



Montessori News

Term 3
Week 5 – 13 August 2014
Distributed weekly on Wednesday

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

Term 3

14th July – 19th September

10 weeks

0 public holidays

1 pupil free day – Montessori Networks

August

15th Friday – Pupil Free Day – staff Montessori networking

31st Sunday – Maria Montessori's birthday

September

3rd Wednesday – Father's Day Night 5-6pm

8th – 18th – Cycle 2&3 Parent Teacher Interviews

12th Friday – Toy Catalogue Orders due back to office

12th Friday – Disco – Prep, Cycle 2&3. Times to be advised

16th Tuesday – International Peace Day celebrations

19th Friday – School Photo Orders and payment due to office

19th Friday – End of Term 3 – 2.15pm finish

October

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

17th December – End of Term 4. 3.15pm finish

More dates to be added throughout the term.

Keep checking this section to stay informed

This Friday August 15th is a PUPIL FREE DAY.

Please do not send children to school.

From the Principal

The events group are now well into the planning for the disco which will be held on Friday September 12th. I am the staff member designated to work with the children and also the person who will work with the children on their going out activities. Last week Mathilda, Kezia and I went and sourced venues for the disco – check your parent pocket for the invitation to attend. The children across Cycle 2&3 are managing the event and all planning with my support and guidance. They are very keen and turn up to planning meetings regularly.

We have recently placed in parent pockets the media release regarding the success of our Corena grant to fund the installation of the solar system. Thanks to everyone who worked on an aspect of this (as advised in a past newsletter) to enable the success of this application.

Also as previously advised, thanks to Andrea on her successful application for a grant to enable us to purchase AFL goals to be installed in the Cycle 2&3

outside area AND up at the Mayday Oval. The installation will happen over the next week or so. Thanks also to George Fendyk and Geoff Lucas for giving us free access to the oval for use with the children and allowing us to install the second set of goals. We are sure they will be put to good use in both locations.

Thanks also to Trudi Ryan for her work in putting together a successful application for a chicken coop through the Beechworth and District Community Bank. Cycle 1 children will soon see an innovative, relocatable chicken coop in their outside area and the introduction of chickens and hopefully, lots of eggs.

And a request from us to you The newsletter is our primary means of communicating directly with the whole community, with Directors making contact regarding their rooms and individual students. We aim to produce a timely, informative and educational newsletter and staff spend considerable time writing articles and preparing the newsletter. It is our desire that families (including children and other carers) read all the room reports, not just the room children are enrolled in, so that there is a connection to the entire school. We email all families this document and print out a copy only if it is requested. If it would better suit your family to receive a hard copy via the parent pocket, please advise us in admin. Whilst a print out is not as environmentally friendly as an email if it helps with communication, understanding and connection then the cost may be less important than the benefits.

Kind regards, Heather

General News

THRASS Parent Information Session – Last week to register your interest

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

Thank you to all the individuals and families who combined forces to make Saturday's Wood-fired oven fundraiser at the Beechworth and District Community Bank a great success.

Over \$300 was raised from the sale of BBQ tucker, and as there were so many wonderful bakers from Cycles 2 & 3, and parents, who donated an amazing array of cakes, muffins, slices and biscuits, nearly \$500 was raised from the cake stall!!!

I would like to thank Rob Holden, Steve Oke, and Ben Engel for their great work on the BBQ, also Melanie and Ruby Kohlhagen, Akeidha Alexander, Rachel and Okha Moon, Dannielle Bell, Lou Ritchie and her Amazing Magicians, and Karen Bowey for their welcome presence and support, selling, and entertaining.

There will soon be a photograph of the happy cake and sausage sellers in the Community Bank display.

Thank you everyone!

Rebecca Holmes

Loads of Clothes Market

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

Cycle 2 News

Moonstone

In art we have been doing a circle. We start painting our dark colour then we added the white colour in a circle pattern. Once it was dry we added trees in the same colours we used. People liked choosing the colours and painting the circle more than painting the trees.

Arnya and Eloise

We play many games at Blue Earth and we asked people in the room which was their favourite game. Most people liked Farmer Sam. This is where farmer Sam stands in the middle and we yell out, "Farmer Sam can we cross your dam". Farmer Sam says something like, "Only if you're wearing a red jumper or blue shoes or if you had toast for breakfast." Those people are free to cross but the others who have not those things are chased.

These are the rules of Blue Earth which we need to follow to respect each other.

No cheating

No hitting

No back chatting

Be happy, it's about fun

Brianna and Samadhi

Turquoise

Geography:

On Monday we had a visit from North East Water. Dianne helped the children gain an understanding of how we get water from the source to the tap in Beechworth. She also shared with the children the treatments and processes water has to go through to become safe to drink after contamination. They also reviewed the water cycle and types of water in interactive and engaging ways.

Space Cycles:

The children have learned what causes, and are able to distinguish between, solar and lunar eclipses, and have also discovered the reason behind the seasons. Most children are now able to confidently complete the following questions...

We have days because....

We have years because.....

We have seasons because....

Cycle 3 News

Across Both Rooms

Junior Council

On Thursday the 7th of August I went to Yackandandah for Junior council. I got picked up from school at 9.50 and went to Yackandandah. Then we went to the radio station and got to talk on Indigo FM. After that we all went to the museum, we did a tour and then had a look at an old styled house at the back. I really enjoyed talking on Indigo FM although it was scary.

Eadie Pfahlert



Interschool Sports Activities at Beechworth Montessori

Each year the students in the Cycle 3 area of our school participate in a variety of interschool sporting activities, which are hosted by different schools in the district.

These events are:

- District Swimming Carnival: February/March at Chiltern. This event follows the school's swimming program and is open to all students who wish to participate.
- District Cross Country: May/June at Yackandandah. This event follows cross country training at school during Phys Ed.
- Winter School Carnival: August at Wodonga. This event is the only team event and students can choose from netball,

hockey, soccer, football, and t-ball.

- District Athletics Carnival: September at Wodonga. This event follows student participation and practice of events during Phys Ed.
- Hockey 7's: This is an extra activity we have entered due to a strong interest in hockey from our students.

In each of the individual events listed above it is the students choice to enter and their choice is supported by staff and peers. Some students, if successful, can follow on to other levels such as regional and state events, as some of our students did this year in swimming and cross country. The necessary skills to compete at each event is practiced during our Phys Ed program.

Team events: The Winters Sports carnival is the only team event where each child is encouraged to participate. Within the non-competitive community of Montessori the idea of students being expected to compete takes on a different context than it might elsewhere. When our students chose to compete in netball and hockey this year, (with a sincere promise to Edan to compete in T-Ball next year) they chose to field two teams in each. This meant they would have to include non-experienced students in each of these teams. To their credit at no time did any student suggest putting in a superior team and a less superior team. They immediately set about separating more capable students into each of the teams and setting up training regimes to gently encourage and train less confident school mates.

The leadership shown by our older students was humbling and appreciation evident on the smiling faces of some of our younger, shyer students. There were bonds and friendships forged that will last for a long time. As I watched this process I was struck by the way the older students saw their responsibility as part of a team, as no different to the way they assist the younger students in our learning environments.

Winning isn't always about coming first, and at the netball we only won a couple of our games. But our students lost well and by that I mean they tried their best, encouraged each other and shook hands after each game. They were rightly mortified at another primary school whose students laughed at our injured player and refused to shake hands after a game they won, 7-0.

Well done to all our students for their enthusiasm and great sportsmanship at both the netball and hockey venues.

Terie

Winter sports carnival

The Winter Sports Carnival was a wonderful day for both our hockey players and netballers. We were extremely glad that the day was changed to the Monday as we had a beautiful sunny day instead of rain, hail and snow! Terie and I have been so impressed with watching more experienced players assist and coach younger players in a really supportive way. Congratulations to our two hockey teams who took out first prize in both the A and B divisions. Thank you also to Tania Sutton, Dana Walker and Kjell Haebich for coming along to help out.

Kat

Netball

We arrived at the Winter Sports Carnival on Monday the eighth of August. The teams were the purple peacocks and the pink peacocks. Each team played four games. In between each game we had about twenty minutes, in that time we could practise our positions and have something to eat. We all had a good day and enjoyed playing lots of netball.

Ruby Kohlhausen

HOCKEY REPORT

Division 1 Team:

On Monday, August 4th, we went to the Winter Sports Carnival to play hockey at the Wodonga Hockey Centre, on Silva Drive. Coaches of the teams were Liam McMullen, Tasman Kearney and Francis Duncan. Player's Division1 team were: Tasman Kearney, Liam McMullen, Billy O'Meara, Fred Wilkinson, Finbar Moody, Jackson Haw and Jack Bussell. Who we played. We played 9 different teams and did not lose a game.

Tas Kearney

Division 2 Team:

We went to play hockey on Monday August the 4th at Wodonga Hockey Centre, Silva Drive to participate in the school winter sports carnival. We had 2 teams and did a lot of training for the game because we were determined to do well. The Division 2 team was: Alex Entwistle, Amelia Leach, Elias Haebich, Lia Ladbroke, Indigo Walker Stelling, Will Holmes, Skip Pieper and Cassia Trabant with Francis Duncan and Liam McMullen of team 1 coaching. The day came and both teams played 8 games we drew one game, lost one and won seven games. In the end both teams won a trophy. We came first in Division 2 and the other team came first in Division 1.

Fran Duncan



Tigereye

Science Expo

This term Tigereye is doing a science expo. Everyone gets to choose a science project, then once we are done we write up our project on a massive piece of cardboard.

In week 10 everyone is going to present their project to anyone that wants to have a look (such as parents and Cycle 2 students).

I am doing mine on whether people can remember things better if they see it or hear it. Some other projects people are doing are, which type of bridge is the strongest, desalinating machines and what is the sweetest: fake or real sugar.

Eadie Pfahlert

Topaz

In Topaz we are learning how to hold a conversation. The students were quite surprised to find that the word converse was not a high top sneaker! Indigo described the word converse, as 'an animated and intelligent conversation'. We all know and envy those people who can effortlessly glide from one person to another at social gatherings which is such a valuable life skill.

Each morning we have taken time to discuss what makes a good conversation, which we decided was talking 50/50, holding eye contact, asking questions, and finding familiar connections. With the main avenue of communication today being texting and facebook, holding a conversation is becoming a dying art. We also discussed ice-breakers or how to strike up a conversation with someone we don't know. Students have spent time in boy/girl (shock, horror, and a few giggles) combinations as well as trickier combinations of three where they try to connect with two people at a time. We are preparing to hold our first interviews where each student will interview a staff member. Take the time to strike up a conversation with your child and encourage them to use their skills to talk and connect with a variety of people in our community.

Terie

On Thursday, July 31st, Deanne Drage visited us to talk about Food Share. Food Share is a not-for-profit company that has just started, so not many people know about it. Food Share helps people that have stopped being able to buy food because they have to pay for rent and gas etc. With big companies like Uncle Tobys, for example, if a box of Cheerios is supposed to weigh 40g and one box is under at 30g, they send it off to be squished/crunched back into the ground. But now Uncle Tobys will send it off to Food Share and they distribute it to families.



Food Share started off putting all the food in one house which was too small and so now they have a huge warehouse they can put all the food in, but it is still quite cramped. The people who work at Food Share are volunteers.

Thankyou, Deanne, for visiting us and filling us with facts about Food Share.

Lia Ladbroke

A poem about the weather

The day sunny,
But cold
Its like when its raining,
And its warm
There's a way out of every mist
On the most overcast day
Over the rainbow
Through the white puffy clouds,
And here I am home at last.

By Amelia Leach

Commented [E1]:

Montessori Matters

how we montessori www.howwemontessori.com

Kids and Snacks



As soon as my children could walk they were able [to get](#) and in [some small way to begin](#) with - prepare their own snack.

My children generally don't over-eat. After school is the time they are most interested in snacking. If I see the kids continually getting food out of the fridge or cupboard before dinner I will say something but this usually isn't a problem.

If you are concerned about snacking at inappropriate times it's possible to put some food out only during the times you would like or allow the children to access the food.

There are so many advantages to my children being able to access their own snack. They decide when and what (within a range) to eat. They learn to self regulate their food intake. They learn a whole range of skills like pouring, peeling, scooping, cutting, opening packets. They learn grace and courtesy, especially when we have guests. And for the most part they don't need to ask me for permission or help.

Allowing the children to safely and within reason access their own snacks gives them confidence and empowers them to make decisions about their own being.

In the children's fridge there is currently milk, yoghurt, cheese sticks and fruit (strawberries, grapes and cherries). In the pantry cupboard there is more fruit (banana and apple), wraps and nuts.

Keep in mind that if they can access their own food it's also a good idea to allow them access to an apron, glasses, plates, utensils and some clean up tools like a dustpan, bucket, mop, cleaning cloths and a compost bucket. A low clear and clean working surface such a small table is also a good idea - generally the children need somewhere to work and get their snack ready. These are of course not essential but they help the child to complete a cycle of preparing the food, cleaning and packing up.




And just because I caught a few images of Otis (with full supervision and some guidance) making after-school snack for Caspar. Grated cheese and spinach in a wrap, cooked on both sides on the electric skillet.

Community News

"Is there an entirely different educational framework which can optimise not only the social, emotional and cognitive development of children but their academic development as well?"

Melbourne Montessori School
is proud to present:




DR STEVE HUGHES
Dr Steve Hughes, PhD, ABPP is Director of the Center for Research on Developmental Education,
and past president of the American Academy of Pediatric Neuropsychology.

Thursday, 4th September 2014
7:00pm - 9:00pm

Melbourne Montessori School
Brighton Campus Church Hall
741 Hawthorn Road, Brighton East 3187

\$20.00 per person including refreshments

Book Your Tickets with TryBooking: <http://www.trybooking.com/97987>



Melbourne
Montessori
School



Information/Come & Try Night will be held 15th September at the

Rutherglen Showground's.

Season commences 4th term 2014 & 1st term 2015.

4.30pm Monday nights

Online registrations from 18th August at www.lavic.com.au

First night commencing: 6th October, 2014

Enquiries to Mark or Ruth Weller 0419 508135

Or Sue Russell 0417 401002

Montessori Adolescent Program to go ahead

Commencing in 2015, Beechworth Secondary College will be offering a Montessori Adolescent Program for students in Years 7 to 9. This will be a natural progression for Beechworth Montessori School students but is also available to students from other schools. This will add an exciting new dimension to the educational offerings of the College.

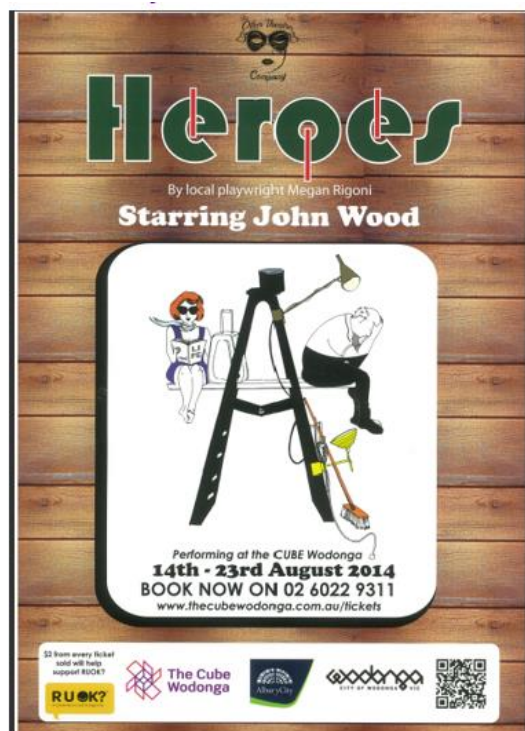
Laureen Barnard, one of the College's teachers, has just completed six intensive weeks of study in America at the Hershey Montessori School in Ohio and has successfully completed the AMI Adolescent Accreditation.

Teachers have commenced planning and development of the units of work for each of the subject areas. This curriculum has been approved by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) for delivery in Australian schools.

The curriculum is closely linked to the needs and development of the adolescent and includes Language Arts (English & L.O.T.E), Humanities, Mathematics, Micro-Economy, Occupations and Self-Expression (Creative & Physical). In Micro-Economy students are required to produce and exchange goods or a product and to take part in the real world economy. This could range from egg production, veggie growing or permaculture to handcrafts or service projects.

Laureen has made some important international and national connections that will support the school's work. When she was in Ohio, teachers from California were very interested in the current Vine to Wine program so Beechworth has already started to contribute to these networks.

If you would like to find out more about the program, please don't hesitate to contact the school, the Principal, John Hunter, or visit their website (www.bworthsc.vic.edu.au) for more details.



"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