

Week 10 - Term 4

11 December 2013

Distributed weekly on Wednesday

DIARY DATES

Term 4:

December

12th Thursday – P&F Pancake breakfast 7.30 – 8.45am

13th Friday – Reports distributed

17th Tues - Graduation Concert, Memorial Hall 4-6pm

18th Wed - Last day for students 3.15pm finish

19th & 20th Thursday & Friday – Pupil free days

2014

January 30 – First day for students

The last of school for the year will be Wednesday
December 18th – with the usual finish time of
3.15pm.

From the Principal

Staffing 2014

Topaz – Terie Quealy

Tigereye – Kat Beaton

Moonstone - Susi Allen, Sally Richardson

Turquoise – Karen Bowey, Donna Hughes

Emerald – Lynda Raymond, Wiggy Brennan, part
time assistant to be confirmed

Amethyst – Tameeka Thommers, Melissa Scott, Lisa
O'Connor

Aide – Zoe Pinard

Transition – Michaela Rouch, Melanie Mayer

Tiny Tots – Michaela Rouch

After Session Care – Michaela Rouch

Literacy and Numeracy Support – Lyn Male

Piano – private, Peter Benson

Guitar – private, Mel Thompkins

Finance Manager – Howard Russell

Enrolment Officer and Administration – Feona Roscouet

Physical Education, Italian Language and Culture – Andrea Belci.

Music – vacancy. ***If you know of someone who may be interested, please ask them to contact me.***

IT support – Andrew Croft

Cleaning, Maintenance and Gardening – Dick Carey

Principal – Me, full time finally. (YAY)

We will continue to use part time and qualified staff to relieve staff absences.

We welcome in 2014

Nicola Bussell – Administration Assistant, part time

Melissa Scott – full time Cycle 1 Amethyst Assistant

Thanks to those who have organised and will be working to create the pancake breakfast. Your contribution is greatly appreciated by me and I'm sure others. Thanks also to those who have worked on the Christmas Spectacular Voucher book – I've managed to secure a few bargains.

A reminder that we have interest in running Loads of Clothes Market again in 2014. Very early next year we will call a meeting of interested people to look at the planning and logistics and to call for sellers. If, over the break, you are cleaning out clothes, keep aside all the quality pieces that you might like to make a few dollars on. This event is something close to my fundraising and community heart – having created the event with a past parent, Carly Visscher, when we were on Toy Library Committee and then bringing it to Montessori where we ran a very successful event for several years.

Childcare Transfer and After Session Care 2014

There are limited spaces left after an overwhelmingly positive response to the service. Thank you for your support for this new service. For those that may have missed last week's newsletter or the flyer placed in parent pockets.

Beechworth Montessori School is offering the following services in 2014 to assist parents with children enrolled in Cycle 1.

CHILDCARE TRANSFER

- Cost - \$80 per child per term, unlimited use
- Operate Monday – Friday
- Pick up at Childcare 8.30 am
- Drop off at Childcare 3.30pm

We are unable to staff childcare transfer at 12.00pm but are introducing After Session Care Monday – Friday from 12 noon – 3.15pm. We can transfer children to Beechworth Community Childcare at 3.15pm provided arrangements have been made directly between the parents and Childcare..

AFTER SESSION CARE

- 12 noon – 3.15pm - \$26
- Children to supply own lunch and snack
- Children are to be at least 3 years of age and enrolled in a Beechworth Montessori program.
- Sessions may be pre-booked to secure places.
- Program will be a Montessori based childcare program – care of self and environment, practical life, music, art, outdoor play spaces.
- Occasional care will be available subject to space availability.

Next Tuesday is our Graduation Concert from 4pm at Memorial Hall. I hope you can join us as we farewell members of our staff and grade 6 student community who will be leaving.

Next week will be a very short, farewell/end of year newsletter that will only be emailed. Until then, *Heather*

General News

Carols by Candlelight

Thank you to the parents and children that supported this annual event. It was lovely to see so many children from across the range of programs we have From Tots to Grade 6. As always, the song Light a Candle for Peace moves many people – this song was written in 2009 for Montessori children around the world to sing on International Peace Day and it has been embraced by our staff and children as it truly embraces the meaning of peace and goodwill. Thanks also to Kat Beaton for being out there and available, supportive and passionate. The ukulele group were a lovely addition to our repertoire.

P&F News

Pancake Breakfast

Just a reminder that the pancake breakfast is on next Thursday (12 December) at the front

**PANCAKE
BREAKFAST**

*(at school!)

THURSDAY 12th DECEMBER

7.30 til 8.45am

Bring your family and enjoy some freshly cooked pancakes with a choice of toppings
Juice, coffee & tea also available

Gold coin donations gratefully accepted!

AND  There will be a stall selling plants, produce, goodies, crafts, christmas puddings.... to raise money for vegetating cycle 2&3 courtyard and other outdoor projects

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THIS STALL AND VOLUNTEERS FOR THE MORNING MOST WELCOME!

PLEASE CONTACT BECK 0429336182
OR CHELSEA 0415445166

IF YOU'RE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE GOODS OR SERVICES

☞ Look out for more in the school newsletter

entrance of the school. RSVP gratefully appreciated to assist with catering. Please let the office know or pandf@beechworthmontessori.vic.edu.au. A reminder to parents that they are responsible for supervising their children at this event – this includes a parent being present in the Cycle 2&3 outdoor area if children are using this space. Children will not be able to enter classrooms or courtyards until usual school time.

Cycle 2 News

Moonstone

The highlight of this for Moonstone has to be the book launch. The degree of effort, participation and dedication the students put into this accomplishment is commendable. One of our concerns this semester was that students were not connecting that independent thought and action transferred to everyday life as well as to academia. This event showed us that they are well on the way. The greatest compliment that Sally and I could have hoped for was given by an intuitive parent who stated that Sally and I were not visible (we were there) but it was the students that stood out and they owned the event. This is a wonderful testament to the greatness children are capable of if we just let them be, trust them and have faith in their abilities. They decided on the advertising, setting style, the decorations, the service décor colours and their waiter's uniforms. Did it matter that soup was spilled or that the sticky tape was skewed during wrapping or that a thumb was inadvertently stuck in a muffin while serving or that the fonts in advertising were inconsistent? One only had to witness the smiles of pride, contentment and satisfaction to know that it was all more than perfect.

We have 25 books left and would appreciate support from the school community to help move them.

Dina and Sally

Turquoise

Turquoise class has shown their resilience and the students have continued working well in Karen's absence. It is a credit to them, Karen and Donna that they are able to continue working smoothly with a change of director in the room.

The students' zoology projects have really taken shape and are now hanging on the wall in the corridor for you to peruse. A great deal of thought has gone into what information students want to find out about their chosen animal, the layout of their project, and the medium used to produce the final product.

Cooking is coming to a close with the end of term. The children have enjoyed cooking with eggs and sampling different dishes such as Caesar salad, devilled eggs with caviar, curried egg sandwiches, egg and potato salad. Their final dish this week will be egg and bacon pie. Yummo!

Melissa and Donna

Cycle 3 News

Tigereye

It is so hard to believe that it is now Week 10 of Term 4! In the last week of term students have been trying to wrap up any uncompleted work and to revise work from this semester. One of the ways that the students seem to enjoy revising is to make up a whole lot of revision questions and answers that then become part of a board game. Students have embraced this idea and later in the week I look forward to seeing the finished products and playing some of the board games. We have also been finishing off our paver mosaics by grouting them– they are looking absolutely superb!

Last week we enjoyed a wonderful lunch of home-made pasta and fresh pesto sauce by Kezia, Sophal and Eadie. The fried bananas with caramelised sauce were also delicious. Next Monday the 16th we will be having our Year 6 Graduation Dinner in the Cycle 2 & 3 courtyard for all Year 6 students and their parents. The Year 6 students will be cooking for this and I am looking forward to having a great evening together. Next week we are also having a little cycling adventure on the last day of term. Please make sure students bring their bikes and helmets next Wednesday.

Thank you to all Tigereye students for a terrific year. I have really enjoyed my first year as a Montessori classroom teacher and look forward to the adventure continuing next year. Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas and summer holiday.

Kat

Topaz

In our second-last week of school, students are working feverishly on project work; finalising creative writing; working on the end-of-year production – and when all that is done, we will make decorations for the Community Christmas tree,

for our classroom tree and make gifts! Your children will have earned their break come the end-of-year! I would like to thank Martin Thomas for donating us a Christmas tree so we can enjoy the spirit of the season.

In the kitchen: students have continued to enjoy independently planning and managing their cooking. We have been spoilt all term; last week we enjoyed a traditional pav and a very un-traditional creaming-soda cupcake! (I preferred the pav!)

In the garden: botany has led our students up the garden path! The garden crew have now improved the soil as best they can, added a box frame, mulched the paths and planted out a selection of natives. The back-door beauty spot looks fantastic. Best of all, this project has produced great cooperation and team work.

Thanks to Dean Turnbull for helping out with the tree stumps we have put in to sit on.

Again, I appeal to anyone who can help us out with decorative rocks and tree stumps for the courtyard landscaping. Please support the pancake breakfast on the 12th – Thursday, which will partially support the landscaping project.

Khy

