



Term 2

Week 7 – 4 June 2014

Distributed weekly on Wednesday

Monday June 9 is a public holiday and the school will be closed

A year calendar of events was distributed at the start of the year.

This section includes those events and any updates.

Term 2

22nd April – 27th June

10 weeks

2 public holidays – ANZAC Day, Queen's Birthday

1 pupil free day – Report Writing

June

9th Monday – Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

16th – 20th – Cycle 1 kindergarten (3&4 1st and 2nd year of Cycle) Parent Teacher Interviews

23 – 26th – Cycle 1 Prep Parent Teacher Interviews

27th Friday – End of Term 2. 2.15pm finish

July

14th Monday – Term 3 commences

18th Friday – Scouts Raffle Tickets due back to school

17th 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

There has been a great deal of observation occurring in the rooms this term with prospective primary and kindergarten enrolments, and educators observing. The observers always comment on the peaceful nature of the room and that the children just go about their business of learning even through there is a stranger in the room.

A number of last year's graduates have returned to visit the Cycle 3 classrooms on their pupil free days. It's always lovely to have the children come back to visit and it's indicative of the special connection between students (older and younger peers), staff and the school as an organisation.

I am pleased to advise our community that an appointment has been made for the advertised Cycle 2 Assistant position. Sonja Tilev will be commencing on the 18th June in Turquoise room. An introduction to the community will be made

directly to Turquoise parents and to the community via the newsletter. Dina will continue as the relief assistant until this time. We are very appreciative to have Dina in our staffing community – her understanding of our school, the students and Montessori makes her invaluable as a relief staff member.

We have recently re-advertised for the part time music Director position. Applications close June 16th. Please share this vacancy with your networks. You never know who is out there! Whilst we are without a specialist music teacher the students are still being exposed to music via various means – through integration in the classroom programs, as a component of physical education on rainy days and next week through the generous offer of Kat Beaton's mother, who is a music teacher. She will be delivering a music session to the Cycle 1 & 2 children next Tuesday. We thank her for her generous offer to volunteer her skills. And of course Cycle 3 have Kat delivering music through a combined class – Kat and Terie have been sharing specialist skills with the Cycle 3 students, Terie with Art and Kat with Music.

I will be unavailable at times due to the ill health of family members. If you need to meet with me, please check via Feona on my availability. For all student related matters it is always best to go directly to the classroom director, and Feona is the first point of contact for observation and enrolment enquiries and the Transition and After Session Care programs. I would like to acknowledge the staff – you know you have a great team around you when the organisation can function as "business as usual" despite a very different set of circumstances.

Kind regards, Heather

P&F News

Loads of Clothes Market

Sellers are now being called for the Loads of Clothes Market to be held on October 11 & 12. All terms and conditions are supplied upon enquiry. Contact loc@bms.vic.edu.au.

Scouts Raffle Tickets

Dear families

Once again this year we are participating in the Scouts School Raffle and ask that you help us by trying to sell raffle tickets, 10 of which will be put into each family's parent Pocket in the school foyer this week. Please ask your kids (or check their school bag!) if you can't locate your ticket booklet.

This raffle is run as a community service by Scouts Victoria to help school raise funds and has some great prizes up for grabs. Scouts donate \$1.50 from each \$2 ticket we sell directly back to Montessori. **Last year we raised over \$700 from this raffle by around half of our families selling one ticket book each** (and a couple of fantastic families selling a few more)! We'd love to raise even more to put towards purchases for the school grounds this year, so please help us by selling your tickets and ask at the office for more booklets if you run out and think you can sell more.

All tickets (including those NOT sold) are due back to the office with money collected by Friday 18th July (end of first week of term 3).

Thanks for your help and support!
Montessori Parents and Friends Group

Trivia Night @ The Plough Inn

Wednesday 25th June at the Plough Inn, Tarrawingee.

Trivia kicks off at 7.30pm, finishing approx. 9.30pm.

Gold coin donation per person, per round, goes directly to Beechworth Montessori P&F fundraising (no cover charge). Plenty of prizes!!

Get together a table of six or just book yourself in and join a table on the night. Book directly with the pub on (03) 5725 1609. Come just for drinks or have a bar meal before or during the trivia.

Anyone interested in joining a minibus down and back please let Feona at the office know.

All welcome (this is not just a Montessori event)!

Cycle 1 Parent Teacher Interviews

A review of reporting indicated that parent teacher interview needs varying according to the age and cycle of the child. We have therefore split interviews this year for Cycle 1, and Cycles 2&3. Details for the year can be found on the year calendar for events that was distributed at the start of the year.

Cycle 1 interview times can be found below in the table. To book a time, complete the sheet located in the foyer or contact the office and we can secure a time for you. To enable efficiency and fairness directors will adhere to the allocated times. If parents are late for interviews, the time will need to be reduced so that following families are not inconvenienced. A room timetable will be placed in parent pockets this week in addition to the table below.

Children are welcome to attend the interviews and an opportunity will be made available if there are issues that would be best discussed without your child present.

Kindergarten Children

	Amethyst <i>Tameeka</i>	Emerald <i>Lynda</i>
Monday 16/6	3.30pm – 5.45pm	3.30pm – 5.50pm
Tuesday 17/6	3.30pm – 5.45pm	
Wednesday 18/6		3.30pm – 5.50pm
Thursday 19/6	3.30pm – 5.05pm	3.30pm – 5.50pm

Prep Children

	Amethyst <i>Tameeka</i>	Emerald <i>Lynda</i>
Monday 23/6	3.30pm – 5.30pm	3.30pm – 5.50pm
Tuesday 24/6	3.30pm – 5.30pm	3.30pm – 4.10pm

General News

Today North East Water will be carrying out sewer fog testing works in our street. The testing involves introducing a non-toxic fog into the sewer mains to detect sewer system connection faults and some of the fog makes its way into the atmosphere. The fog is non-toxic.

Cycle 2&3 Combined News

Madeleine, Sage and Amelie would like to know if there are any Cycle 2&3 students who would be interested in starting a gymnastics group to run on a Friday lunchtime? Please give these girls in Turquoise your name if you are keen. Once they know how many people are interested then a space can be found.

Cycle 2 News

Moonstone

As part of our study of Ancient China we visited the Beechworth Chinese Gardens to experience aspects of the Chinese culture in our immediate environment.

Recount by Berti Wild

On Friday the whole class walked down to the Chinese Gardens to find treasures and to have fun. I liked the temple because it was a smooth temple. I thought the Buddha wouldn't be so big. I saw symbols that I didn't know what they were. I liked the walk on the tracks because they had twirls and twists. I didn't like the walk back up the hill.



Grammar: We are discussing past, present and future tense of verbs to improve our speech and word choices in writing. Please assist your children at home by discussing the correct tense. For example catch – caught (not caught) draw – drew (not drawn).

Thank you to Tigereye students for performing the entertaining and clever play, Planet Grammar to our class. You inspired an interest to find out more about the wonderful world of grammar.

Susi and Sally

Turquoise

Cooking:

A recent Friday saw us without an assistant in the room. But never fear – C3 were here! Thankyou so much to Jackson, Charlotte and Stephanie who came and taught the children how to make rice a paper rolls (filled with plenty of rainbow foods of course). Last Friday Dina was back on deck and it was Californian Rolls to be keenly devoured by all.

Nutrition:

Last Monday saw us learning to pay a little more attention to reading labels on foods. In particular the children were learning to categorise food as 'traffic light foods'- green for eat every day, orange for eat sometimes, and red for eat rarely. Foods were grouped according to guidelines based on the fat, sugar, salt and fibre content per serve.

This week saw us look a little closer at the hidden sugar in foods. The children were asked to predict how much sugar per serve was present before weighing the actual sugar. This activity is always an eye opener for the children and lots of fun.

Body systems:

Since the last newsletter we have been learning about the nervous system and the cardio vascular system. They had a fabulous time tracing a friend and then attaching nerves. Then this week Dr. Christie Rodda so generously donated her time and brought along some stethoscopes and sphygmomanometers for the children to use. The capacity for children to learn and remember a huge amount of information never ceases to amaze me! The children have a healthy curiosity about their bodies, how they work and plenty of 'what if...' questions.

Sleepover:

Lots of fun for all, tired people everywhere on the weekend I'm sure – me included. Thanks to the parents for supporting their children in this activity. A huge thankyou to Brenda Holmes and Mel Kohlhagen for joining as on the night – it would not have been possible without you! Be sure to place feedback in the parent suggestion box or to send me an email with you reviews – good, bad or otherwise

Karen and Dina



Cycle 3 News

Tigereye

Gardening/Landscaping

Thank you so much to Bec Holmes for coming in and helping the students prepare and plant out a small vegetable garden in a large apple box which was given to us by the Kohlhagens. Thanks to Bec, we now have a garden with lettuces, spinach, leeks and snowpeas. Many students have also been working on digging holes for our mosaiced pavers although sadly, the rain seems to have filled up around the holes and we might need to re-do these!



Parts of Speech Play

One morning last week, I suggested that the Grade 5s could rehearse and perform a short play that I had come across about the parts of speech. They took to this task enthusiastically and before I knew it, they were organising roles,

making parts of speech masks and then performing it for us. They have also delighted audiences in Turquoise and Topaz. A performance in Moonstone is also being planned. It was wonderful to watch the Turquoise children delight in having the big Cycle 3s perform in their room and quite an interesting way to get the children excited about grammar!

Why do we sing?

Nearly every day in Tigereye, we sing something; whether it is a short song or a fun singing exercise, it is something I think is really important. Some students get more excited about singing than others and I have occasionally had to answer the question “Why do we need to learn how to sing?” So I thought I might just add something in here about the benefits of singing. There’s so much research out there about how good singing is for you– for example, research has shown it can reduce anxiety, that it releases endorphins and that it increases feelings of well-being. It has also been shown to increase lung capacity, improve posture and it is found that group singing promotes bonding between people. It’s worth noting that research has shown that even if the quality of a person’s singing isn’t great, they still get the same benefits.

I also think that singing is a really valuable skill that we should all be able to do (just like being able to read, write or do maths). If you’d like to read more about this then here are a few links:

<http://ideas.time.com/2013/08/16/singing-changes-your-brain/>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/health/10168914/All-together-now-singing-is-good-for-your-body-and-soul.html>

<http://www.limelightmagazine.com.au/Article/329408,every-child-needs-music-richard-gill-still-arguing-50-years-on.aspx>

Kat

Topaz

In Topaz we are focusing on Grace and Courtesy through our cooking program as well as everyday classroom activities.

Restaurante de Topaz

On Friday, the 23rd of May, Topaz students put together a restaurant, for class Moonstone. In the morning the chefs – Jade Thomas, Tas Kearney and Indigo Walker-Stelling started cooking the dessert for lunch. Cheesecake. Once the cheesecake was finished, they started on the cannelloni which was main course. While they were making the cannelloni the cheesecake baked. Then the setting up group – Mia Davidson, Isabella Harris and Lochie Bowey, started setting up the tables. Firstly they wrapped the tables in butcher’s paper and drew patterns on the paper, then they put the cutlery on the table and the napkins. The matre`de - Rubi Taylor, and Mia Davidson went into Moonstone and invited them to join us. Moonstone lined up at the door and Rubi and Mia took them in one by one to their seats. Once everybody was seated, Rubi made a welcoming speech, and told them

what they



would be eating. The setting up group and the cleaning group – Amelia Leach Unmeopa and Cassia Trabant got to eat with Moonstone. Then the waiters and waitresses – Stephanie Holden, Jackson Haw, Liam McMullen and Rubi served the cannelloni, bread and salad, also pouring water to drink and checking everything was okay. We think Moonstone really enjoyed this. After everyone had finished the cannelloni the waiters cleared away the plates and brought in the cheesecake. After everything was finished Ruby Ryan and Taya McWilliam stood up and thanked Topaz for the lunch and Rubi Taylor introduced our celebrated chefs, Jade, Tas and Indi,

then Moonstone left. Once everything had been cleaned Eloise Darvall and Harriet Duff visited us to bring lovely cards from Moonstone and they read us their cards. We have put their cards in the middle of our class so we can read the nice comments they wrote.

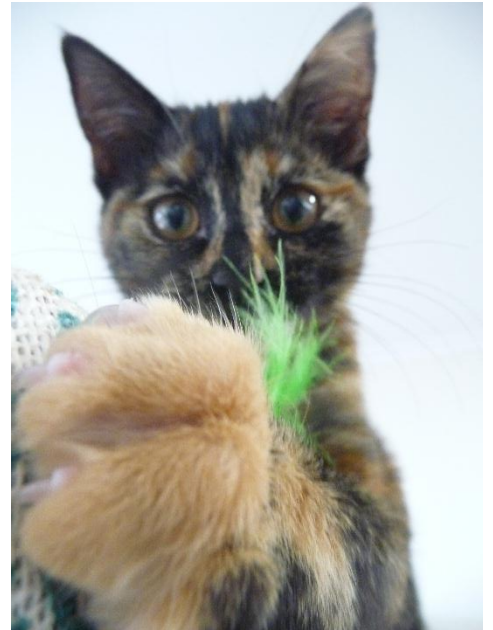
By Mia Davidson, Isabella Harris and Stepho Holden.

Our next lunch is with the Turquoise room on June 13th.

The story of Milly

Once upon a time there was a little stray kitten called Milly. She was very small and thin because she had not eaten for a very long time. As Milly was wandering around Yackandandah she saw a fence, Milly ran over to the fence and slipped through a hole. This was very easy because she was so small, but it was also hard because she didn't have much energy left. The lady who lived in this house was a nice lady called Terie. Terie was going to feed her rabbits, when she heard a soft meowing sound, she walked round the rabbit cage and saw this tiny kitten. It was Milly! At first Terie slowly approached Milly, but Milly was scared, so she hissed at Terie. Then Terie tried a second time and Milly was not as scared, so she let Terie pick her up and carry her into her house. Terie put some tuna and some milk in some bowls and put the bowls on the floor, Milly had never eaten tuna so she drank the milk. The next day Terie brought Milly to school. Now Milly lives happily and she is a class pet for Topaz.

By Mia Davidson and Tilda Chambers



Montessori Matters

At Beechworth Montessori School we are always seeking to improve our practices with regards to sustainability issues. It's commonly been called the 3 R's but now there are 5. How are we trying to do this – reducing water usage, double sided printing, donations of recycling for craft projects, nude food lunch boxes, emails not print outs, turning off heaters and electrical appliances when not in use, sensor lighting, compost, rubbish and recycle bins in the classrooms, drinking out of cups are amongst our practices.

The children are aware of these practices at school – you can support your Montessori child at home too by implementing sustainable practices.

The 5 R's – Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Repurpose, Recycle

What are the 5 R's?

For a long time we have been taught about the 3 R's, Reduce, Reuse Recycle – but now there's two more in the mix.

That's right, there are now **5 R's** - Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Repurpose, Recycle, in that order.

The order of the R's is also important. The closer to the start of the list, the better the option.

Let's take it from the top!

Refuse

Our lives are full of stuff we don't need, and each thing has an environmental cost.

Be thoughtful when buying, use the power of your dollar to tell companies what you want and don't want.

Just deciding not to spend \$100 on stuff can save 100kg of greenhouse gas pollution!

Reduce

You can reduce your overall consumption by questioning all significant purchases and resisting impulse buying. Before purchasing, give yourself at least a day or two to cool off.

A little tip to use is, will I use this item more than 30 times? If not, don't buy it.

Reuse

Ditch disposable for reusable! Almost everything we buy and use in our daily lives ends up being thrown away at some point. It goes to landfill, becomes litter or pollutes our oceans, contributes to the emission of harmful greenhouse gases, or harms the planet in other ways. We need to cut our consumption to reduce our environmental impact. Reusing an item is how earlier generations made the most of limited resources in less wealthy and consumer-convenient times.

Repurpose

This one is simple and can go by many names. You may have seen it on this site under Upcycling, or DIY.

Simply take something you are no longer using and alter it for another more practical use. Think, mason jar into smoothie cup or pallet into shelving unit.

Recycle

When you've tried everything else, it's time for the final R, recycle.

Recycle everything you can. Anything made from metal, wood, most plastics, paper and cardboard, and electronic e-waste are all likely to have a recycling option.

Community News

Cloud9Coffee

Can you make coffee? Do you drink coffee? Do you want casual weekend work?

A mobile coffee business based in Beechworth and working in NE Victoria and around the Border region is looking for someone to make coffee on an irregular basis on weekends at markets.

To get to the jobs a driver's license and car is needed. Also required is the ability to unpack and pack up the coffee machine, supplies and equipment.

Making good coffee and drinking coffee/chocolate etc is fun so an interest in talking with people is an advantage. To make a good coffee it helps to drink it so you get the feedback on your work. Working outside under a marquee in all weathers is another aspect of the job.

If you are interested in occasional work please phone Sue 0418 178 475.

What's coming up at the **BNC kitchen**

Bread, Buns & Rolls

For anyone who would love to bake their own fresh bread rolls, cheese scrolls or learn how to make creative shapes with your bread. Our professional baker will show you step by step how to make your bread beautiful.

Where: Beechworth Neighbourhood Centre, 30 Ford St, Beechworth

When: Wednesday 4th June 2013

Time: 6pm – 9pm

Cost: \$40.00

HURRY, limited places available for this course so please book your place by Tuesday 3rd June 2014.

Call us on 03 5728 2386 or email on programs@bnc.net.au

Hello Hanoi –

Vietnamese street food

A quick peek at some of the street foods typical of this beautiful city. Come and experience a culinary adventure with Cate Hardman as she teaches you how to make **Banh mi Trung** (omelette baguette), chicken wings from the old quarter and a classic Hanoi Bun Cha. Then sit back and enjoy the meal as a group.

Where: Beechworth Neighbourhood Centre, 30 Ford St, Beechworth

When: Friday 27th June 2014

Time: 6pm – 9pm

Cost: \$50.00

HURRY, limited places available for this course so please book your place by Monday 23rd June 2014.

Call us on 03 5728 2386 or email on programs@bnc.net.au

Coming Up school holiday classes! Bread for Kids and Kids curry and handmade chapati

Chinese (Mandarin) Classes for 4 years old

Learn a second language in a fun way through songs, games, acting and art! Group Mandarin Classes available for 4 year olds. Lessons involve learning basic vocabulary, recognising basic questions and answering in proper sentences, holding simple conversation and singing songs and nursery rhymes in Mandarin.

Classes to start in Term 3, tentative days of lessons will be Tuesday and Wednesday morning 11am – 11.40am. (Other days/time could be arranged if there is enough interest.

Class size: 4-6 children

Cost: \$10 per lesson

Venue: To be announced

For more details please contact Sok Yi Bulmer (Bachelor in Music Teaching and Graduate Diploma in Teaching and Learning) at 0404 617 650 or leesokyi@yahoo.com

Junior Music Program for 3-4 year olds

A fun introduction to music to the little ones through singing, movement, imagination and musical games.

Parents will need to accompany children in the class and join in the fun!

Classes to start in Term 3, tentative days of lessons will be Tuesday and Wednesday morning 10am – 10.40am. (Other days/times could be arranged if there is enough interest

Class size: 4-6 children

Cost: \$10 per lesson

Venue: To be announced

For more details please contact Sok Yi Bulmer (Bachelor in Music Teaching and Graduate Diploma in Teaching and Learning) at 0404 617 650 or leesokyi@yahoo.com