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Principal: David Houghton
Acting Principal: Sharon Liddle



BELMONT BULLETIN
No.08 26th March 2020



to our AMAZING Belmont Team

Dear Belmont families,

Well, it's time for holidays! It will be one quite unlike no other for all of us. It is time to celebrate what our students have learned and all the wonderful achievements we have made as a community. It's been a very unusual and abrupt end to the school term, which shortened our time together. However, these are uncertain times and I know the decision to begin school holidays for our students came as a relief for many families. I am sneaking in one final cheeky newsletter as Acting Principal as I wanted the chance to thank you all for your support throughout the term. I am very proud of all our students and the progress they have made in their learning and the calm and responsible way that have adapted to the changes we have experienced. It has been an absolute honour to be the Acting Principal this term!

I also want to acknowledge our brilliant staff team – our teachers and our education support staff – for their tireless effort, their professionalism and their undeniable dedication and commitment to your children. They have listened and supported them through their questions and concerns, cleaned classrooms throughout the day, commenced planning for future remote learning whilst still delivering high quality teaching and learning and simply getting on with whatever that needed to be done. The past two weeks have been challenging, but together they have taken it in their stride, putting our students' and community's needs ahead of their own families and their own health. It has been my pleasure to work with and lead them through these unprecedented times. A huge thank you to our team! 😊



Student of the week

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

Aliya D	Prep C	For having such a positive attitude towards all of her learning. Aliya, your smile lights up our room and you are doing such an amazing job, especially when learning how to read.
Oscar B	Prep G	For giving a great explanation of our big idea 'Many things make us different'. Well done Oscar for giving such excellent examples to explain what you were thinking.
Kayla B	12L	I have been very impressed with your ability to tell the time this week in o'clock, half past, 1/4 to and 1/4 past. Congratulations also on your positive thoughts and actions in our classroom this week. You have been helpful, thoughtful and kind to everyone.
Aiden C	12M	For turning himself into a master of time, doing a beautiful job of helping others with telling time down to the minute on analogue clocks.
Jessie A	12S	For writing a wonderful description of a monster using creative and interesting adjectives. Keep up the great work Jessie!
Audrey F	12T	For coming up with creative and entertaining ideas for a narrative. You have such a passion for writing, which is wonderful to see!
Eedie F	34C	For persisting so hard to achieve her goal of completing vertical subtraction problems with borrowing. Brilliant work Eedie !
Saxon L	34E	For the hard work and dedication he has displayed while completing his poster on the Northern Territory. Fantastic effort Saxon.
Lucy W	34M	For using examples and persuasive techniques to strengthen your arguments in persuasive writing. You were very convincing on why we should wear a uniform to school at BPS.
Tommy B	56L	For his terrific project on a Growth Mindset. Tommy was able to articulate his new learning and presented it in a creative way. Well done Tommy!
Oliver H	56R	Oliver has created a fantastic diorama in our Inquiry unit this term. It uniquely displays his new found knowledge and understanding of what it means to have a Growth Mindset and the functions of the brain. Well done Oliver on working so hard in class and at home, you should be very proud of yourself.
Oliver W	56T	For consistently displaying a strong growth mindset in the classroom. Your work in the area of maths is very impressive!
Hamish G	Italian	For a fabulous stormy weather picture 'tempestoso'.
Mohith G	P.E.	For his perseverance in our cross country endurance activities. You are a great role model to others!

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Students of the week: Last week we still presented student of the week awards. I visited every classroom and made the presentation to our students of the week in front of their classmates. We felt it was important to maintain the rituals and important traditions in our school in order to maintain a sense of normality and calm for our students. Congratulations everyone!

Badge Presentation: Last Friday we celebrated house captains with a brief badge presentation ceremony in front of the 5/6 students and a small group of family members. Rather than a handshake, students were acknowledged with an elbow bump which was quite a bit of fun. Thank you to the families who came along to support our students.



Remote Learning: For the past two weeks, our teachers have been planning for the advent of a school closure. This week our teachers have been working both offsite and at school to prepare for the potential of remote learning at any time in Term 2.

At this stage, we have no clarification of when that might be so we will be waiting for a Premier's decision and Department of Education advice over the next two weeks. We will continue to keep our families informed in this period.

Thank you to the families that completed the Home Learning Readiness survey for us. With some phone and email follow-up from Kelly, we have had a response from almost all of our families. Our teachers have used the information to identify which platforms families will have access to and to consider the needs of the students in their class. We appreciated your comments, which will also provide some context for each family. It is too difficult to find a 'one size' fits all model, but our staff will be working to accommodate the contexts of the students and families in their class.

We are still preparing detailed information for families in preparation for a period of remote learning and we have been deliberate in not providing learning packages for students just yet, as we want our children and families to enjoy a break from learning routines over the holidays.

However, as some advanced notice, ideally families need to be connected to **Compass** and have set-up a **Seesaw** account. Students in 3-6 already have an individual Seesaw account that they have been using in class. Our teachers have been learning to use **Zoom** as our video-conferencing platform which is free, so families could download the app on iPad or phones or visit <https://zoom.us/>. We will definitely be providing some advice on how to join a conference meeting, as well as establishing some expectations around use. This might be a platform that parents and older students practise using with each other over the holidays. **Please do not panic if your child will not have access to a device, the internet or these platforms as our teachers are designing other ways to stay in touch and providing learning support for all students in their class.**



Keep your eye on Compass as I will also be updating resources for families to support student health and wellbeing. This will be through a link to the google drive to keep all the resources you need in one place.



Courage: Here is to Lenny who on Monday took some initiative. The last day of school came around without warning and our Australiana themed casual dress day was postponed. Lenny came to school dressed up anyway and I was so excited to come across him in the school grounds before school (although a little scared to come face to face with a real live bushranger). We will reschedule the JSC fundraiser for later in the year.

Inquiry Learning Tasks

Parents are advised that staff have cancelled the final learning assessment task for this term as class numbers were varied over the past two weeks and not all students had a chance to complete the task.

Welcome Back Mr Houghton

Mr Houghton returns from leave tomorrow (Friday 27 March). He is well rested and looking forward to touching base with our students and parents next term.

The Regional Office has confirmed that they have extended my position as Assistant Principal for the duration of 2020, I am committed to getting through the challenging and uncertain times ahead both with and beside you as parents and a community.

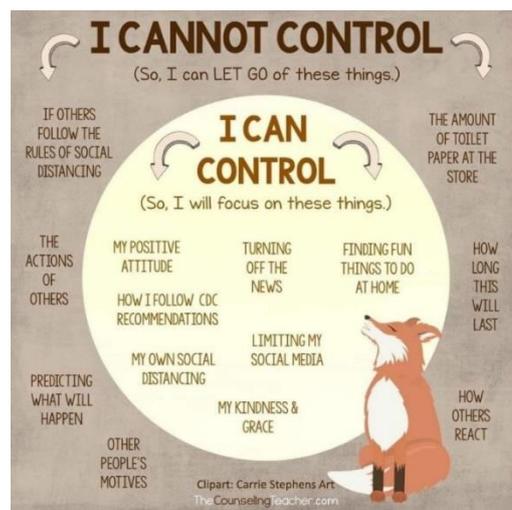
Please remember to take a break from the news reports and social media, to have good old fashioned fun with your children and to completely leave the learning until next term. Our teachers are not expecting you to home-school your children, we will have your back and provide you with plenty of support if the time comes that we need to flip into remote learning. In the meantime, build forts in your lounge room, pitch a tent in the backyard, do the

neighbourhood teddy bear hunt, dance, sing, play charade, build lego, have a pillow fight, walk the dog, make a telephone out of tin cans, laugh out loud until your belly aches.

We will get through this together. My motto at the moment is **'we grow through what we go through'**. Together this community will grow and together we will continue to shine. Thank you again for your trust and your support this term. From Friday 27 March, I am proudly handing the reins back to Mr *Houghton*. 😊

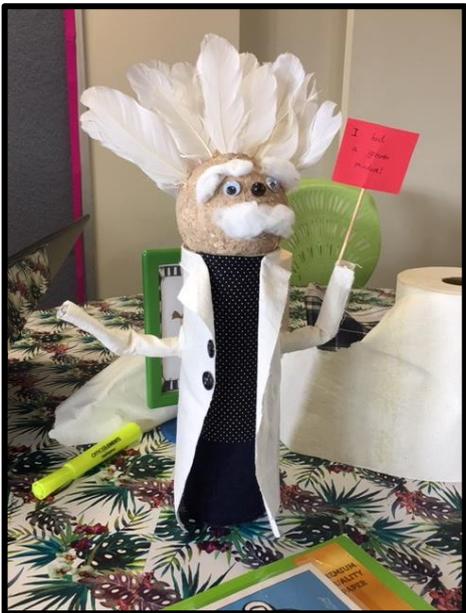
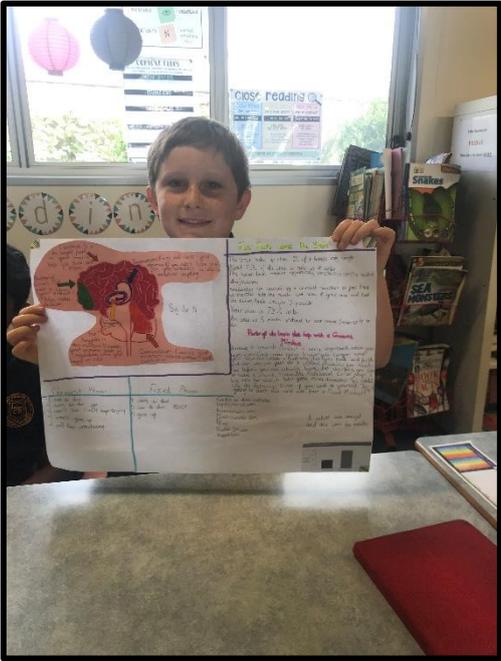
Stay happy, stay safe, be kind and most importantly, stay home.

Sharon Liddle
Acting Principal



Term One Fun





SCHOOL PHOTOS

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 situation our school photos have been delayed at the printer. We have been provided with a Compass file which has your child's individual photo. This has been updated on Compass.

We will update you with further information when we receive it from Creative Exposures.

Thank you and sorry for the delay.

FROM THE ART ROOM

Four pieces of wonderful artwork for you this week.



Calamityware by Seb.S 5/6R with a thunderstorm and crocodiles wreaking havoc.



Calamityware by Ava.A 5/6L with firebreathing dragons causing problems.



A Cosmic Dragon by Oscar.D 5/6T.



Carefully painted numbers by Lenny.M 1/2S

These are very strange times but I'm sure that you will still find many ways to enjoy your time with the students at home these holidays. Now I guess we just wait and see where we'll be in two weeks time.

Yvonne McDonald
Art Specialist

