



## Term 3

### Week 4 – 6 August 2014

*Distributed weekly on Wednesday*

*A year calendar of events was distributed at the start of the year.  
This section includes those events and any updates.*

### Term 3

**14<sup>th</sup> July – 19<sup>th</sup> September**

*10 weeks*

*0 public holidays*

*1 pupil free day – Montessori Networks*

#### August

1<sup>st</sup> Friday – Cycle 3 Winter Sports Carnival

9<sup>th</sup> Saturday – Sausage Sizzle at Beechworth & District Community Bank

15<sup>th</sup> Friday – Pupil Free Day – staff Montessori networking

31<sup>st</sup> Sunday – Maria Montessori's birthday

#### September

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday – Father's Day Night 5-6pm

8<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> – Cycle 2&3 Parent Teacher Interviews

16<sup>th</sup> Tuesday – International Peace Day celebrations

**19<sup>th</sup> Friday – End of Term 3 – 2.15pm finish**

#### October

11&12 October – Loads of Clothes Market – Memorial Hall

17<sup>th</sup> December – End of Term 4. 3.15pm finish

***More dates to be added throughout the term.  
Keep checking this section to stay informed***

## From the Principal

Thanks to the parents who have kept on the with the landscaping work at the immediate front of the building – Murray was even out there in the snow last week! It was a pleasant surprise to arrive at school on Monday morning and see that a bit more had been done – thanks Lindsay and Paul. Yesterday Amber, Jenny and group of secondary students from Carey Baptist Grammar in Kew completed the plantings at the front. Thanks to everyone – further works creating a terraced amphitheatre will commence soon.

I'm in Seymour today for a Montessori Principal's meeting. We will be discussing issues specific to the Montessori education sector and I'll be inviting Montessori centres from Canberra to Melbourne to visit our school next year for networking. Staff and I feel that we have much to offer to other educators and we are keen to have them come visit us rather than us always travelling to them. Let's hope we can co-ordinate pupil free days and logistics to make this happen. Friday 15<sup>th</sup> the school will be closed to students so that staff can participate in networking within Cycles both here and at Melbourne Montessori. ***Kind regards, Heather***

## From the President of the Committee of Management

### Strategic Planning Day



Our Strategic Planning Day on Saturday provided us with the opportunity to discuss some of the higher priority issues facing the school and chart a strategic direction for the next three years and beyond.

We were fortunate to have the session professionally facilitated by Paul Ryan, which enabled us to deepen our discussions whilst remaining focussed on the main game. Montessori Australia and Independent Schools Victoria representatives tested our assumptions and provided great contextual input as well as providing some very positive feedback on what we had achieved so far.

The aim of the day was not to make decisions, but to test ideas, consider feedback from all our stakeholders and establish pathways forward. In this sense we had a most successful day and will be in a position to make formal decisions at our upcoming committee meetings.

It would be fair to say though that broad consensus was reached, that the school strives to:

1. consolidate and refine its current educational programs over the next 3 years (rather than expand into new areas),
2. improve the relative pay and conditions of our staff,
3. fast track funds for completion of our flooring and landscaping
4. Seek external funding for specialist learning spaces and or a multipurpose hall
5. Refine our governance model to suit the needs of our larger and more complex school
6. Increase awareness of and increase our engagement with, the broader community.

More detail on these and other strategic issues will be provided as our formal decisions are made.

I would particularly like to thank Heather for her detailed backgrounding and frank and passionate input on the day. The role of a principal is often a thankless one, but to have someone who has been involved with the school for over ten years and who is still so passionate about the continual development of our wonderful school is a blessing. So thank you Heather. I would also like to thank John Walker for minding and feeding a small army of children whilst we met and of course Paul Ryan who managed to (solo) dress, feed and deliver his four little girls to Montessori by 8am on Saturday - an outstanding feat of patience and persistence!

**Seane Pieper, President**

## General News

### **THRASS Parent Information Session**

If you are interested in attending a THRASS Parent Ed session, please advise via email or through the Office of your preferred time and day. We will try to accommodate the requests the best we can.

### **Garage Sale of School Surplus Items**

Grab a bargain at the Montessori surplus items garage sale on Saturday and Sunday August 16 and 17 10am – 2pm. Located in the building beside the Chapel at the back of the school there are various items including fire extinguishers (chemical and water), chairs, some furniture, electrical items and various other pieces of furniture. Make an offer – we are keen to move all items.

## P&F News

### **Pizza Oven Fundraiser**

***Help Needed – Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August 7am – midday***

Sausage Sizzle and Cake Stall at the Beechworth and District Community Bank

A few volunteers are required to help out at the forthcoming sausage sizzle and cake stall. Cycle 3 children are also welcome. The Beechworth and District Community Bank will donate \$200 towards consumables for the purchase of anything we like – for example sausages, bread, eggs and bacon, even cake ingredients.

Please let me know if you can help on the day, or will contribute by baking biscuits, slices or cakes.

It would be fantastic if as many families as possible donated a small plate of goodies.

Contact Beck on 0429 336 182 or [ohmberecca@gmail.com](mailto:ohmberecca@gmail.com)

All funds raised from the sausage sizzle and cake stall will go towards the materilas and installation of Montessori's own pizza oven .... Future place for cooking workshops, learning, gathering, and lots of delicious fun!

### **Loads of Clothes Market**

Turn those unwanted items of quality clothing into cash .... Register as a seller by contacting the school. Registrations close September 26<sup>th</sup>.

## Ruby Room News

Hello everyone. It has quietened down a lot at Tiny tots due to our transition classes starting and the children and their families moving on (temporarily for some families with younger babies). This tends to be a ritual we have here with the vacuum created filled by more beautiful children and families discovering our school.

I would like to welcome Caroline and her daughter Daisy to tots and Caroline's parents Sue and Peter who have come to tots with Daisy as well. We hope you enjoy yourselves.

I would also like to congratulate Maree, Roy, Poppy and Lennie on the arrival of their new son and baby brother, Levi. We hope all is well and to see you again soon.

The children in Transition are feeling very comfortable and are getting into the routine. The morning tends to pass very quickly.

In ASC the children have been outside more often now the sun is shining. Pasta was made last Friday by the children to take home with lots of fun had.

As it is still quite cold please ensure your child has a warm jacket to wear for outside play.

I will be away all of next week doing a placement in a Montessori based long day care centre so Mel will be at Tots on Tuesday, Lisa will be taking some ASC classes and Khy Grayling will be taking Tiny tots Thursday and ASC on Monday and Thursday and assisting Mel on Wednesday in Transition. Khy taught in Cycle 3 last year so she is coming right to the beginning of the school cycle in Ruby room. I hope you enjoy the experience Khy and thank you to Lisa and Mel for filling in.

Take care, Michaela

## Cycle 1 News

### Across Both Rooms

#### Antarctica

In the Culture / Science program we have been studying Antarctica. We had planned for this unit of work to go for the first two weeks of term but the children have been so engaged with the continent of Antarctica that we are extending the learning program to suit the children's interests. The children have watched a short clip about Antarctica, written sentences to match photographs, completed penguin 3 part cards, made an ice burg collage and conducted an experiment that modeled ice burgs. Then we had Matt Saunders come and talk to the children about his personal experience in Antarctica, the children were captivated. They were still talking and writing about his presentation this week. Thank you Matt for giving your time to engage the children with your real life experience, it was much appreciated.





### Beechworth Bakery

Amethyst children are going to the Beechworth Bakery this Friday from 10am to do some baking. Emerald children will be doing this excursion on Friday August 29.

### Planet Ark Gardening Afternoon

A big thank you to the families who participated in our Planet Ark gardening afternoon on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July. Our playground was a hive of activity.



### Amethyst

Piet Mondrian is an artist who was born in the Netherlands.

He used black horizontal and vertical lines to make squares and rectangles then painted these shapes using blue, yellow and red.

The children took great care to place black strips of cardboard vertically and horizontally on white paper. They took the same care and concentration to paint the squares and rectangles red, yellow and blue.

The learning focus was on naming and placing vertical and horizontal lines as well as identifying shapes and colours. The children's art pieces are beautiful.



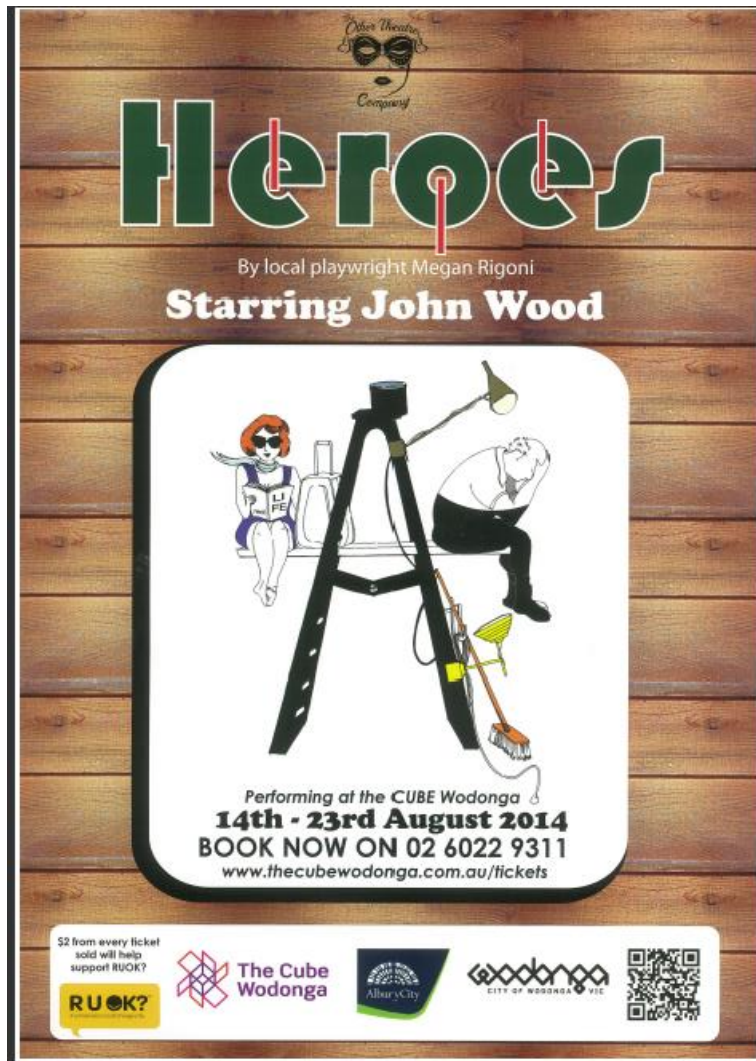


## Emerald

The interest in Antarctica has been so intense that we have spent 4 weeks studying this fascinating continent. In art classes, we are focussing on images of Antarctica. Children have created their own interpretations of the continent including icebergs, the Aurora Australis, albatrosses, leopard seals, Mawsons Hut, Emperor Penguins, Patagonian Toothfish and the Aurora lights. Children considered the works of renowned Antarctica artist David Abbey Paige and have used pencil and watercolours to depict their ideas. You can view the children's works that they have selected for exhibition outside our classroom.



## Community News



"Heroes is an arts and health project that focusses on men's health and mental health. Written by local playwright Megan Rigoni with dramaturgy by leading actor John Wood, Heroes is a contemporary portrayal of every day Australian males dealing with issues of health, grief, loss, depression and suicide. With the rising incidence of depression and suicide amongst Australian males a project of this nature is germane.

Heroes employs original music, dance and drumming to echo the themes and messages in the script. An aim of the play is to inspire men to engage with people in their lives, on a deeper and more meaningful level and live active, healthy lives. Heroes also highlights the value of such organisations as the *The Men's Shed*, *The RUOK? Foundation*, *Beyond Blue* and local medical services."

\$2 from every ticket sold will help support RUOK?

**Where:** The Cube, Wodonga

**When:** 14th - 23rd August

**Time:** 7:30pm

**Bookings:** (02) 60 229311 or

[www.thecubewodonga.com.au/tickets](http://www.thecubewodonga.com.au/tickets)



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Aim:

To provide a free and nutritious meal to those who are hungry,  
To reach out to seniors and other residents who desire companionship, and  
To engage families in need of a night off during their busy schedules.

Meals build community as they are prepared and served in the spirit of co-operation by community volunteers.

Volunteers will help those on their table to meet each other.  
People come together to share a meal and engage in conversations.  
The community "restaurant" plans to run once every 6 weeks.