

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

Term 2: 11th April – 24th June (11 weeks)

June

7th Tuesday – BSC Transition Olympiad Excursion – Cycle 3
9th Thursday – Royal Flying Doctor Service Incursion - Cycle 2 & 3
9th Thursday – Soccer Clinics with Murray United Football Club Coach – All cycles
9th Thursday – School Disco (5.30pm-7pm: Prep & Cycle 2 / 6.30pm-8pm Cycle 3)
10th Friday – Pupil Free Day – Report Writing Day
13th Monday – Public Holiday – Queen's Birthday
22nd Wednesday – Prep, Cycle 2 & 3 Reports Distributed
24th Friday – Last Day of Term 2 – 2.15pm Finish

Term 3: 11th July – 16th September (10 weeks)

From the Principal

Thanks to everyone who has stopped to look at the building plans in the foyer, and left their suggestions. I worked with the Engagement Sub-committee yesterday, and will be running a summary of functionality needs by the building sub-committee of the Committee of Management over the next couple of days, before forwarding these considerations and specifications to the engaged architect, Greg Kennedy.

As you would be aware the directors are working to prepare reports for the students at present, and as part of this process, are assessing students to measure understanding and progress, so that specific planning can occur to frame the next layers of learning for all students. Thank you to Nicola Bussell, who is on the point of finishing her Diploma of Education, and is working in our school on Thursdays to support the Directors, whilst they finalise their assessments.

Recently Feona and I have had several parents approach us about the transition arrangements for their children. I thought it might be useful to explain, the thought and thinking that goes into the placement of children into rooms, and the timing of their transition arrangements. One of the things that has set us apart from other local schools as well as other Montessori schools, to date, has been that our commitment to the Montessori philosophy of transitioning at point of readiness, determined by the Directors, and that we have been flexible with the length of time this takes, so that a child may work in 2 rooms over a period of time. Directors consider the learning needs of children, and the composition of rooms, including likely sub groups for children to work and socialise together within the mix, as well as the distribution of age, gender and special needs. As a team, we are developing a culture of professional learning, and working as teams across Cycles, sharing the special strengths of each Director so that all children can benefit. Another thing to be aware of, is that staffing can change, so decisions should not be around where a particular staff member is at present. With this in mind, we ask that, as parents, you appreciate that the composition of rooms is about balance. The culture of Montessori schools, is not about either the child, or parents, "choosing" where they go. It is about the team, considering each child's needs, and working for the best fit to continue learning, at an individual level, but also for all students and staff. Great schools, focus on developing a culture of life-long learning and creativity, and sharing professional practice and approaches across and between colleagues. Should you wish to discuss this further with me, please do not hesitate to make an appointment. We thank you for understanding and anticipate that you will be positive about the transition process and the considered allocation of your child to his or her next room as we plan to cater for his or her needs. Please remember that your child's attitude will be influenced by your and our approach so it is important we are all positive about the next phase of his or her schooling.

A reminder that next Friday 10 June is a student free day for all areas of the school and early learning including the Educational Care Program. Information follows about the disco for students the night before on Thursday 9 June. Please encourage your children to attend this social opportunity and if you are able to help, thank you.

Lastly, if anyone in your family is afflicted by any of the many colds, flus and illness in our surrounds, please take care, rest and get better soon.

Have a great week!

Kind Regards,

Bron Martin, Principal

Message from the Board and Principal

Thank you to everyone for providing feedback in relation to the multi purpose hall. We are now collating all responses so we can proceed to the next phase. We will keep you updated as the process continues. Please feel free discuss with the committee members and Bronwen.

General News

Disco – Prep, Cycle 2 & 3

Permission Forms for this incursion were placed in parent pockets last week. Have you returned yours?

Royal Flying Doctor Service Incursion – Cycle 2 & 3

Permission Forms for this incursion were placed in parent pockets this week. Please look out for them and return them to the office as soon as possible.

School Lunches

School Lunch next week is Minestrone Soup with bread and the price is \$5. Please make sure you have placed your order by end of school on Wednesday.

Child ID Photos

Did you know your local post office now has a 20% discount on child ID photos from until 30th June 2016. Just mention the promo code CHLD20 instore for your discount.

Early Years News

From the Ruby Room

Thank you to those parents packing coats and warm clothes for their children and just in time too with the frost that we have been graced with the last couple of mornings. Layering clothing on your child is a practical way of keeping them warm as they do warm up when they run around but the air can still be cold and those children staying after 3.15pm play in the yards that don't have sunshine.

I would like to thank Maya, Sebastian's mum, for collecting, pressing and laminating the beautiful autumn leaves for the children to stick on the tree picture.

You are welcome to come in and view the planning and learning outcomes folder that portrays with photos and explanations what the children have been experiencing in the ECP program in Ruby room. Thank you to Martina for her work in producing this.

Next term Martina will be away (time to be finalised) for her teaching practicum so when relieving staff have been finalised we will let you know. Please remember there is no ECP on the school's student free day next Friday June 10. Enjoy the beauty of the quickly approaching winter season!

Michaela, Martina, Lisa and Geraldine

From Cycle 1 (Amethyst and Emerald)

Amy Hill recently completed a 5 week placement in Cycle 1. We would like to share her words in a card that she gave to us on her last day.

To all staff, children and families of Cycle 1,

Thank you dearly for providing me with the opportunity to be part of your school community over the past 5 weeks. I have gained an abundance of knowledge which has helped me grow and develop as an educator, and through seeing what and how learning can be achieved. I feel that my passion for early childhood education has been re-ignited. Thank you! This is my first introduction into a Montessori environment, and wow, what a beautiful introduction it has been. The children thrive in the perfectly ordered space that is provided for them, one of harmony that supports the building blocks of 'a love of learning' as they grow.

It has been a privilege to be part of the Beechworth Montessori community. I hope that it is not my last interaction with a space so rich in learning 'a fertile field in which seeds may be sown'.

Thank you, Amy

National Simultaneous Storytime

Last Friday we headed off to the Beechworth library to participate in National Simultaneous Storytime. The idea of this is that children all over Australia listen to a particular story at the same time. This year the story was 'I got this hat' by Jol and Kate Temple.

After an early lunch we set off for a brisk walk down the hill, and managed to make it to the library in time for the story and some hat activities. All too soon it was time to finish and we headed back up the hill at a more leisurely pace.

Thank you to the Beechworth library for coordinating this event and inviting our Cycle 1 children to participate, and to Nicki for coming along as a helping hand.



Cycle 2 News

From the Moonstone Room

Life continues to be busy in Moonstone: first I would like to thank those who have spent time with us recently – on Open Day last week and for Mother's Day Night earlier this month; also Jenny Pena; and Deb Reeves who lead a session of Kid Yoga. But thanks also those who make regular visits – currently Rachel Kerkvliet, who reads with groups of students on Thursdays; Gina Fry who comes in Monday afternoons to help with craft and textiles – currently knitting; and Quentin Pfahlert who appears rain, hail or shine to work in the habitat. I would like to thank the Taylor's also for a generous discount on mushroom compost and extra river rocks used in the habitat.



Jenny Pena visited last week and gave a fascinating presentation on some of the wildlife indigenous to our area and showed us footage of nocturnal animals; Jenny has great knowledge of the habits and needs of many of our native fauna. At the conclusion of her talk we were presented with a phascogale nesting box which you can see in the *Eucalyptus Maculata* (Spotted Gum) nearest the Food Coop.



We did Wacky Hair Day to raise money to save tigers. We got \$70. We did a parade and chose a King and Queen. Hannah was your Queen and Noah was your King. Harriet Duff

From the Turquoise Room

A few products of our last couple of weeks—parabolic curves with needle and thread and making molecules with K'NEX! Meanwhile weather observations and discussions continue, our latest learning revolving around clouds. Why they are important, how they are formed and the different types. Grace and courtesy has been focusing on keeping 'winter bug' at bay, and our mindfulness and gratitude sessions continue. The children really have adapted and responded to the challenges of learning, health and having a seemingly steady stream of visitors and staffing changes.



Cycle 3 News

From the Tigereye Room

Coffee for sale

Samadhi Daisy Zoe and Alanna will be selling coffee, tea, hot chocolate, Monte Carlo biscuits also various woodwork items and flowers every Friday morning from 8.30 – 9.30. This is our social enterprise and the money will be going to a school in Africa with not much equipment.

Thank you for your support.

By Samadhi

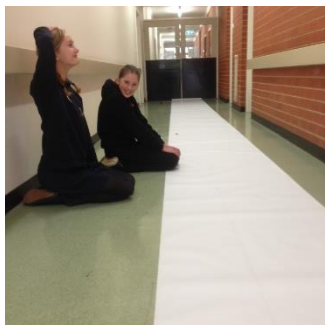
Our trip around Australia 2016 by Kobi

Hi my name is Kobi. Next Saturday (the one after the one coming) I will be leaving to go on a 4 month trip around Australia. We have our own blog post (<https://bluegumstoboabs.com>) on it we will be posting blog posts whenever we can (which won't be that often ☺). We will be going on a croc cruise in Kakadu N.P., a helicopter ride in Purnululu N.P.

ART

Last week in art with Bec we recreated a Georges Braque piece. Braque was part of the Cubist movement in Art. Bec cut up the original into 8 pieces and gave each pair of students a section to recreate using oil pastels. Then we put it back together and you can see the result below. There were many interesting discussions had during this activity, including whether things need to be 'perfect' or not, that there's no such thing as perfect, that each person can do art in their own way. Thanks Bec for the terrific lesson.





MATHS FUN

Mathilda and Takara with a very long division resulting in an irrational number (22 divided by 7, which is very close to pi)! This number is never ending!!!

Year 4s with their giant number line from 0 to 1. We looked at the many fractions between 0 and 1 and how to find them by measuring.



From the Topaz Room

On Friday 29th May, Aaron Harris visited our room to assist the students to make Roman sandals using leather and laces. Firstly, the students had to trace their feet and then cut out the leather. Then they used a leather punch to create holes around the soles for their laces. Laces were threaded through with each student choosing their own style of laces. As you can see from the photos these sandals were very fashionable, either for wear at Roman get-togethers or the odd gladiator challenge.



In Topaz we have been participating in short writing workshops aimed at building student's confidence to have a go at expressing their ideas through words. Favourite topics so far have been riddles, as well as 'Nano Writes' where the students were given a theme word to use in a short fifty word story or poem. Attached are Bianca's riddle and Nano writes by Amelia, Poppy, Charlotte and Berti. Can you guess what the theme word is? Terie

PLANETS

Planets, red and orange, among stars and moons.
In the middle of nothingness.
Freedom, happiness, in the darkness.
I see something black and it sweeps me up into another world
with no stars, just empty space.
Then in one second there are rocks all around me.
They are asteroids.
By Berti

FREEDOM

I ride on my steed into the sunset
Along the sandy shores of the beach.
I ride into open space, wind gushing into my face.
As I'm cantering I put my arms out to my sides and take one breath
I shout out into the open space.
By Poppy

WHAT AM I?
I look alive and might still be
I might be me I might be you!
But frozen in time
As colourful as can be!
WHAT AM I?
By Bianca
(a photograph)

RUNNING

I was running, the wind blew my hair.
Running through this empty open space, the grass and the soft dirt between my toes.
Chasing my little brother through our paddock.
I run as fast as I can, finally catching him.
He falls to the ground, and we both laugh.
By Charlotte

EMPTINESS

I was all alone. For once I was scared. I was worried.
My life was a mess, everything has turned upside down.
Of course I told nobody, this was my burden to carry.
Where I sat was empty, I was in one big deserted space.
I felt distraught.
I felt finished.
By Amelia

the maker's market

BEECHWORTH HANDMADE MARKET
DESIGNERS AND ARTISTS FROM NORTH EAST VICTORIA



7 CHURCH STREET **OLD STONE HALL** ART SPACE + VENUE
www.facebook.com/oldstonehall

Connecting Communities, Widening Worlds...

THE BSC OLYMPIAD

Tuesday June 7th
Students in Grades 4, 5 & 6 from all schools are warmly invited to attend the BSC Transition Olympiad!



Transition Day 1

Come and join in the fun. Meet the teachers, make new friends...come and see our terrific students and wonderful school in action.
A great day for everyone!

WHAT TO BRING:
Lunch or money for the BSC canteen

TRANSPORT:
Refer to your school for specific details

Need to know more? Contact:
Laureen Barnard
Leading Teacher
Phone: (03) 5728 1264
Email: barnard.laureen.o@edumail.vic.gov.au

Followed by an **INFORMATION EVENING**
For prospective 2017 families
@6pm
in the Gallery Space



<http://www.bworthsc.vic.edu.au>
BeechworthSC



NRL Holiday Clinic

FUN / FITNESS / FRIENDS

Come along this Holidays and enjoy a Rugby

League Experience

Venue – Sarvaas Park, Albury

Date – 5th July

Time – 10am to 1pm

Cost - \$40 (Includes pictured pack)

Age – Girls and Boys aged 5 to 12

To register -

1. <http://www.playnrl.com/programs/>
2. Type Albury into the search panel
3. Click on the Clinic
4. Follow the link for more details.
5. Contact Dean Whymark
0411159456 if you need any further information.



May 2016

This year marks the 14th George Kerferd Oration, and again we have a high profile speaker who will focus on community building and engagement, be thought provoking and ask questions of the community.

The orator is Mr Hugh Mackay, author and social researcher, and his topic is *The art of belonging*.

The oration details are:

Date: Sunday 24 July 2016

Time: 11am, doors will open 10.15am

Place: George Kerferd Hotel, Mayday Hills Village, Beechworth






The Kerferd Oration is a free community event, thanks to our sponsors.

The Kerferd Oration Committee extend a warm invitation and welcome to you and your friends to attend the oration and community lunch following.

Yours sincerely

Ian McKinlay

Chair, Kerferd Oration Committee

 c/- 170 Old Stanley Rd., BEECHWORTH VIC 3747  mcservice@westnet.com.au
 03 5728 6767  0428 567 665  www.kerferdoration.org



LA TROBE
UNIVERSITY





Beechworth Secondary College is calling for all interested families to get a *Registration of Interest* completed if they are intending to enroll students in the Montessori Adolescent program for 2017 or beyond. *Places are limited and class numbers will be capped.*

Expressions of interest

Feel free contact the school office on 03 5728 1264 to make other arrangements to hear about this innovative program.



FIND OUT MORE...

<https://montessoriaustralia.org.au/schools-centres>

