



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

<p><b>Term 3</b> <b>11<sup>th</sup> July – 16<sup>th</sup> September</b> 10 weeks</p> <p><b>August</b> 31<sup>st</sup> Wednesday - Maria's Montessori Birthday 31<sup>st</sup> Wednesday - Father's Day Morning 730am to 8.30am</p> <p><b>September</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday – School Athletics Carnival 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday – Toy Catalogues Orders Due 5<sup>th</sup> Monday to 9<sup>th</sup> Friday – Parent Teacher Interviews 6<sup>th</sup> Tuesday – Beechworth District Athletics 9<sup>th</sup> Friday – International Peace Day Bush Dance Celebrations 16<sup>th</sup> Friday – Meals on Wheels 16<sup>th</sup> Friday – Last Day of Term 3 – 2.15pm Finish</p>	<p><b>Term 4</b> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> October – 15<sup>th</sup> December</b> 10 weeks</p> <p><b>October</b> 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday – Pupil Free Day</p>
--	---

## From the Principal

Today, Michaela is heading off on leave until the end of the year. She has extended the starting date of this from the end of term 1, and we are grateful for the work she has done and shared this year. We wish her well, and hope that things work out for her and she is able to spend as much time as she is hoping to on the coast in warmer environments. Someone has added a 1997 photo of *Beechworth Montessori Children's* group, marking its origins 20 years ago to the wall where we have photos of the school's development from 2008. Thanks to whoever did this, it is a great addition, (with a 20 year younger Michaela), to our wall.

I spent Sunday and Monday this week at the ISV PD for principals. These are always excellent sessions and this time presentations included one from the Business Manager of Trinity in Melbourne, and one on cultural change, with a whole school focus on student learning from the principal of Kingswood. Both sessions revealed thought provoking and interesting reflections for my and our work here at Beechworth Montessori, and I have no doubt that over coming weeks and terms, some of what I heard will come up in our discussions here at BMS. Next week, I will be joining leaders from Montessori Schools from across Australia and Montessori Australia at the Montessori National Summit. This congress has strategic planning and collective thinking about future directions for Montessori Schools and the Montessori movement in Australia as a focus, with insights from overseas. I will look forward to sharing some of the key messages with you in coming weeks.

We have received feedback that one of the listed "unacceptable behaviours" in our newly revised Code of Conduct, which we have introduced as a result of the recently legislated Child Safe Standards, is causing apprehension and/or concern for some parents. The point I am referring to, is the point about needing to

notify the Principal if you have contact as a volunteer in organisations other than ours (or other contact out of school hours and there is not a previously existing friendship or an existing friendship through your children), and you also volunteer here at Beechworth Montessori. The Code of Conduct, was shared with us, from materials provided by the Catholic Education Office to St Joseph's Primary. Last week, as a staff we discussed the concerns that have been relayed to them by some of you, about the need to notify me of these volunteering relationships. To make this process more comfortable, and as simple as possible for you, we decided to trial providing a notification form in classrooms that you can fill in, so you don't need to feel you have to make an appointment with me. If you are not wanting to add your other volunteering commitments to a register in the rooms, you are of course still welcome to make an appointment, or let the office staff know of your volunteering in contexts where you meet children from BMS, and they will add this information to the register. Alternatively you are welcome to send a note to the office. Please can I stress, the last thing we want to do, is discourage you from volunteering or sharing your skills and interests in our school or anywhere else. Like all schools, we need to operate within the laws applicable to us, and I hope these initiatives help you feel more comfortable with this new expectation. Thanks for your support with this and for our school.

As you would appreciate this is a busy time of year in terms of enrolling for 2017. We are frequently taking new enquiries and presently have a wait list for Cycle 2. For any family trying to plan for the upcoming year, it is helpful for them to be able to know their child has a place in our school if that is what they want to plan for. In addition, as I know you are aware, we have in our fees policy, with the exception of Year 6 Cycle 3 children, the expectation that a full term's notice will be given if you are planning for your child to change schools. I am sure you appreciate that there is much planning in terms of both staffing and financial projections that goes into a school preparing for the next year. Previously the school sent out an "intentions form" but in more recent years moved away from this. Please can I ask your assistance, to help the school cater accurately for new families, staffing and our budgeting and ensure you give us the required notice in writing by the end of Term 3 if you are planning for your children to not be here in 2017?

We are almost at count down point for the Bush Dance, the children are fine tuning their practice, so they can teach you what they have learnt and enjoy a night out with you dancing to the music provided by Squidjig. This week, they will all be bringing home personalised invitations to you, and one other friend of the family. Please keep the evening free (Friday September 9), and if at all possible, support your children to attend, to let them showcase to you and the school community as a whole what they have been learning in specialist music lessons this year. It will also be a way to celebrate the end of this winter term. Looking forward to seeing you there, have a great week.

Kind Regards,  
Bron Martin

## **A Message from Conrad Forrer: Re Bush Dance – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September, 6.30pm @ the Memorial Hall**

I am looking forward to our Family Bush dance coming up on Friday 9 September. All the students are doing very well in learning many of the dances. I have been teaching them since the beginning of the year and they have shown great skills and are looking great.

The music will be provided by a live Band: Squidjig of which I am a member and we are looking forward to the event very much. It's always great to perform at these events when friends and family and the community can come together and experience a great social event such as a Bush Dance. The Memorial Hall is a great venue and it will be a night to remember. So please be sure to put it on your calendar, tell your friends and family and come down to *Head and Toe Action* and much more.

Kind Regards, Conrad Forrer.

### Soup at the Bush Dance

We plan to have hot soup and bread for a gold coin donation before the band starts at 7pm.

Please contact me on [helensellar@yahoo.com](mailto:helensellar@yahoo.com) if you are able to bring a pot of soup.

Thank you, Helen

### Raffle

We are now calling for donations for the raffle that we will run at the Bush Dance. If you have anything big or small that we can use for our raffle, please drop at the office, or in the basket in the foyer.

### **Parent Teacher Interviews**

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held for all cycles in week 9, the week beginning Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September. Information regarding times and bookings will be forwarded to parents in the next week.

### **Toy Catalogues – orders due Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September**

The Educational Experience, Parent Direct and Chalk catalogues are available in the foyer. These catalogues are filled with hundreds of great value, fun, educational toys perfect for birthday and Christmas presents.

By ordering through these catalogues from Chalk and Parent Direct, 20 cents of every dollar you spend will be donated back to our school to spend on educational resources from Modern Teaching Aids. So not only do you receive quality toys but your purchase also assists in the ongoing learning for your children throughout the year. In addition, if we have more than 20 orders we receive bonus vouchers.

Ordering is easy. Fill in the order form and return to us. We'll place the orders and let you know when they have arrived at the school. Delivery is free for orders over \$150, \$7.90 for delivery to your home and \$3.90 for delivery to the school.

We have placed copies in parent pockets of children in the Tiny Tots and kinder programs. If you received a copy and do not want the catalogues, please return them to the office. If you did not receive a copy but would like one, please register your interest at the office and we will order a copy for you. Alternatively we have 3 office copies and plenty of order forms so you are welcome to peruse the office copies and place your order from them.

### **Early Years News**

#### **From Cycle 1 (Amethyst and Emerald)**

##### **BABY ON THE WAY**

Dear families,

Today, I shared with Emerald room children the exciting news that my husband and I are expecting our first child in January. The children received the news with enjoyment and great interest. They had lots of questions and started to find names for the baby. To support their learning, pictures of the ultra-sound will be displayed in the classroom. I am very glad to share this beautiful adventure with the children.

Geraldine

##### **BEECHWORTH BAKERY**

Last week Amethyst and Emerald children visited the Beechworth Bakery as part of our *Out and About* in the community program. This has become an annual event for us, as the bakery opens its production room to kinder groups from around the region each August.

After walking down the hill, we waited upstairs in the bakery for the bakers to collect us. We were taken out the back to the production room and stood beside a long table where there was shortbread pastry waiting for us. We had a great time choosing different shaped cutters to make our shortbread, and decorating them. The shortbread was put onto trays and into a huge oven. While we waited for the shortbread to cook, we were each given a lump of bread dough. We made a lot of noise as we punched the air out of the dough, then used our imaginations to make some creative designs. There were snowmen, monsters, butterflies, volcanoes, balls, and all sorts of other things. While our bread was baking, we snuck up the 'secret' stairs and got to try some of our shortbread. It was yummy! Then we trudged back up the hill and back to school. Thank you to Lucille, Patrick and Jacqui for coming to the bakery with us. Thanks also to our bread couriers, Karen and Karen, for collecting our loaves of bread and bringing them back to school.





## Cycle 2 News

### From the Moonstone Room

Students are inspired to take interest in knowing other countries as part of exploring cultural awareness within the Montessori curriculum of cosmic education. This program builds on the students' natural connections to the earth, nature and other people.

We have been studying countries of Europe this term where students get the opportunity to observe where Europe lies in comparison to Australia and the rest of the world. The countries studied so far have been Germany, France, Norway, Spain and the greatest country of them all – Greece. Students are encouraged to research and remember the capital city, the language spoken, population, flag as well as what each country is renowned for, popular landmarks and inventions. The ancient Greeks, the geniuses that they were, invented the odometer, central heating, vending machines, automatic doors, modern medicine and basic geometry just to name a few.

## From the Turquoise Room

**Zoology:** We have continued our lessons investigating invertebrates. Over the past few weeks we have explored molluscs and cnidaria. Questions to ask your children may include.... what makes a mollusc a mollusc? A cnidaria? Can you name three animals in each group? Where do they live?

**Language:** Have you seen our pictorial graph of reader returns? It's on our window and it has certainly motivated the children to improve rates of return—let's hope it continues! While individual lessons are a given, some group lessons also occur. This term the focus has been on the 7 syllable types which aims to help children decode (breakdown) unfamiliar words to read and spell.

**Art:** Our art work is not making its way onto the walls for display with the children very eager to take their creations home!



## Cycle 3 News

### From the Tigereye Room

#### Some things we've been up to...

Last week was Science week and indeed there was lots of science going on in our room. In history, students had a lesson on Pangaea and continental drift. Students discovered how German meteorologist Alfred Wegener came up with his theory of continental drift and how at the time, his theory was dismissed. Sadly, it was only after his death that other scientists realised that Wegener was indeed correct about the continents previously being joined together. Students completed a continents puzzle, where they got to piece the continents together, joining them according to where particular fossil discoveries matched up. In Zoology Grade 3 and 4 students revised the classification system for all living things and the five kingdoms. This week we have focused on bacteria. Students are making models of bacteria to go at the very bottom of our classroom tree of life, which is slowly filling up with all kinds of creatures.

In Geology, some keen amateur geologists have been learning about Mohs scale of hardness and testing the hardness of different rocks and minerals. Students have been bringing in their wonderful rock collections to sort and classify.

Our Science Fair Projects with Topaz continue and we have all kinds of experiments happening from mini-robots to foaming fountains to glowing sugar cubes!!!

#### Yes I Can!

Last week, we watched a wonderful video promoting the Paralympics. The children loved this and it started a good conversation about disability and indeed about just saying 'Yes I can!' when you think you can't do something. You can see it at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=locLkk3aYlk>



## From the Topaz Room

### Art in Topaz

In Topaz for art this term we are studying a different artist each week focussing on their life history, the path they took before their work was recognised and their individual styles and techniques.

### Jackson Pollock

On Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> of August, Topaz looked did art inspired by Jackson Pollock. We did drip paintings without touching the paper. Jackson Pollock was born on the 28<sup>th</sup> of January 1912. He started to do drip paintings in 1947. He was inspired to do drip paintings by his studio floor, because it was covered in paint from all of his other paintings. Australia bought one of his paintings called Blue Poles for \$1.3 million. To do these paintings, our class split into groups and did a drip painting. Afer we finished we wrote a paragraph on how it felt to paint it.

By Sage and Charlotte



Blue Poles

### The Feelings of Art

When I dip my paint brush into the paint, I relese all the tension in my hands. As I ready myself to launch the paint, I feel myself letting go of all my emotions. Now in my painting mode I start to merge all the colours onto the paper. SPLAT!

By Charlotte, Sage, Poppy and Charlotte





## George Seurat

Last week for art we studied George Seurat. Seurat was a Neo-Impressionist painter and is best known for developing the pointillism method, using small dot-like strokes of colour. His most famous painting is called 'A Sunday Afternoon at La Grande Jatte'. It took him 2 years to paint. We had asked us all to get a landscape off the internet and print it off. After we all had chosen a landscape we were to decide whether it was a cool or a warm palette, by warm for example, an orange palette and by cool, a blue palette. We had all been shown how to mix our colours on the page with other colours. So when you stand back it creates an illusion, because the dots are like pixels on a computer screen.

Charlotte



## 'Write Around the Murray' Writing Competition

Congratulations to Charlotte Le who has been announced as a finalist in the 'Write Around the Murray' writing competition. The winners will be announced on September 8<sup>th</sup> at 5.30pm at the Albury Museum Library. Good luck Charlotte!

## Community News

### A KINK IN MY *Armour*

Author Lizzie Rose

An empowering true tale of one woman who overcame adversity in its harsh, raw and naked form, *A Kink in My Armour* also tells of sadness and pain, of true inspiration, love, compassion, and empathy. It is an inspiring testament that a person can live through four decades of horrifying abuse and still move forward to lead a more positive and fulfilled life. No matter what challenges she faced, this woman showed true strength and courage, took control of her life and in the end became the victor.




# LITERARY LUNCH

Fundraising for




Sunday 4th September  
Neighbourhood House  
30 Ford St, Beechworth 12noon  
Lunch & Talk \$40 pp

Purchase tickets: At Beechworth Books  
or St Josephs PS or  
Phone Jo on 57281243



Kerferd Oration Committee  
& Quercus Beechworth  
invite you to






# Community Talks....

a discussion & reflection about  
"belonging" to our community

## Sunday 11 Sept 2016

**2:00pm - 4:00pm Oregon Hall,  
Quercus Beechworth**

Free community event with afternoon tea, thanks to our  
sponsors

Contact [reception@quercusbeechworth.com.au](mailto:reception@quercusbeechworth.com.au) or 0428 567 665

## the maker's market

**BEECHWORTH HANDMADE MARKET**  
DESIGNERS AND ARTISTS FROM NORTH EAST VICTORIA

SATURDAY  
SEPT 3RD  
9AM-1PM



ORIGAMI  
MINT POTS  
ROSE WEDLER  
PIA CANDLES  
THE PAPERED TREE  
GABBY RESIN JEWELLERY  
PHOTOGRAPHY  
PRINT ON STONE  
STATIONERY

7 CHURCH STREET **OLD STONE HALL** ART SPACE + VENUE  
[www.facebook.com/oldstonehall](http://www.facebook.com/oldstonehall)

**Friday 26th Aug 2016** **6pm - 8pm**

A free meal for the  
whole community

*Community  
Sharing Feast*

**Everyone**  
Places are limited Bookings Essential  
5728 2386

This is an alcohol free event

**QUERCUS BEECHWORTH**

Proudly supported by









Rutherglen little athletics  
New season begins on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2016 and runs until last week of term 4.  
At the Rutherglen show grounds from 4:15pm until approximately 6pm.  
Online registration portal opens on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2016 at  
[www.lavic.com.au](http://www.lavic.com.au)  
New members are welcome for a 2 week trial before registration.  
For further enquiries contact Bec Jones 0409364961.