



Term 1

Week 6 – 2 March 2016

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

Term 1

28th January – 24th March

9 weeks

February

29th Monday – Cycle 1 & 2 Parent Teacher interviews start

March

2nd Wednesday – Junior School Council – National Young Leaders Forum

4th Friday – Walk to School

4th Friday – Upper Hume District Swimming

7th Monday to 9th Wednesday – Cycle 3 Howman's Gap Camp

9th Wednesday – Regional Swimming - Shepparton

14th Monday – Labour Day Public Holiday

15th Tuesday – Cycle 3 Parent Teacher Interviews start

21st Monday – World Harmony Day Celebrations, AGM & BBQ

24th Thursday – Last day of school – 2.15pm finish

26th Saturday – Goldfields Easter Parade

The 2016 Calendar of Events will be placed in parent pockets as soon as possible.

Term 2

11th April – 24th June

11 weeks

From the Principal

The late run of heat, has tested all of our stamina, but both children and staff appear to have come out well! Hopefully the worst will be over before the Cycle 3 camp at Howman's Gap next week, so that all can enjoy the great activities on offer, learning about self and others. We will await the students' report on this, after the camp, and thank you to Kat and Terie for the organisation so far.

During the last week, staff and Cycle 3 children have explored different perspectives that "freedom with responsibility" entails in the yard. Specifically around whether tackling games should be a "right" for older students, and whether it is OK to exclude younger Cycle 2 children from games on the grass, or to continue to play games where some people have started to "opt out" because it is rough and not always being played as planned. While the older children had carefully worked together to research and record rules to their game, when I observed their play whilst on lunch duty, the rules, as recorded were not always being followed. This led me, firstly, to discuss my concerns with staff. In a circle time activity with Kat, Terie and the Cycle 3 children, I explained the concept of "duty of care" to the children and we gave the Cycle 3 children the opportunity to express how they found the game, as it was being played. Terie had also collected some footage of the sorts of injuries that tackling can cause. The children ended up deciding that it was appropriate to discontinue the game as they had originally planned it, and to plan for new games. Terie and Kat are supporting them with this choice, and I commend both the children and staff with their willingness to listen to and consider a different perspective. Such an approach is illustrative of deep learning. Skills people need into the future

include the ability to see other perspectives, and also to adjust one's thinking in light of new information. As a school, and as parents, it is important that we support the children to develop these skills, which in turn support the development of empathy and understanding of more complex issues.

It has been wonderful to see so many parents in the school for parent teacher interviews for Cycle 1 and 2 this week. Similarly it is great to be showing new families our school, and welcoming some of them to our community. There is a particularly pleasant atmosphere at Tiny Tots on Tuesdays and Thursday mornings, with happy parents and children connecting with each other and Michaela in our beautiful early year's court yard and learning spaces. Please feel free to come and join this group, if you have the time, inclination and appropriately aged children!

I hope that many of you will take the opportunity on Friday evening to join the P & F at the Stanley Pub from 5.30pm for the \$20 meal deal. Thank you to Helen Sellar for organising what will be a lovely relaxed way for children and parents from our school to mix in a pleasant atmosphere at the end of Week 6. We are over half way through Term 1!

Have a great week.

Kind Regards,
Bron Martin

General News

Beechworth Bus Lines: The letter from Beechworth Bus Lines that went out at the beginning of the school year had some incorrect information on it. The 10 trip passes for Beechworth/Mt Pilot and Beechworth/Wooragee are \$24 *not* \$12 as previously indicated.

School Lunches:

Cycle 3 preparing and selling school lunches again this year.

There are no school lunches next week as Cycle 3 will be away on camp.

Week 8: Baked potatoes

Lunches will be on Wednesdays and orders will need to be at Cycle 3 by lunchtime on Tuesdays.

Drum lessons at Beechworth Montessori School in Term 2

Would your child be keen to learn the drums?

We have one family who are willing to make the commitment and are therefore asking for expressions of interest from others who may wish to be involved. Albury musician Kevin McGrath has been teaching drums for most of his life and currently teaches at schools within our local area including Trinity College in Albury/ Wodonga and Marion College and St Mary's in Myrtleford. Kevin has extensive experience teaching children with special needs.

In order for this to advance, Kevin would require 3 individuals to commence lessons. Kevin has offered to donate a drum kit for the school to utilise. Lessons involve a one on one, weekly 30 min session at \$30.00.

Please contact Kevin McGrath on 0408698138 to discuss the possibility of lessons. Danielle Colson can also provide further information.

Click on this link to see Kevin at the Albury Music School

<https://www.facebook.com/alburymusicschool/photos/a.509318032523239.1073741829.502418786546497/701784763276564/?type=1&theater>

Medical Updates

Please note that we have a confirmed case of headlice. Please refer to the information sheets provided by office upon request.

Also, as advised via email, school noticeboard and memo, we have had a confirmed case of Scarlet Fever which is caused by the Streptococcal infection- Group A.

Walk to School

It is National Ride to School Day this Friday where students are encouraged to walk, ride or scoot to school. We encourage our Montessori Community to meet at the Post office at 8:30 am and make their way to school together. Please note, students who are participating must be accompanied by a parent or adult, teachers are not supervising this event.

Committee of Management

Applications are now open for committee of management nominations. An information pack will be sent to all families via email.

IL CARNEVALE

Students have learned about Carnevale in Italy. They were shown videos, photos and discovered some of the cultural significance that this celebration has in Italy. We looked at Carnevale in various Italian cities such as Venice, Viareggio and Rome.

This year we focused on Viareggio. Its main characteristic is given by the parade of floats and masks, usually made of paper-pulp, depicting caricatures of popular people, such as politicians, showmen and sportsmen; the parade is held on the Viareggio avenue located in Tuscany.

We looked at some of the typical characters (Arlecchino, Colombina etc.) who have been around since the 1500 and how people in Italy wear a “maschera” (mask) and dress up in anything they want. We made word searches, masks and classic Carnevale characters in our activities. Everyone enjoyed making and wearing their own maschera!



Early Years News From the Ruby Room

Hi everyone. We have been very busy in Ruby room meeting new families and assisting children with settling into our room. I would to welcome Maya and her 2 children, Sebastian and Eloisa to our community. We hope you are able to stay and continue to join us.

We do have a broad age range using this room from 6 months to 10yrs of age. There has been a great response to our offering ECP. For those children in the afternoon time of ECP (12pm-3.15pm) after lunch those children needing a sleep are tucked in and those who don't have a 25min rest period. They can look quietly at books or listen to the relaxing music played. We have 2 very large pillows that each child has a side for their rest. We would like each child to bring a pillow case to place under their heads while resting on the big pillows and hopefully they can be left here for their use. Please name your child's pillow case so there is no chance of mixing them up.

After their rest the children have been outside playing in the sandpit, riding trikes, cutting peaches and apples for dehydrating; water play; role playing 'firemen, mums and dads, big sisters.' We pack up the playground around 245 pm and then come in for story time and songs, poetry and occasionally looking at the treasure box. For those children being picked up they get their bags ready to go. The children who have been sleeping usually awake around 230 pm/3pm and they help pack up their bedding, toileting, drink and get ready to go.

Enjoy,

Michaela, Geraldine, Wiggy, Lisa and Martina

From Cycle 1 (Amethyst and Emerald)

AFTERNOON PROGRAM



The children have been learning a dance called the Hello Dance on Monday afternoons. We have learnt many ways to say hello in various languages, including Nǐ hǎo (Mandarin), Bonjour (French), Aloha (Hawaiian), Kia ora (Māori), and Bonos días (Spanish). If you speak another language, we would love to hear how you say hello in that language.

This past fortnight we made guitars out of plastic containers and different sized rubber bands. We had fun playing with the rubber bands and discovering the different noises they make. The children found that thin rubber bands have a high pitch, whilst the thick ones have a lower pitch.

The children have been making their family tree. This activity began with the children taking home coloured paper to trace and cut out a hand for each member of their family. Then each child constructed their own family tree using cut up magazines to for the trunk and their family's hands for the leaves.

The art lessons have focussed on self-portraits. The children used a mirror to look at their faces closely and complete their self portrait using lead pencil, then oil pastels and paint.

We have been cooking basic scones and eating them with butter and jam. A very yummy afternoon treat.



SENSORIAL ACTIVITIES

The aim of the sensorial activities is to help children analyse, isolate and represent the attributes of things – specifically dimension, form, colour, shape, texture, weight, temperature, smell and sound. Activities such as the cylinder blocks, pink tower, long rods, geometric solids, baric tablets and colour tablets isolate the concept to be learned through the senses, and are an indirect preparation for the maths materials that follow.

INCURSION

Next Monday, 7th March, Diane Doyle from North East Water is coming to present to the children as part of our afternoon program. The children will learn about the water cycle and community water users. We will also borrow two kits – Drink Tap and Introduction to Water – to use in our rooms after the presentation.

MORNING SET-UP ROUTINE

There are some mornings when staff are not in the room to greet children and families as we are required in the playground. Below is the set-up routine to for both rooms, which you can help your child with. You are more than welcome to come into the playground and chat with us.

1. Put your bag on a hook.
2. Find your name tag and place it next to you bag.
3. Put your fruit in the fruit bowl.
4. Prep and long day kinder children put your lunch box in the kitchen cupboard.
5. Prep children put your reading folders in the reading basket.
6. Exit through the alcove door and put on sunscreen ready for outdoor play.

Cycle 2 News

From the Moonstone Room

Moonstone students are working on making different soil types. Reuben loosens some tough soil. Bertie and Reuben worked together digging.

“We measured boxes, next we put pickets in, then we dug up the ground. Last of all we put pink string around to make sure people didn’t step on it or bump into the pickets. We liked working together outside because sometimes we need time outside.” Bertie



A quick thankyou to parents: I have enjoyed our interviews so far – it is a great opportunity to gain some insights into students through those who know them best. If you have missed out for any reason, please feel free to make an appointment with me or through the office. Khy

On the twentieth of February we did a fundraiser to save the great white sharks.

It went really well and we fundraised \$125 90. A lot of people dressed up. Tilly



From the Turquoise Room

Space: The children are really starting to come to terms with the concepts of space. Most are able to verbalise many things about the solar system and particular planets, and many are having a great time rehearsing their song for our performance. Questions to ask? Can you tell me 3 things about Mars, Mercury etc....

South America: Projects are nearing completion or at least past the draft stage. Why not ask your child about their current area of focus. Is it a country? Is it learning flags and capitals. Can they tell you facts about South America? For example, can they name 6 South American Countries? Can they name 10 South American animals? What is the name of the mountain range in South America? What is the name of the largest river? The largest rainforest?

Arrivals: Thank you so much for the very positive response to my request for earlier arrivals. Hopefully you have been able to have a conversation with your child about the impact this has on their day as it is certainly having a significant positive impact on mine!

Practical life: There has been a surge in interest in practical life and art activities in the room. The children are exploring finger knitting, knitting Nancy, mindfulness colouring, and spirograph just to name a few—lots of dexterity practice!

Food coming home? We have had an enormous list of birthdays this term with more still to come. So perhaps ask your child if a birthday snack was shared at school and whether this was the reason food came home. We also cook on Thursdays (usually) which may also account for food remaining uneaten at the end of the day.



Cycle 3 News

From the Tigereye Room

From Kat:

WOW! Can't believe that next week is Week 7 and that we'll be off to camp. We have lots in store for the three days including a bushwalk up Mt Cope and all kinds of adventurous outdoor activities at Howmans Gap. Today in class the students had a lesson on biomes which are places on earth that have similar characteristics such as temperature and rainfall. Biomes have particular types of plants and animals which inhabit that certain climate pattern. We discussed how Beechworth is a temperate forest biome and that parts of the Victorian Alps such as the Bogong High Plains where we are headed for our bushwalk on camp are grassland.

The origin of English words by Amelie & Ruby

Tigereye's year five and six students have been learning about the origins of English words. Most English words actually come from different languages. For example blue, orange, lilac, turquoise, spinach, vermillion are French words. Waltz, hamster, badger, hamburger, blitz, kindergarten, noodles, bagel, Schnauzer [a type of dog] are German origin words. Chinese origin words are Kung Fu, tea, chopsticks, go, ketchup, soy, or the expression long time no see.

Acids & Bases by Arnya

I have been learning about acids and bases and neutrals here are some tips on them: An acid has a pH of less than 7 and if mixed with the cabbage juice indicator will turn colours such as pinks and reds and when mixed with a certain base (bicarb) it will fizz over. Now for the neutrals the neutral has 0ph and is stuff like water and when mixed with the purple cabbage juice will turn shades of purple. Now for the base a base has a pH more than 7 and when mixed with cabbage juice will turn green and blue and when mixed with a certain acid (vinegar) it will fizz.



From the Topaz Room



Bert and Jack put together the netball hoops.

Maria Montessori believed that children's needs were best met through balancing the use of head, heart and hands. Creating and making is an important part of our curriculum allowing students to express their knowledge in a variety of ways. In Cycle 3 much of our learning is self-directed where students are introduced to a major lesson and then choose areas of study relevant to their interests. After studying the Time-line of Life, Alana has chosen to make a life-size prehistoric dragonfly, Sage and Charlotte are growing flowers from seeds, Bianca and Oaka are creating a project on different species of pine-apples and even growing one from a cutting. Poppy is studying the different animal species of Oceania. Some students are conducting experiments testing air pressure and others creating beautiful watercolour paintings of different clouds.



Jane Holden and Bianca sewing a peace flag.



We have also had opportunities to use our hands to construct basketball hoops, fix an old animal hutch, and put together a cot for the Ruby room. Not only are the students tech savvy, they are also very clever at putting together flat packs! Jane Holden has also resumed her sewing lessons across both classes. The mind boggles how Jane can quietly and patiently teach 6 students at a time how to use a machine and an overlocker!!! They have enjoyed making their peace flags. Thanks also to Aaron Harris for donating beautiful triangles of material and showing us how to use them to make geometric designs.

On Friday the 26th of February my Dad, Aaron came in to Topaz to talk about what he and my mum, Rachel do for a living. First he talked about fabric and how he makes products for Ishka. Aaron got us to make fabric patterns and mandalas with half triangles and we glued the triangles onto paper. Later in the day Topaz showed Tiger-eye how to do it. We all had quite a lot of fun. Everyone was very creative. They made kites, houses, animals, flowers and shapes. We hope Aaron visits again, we enjoyed it. Oaka



Sage and Charlotte potting seeds.



Alanna paper-maches her dragonfly body



Aaron works with Nick and Noah on their geometric designs.

Community News

Babysitting service available

My name is Chloe. I'm 16 and attend Galen Catholic College. I'm available after school, and weekends.

I have experience looking after babies and young children. I have been responsible for the care of up to 6 children and enjoy all aspects of babysitting. I have also competed work experience at Beechworth Child Care Centre.

References available. Call 5728 1000 or 0477 091 886 or 0405 132 424



BEECHWORTH HOCKEY REGISTRATION NIGHT

Come and register for the best sport in town.

First time player no worries come and have a chat with our friendly committee about how fun and family orientated our club is.

Date: 2nd March

Where: Beechworth Primary School

Time: 5-7pm



the maker's market

BEECHWORTH HANDMADE MARKET
DESIGNERS AND ARTISTS FROM NORTH EAST VICTORIA

SATURDAY
MARCH
5TH
9AM-2PM



7 CHURCH STREET

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ART SPACE + VENUE

www.facebook.com/oldstonehall

Could you be a permanent care parent?

There are a number of children supported by the Department of Health & Human Services who require a *family for life* as they are unable to live with their birth families. We are seeking committed and motivated people who would be interested in learning more about providing a permanent family for a child.



Assistance payments are made to the Permanent Care family to assist with the day to day expenses of caring for a child/young person. Assistance payments are considered to be a reimbursement for expenses and not an

earned income.



We are also keen to speak with families who are particularly interested in caring for children aged between 5 and 10 years.

Information sessions are being held on:

Tuesday 15th March 2016 at 6:00pm
Department of Health & Human Services
43-47 Rowan Street, **Wangaratta**

Thursday 17th March 2016 at 6:00pm
Department of Health & Human Services
163-167 Welsford Street, **Shepparton**

For further information please contact:
Adoption & Permanent Care Program
☎: 5832 1500



Beechworth Football & Netball Club

Training for the Under 12's football season will commence on the 3/3/2016.
All new players welcome.

Under 12's 4:15 - 5:30pm
Coach - Jamie Pronk. Ph - 0416 070 412
- Rob Ross. - Ph - 0413 039 652

Flowers for Sale

We will be selling flowers in the Cycle 2 & 3 courtyard.

- 1 seedling in a little pot for \$2.50.
- 1 seedling in a medium pot for \$3.50
- 1 seedling in a big pot for \$4.50
- 4 seedlings in a pot for \$5.50
- And \$10 for a tray of seedlings

You can order them on the order sheet in the foyer and we will call you when they are available. The money is going towards the Cancer Council. If you have any plastic pots that you aren't using you can donate them to us.

Thank You,

Charlotte Le and Sage Davidson





Body Confident Children & Teens

Information for Parents & Community Members

Every year, since its inclusion in 2006, body image has been one of the top three areas of personal concern for young people
(Mission Australia, Youth Survey)

Locally supported by



Indigo North
Health Inc



What: An interactive presentation focused on how to better support children and/or teen's body confidence during puberty and adolescence.

Topics covered include:

- Background on body image and importance of prevention
- Brief overview of eating and body related issues and warning signs
- Key influences on body confidence
- Importance of role modeling positive body image and healthy behaviours
- Understanding 'Fat Talk' and handling 'stuff' they say
- Awareness around behaviours that increase or decrease body satisfaction
- Referral and support information
- *Please note, this session does not cover dealing with fussy eaters*

Date: Monday, 7th March, 7 – 8.30pm

Venue: Baarmutha Function Centre, Balaclava Road, Beechworth

No cost involved but bookings essential

To book online: thebutterflyfoundation.org.au > Education > For Parents

More information: helen.bird@thebutterflyfoundation.org.au 02 8456 3908

Butterfly acknowledges the support of

