



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

<p>Term 3 11th July – 16th September <i>10 weeks</i></p>	
<p>September 5th Monday to 9th Friday – Parent Teacher Interviews 9th Friday – International Peace Day Bush Dance Celebrations 16th Friday – Meals on Wheels 16th Friday – Last Day of Term 3 – 2.15pm Finish</p>	
<p>Term 4 3rd October – 15th December <i>11 weeks</i></p>	
<p>October 3rd Monday – Pupil Free Day 5th Wednesday – District 1500m 6th Thursday – Staff Dinner prepared by Grade 6's 7th Friday – Division Athletics 14th Friday – Regional Athletics 26th Wednesday – Instrumental Performance Evening 31st Monday – Pupil Free Day – Report Writing</p>	<p>December 7th Wednesday – Volunteer Afternoon Tea 9th Friday – Reports Distributed 9th Friday – Graduation Dinner 15th Thursday – Last Day of Term – 3.15pm finish 15th Thursday – Christmas Catch Up & Graduation at The Priory</p>
<p>November 1st Monday – Pupil Free Day – Melbourne Cup Day 11th Friday – Remembrance Day 15th Tuesday – School Performance 23rd Wednesday – Grandparent's Day 25th Friday – Schools as Neighbours BBQ at BPS</p>	

From the Principal

As part of our focus on school improvement and to assist with future planning, over the next fortnight we will be collecting feedback from staff, students in Cycle 2 and 3 and parents about the school and each person's experiences and thoughts about it. Yesterday I worked with Anthea Scott, representing the COM, to finalise the notification letters and sent the link to everyone to explain the survey process. Unfortunately your email addresses were not blind copied. We apologise for this breach of privacy and are doing everything possible to ensure this will not happen again in our organisation. As we have no way of retracting the list, may I ask that you delete the list from your inbox please? Please accept our sincere apologies for this human error.

As you are aware, last week I was at the Montessori Summit for Montessori Independent Schools held at Uluru. The summit was enlightening in many ways, and had the aim of feeding into the Montessori Australia Foundation's strategic plan, whilst also challenging all participants to consider the place, role and needs of excellent Montessori educational provision towards 2035. MAF has set a target of reaching 15% of students by 2035 and have set a collective aim for Montessori schools to grow in both capacity and professionalism. Topics considered included the financial viability of independent Montessori Schools, and I was interested to hear that the average fee charged by Montessori independent schools across Australia in \$13470 per

annum. This emphasises the commitment of our CoM to keep our school as well resourced and affordable as possible. With 93 school age enrolments, Beechworth Montessori presently sits as almost having reached the 'average' enrolment for school age children (which is 96) in Australian Montessori Schools. The benefits of considering clustering and network arrangements for Montessori Schools were discussed, specifically in terms of assisting with compliance expectations, economies of scale and a common focus towards "collective excellence." It was suggested that the urban model of Montessori is likely to be vastly different to regional and rural models and that there is tension between the small school model and the advantages of growth. The group discussion explored the ideas that greater collaboration and formal networks may be a way to assist small schools to thrive into the future. In addition 3 immediate strategies were identified as being important for independent Montessori schools to focus on: improving the connections between teachers within the Montessori School Sector, establishing leadership opportunities and programs, and, working to strengthen cultures of school promotion together with community education and engagement. It was mentioned that Montessori education must embrace the digital age, and that in today's context, just as Maria Montessori embraced and extended contemporary knowledge and thinking about how and what children should learn we need to harness the power of the digital citizen in our provision. We also need to ensure that we maintain a focus on the appeal of the 'green space' and its links to learning and well-being. Montessori Australia intend to create a sharing platform to enable greater connectivity between Australian Montessori Schools, eventually catering for collaboration between staff, students, boards and parents, and this, together with the parent education programs they are developing will be important spaces to watch on MAF's relaunched website. Their goal is to have the next Montessori Australia strategic plan completed this year, which is timely for our planning cycle as it will be able to both inform and feed in nicely to our next round of strategic planning. We will commence this next year, with a view of finalising a new plan to take affect in 2018.

Thank you to everyone who has contacted Helen Sellar and offered to provide soup for the Bush Dance and to Lou Ritchie for baking bread to have with the soup. Thanks also to Helen for taking on this coordination, which we appreciate. Thank you if you have donated goods for the raffle. There is still room in the basket at the school entrance, so please feel free to add to it tomorrow. Quentin Pfahlert is also making another of his wonderful tables to be raffled by the school. Whilst he has not yet completed the table that will be the winning prize, he is bringing a similar one down to the Bush Dance to inspire people to buy tickets! We will continue selling raffle tickets for Quentin's table until the concert in Term 4, and draw the winner at that event. Both the children and Conrad have worked really well and over a long period of time, preparing to for Friday night so the children will be able lead you, as their parents in various bush dances. We very much hope you can come and join in the fun with Conrad's band Squidjig.

Thanks to Zoe for filling in Tots for the last fortnight. Zoe, Xavier, Charlie and Emma are heading off to France next week, so we Tots will not be running. We wish them all a wonderful time away. We look forward to welcoming Rangi, who some off you may remember from the old site where she relieved at times, who will return to BMS as our Tots facilitator next term.

Hope to see you there on Friday, have a great week!
Kind Regards, Bron Martin
Principal

Sun Smart Policy – Please remember your hat

In line with our school Sun Smart policy, the children are required to wear a sun hat from the start of September. These include broad-brimmed, bucket and legionnaire hats. Caps are not acceptable as they do not protect the neck or ears.

The following information comes from the Sun Smart website regarding how to choose a good sun hat:

- a hat should shade your face, head, ears and neck
- a broad-brimmed hat should have a brim of at least 7.5 cm
- a bucket hat should have a deep crown, angled brim of at least 6 cm and sit low on the head

General News

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 Helen helensellar@yahoo.com if you are able to bring a pot of soup.

Raffle donations are now required 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.

Lost Property in the Cycle 2/3 Foyer is taking on a life of its own. Please ensure you check for anything that belongs to your family as at the end of this term we will bag it all up and take it to the local op shop.

Quercus Spring Course Guide has been emailed to the school. Email us if you would like a copy or pick one up from the foyer.

Guitar, Violin and Chinese Concert

Please join us in a concert performed by students from Beechworth Primary, Montessori Primary and St. Joseph Primary.

Date: Thursday, 15th September 2016

Time: 4.30pm

Venue: St. Joseph Primary multipurpose room

www.bulmersinbeechworth.com

www.facebook.com/bulmersinbeechworth

Sok Yi Bulmer: 0404 617 650 leesokyi@yahoo.com

Light the Night with the Leukaemia Foundation

Light the Night will take place across Victoria on Friday 7th October to raise funds and awareness of the impact of leukaemia, lymphoma, myeloma and related blood disorders. It is a wonderful opportunity to gather with friends and family, enjoy a twilight walk and shine a lantern of hope; a gold lantern to remember a loved one, white for your journey or blue to support others.

We are looking for anyone who might be willing to coordinate such an event for our school community. It could be something as simple as a sausage sizzle or something more elaborate to showcase Beechworth Montessori.

For more information go to www.lightthenight.org.au and let us know in the office if you are interested.

Early Years News From the Ruby Room



Thank you to Michaela, while we will miss you, we wish you all the best on the coast. Martina is back from her teaching practice at Beechworth Primary School. "I had a lovely time there and I wish to thank all the teachers for their support, knowledge and time. Thank you to the students who allowed me to observe and teach in their classrooms."

We hope Jessica has a swift recovery from her accident.

We have been busy, the children have been baking with Lisa. This is always a fun (and learning) time. We practise practical skills: spooning, pouring, stirring, whisking, grating and cleaning of course. We also practise taking turns, waiting patiently and passing the bowl along. Of course there is always language, what are we baking, what are the names of the ingredients?

We learned so much from this one activity, imagine what we learn all day.

Notes:

We have **records** for your children but we need to keep them updated as your child grows towards independence. If their sleeping, eating, or toileting needs have changed

please let us know.

It's the time of year to find our **sunhats**: do they need a wash, do they fit? Should I have one to leave in my school bag? As we look forward to warmer weather, can we think about **sun cream** (are you supplying it to school?) and ensure that your child has a sunhat in his or her bag?

We are looking for some donations. Do you have any large glass or plastic jars with lids you no longer need?
We could find many uses for them.

Thank you *Martina, Lisa, Geraldine, Rangi and Sue.*



From Cycle 1 (Amethyst and Emerald)



Cycle 2 News

From the Moonstone Room

The students are desperately and vigilantly working to complete their secret projects to be showcased next Thursday for parents, friends and Cycle One. This week's geography lesson was on the Netherlands and we were fortunate to have Violet's grandmother, Gina who is Danish to provide insight into the culture as well as advise on language expression. During the lesson we learnt interesting facts such as Dutch men being the tallest in the world with an average height of 182.5 cm. Although other Europeans and Americans towered over the average Dutch in the mid-18th century, Dutch males have grown some 20 cm over the last 200 years compared to just 6 cm that Americans grew. Researchers believe this is not only due to Dutch DNA but also environmental factors such as low social inequality, universal healthcare and nutrition, specifically their heavy consumption of dairy products. Another interesting fact is that the Dutch government plans to ban the sales of petrol and diesel powered cars in 2025 so only electric cars will be driving on Dutch streets in

the future. How wonderful if we could follow suit and have the same concern and respect the environment. The Dutch have had centuries of practice keeping back water from the sea and rivers turning Netherlands into an Atlantis. With such expertise and knowledge the US government turned to the Dutch for help during the hurricane Katrina disaster.

From the Turquoise Room

Zoology: Over the past fortnight we have looked into porifera and echinoderms. Questions to ask your children may include.... what makes an echinoderm an echinoderm? What is a porifera? Can you name three echinoderms?

Geography: Next week the children will commence bringing home their Australia books which represent a term's worth of research into all things Australian such as mapping, flags, land and water themes, people, places, recipes, plants, animals and indigenous studies. The children are very excited in creating the final product to proudly take home and share.

Art: We have explored the work of Ken Done and replicated our own version of the Sydney Harbour Bridge and Opera House using crayons and water colours.



Cycle 3 News (Tigereye & Topaz)

Athletics By Brianna and Sophie.

For the athletics carnival in Albury on Monday, the activities were 800m, 200m, 100m, triple jump, long jump, relay, discus, shot put and high jump. It was challenging, exciting, fun and hard. We tried our best and some of us came first, second and third, though some of us didn't and came last except some of us came fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth or ninth. We had a great time, lots of fun and we loved it.

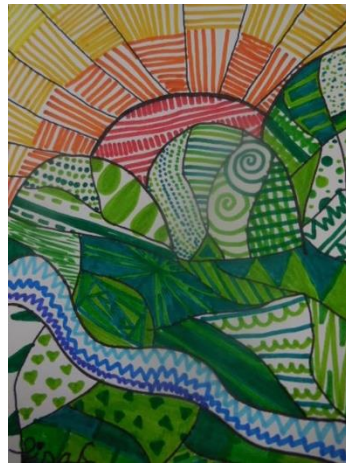




Tigereye Art By Pipa

We have been making some zen tangle style art to show the timeline of life.

Here are my zen tangles. They show how the earth has changed from having volcanoes and larva in the beginning, to life and plants and animals and then to humans and cities.



Learning at Beechworth Montessori

The Critical Importance of Literacy:

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."
Dr Seuss

Literacy is the key that unlocks learning in every other discipline. Today, whilst we may work within an age of technology and internet, reading as a skill hasn't changed. Whether you agree with C S Lewis, who wrote that "we read to know we are not alone", or Kofi Annan, the 2001 Nobel Peace Prize recipient, who recognised literacy "as the means through which every man, woman and child can realise his or her full potential," the ability to read and write is fundamental, both to a child's education and also to their personal development. However literacy, as this ability to read and write, needs to be taught.

Maria Montessori recognised that oral language develops spontaneously and subconsciously whilst "reading and writing are quite distinct from a knowledge of the letters of the alphabet. They come into existence when a word rather than a graphic symbol becomes a fixed element." She also realised that "it is necessary to aim at arousing a keen interest in reading, for this prepares the way for overcoming the various difficulties connected with spelling." She was spot on!

Realising literacy is not something we can take for granted, we have begun Reading Groups at Beechworth Montessori School. As part of our classroom planning and the Montessori Curriculum our children undertake activities in language daily, however through the Reading Groups we are actively working with each individual child, at their own level, to boost their personal literacy skills.

There are six fundamental skills all of us need, to be able to read and understand effectively. From our oral language foundation we then build phonological awareness; phonics (or letter-sound knowledge); vocabulary and fluency which, brought together, build our comprehension. Through these Reading Groups children are actively exercising each of these skills as we delve with them into each text, analyse and critique 'about' the text and encourage them to think 'beyond' the text. Please don't hesitate to ask your child, their classroom teacher or myself about their Reading Group or what text they are currently studying.

Nicola Bussell

Community News



Beechworth Wanderers Cricket Club is currently seeking players for the upcoming season in the following categories:

Ages 5, 6 & 7 – Milo Cricket

Ages 8 & 9 – T20 Blast

Ages 10 years and over – Under 12, 14 & 16.

A, B & C Grades

A registration day will be held at Baarmutha Park on Sunday the 11th of September, from 9:30am

Online registration and payment available via www.playcricket.com.au

For more information or to register your interest contact:

Stewart: 0458 040 046 Nathan: 0417 420 614

Basketball

Registrations are now open for the upcoming Myrtleford District Basketball season which starts in October. Registrations close on the 11th September 2016 so get in quick so you don't miss out!!

To register, google Myrtleford District Basketball Association & follow the links.



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 or 0428 567 665



Rutherglen little athletics

New season begins on Monday 5th

September 2016 and runs until last week of term 4.

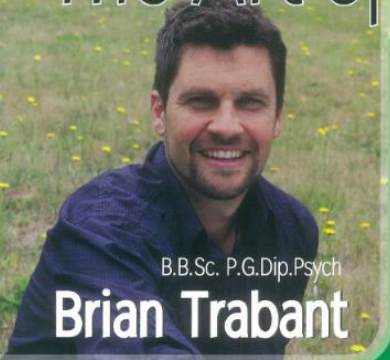
At the Rutherglen show grounds from 4:15pm until approximately 6pm.

Online registration portal opens on 12th August 2016 at www.lavic.com.au

New members are welcome for a 2 week trial before registration.

For further enquiries contact Bec Jones 0409364961.

The Art of Alignment



B.B.Sc. P.G.Dip.Psych
Brian Trabant

**Kinesiology
Counselling
Life Alignment**

0417 273 233
contact@artofalignment.com.au

SPECIALISING IN

Relationships	Self-Esteem
Depression	Anxiety
Trauma	Kinesiology 4 kids
Cancer	Life Direction/Purpose

Also Available: Kinesiology Training
Emotional Intelligence Workshops



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 or join "Zumba with Peggy" on Facebook for more details and future class schedule. \$12 casual visit. \$10 punch card per visit.

Yackandandah Cricket Club

Players Wanted for 2016/17 Season

Under 12, 14 and 16 in CAW.



WHAT WE OFFER:

- Great club environment
- Indoor training opportunities
- Electric bowling machine
- Great training facilities
- Learn and develop your cricket skills
- 3 x full length artificial turf nets
- Senior players mentoring/coaching/umpiring
- One-on-one and team coaching
- Separate training from seniors (but can join senior training if you wish)
- Supplied playing shirt
- Club bats and protective equipment provided if you don't have your own
- Under 12s – Friday evenings
- Under 14 & 16s – Saturday mornings
- Opportunity to play senior cricket – but only if YOU are ready
- Qualified Coaches (holding or obtaining Level 1 Coaching accreditation)
- Coaches hold current WWCC in Vic & NSW
- Meet other parents and senior players

CONTACT: Geordie 0439 183 607
REGISTER: www.playcricket.com.au
VISIT US: Sunday 18th Sept. @ Lions Club Market

Yackandandah Cricket Club

Primary School-aged Players Wanted



The MILO in2CRICKET program aims to develop skills and an enthusiasm for the game for 4-8 year olds. It has been running for over 20 years and is a brilliant program for young boys and girls that introduces fundamental cricket skills.

MILO T20 Blast is a super fun, social, safe, cricket program for boys and girls. The program is much shorter than traditional cricket, with a maximum of 90 minutes playing time. All the equipment is supplied and the games take place at the same venue each week.



CONTACT: Geordie 0439 183 607
REGISTER: www.playcricket.com.au
VISIT US: Sunday 18th Sept. @ Lions Club Market