

BELMONT PRIMARY SCHOOL
 Mt Pleasant Road, Belmont
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 Principal: David Houghton
 Assistant Principal: Sharon Liddle



BELMONT BULLETIN
NO.3 21st February 2019

DATES TO REMEMBER			
Wednesday	27 th February	7:00pm	School Council Meeting
Tuesday	5 th March		School Photo Day
Wednesday	6 th March	9:00am	Prep & New Families Parent Morning Tea run by Parents Club
Monday	11 th March		Labour Day Public Holiday
Tue - Fri	12 th - 22 nd March		Grade 5/6 Swimming Program
Wednesday	13 th March	7:30pm	Parents Club Meeting
Monday	25 th March		School Walk-a-thon – more info to come home shortly
Friday	29 th March		Grade 5/6 Summer Lightning Prem
Friday	29 th March		Parents Club Social Night – more details to come shortly
Tuesday	2 nd April		Grade 3-6 School Cross Country – Please note new date
Thursday	4 th April		Grade 5/6 Girls Football

PRINCIPALS REPORT

Choir restart In our continuing efforts to increase the music opportunities for our students we will be employing our current piano teacher Samantha Robinson to start up a new choir here at Belmont PS. It will run one lunchtime each week and involve up to 20 students. If we have more than 20 students we will establish a waiting list. There is no cost this term as we look to trial this opportunity. Samantha has experience with choirs overseas and I hope we can get this one off the ground and 'in flight' successfully.

Students who have an interest in being part of our choir will bring home more information soon. Parents need to consent to their child's involvement and the commitment we are looking for from them to stay with the group for the 6-7 sessions this term. Should the choir prove successful under this new arrangement, we will hope to provide opportunities for them to perform at assemblies or perhaps even our **2019 School Concert** planned for Wednesday 11th of September 2019.

The school has also made some early inquiries about the **Music Bus** which is a privately owned business that provides music lessons for groups of students on-site in a specially designed bus. It may be able to offer an opportunity for students to learn the drums but would require a minimum of 6 students. The cost is around \$16 per half hour lesson. If we have enough interest we will explore this possibility further. Please let us know through your child's diary if you would like your child to learn the drums.

Important reminder

All dogs (big and small) within school grounds must be under the control of an adult at all times. Part of our policy to keep students safe is a requirement for adults to be in charge of



their dogs at all times please. At no time should students be in charge of pets within the school boundary please.

2018 School Magazine Our school magazine is still with the printer and final proofs will be with the school by the end of the week. Once approved the printing will be completed and our magazine delivered.

Meet the Teacher

These appointments were made available this year after feedback from parents who wanted an opportunity to share specific information with the class teacher concerning important matters like special medical conditions, physical conditions or diagnosis of conditions which might impact their child's learning.

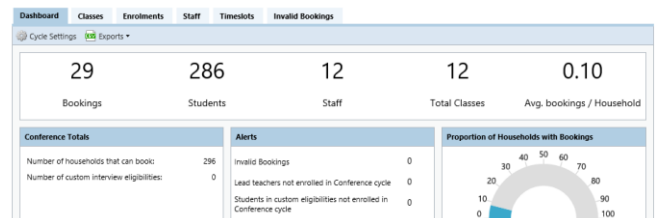
We had an increased number of families who took up this opportunity this year.

2018- 7 families

2019- 29 families or 1 in 7 families.

Meet the Teacher

[\[Back to Conference Cycles \]](#)



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Food allergies Parents are advised that we have several students with food allergies and other allergy forms here at Belmont. In particular **nuts, eggs and kiwi fruit** are among the foods we would prefer are not sent to school due to the risk and potential for serious and life threatening results. Thank-you.

SLIP SLOP SLAP All parents are reminded that Term 1 all students must wear a broad brimmed school hat. These can be purchased from PSW, Malop Street Geelong.

More improvements this week with the installation of an additional Air conditioner in **3/4L**. The cooling system within this Mod 5 building has struggled to keep pace with the buildings orientation, exposure to the sun all day and 29 students. The school examined a number of options but decided this was the best certainty of ensuring our students were comfortable for learning.



Owners risk Parents are reminded that personal or valuable items brought to school by students (staff or parents) are not covered by Department Insurances. Such items become the responsibility of the owner in every instance.

Newsletter distribution update Families can access our newsletter through COMPASS or by request for a hard copy. Our newsletter is also available on our website but no longer through Skoolbag, which will be closed fully in coming weeks as COMPASS fulfils this service.



So far, we have just 37 orders for a hard copy with the remaining copies provided digitally on-line. We accept that not all of our parents want a digital copy so for this term at least, we will continue to provide hard copies for families who tell us they would still like this.

Should this be the final hard copy order count, we estimate that based on 150 remaining copies around 450 printed pages per week or 16,200 pages for the remainder of the year **will be saved** over the remaining school weeks. This equates to 2 whole trees and around \$800 in savings to the school.

In efforts to further reduce our paper usage we have also purchased software called **Papercut**. This software will help the school accurately track its

photocopy paper use with the view to decreasing our staff and student needs in this area over time.

The **School Review** is almost complete and yesterday the Review team met with all staff teams and a number of student groupings including Year 5/6 boys, 5/6 girls, School Captains and Year 3/4 boys and girls.

All schools are reviewed every 4 years and this year is our turn. The review seeks to assess the schools progress over the last 4 years but also helps define the work and goals for the next 4 year period. Our School Council President is involved in this process and will attend on some days.

A draft of our **Bully Prevention Policy**, which may interest parents has been put up on COMPASS last week and will be taken to School Council shortly for further review. All schools require this policy document as part of the VRQA requirements. Feedback is welcome.

We hope you are all feeling part of our great school. We are all part of the same team to support your children in every possible way. Be sure to 'get involved' where you can. There is plenty of evidence which supports the view that parent involvement in a child's learning is makes a difference.

Regards from Principal Team

David Houghton

Principal ☺

Sharon Liddle

and Assistant Principal ☺

Great Dads, Great Kids



When:

2 hours per week for eight weeks

Dates:

Program 1: Tuesday 20 Feb – 10 Apr

Program 2: Tuesday 23 Jul – 10 Sep

Program 3: Tuesday 15 Oct – 3 Dec

Time:

Evenings 5.30pm -7.30pm

Where:

Bethany, 16 Ballarat Rd Hamlyn Heights 3215

Cost: FREE

An **eight week** parenting program especially for Dads who want to build supportive, respectful and loving relationships with their kids.

- Changing role of fathers & different styles of fathering
- Child development and basic child care
- Being a responsive Dad
- Guidance and discipline
- Building healthy self esteem
- Family relationships
- Connecting through play
- Looking after myself

For Dads of children up to or about 12 years of age. Fun, interactive, reflective and supportive group for Dads of kids

Go to

www.bethany.org.au

Or

You need to register in advance – call us on (03) 5278 8122



Proud and generous sponsor of our 2019 Welcome BBQ/Picnic

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2019

School Council Elections 2019 – Information for Parents

What is a council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

For most school councils. There are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department of education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.
- A mandated elected DET employee category – members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional Community member category – members are co-opted by decision of the council because of their special skill, interests

or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections. **We will have 6 Parent vacancies this year.**

Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider

- Standing for election as a member of the school council
- Encourage another person to stand for election.

How can I nominate?

Nomination forms will be available at the office from Thursday 28th Feb to nominate you or you can self-nominate.

Then nominations will close in one week, 6th March 2019.

BELLARINE AND NORTH GEELONG DIVISION SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS



2019 Bellarine and North Geelong Divisions Primary Schools Swimming Championships

This year the District and Division Swimming Championships for the combined Bellarine and North Geelong Divisions will be held on Wednesday 20th March at Kardinia Aquatic Centre, Geelong from 9:00am - 2:30pm. If your child turns 9 or older this year and can swim within the set qualifying times, we would love to have them represent Belmont Primary School at this swim carnival. Please see the PE Office notice board for the qualifying times.

If your child is interested in competing, please collect a timing card from Mrs Ryan (PE Teacher) and return it by **THURSDAY 28th February**. Feel free to see me with any questions regarding the event. Good luck and happy swimming!

Mrs Ryan (PE Teacher and Sports Coordinator)

FROM THE ART ROOM

CHINESE NEW YEAR ACTIVITIES IN THE ART ROOM

Years 3/4/5/6

The children in these grades have been immersed in this topic ever since they were in Preps so this year I decided to set them the challenge of creating an artwork that shows what Chinese New Year means to them. We discussed all the things that we associate with this topic temples, auspicious colours, lanterns, lucky envelopes and so on then made a plan. The children could also work with their own choice of materials. When finished they have to write an Artist Statement including the title of their artwork, the inspiration for their choice and any problem solving skills that they had to use when completing their artwork.

Most of the children are now writing their artist statement so you will be able to see the results of this soon. I think you'll like it.

Years 1/2

More splatter fireworks for this level (please remember to organise an art smock if you haven't already done so), this time with them exploding above and behind a beautiful gold pergola which they had to draw and cut from a piece of folded gold paper.

These look magic!

Preps

The preps are currently creating a lucky money tree where they used sponge rollers (always fun) to paint a bright red background. I then traced around their hand and forearm on brown paper which they painted gold. All we need to do now is print golden coins above our "tree" to bring us good luck. Also on display soon.

BELMONT PET WALL

The Belmont Pet Wall is up and running (you know, the one that used to be the dog wall.) Already we have photos of ferrets, a kitten, cat, birds and a snake added. Please send your pet photos along soon. Pet pigs especially welcome.

Yvonne McDonald

Art Specialist



PARENTS CLUB

Prep Parents and New Families Morning Tea March 6th

Parents Club will be holding a Welcome Morning Tea on March 6th, in the staff room after drop off, for all Prep and New Family Parents. Please drop in for a chat, some morning tea and hopefully meet some new friends.

ADVERTISEMENTS



Belmont High School

SELECT ENTRY ACCELERATED LEARNING PROGRAM

2020 Year 7 Intake

Information Evening:

Thursday, 14th March 2019

Belmont High School, SEALP Learning Centre
(entry via Digby Avenue)
7.00pm

Information Booklets and Application Forms are available from Belmont High School, or online at www.bhs.vic.edu.au
Selection process details for 2020 can be viewed on the school website.

Please direct all enquiries to:
Leanne Purdy
Telephone: 5245 5355 (Belmont High School)
Email: belmont_hs@edumail.vic.gov.au

HOOKIN2 HOCKEY

Come & Try Hockey

Tuesday February 27 to Tuesday April 16
4.30 pm to 5.30 pm

King Lloyd Reserve, 80 Windsor Rd, Newtown

Boys and girls aged 5 to 12

Equipment provided



Newtown City Hockey Club Inc.

Email: contact@newtownhockeyclub.com.au
Enquiries: Claire Barnes, 0417 015130
www.newtownhockeyclub.com.au
www.facebook.com/NewtownCityHockey/