing something kind for someone else, like helping someone clean out their cubby or cleaning out the classroom pantry so that it's nice for everyone else.

Whatever kind of work you're doing (or not doing!), wishing all of you a wonderful, peaceful Christmas and a relaxing summer holiday with the people you love.

Kat

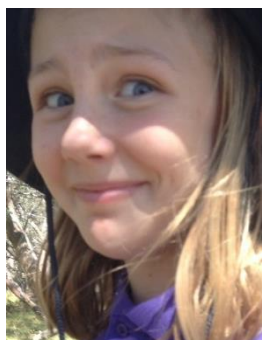
From the Topaz Room

Congratulations to our graduating Year 6 students.

Our rooms are full of excitement as we prepare for our year 6 graduation dinner. The students begun the celebrations by walking down to Splat Cartoons to get their portrait draw by Adrian Osbourne. We then ventured over to the ice-cream shop for a double scoop of delicious ice-cream. This week our year 5 students will spend Thursday and Friday cooking the feast for our Friday night dinner. They will also serve their friends and families during the evening.

This tradition celebrates the collaboration and generosity of our oldest students. They have been incredible role-models for the rest of the school in the way they have assisted our younger students, peer taught friends and supported teachers.

So on behalf of Kat and myself we would like to congratulate our year six students and wish them well on their journey to secondary college. Thanks for your friendship, warmth, empathy and sense of humour!



Community News

CHILL OUT THIS SUMMER @ YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY

FOR SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN

Heroes and villains!

Is the theme for this year's **Summer Reading Club**

Children get ready to unleash their imaginations as they discover heroes, villains, sidekicks and more in this year's Summer Reading Club program: Heroes and Villains.

The 2016 Summer Reading Club program will officially run from **Thursday, 1 December 2016 to Tuesday, 31 January 2017**.

Discover great Australian authors and illustrators! Registration, reading records, stickers and prizes are available at your local library. Check your branch for details

School holiday programs

Will include stories and craft sessions, designed around the theme of "Heroes and villains", on Wednesdays 11, 18, 25 January 2017 at:

Beechworth 10am- 11am

Chiltern 9am-10am

Rutherglen 11am-12pm

Yackandandah 10am-11am

Bookings are essential, contact your local branch

PRESCHOOL AGE CHILDREN

Regular story time sessions will carry on throughout the summer holidays.

BEECHWORTH FRIDAYS 10:30am – 11:30am





APPROVED SOCCER TRAINING FOR KIDS FROM
18 MONTHS TO 7TH BIRTHDAY

CLASSES IN BEECHWORTH NOW!

FREE TRIAL CLASS

CONTACT MATT ON 0435 763 332

or northeastvic@littlekickers.com.au



Beechworth Community
Christmas Lunch
A lunch for everybody

You are invited to share
Christmas Day celebrations with others
Anyone from the Beechworth
& surrounding communities is welcome

Sunday 25th December 2016
Time: 11:30 for a 12-noon sit down, hot lunch
Venue: Beechworth Memorial Hall

Cost: Gold coin donation • This is an alcohol-free event
RSVP by 2nd December
to Beechworth Health Service reception
p: 5728 0200 or e: BHSReception@bhs.hume.org.au
Transport can be provided if needed, ask BHS reception





www.discoversailing.org.au/tackers

Tackers is an Australian Sailing program aimed at getting kids aged 7-12 into sailing.

Each program includes
20 hours tuition from qualified AS Instructors & Assistant Instructors,
Fun on-water & off-water games
and a Tackers Kit & Certificate.

Where:
Albury Wodonga Yacht Club

When:
16th - 20th January 2017
1:30pm - 5:30pm (5 sessions)

Contact us now!
Email: training@awyc.org.au
Ph: 0467 355 258



Beechworth Netball Club

Seeking junior players, senior players
and senior umpires (PAID).

Enquires contact 0407906937.

Pre-season commences 6pm 24th

November Baarmutha Park,
Beechworth.

Junior training commences Thursday
24th Feb.

Contact sarah264@hotmail.com

Beechworth

COMMUNITY

CHILDCARE

Trivia Night

9TH December

DOORS
OPEN

6.30PM

LIFT OFF 7PM

BAARMUTHA
PARK

BYO DRINKS
& NIBBLES

\$15
per person
\$120
table of 10

WIN A PRIZE
BEST DRESSED
TABLE
pick your own theme
for the table

2+2=4

Fundraising

$0 = 3 + x d + x 5$

RAFFLES

LUCKY DOOR PRIZE

AUCTIONS GAMES

FUN NIGHT FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS

TICKETS

MARIA 0425 161 573
THE CENTRE 0357 282 378