

BELMONT PRIMARY SCHOOL
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 Principal: David Houghton
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BELMONT BULLETIN
No.07 19th March 2020



Isla D, Scarlett H & Zahli A enjoying a rest and an icy pole after our walkathon last week.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Tonight	19th March	7:30pm	Parents Club Meeting
Wednesday	25th March	9:00am	Grade 3-6 Cross Country
Friday	27th March		Casual Dress Day Gold coin donation for School Aid
Friday	27th March	9:00am – 2:30pm	Last Day for Term 1 *Please note early dismissal time*
Tuesday	14th April		First Day back for Term 2



Student of the week

Congratulations to the following students whose efforts, behaviour and attitude have been recognised

Locke P	Prep C	For having such a positive attitude towards his learning everyday. Locke is always ready to learn, thinks about his learning and consistently tries his best each day. Well done Locke.
Harry M	Prep G	For showing persistence and always giving everything a go even if it is challenging. You have had a fantastic first term of Prep. Keep up the amazing work Harry!
Juniper B	12L	For your ability to use the clues in the texts we read and the pictures we saw to predict what might happen next. I also love that you are so focussed and listening to instructions when on the floor. Amazing work Juni!
Aryana P	12M	For doing a great job working with Information report text structure, nailing her report on Polar Bears. Great Work Aryana!
Joshua S	12S	For amazing his teachers with confident reading! Joshua, you used expression and were able to answer some tricky comprehension questions! Well done!
Jimmy N	12T	For being a superstar skip counter this week in Maths. Amazing effort Jimmy, keep up the great work!
Luke C	34C	For displaying outstanding mathematical problem solving skills to complete the '5 Number Challenge'. Brilliant work Luke!
Mason K	34M	For utilising his time to research some interesting facts to create an engaging brochure about the Northern Territory. I can't wait to see the finished product. Keep up the great work Mason!
Xavier H	Italian	For great retention of Italian words.
Tilda L	P.E.	For working hard on her throwing and catching skills and never giving up.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Hello everyone

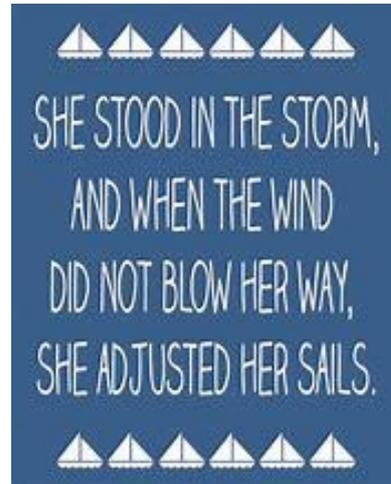
Well it's been an interesting week in our great land of Australia and across the world. We understand that there is rising community concern around the COVID-19 virus and we respect the individual choices of our families at this time.

Our school remains open until such time that advice from the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services instructs us otherwise. We will continue to keep our community as updated as possible and we thank you for your support and ongoing communication with us. I encourage parents to work and communicate with your children in a calm, proactive and positive manner.

But for now....it is business as usual here at Belmont Primary School. All classes this morning are in full swing focusing on learning and I could not be more proud of the way in which our staff are working and supporting our students and families at this time.



Yes, we have changed some practices and put some additional measures in place in response to ongoing advice from the Department of Education and Government announcements. However we will continue with our student of the week awards and I am looking forward to presenting our 2020 House Captains with their badges in a small ceremony tomorrow. I am also very excited to visit the 5/6 classrooms and share the students learning from their Growth Mindset inquiry learning unit tomorrow.



At this time, I am reminded by this popular quote by Elizabeth Edwards which has held me in good stead both personally and professionally.

It is unprecedented times and the wind is not blowing our way, but together we will adjust our sails and make our way through the current storm.

COMPASS – It's time to come on board!

In the past two weeks Compass has become a direct avenue for immediate communication between the school and our community. Our admin team are following up with the small group of families who our records show have yet to connect with Compass.

In the advent of a school closure, we will use this as our main communication channel between the school and home in terms of updates, resources and other communication. In time teachers may also use the learning tasks, resource section and other functions to support ongoing learning from home.

If you have a mobile phone and are yet to download the relevant app, I strongly recommend that you do so and in that way you will receive an immediate notification of a new entry on your newsfeed. For some important information, we chose both the sms and the email option to ensure that all families will receive the information in some way.

If you need assistance in logging on, resetting your password or help with any function, please contact our office staff and they will only be too pleased to help you.

Continuity of Learning

This week our teachers have been working to develop home learning packages which schools will only utilise in the advent of a school closure. These will be short term packages to allow for a brief period of time. We understand that parents will prefer for not all of the learning to be delivered using technology, however after long discussions with teachers, we believe that technology will play an important role in maintaining teacher-student connections and communication. Teachers will be required to be working from home and continuing to monitor, plan and assess the learning of students in this situation.

Both See-saw and Compass will become vital links in the way that our teachers and school will maintain contact with our students and your families.

All schools are exploring what this will mean in the context of their own communities and in all cases, adjustments and allowances will need to be made for those students who will not have internet access or access to a shared device at home.

In order to assist us with planning for this situation, we do need to have current knowledge of the technology access that each family will have at home. We are developing a brief survey/form that we will need a quick response from families. I am still determining the best way to deliver this to families. Stay tuned...



Student Absences

Please remember to use Compass or notify the office if your children are not attending school. Parents are advised that you do not need to add an attendance approval on a daily basis. If you have made the decision that your children will not be returning this week, or even next term, then please choose the appropriate start and end date on the Compass approval note.

If your children are unwell, please choose the **medical/illness** category and in the details/comments add a brief sentence about this. eg *Has a headache. Coming down with a head cold.*

If you are choosing to keep your child home because of the global coronavirus situation then please choose **parent choice** and in the details/comment provide a reason. This could be as simple as *COVID-19 concern.*

If a student or any member of your family is confirmed with a case of COVID-19, we ask that you please contact us via the office and notify us immediately so that we can follow DHHS and DET advice. There have been no confirmed cases within our Belmont community and despite some individuals following Government advice to self-isolate upon return from overseas travel, this does not place our students or staff at immediate risk. We continue to work closely with individual families or staff who may be included in this travellers category at the moment.

Parents are reminded that our teachers will not be providing work for students who are not attending school unless we have been subject to a school closure. This is at the advice of DET as our school is open and our teachers are engaged in planning and teaching the students who are attending school.

However I am in the process of compiling some ideas and links to resources that families might like to use or choose from as a basis for supporting your child's learning at home. These will be provided via Compass in the coming day.

Here is a little something to get you started...

Writing Prompt

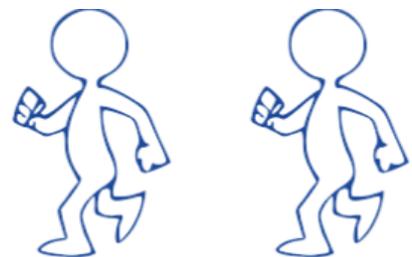


I wonder if this girl is saying "Help!" or "I made it!?"
What's her story?

*Stay safe, happy and healthy everyone.
Let's see what the week ahead brings our way.
Please remember...if you can choose to be anything,
at the moment, please just choose to be kind. ☺*

Kinds regards
Sharon Liddle
Acting Principal

A few happy snaps from the Walkathon



Young children are going to remember how their family felt during this Coronavirus panic, more than anything specific about the virus. Our kids are watching and learning about how to respond to stress and uncertainty. Let's wire our kids with resilience, not panic.



Kelly's Treehouse

FROM THE ART ROOM

As the National Wool Museum has now been closed down, I don't know at this stage whether the exhibition of the Alphabet Birds is being postponed or cancelled. If it is cancelled, I will display them at school at some time in the future. In the meantime, here's an amazing bird photo for you that I came across yesterday taken by an amazing photographer. It's a red winged blackbird singing on a cold morning.



YEARS 5/6

The students at this level have been working on an artwork called "Cosmic Chinese Zodiac Animals." This technique uses chalk and coloured pencils on a painted background. Why did so many children choose to do a snake?



YEARS 1/2

These children used the oil pastel colour scratch technique to create a drawing of rats under New Years fireworks. I remember doing something similar when I was at school and loved it although we always covered the oil pastel with black. You may remember doing these too. I think that using different colours for the top coat is far more interesting.



PREPS

We discussed the story/movie called Ratatouille, about a rat called Remy who lives in the kitchen of a restaurant in Paris who wants to be a chef. Funny stuff. The children each chose a rat picture from the story which they glued onto their piece of paper. They then painted around it with two blues and silver before adding crepe paper streamers to the bottom. When finished we used red crepe paper streamers to do a bit of Chinese ribbon dancing!



That's all for this week, stay safe everyone,
Yvonne McDonald
 Art Specialist

PE NEWS

GRADES 3-6 CROSS COUNTRY

We have rescheduled our Years 3-6 Cross Country, and it will now be taking place next **Wednesday 25th of March** (9-11am) on our school grounds. Students turning 8, 9 or 10 this year will be running 2km, while 11-13 year olds will complete a 3km course.

This event will determine the schools competitors in the District Cross-Country regardless of what date it is scheduled to be held, so only students attending and competing on the day will be eligible to represent our school at the next level.

In keeping with decisions made earlier this week, we will running this as a closed event with no parents or spectators in attendance. We appreciate your understanding in this instance and will endeavour to capture many photos of the event.

Students are encouraged to dress in their house colours for the day and to wear comfortable footwear. Anyone who requires medication for asthma and other exercise induced conditions must carry this on them throughout the event.

We are looking forward to a fun, fast-paced morning... Happy running!

FRUIT CUTTING

Unfortunately we will not be continuing Fresh Fruit Friday from this **Friday 20th March**.

Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped out each Friday, your help has been greatly appreciated.

JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL FUNDRAISER

On the 27th of March, we are organising a fundraiser to go towards the bush fires that have affected young children. All the money that we raise will be going towards the charity, School Aid. School Aid is an organisation that helps young children who have witnessed the fires that raged. We ask your child to bring along a gold coin donation. The theme of this fundraiser as you might know is Australiana. Some examples of what to go as are: An Australian native animal like a koala or kangaroo or you can also wear green and gold or go as a famous Australian.

Sincerely
Your 2020 Junior School Secretaries, Ben and Eva.

LUNCH ORDERS

Due to the early dismissal time next **Friday, 27th March**, for the end of term there will be no lunch orders on that day.

ICY POLE REMINDER

Icy poles are available for sale each Tuesday & Friday.

Please remember that it is only one icy pole per child per day.

Students requesting more than one or students asking friends to purchase on their behalf will be denied.

PARENTS CLUB

The next Parents Club Meeting will be on **TONIGHT March 19th**. At this meeting the positions of President, Vice President and Secretary will be decided upon for this year. It's open to everyone to come along and participate. If you wish to know more please call me on 0412 203 356.

Thanks
Skye

Join our Easter Family Night

FREE



Time: 6-8pm
Date: Thursday 2nd April

Activities:

- *Andy's Antics
- *Electric Ride On Animals
- *Jumping Castle
- *Face Painting
- *Arts & Crafts
- * Fairy Floss
- * Sausage Sizzle & Drinks
- * Contained Easter Egg Hunt
- *Special Appearance From Easter Bunny

For more information or to book, ask one of our team in-store or visit www.bunnings.com.au

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