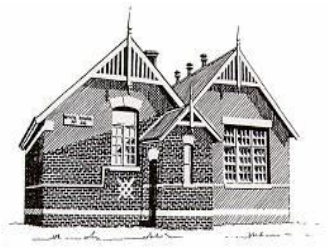

BELMONT PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Principal: David Houghton
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BELMONT BULLETIN
NO. 21 1st August 2019

DATES TO REMEMBER			
Monday	**5th, 12th, 19th Aug**		**Prep – Grade 2 Gymnastics Program**
Wednesday	**14th August**	**7:00pm**	**School Council Meeting**
Mon - Wed	**19th – 21st Aug**		**Grade 3/4 Cavehill Creek Camp**
Wednesday	**21st August**	**7:30pm**	**Parents Club Meeting in the staffroom**
Friday	**30th August**		**Father's Day Stall**
Wednesday	**11th September**		**School Concert**
Friday	**25th October**		**Greatest Showman Sing A-long Movie Night**

Student of the week Congratulations to the following students whose efforts, behaviour and attitude have been recognised		
Isla P	**Prep G**	For reading with expression and changing her voice when characters were scared, yelling or excited! Your reading was amazing this week. Keep up the great work!
Juni B	**Prep V**	For her excellent recording of addition 'sentences' in maths this week. Well done Juni!
Maggie O	**1/2 C**	For always doing her personal best and for working extra hard in Maths to understand vertical subtraction this week.
Noah W	**1/2 M**	For jumping straight into our school concert preparations, sharing his energy, exuberance and love of dance to get everyone involved as a motivator and a role model. Good work and cracking moves Noah!
Lexi A	**1/2 P**	For her excellent work this week during maths learning all about subtraction. You tackled all the challenges and did a great job!
Jude B	**1/2 T**	For being enthusiastic during concert practise this week. You had such a positive attitude and made the rest of 1/2T very excited about our songs!
Jada Button	**3/4 C**	For continually working at a very high standard and trying her very best at everything she does. Keep up the amazing work Jada!
Riley W	**3/4 E**	For working hard to create a detailed, informative holiday recount. Keep up the amazing writing Riley!
Abby A	**3/4 L**	For your outstanding work when solving subtraction problems. You learnt a new skill of trading, and you tackled every single problem I gave you. Even in the thousands! You're amazing Abby!
Dakota T	**5/6 L**	For a fantastic start at Belmont PS! You have settled in well to 5/6L, coming to school everyday with a happy and positive attitude and always trying your best. Great work Dakota!
Lyla S	**5/6 S**	For coming to school every day with a bright and positive attitude which is reflected in her outstanding efforts with her classwork. Well done Lyla!
Talis M	**5/6 T**	For making such a positive start in 5/6T. It is fantastic to see that you have settled in so quickly. Well done!
Lucas G	**ITALIAN**	For learning how to answer questions in Italian. Well done.
Poppy N	**PE**	For applying herself to a new sport and developing her skills in our golf clinic.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Students of the Week

Library Competition

Last term students across the school were invited to participate in a drawing competition based on Dave Pilkey books. Dave Pilkey is best known as the author and illustrator of the children's book series "Captain Underpants" and also "Dumb Bunnies". Our students could create a cartoon or design a cape. Thanks to our library team for providing this opportunity for our students.

Congratulations to the Paige R (1/2C), Lim N (1/2C), Heidi A (3/4C) and Jada B (3/4C) who were awarded prizes at assembly last week.

Look who turned 100!

Congratulations to our fabulous prep students who reached the milestone of 100 days at school on Tuesday. The preps enjoyed a day of activities full of all things 100, wearing casual dress and celebrating with a special 100 days 'jelly' cake. Thanks to **Miss Gowers** and **Mrs Glassford** for organising the day for the preps and for all their tireless effort in supporting our preps during their first 100 days of learning at school.

Thank you also to our amazing prep parents, grandparents and families for your important role in the learning partnership we share. We couldn't do it without you!

Parent Opinion Survey

Thank you to the **21** parents who have already completed the DET parent opinion survey. We are almost half way there to our **target of 45** responses.

The survey remains open until August 11th so there is still plenty of time for randomly selected families to complete the survey. Please keep the responses coming – we value your feedback.

UNITY

I dreamed I stood in a studio
And watched two sculptors there,
The clay they used was a young child's mind
And they finished it with care.

One was a teacher; the tools he used
Were books and music and art;
One a parent with a guiding hand
And a gentle and loving heart.

Day after day the teacher toiled
With a touch that was deft and sure
While the parent laboured by his side
And polished and smoothed it o'er.

And when at last their task was done
They were proud of what they had wrought,
For the things they had moulded into the child
Could neither be sold nor bought

And each agreed he would have failed
If he had worked alone.
For behind the parent stood the school
And behind the teacher, the home.

Cleo V. Swarat

Continuous Reporting

This semester our teachers will continue to use the Compass learning tasks to provide parents with regular feedback on our students learning progress. These are likely to be every 2-3 weeks across the semester and you will be alerted by a Compass notification when a learning assessment task has been made available to parents. The first learning task this term will be a reading task which our teachers are working hard to complete and will be available very soon.

At our Parent-Teacher Conferences at the end of last term, many parents had indicated that they hadn't yet see the learning tasks or knew how to access them. We will continue to provide instructions or steps in the Compass alerts and we are certainly happy to provide a quick training session one morning for anyone who needs it. Alternatively please remember that any of our staff will be happy to help you navigate your way to the tasks.

Personal Property

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. This also includes footballs, sporting equipment and other toys such as bey blades that our students tend to bring to school to play with.

Wednesday 11 September 2019

The countdown is on! The date is set and rehearsals continue this week for the school concert. All classes enjoyed their first lessons last week and I have observed some classes practising their moves throughout the week.

A reminder of each group's chosen movie:

Preps	- Jungle Book & The Lion King
12M & 12P	- Moana
12C & 12T	- Aladdin
34C	- Grease
34E	- High School Musical
34L	- Shrek
56L	- Mamma Mia
56T	- The Greatest Showman
56S	- Pitch Perfect

Our parents club will be organising a raffle and are hoping to gather lots of community support in assisting with the prizes and selling tickets to family and friends.

In coming weeks we will send home a special concert bulletin to let you know ticketing details and costume requirements.

Student Attendance

Our school has an attendance policy which was updated to reflect Department of Education and Training requirements in 2018. As part of the policy, our school is required to follow a number of actions when a students **has had more than five unexplained** absences in a term. An unexplained absence is when parents have not informed the school of the reason for their child being absent from school on any given day. When an absence remains unexplained after several attempts by the school to seek an explanation, it becomes an unapproved absence. The school's Attendance Policy can be found on our school website in the Policy section.

Our school has a number of strategies in place to assist our families in reducing the number of unexplained absences. These include:

- Parents using Compass to enter an approval note for your child prior to or on the day of an absence.
- Using the link in the same-day notification sms that is sent daily at 10am informing parents that their child has not been accounted for at school.
- Sending out letters with absence dates at the end of each month asking parents to provide a reason for the unexplained dates.
- Requesting that parents provide notification in writing of a forthcoming family holiday so that this can be added to compass as an approved absence.

During our School Review in Term 1 it was noted that whilst our overall attendance data was generally more positive when compared to State data, the number of unexplained absences throughout the school was an area that needed significant improvement.

P**lease help us improve this area by letting us know when your children are away and provide us with a reason for their absence.** We really should be able to aim for zero unexplained absences if we work together on this.

School is better when you are here.

Raising Resilient Young People

As a parent and an educator, I have been following the work of a number of professionals who work in the area of mental health. One of these is Hugh van Cuylenburg who is the founding director of The Resilience Project. Hugh works with schools, corporate organisations and a number of AFL and other sporting clubs. His story is worth hearing if you ever get the opportunity to attend one of his public seminars and you can certainly find our more at https://theresilienceproject.com.au

The guiding principles of The Resilience Project are that practicing gratitude, empathy (compassion for others) and mindfulness lead us to a happier and more fulfilling experience in life. Over the next few newsletters I thought I would provide some information on each of these.

Empathy (Kindness)

Empathy is the capacity to understand and feel what another person is feeling. Every time you do something kind for someone else, your brain releases oxytocin. Oxytocin leads to:

- Increased self-esteem/confidence.
- Increased energy.
- Increased levels of happiness.
- Increased levels of positivity

We know about the concept of random acts of kindness which is what having empathy is all about. That feeling we have about ourselves when we know we have done something for another person. With Plastic-free July finishing yesterday, I came across an Altruistic August calendar which you will find later in the newsletter. Perhaps you can chat about some of the ideas in it with your children and decide which ones they might like to try in coming weeks.

Another busy but productive week here at Belmont. Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you need to discuss anything at all with me.

Enjoy the weekend ahead.

Sharon Liddle
Acting Principal ☺

After School Care
Thank you to the parents who have already taken the time to provide feedback about our before and after school care services. The survey link below will remain available until the end of next week.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/35BQBF5

THE GREATEST SHOWMAN

The Greatest Showman Sing-Along at Reading Cinemas Waurn Ponds is on Friday 25 October 6pm.

We are looking for numbers as an expression of interest for a great family night out at the movies to watch The Greatest Showman in Sing-Along form. Tickets $15.00 per person. We would like to run this fundraiser but for it to go ahead we are required to sell a minimum of 180 tickets.

Please comment via the Facebook page or a clipboard will be available at the office to register your interest by Friday 09 August. Please add surname and number of tickets, ie. "Williams x 4".

We have had a wonderful response so far. We currently need to sell another 20 tickets minimum so please feel free to invite family and friends.

Many thanks.

PARENTS CLUB

Fathers Day Stall
The annual Father's Day Stall is coming up on Friday the 30th August. Notes will be sent home in the coming week with further information

Concert Raffle
One part of the upcoming School Concert is the raffle that we hold to raise money for the school. Prizes usually comprise of a range or hampers, with a variety of gifts.

If there are any quality items that you would like to contribute to the hampers please leave these at the office. Donations of non perishable items, for example wine, chocolate, and vouchers for services or businesses within the school community would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks
Skye

GEELONG FOOD RELIEF
ANNUAL TOUCAN FOOD APPEAL

Monday 5th– Friday 23rd August 2019

…..THINK OUTSIDE THE CAN!

The Geelong Food Relief Centre has been providing Emergency Food to those in need for 29 years. Working in conjunction with welfare agencies, this year 37,000 individuals will be referred to Geelong Food Relief Centre for Emergency Food Relief.

Items listed below form some of the basic food items most families choose.
We are inviting you to be part of this generous donation to provide if possible the following:

- Cereal (All Sizes)
- Cake Mix
- Spreads
- Dry Pasta
- Canned Soups
- Canned Tuna
- Packet Pasta
- Canned Fruit
- Noodles
- Rice
- Tea/Coffee
- Cling Wrap / Foil
- Shampoo Conditioner

Of course, all donations whether cans, boxes or packets are always gratefully appreciated and can be placed in the box located at the school office.

THANK YOU

ACTION CALENDAR: ALTRUISTIC AUGUST 2019

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
"Wherever there is a human being, there is an opportunity for kindness" ~ Seneca			1 Decide to be kind to others (and yourself) all this month	2 Leave a positive note for someone else to find	3 Treat everyone you interact with as though they are a friend	4 Ask someone how they are and really listen to their reply
5 Water some flowers or plants in a public park or outdoor space	6 Contact a friend to let them know you're thinking of them	7 Offer your seat, give way or hold the door open for others	8 Spend time wishing for other people to be free from suffering	9 Be thankful for your food and the people who made it possible	10 Take time to forgive someone who hurt you in the past	11 Make a thoughtful gift as a surprise for someone
12 Give your unused clothes away to support a charity	13 Notice when someone is down and try to brighten their day	14 Show support for a cause that doesn't affect you directly	15 Today do something to make life easier for someone else	16 Tell a young person something you wish you'd heard at their age	17 Take a friend on a spontaneous adventure	18 No plans day! Be kind to yourself so you can be kinder to others
19 If someone annoys you, imagine how it feels to be them	20 When you buy one and get one free, give the extra item away	21 Try to bring a smile to as many people as possible today	22 Donate your change to support a good cause	23 Pay sincere compliments to people you meet today	24 Give your time and energy to help someone in difficulty	25 Cook your favourite food for someone who will appreciate it
26 Turn your phone off and give people your full attention	27 Look for the good side in everyone you meet today	28 Give away a book that you found inspiring or helpful	29 Sign up to become an organ donor or give blood	30 Start friendly conversations with people you don't know	31 Plan a street party, picnic or gathering for your community	

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

www.actionforhappiness.org

Find out more about the Ten Keys to Happier Living, including books, guides, posters and more here: www.actionforhappiness.org/10-keys

Preps 100 days of school celebrations

Chris Crabbe from Golf Australia with a free Golf clinic

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