

Term 4
Week 10 – 11 December 2015

Last newsletter for the year

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A New Principal

On behalf of all associated with BMS we are absolutely delighted to be able to share with our families and friends some wonderful news regarding our Principal position – Bronwen Martin, who is currently Principal at Dederang Primary School, will be taking on the leadership role at Beechworth Montessori from Term 1 2016.

With Beechworth Montessori programs spanning early years, 3 & 4 year old kindergarten as well as Prep through grade 6, it is absolutely wonderful to have attracted a leader who brings experience across all of these arenas – in her current organisation, Bronwen was instrumental in establishing a Emilio Reggio inspired Kindergarten at Dederang Primary School. Bronwen has a strong background in curriculum planning and literacy, as well as having worked in outdoor education and various secondary teaching positions.

Aside from her extensive experience as a teacher, manager and leader in education, Bronwen has been long associated with our own organisation, as a parent (Skip in cycle 3 and Charlie in cycle 1) and as a former Board member. We value the understanding and insights she will bring, as well as a fresh perspective.

All who have worked with her know of her incredible energy, drive, compassion and creativity - and we are tremendously excited that Bronwen will join us next year.

We extend our congratulations to Bron on her appointment, and look forward to supporting her in achieving our vision of providing excellence in education.

We would also like to acknowledge the significant contribution Ben Engel as part of the recruitment sub-committee. Ben has brought depth of experience in HR & Recruitment which has been invaluable as we have worked through this process.

Cycle 2 Director - Moonstone

A note from the future director

My name is Khy Grayling and I am very pleased to have been appointed to the Directors position in Moonstone Room. I am most likely a familiar face to many families as I have been working across all Cycles rooms even Tiny Tots - over the last 18 months as a Casual Relief Teacher. Those with a longer association with the school will remember me from my work in Cycle 3, where I worked as Director for 2 years - or possibly even before that when I first began working at the school, aptly, in Moonstone room.

I have enormous respect for the Montessori philosophy. Over the past week I have been visiting Moonstone, it is wonderful to see the joy for learning as the children explore and engage in meaningful work. I am looking forward to providing a nurturing environment that respects the individual learning style of each child while guiding them through the curriculum. I am grateful to Susi for her advice, support and insight. I have a very high regard for my colleagues, and I am thrilled to be part of a passionate group of educators that excelling in the work they do.

I am excited to be working with Sally and most of all, the children in Moonstone.

Khy

A note from Susi

I look around the room and I see a truly authentic Montessori classroom. Beauty, each item and every activity carefully considered by Sally and myself, a prepared environment for the children to learn and grow within during their three year journey in Moonstone.

How does a Montessori teacher provide such a diverse curriculum tailored specifically to the individual student?

In Cycle 2 it is a team effort. Working with Sally has been one of the most deeply satisfying professional teaching relationships I have ever shared. Sally's commitment to education and the Montessori method is exceptional. Sally

has a Montessori teaching qualification with North American Montessori and she is currently studying the MWEI. Creative and inspiring projects dearly loved by the children such as, pop up books, lift the flap models and reticulated snakes are supported by Sally. Learning to cook African feasts, South American delicacies and Asian delights are carefully planned and presented by Sally. Caring for plants and learning about botany is another of Sally's areas of expertise as well as craft and sewing activities. Geometry tumbling from journals is a result of lessons by Sally. I know I am leaving Moonstone in very good hands.

I welcome Khy to Moonstone – another deeply committed teacher to the Montessori way. What I notice about Khy is how she truly listens to the children, she hears the children and she carefully considers and plans for what the children may need. This is the key to teaching to the individual child. Khy is committed to furthering her teaching knowledge and she is commencing studying the Associate Diploma in Multisensory Language instruction. What a talented team! Finally, the joy of sharing the learning journey of the children has been an absolute honour. Thank you to all the parents for their incredible support for the teaching and learning of their children in Moonstone. I look forward to following Moonstone from afar.

Susi

A note from Sally

It is with much sadness that I wish Susi farewell to undertake her next life chapter in Vanuatu. I have loved working in the classroom with her. When I look back over the last six years I realise how incredible our journey has been together. We have learnt and laughed a lot and seen so many beautiful children pass through cycle two Moonstone room. However, as much as I will miss Susi and the easy comradery and mutual understanding we share I am very excited to welcome Khy to Moonstone. Khy and I spent a term working together in 2012. We have a great working relationship and share a mutual respect for each other. This is an imperative foundation for a working team. Khy's passion for cycling, botany and cooking will bring such richness of knowledge to the room and her creativity will be greatly valued in our very artistic classroom. I look forward to learning and sharing with Khy her love of language and the energy she will bring to this area of the curriculum.

Bon Voyage Susi and a very warm welcome to Khy.

Parent Packs & Stationery Orders

Parent Packs were distributed last week. Please check with the office if you are yet to receive yours.

Thank you very much to those of you who returned their paperwork by the due date.

Please ensure if you have not already returned the forms that you return them by Monday 14th December.

The stationery orders must be at the newsagent by Friday 11th December.

Term 4

5th October – 16th December

11 weeks

1 pupil free day – Report Writing Day

1 public holiday – Melbourne Cup

December

11th Friday – Cycle 2 Big Day Out, 8am to 5.30pm

14th Monday – Tigereye Ingrams Rock Excursion

11am to 3.15pm (dismissal from V-line bus stop)

15th Tuesday – Pete Denahy performance 2pm

15th Tuesday – Twilight Christmas Celebration @ The Old Priory 5pm

16th Wednesday – End of Term 4. 3.15pm finish

18th & 19th Thursday & Friday – Pupil free days

Term 1, 2016

28th January – 25th March

8 weeks

January

28th Thursday – First day of term 1

March

14th Monday – Labour Day Public Holiday

Lemongrass Café Lunch Orders

Orders need to be handed in by Tuesday afternoon

\$3.50 per sushi roll

❖ Choices:

Egg & Salad

Tuna & Avocado

Teriyaki Chicken

Collect an order form from the foyer, place your order and **correct money** in a **zip lock bag** and place in the Form Lodgement Box in the foyer. No credit possible and money must be in a zip lock bag. Orders to be placed at school by Wednesday 11th Nov. 3pm – late orders cannot be accepted.

General News

Do you have a spare pram or cot on wheels??

We are looking for some in our Ruby Room. Please let us know if you can help.

Music News

Pete Denahy is a well known and respected comedian and bluegrass musician from Yackandandah in Victoria. He is a songwriter and a singer whose shows include everything from serious ballads to ridiculous stories and songs with a twist. We are lucky enough to have Pete joining us next Tuesday 15th December at 2pm for a performance at the school. All children and families are welcome so we'd love to see you there. Pete will then be joining us for another performance that evening at Parents and Friends Event at The Priory.



P& F News

Community Christmas Market

The Community Christmas Market last Saturday was a wonderful fundraising opportunity to have fun, connect with each other and our lovely local community. We made homemade healthy sorbet, vegetable and fruit juices, homegrown grapefruit and plums and delicious homebaked biscuits and cakes.

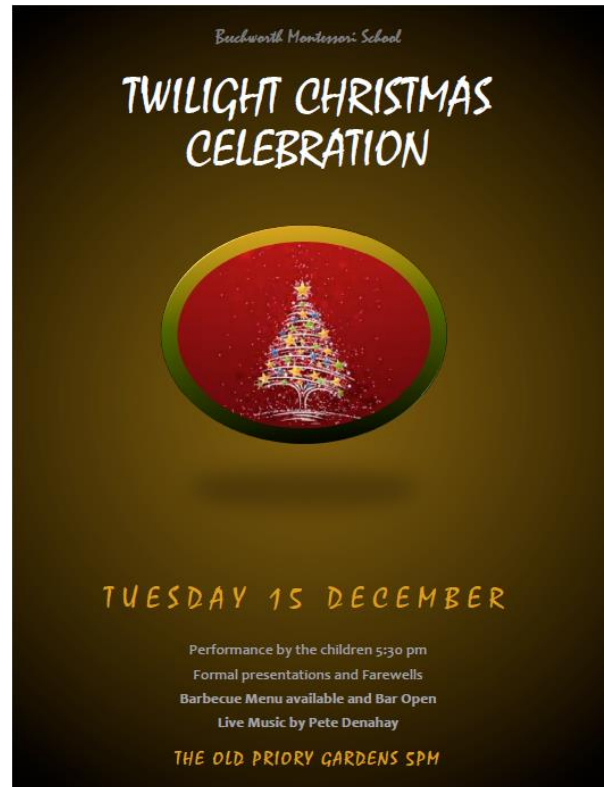
Thank you to those who supplied their time, effort and joy!

Hi Families,

Just a reminder that the Twilight Christmas Celebration is only a week away. Please let the office know if you intend coming. There is a barbecue dinner available and the Bar will be open. If you are able to help with set up for an hour or two on Tuesday during the day, please let me know. 0422337735.

Thanks

Dannielle



Health and Wellbeing Program

Working towards World's best practice in 8 areas of health.

Enjoyed the resilience project concepts? Ideals? Beechworth Montessori now has a Health and Wellbeing Team to help drive this and 7 other areas of health change in our school community.

Interesting in joining the core group who are dedicated to achieving lasting healthy changes? Email Karen Bowey at

karenb@bms.vic.edu.au. For more information about the program,

please use the following link <http://www.achievementprogram.healthytogether.vic.gov.au/>

We are launching the program at our school on Thursday the 11th of February with a walk to school and healthy breakfast so keep the date free!

This week parents and staff from BMS participated in a workshop to brainstorm how we can work together with our local schools, childcare, kinder and the wider community to foster resilience and good mental health. There was great discussion and interesting ideas - if you would like to get involved please let us know and stay tuned!



Tiny Tots News

We are having an excursion to Stanley Highgrove Berry Farm next Tuesday 15th December at 9.30pm. BYO morning tea and some containers for berry picking. Hats are a must as it gets sunny early up there and can be hot.

Where: Mt Stanley Road, Stanley
Michaela's phone: 0407 118 452

in case you need to contact me
If it is raining we will have our last day of term at school.

Thank you all for the time you have spent in Ruby Room in 2015. Have a lovely Christmas and we will see you in the new year.

Across Cycle 2 & 3

Last week, parents of Cycle 2 and 3 boys were invited to attend a discussion regarding boys and Beechworth Montessori. As a result, we proposed the development of a formal Male Mentoring Program at Beechworth Montessori School.

A Parent's perspective of the discussion evening:

Last week I attended an evening provided by the cycle 2 and 3 teachers to discuss how Beechworth Montessori caters for boys. Although I believe Montessori caters wonderfully for the individual child regardless of gender, I have boys at the school and was therefore interested in attending.

It was an open forum which enabled great conversations and ideas from both parents and teachers. Thanks so much to Susi, Karen, Teri and Kat for organising the evening and for being so open and receptive. I was impressed at your willingness to take on new ideas and implement them into the school program. Displaying a real "can do" attitude with our children's best interests at heart and going above and beyond what is normally expected of any educational setting. This is something I believe to be quite unique to our school and feel very fortunate to have my family part of it.

Thanks also to the parents that attended for their valuable and honest contribution. I feel that such wonderful collaboration between parents and teachers is essential in providing individualised learning and ensures the success of every child's educational journey.

From parent Jacqui Alessi.

Discussions from the evening

Ratios of boys and girls ebb and flow naturally at schools. Initially we had predominately boys, currently we have classrooms with large numbers of girls.

How does our current curriculum cater for boys?

- Boys are free to move around the classroom and *choose* from a diverse curriculum such as Zoology, Botany, History, Geography and Astronomy.
- Practical life skills such as cooking, sewing and gardening are daily activities.
- Different learning styles are valued - exploring maths concepts with concrete materials, making models to demonstrate learning and supporting independent research.
- The multi-age classroom allows boys to work with other boys, older and younger, and to develop leadership skills.
- Following the natural ebbs and flows of a Cycle 3 Montessori classroom boys (and girls) are able to move freely between the Cycle 3 rooms and work together on projects and social enterprise ventures. They have snack and lunch and enjoy playtime together.
- We participate in school sports such as hockey, golf and swimming events.

Things we love about Lynda

* Lots of us said we loved it when you work with us and make fun.

* I love it when you ask me to take my hat off inside.

* You have lovely jewels and wear nice dresses.

* We think you will have fun at your new school and the children will love you.

* We will miss you.

* You are always nice.

*Love from,
The Emerald Room Children*

What more do we want for our boys?

To formalise a Male Mentoring Program embedded in curriculum and policy development. Initial ideas are -

- Invite boys from the Montessori Adolescent Program at Beechworth Secondary College to work alongside our boys on a range of projects.
- Invite Dads, uncles and grandfathers to share their skills with our boys such as woodworking and mathematics.
- Develop curriculum based on Outdoor Education – outdoor learning opportunities and outdoor classrooms.
- Explore the idea of Rites of passage for boys.
- Actively search for ways to develop specific programs eg funding.

How can we better communicate what we are doing? Regular articles in the newsletter, formal handouts, whether an email or insert in parent handbooks, of information from Directors to families.

Next steps Next year in first term the group will meet as a sub-committee. An invitation will be extended to other dads/parents to further discuss and plan a formal Male Mentoring Program. All thoughts and ideas are welcome and greatly appreciated.

From Susi, Karen, Kat and Terie.

Turquoise News

All our project work for the term is beginning to come to an end. Make sure you come and see some ancient civilisation projects/artwork on display next time you're in the school.

It was wonderful to see so many grandparents willing and able to spend some time with their grandchildren in our room. This year we chose not to supply morning tea as we wanted the focus to be on the children and their activities rather than on the provision of refreshments. From our point of view, this certainly seemed to work with so much knowledge being shared!

Last week we had a visit from an Italian group performing a comedy for our children. This was warmly received by all our children and they enjoyed it immensely.

Our children also seemed to enjoy watching the year 6 graduation with many comments about "when I....", "I wonder if..." etc as they started to think about their future here.

On Friday we have our Big Day Out. While we acknowledge that this will be a long day, I think the outcomes and experiences will merit the fatigue and it will be lovely way to end the year.

Next week can I please ask that all children have glue and scissors ready for Christmas creations!

Karen and Sonja

Community News

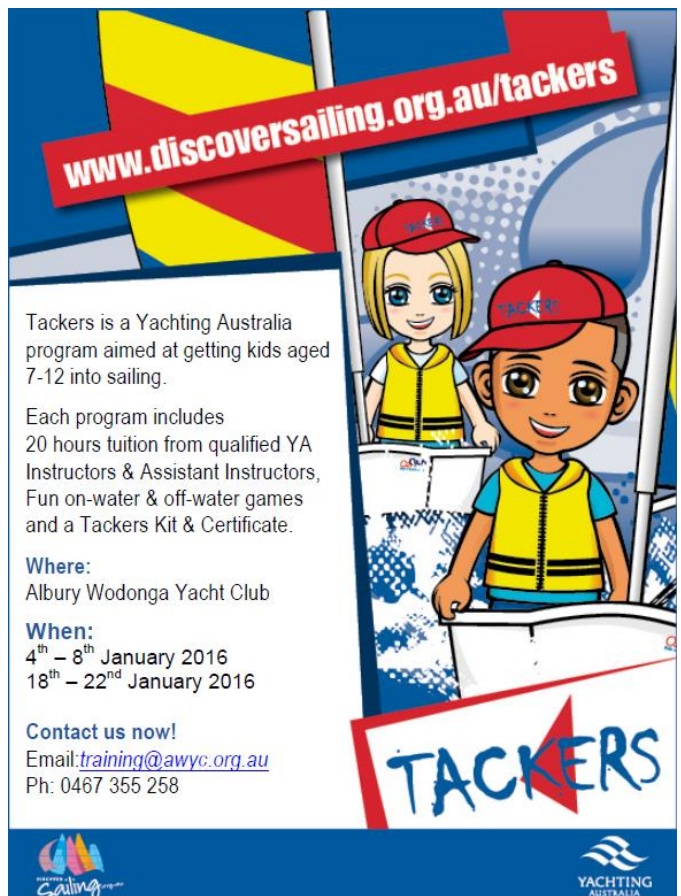
* Circus in Yackandandah

***Enrolments for 2016 are
now opened!**

*International circus artists, Xavier
and Zoe Pinard are pleased to offer
circus classes in Yackandandah.*

*Through skills such as trapeze,
tumbling, tight wire, juggling or
pyramids, your children will have fun
while developing core strength,
balance and agility.*

**For more informatio or to enrol,
please contact Zoe via email -
xavierzoe@mac.com**



The poster for the Tackers program features a cartoon illustration of a boy and a girl wearing red caps and yellow life jackets on a boat. A red banner at the top displays the website www.discoversailing.org.au/tackers. The text on the poster provides details about the program, including its aim, duration, location, and contact information.

Tackers is a Yachting Australia program aimed at getting kids aged 7-12 into sailing.

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

Where:
Albury Wodonga Yacht Club

When:
4th – 8th January 2016
18th – 22nd January 2016

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

The poster also features the logos for *discoversailing* and **YACHTING AUSTRALIA**.

For Rent *Beechworth* Office Studio Space

Short Term Part-time (3 days a week) hot seat with desk is available
in open plan office space in centre of Beechworth.
Available for 6 months Jan-June 2016

Situated in a charming Stone Hall (1857), the facilities include
Air-conditioning/heating split system, a client area with 3 seater
couch and plenty of natural light adjoining the office space.

Rent is \$260 PCM plus GST, this includes electricity and 15GB
wireless broadband, in addition - kitchen facilities, coffee machine,
fridge & microwave.

Phone Erin for further details
0419 390 088 or
email: erin@beechworthphotographers.com.au



THERESE SHANLEY *mayday..mayday*

Therese presents a collection of new oil paintings inspired from her time living
within the historical grounds of Mayday Hills, Beechworth

November 20th - December 13th

Opening Friday November 20th 5.30 - 7.30pm

Gallery Opening Hours Thursday - Friday 10am - 3pm
Saturday - Sunday 10am - 2pm

OLD STONE HALL ART SPACE + VENUE

www.facebook.com/oldstonehall 7 Church st Beechworth

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BAKERY, THE PROVENANCE, KORE GRAPHICS, INDIGO SHIRE, PEDDLAR.

FRIDAY
DEC 11th
4-6PM

Lake-Tavation CELEBRATION

FRIDAY DECEMBER 11TH - 4-6PM

SANDY BEACH, PICNIC AREA, LAKE SAMBELL BEECHWORTH

BRIDGE
ROAD
BREWERS
BEECHWORTH

B
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Residential Camp Facilities**

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10 years & over 6 days and 5 nights

Daily casual classes for kids & adults

Adults 'Retreat' package

Specialist boys classes

For further information visit

www.vicdancecamp.org

or call 0414402558



Summer Reading Club is taking place once again at the Indigo Shire Libraries these summer holidays.

Last year the Summer Reading Club was a huge success, with 41,589 children participating across Australia! An estimated 267,919 books were read!

Celebrating its fifth year as a national program, the Summer Reading Club could be even bigger and better this year, with the help of your school.

The theme for Summer Reading Club this year is "Lost Worlds", inviting young readers to explore lost worlds, alternate universes and mythical creatures depicted across science fiction, historical fiction and fantasy fiction.

Summer Reading Club will commence on Tuesday 1st December, 2015 and finish on Sunday 31st January, 2016. You can register at one of the branches of the Indigo Shire Libraries: Beechworth Library; Chiltern Library; Rutherglen Library and Yackandandah Library, or at the Pop Up Libraries at Tangambalanga and Barnawartha. Registration is FREE! When participants register at our library they will receive a Summer Reading Club pack. Alternatively, they can also register through the Summer Reading Club website at www.summerreadingclub.org.au

Participants go into a national draw to win 1 of 8 ipods! Other national prizes are also up for grabs for those who participate in the online writing activities. Also, there will be an in-house competition at your local Indigo Shire branch library, to win a \$20 book voucher from Beechworth Books.

For more information on this year's Summer Reading Club, please contact Margaret Citroen 02 6028 1180 or margaret.citroen@indigoshire.vic.gov.au



BEECHWORTH BOWLS CLUB

beechworthbc.bowls.com.au - beechworthbowlsclub@hotmail.com
PO Box 108 BEECHWORTH VIC 3747 - (03) 5728 1573



THE 2015/16 BAREFOOT BOWLS CHAMPIONSHIP

**3rd Season Of The Barefoot Bowls
Championship Starts Friday Nights at 7pm
From February 5th to March 11th 2016**

How much will it cost?

\$5.00 per player each night

What do I need?

A Sense of fun, the club provides the bowls

How long does each night go for?

Most night are done in 2 hours

How many players per team?

**Minimum numbers is 3 per night and can be
different players from week to week**

**To register your team or find out more info
please visit our website and follow the Barefoot
Bowls Page**



www.facebook.com/beechworthbowlsclub

XMAS SALADS

Let The Old Priory Take The Stress Out Of Your Christmas Dinner

Available to order, Delicious Chef Prepared Gourmet Salads to compliment any meal.

Salads Include:

- Traditional Potato Salad
- Potato Salad - Mediterranean Style
- Risotti Salad
- Traditional Coleslaw
- Asian Noodle Salad
- Roast Veg & Cous Cous Salad
- Roast Beetroot, Pine Nut & Goats Cheese Salad



Available in 5 or 10 serves

Orders taken up until 4pm Monday 21st December

Pick up at The Old Priory between 2.00pm - 4.00pm Thursday 24th December

(other times by arrangement)

Bring your own bowl or we can package for you.



Order forms available from Beechworth Montessori Foyer or
email info@bms.vic.edu.au for a copy.