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BELMONT BULLETIN
No.17 11th June, 2020

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday	11th June	5.00pm	Scholastic Book Club Issue 4 due – online orders only please
Monday	15th June	9.30am	Parent Teacher Bookings open via Compass
Tues/Wed	23rd/24th June		Booked Parent Teacher Discussions
Friday	26th June	9:00 – 2:30pm	Last Day for Term 2 – Please note early dismissal time

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

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

Amelia H	Prep C	For demonstrating excellent persistence when writing. Amelia is working hard at using lower case letters and to be confident when recording the sounds she hears in words.
Eddie F	Prep G	For doing an amazing job at sounding out words in a book and also writing a fantastic sentence independently! You are working SO hard and should be super proud of yourself. Keep up the awesome work Eddie!
Makenzi J	12L	For your determination and hard work while adding and subtracting in maths! You use great mental strategies to work out problems, and are not afraid to share your answers. You rock Makenzi!
Blake T	12M	For really stepping up your writing game with a great descriptive writing piece this week! You worked hard to add all of the structural elements we discussed. Keep up the great work!
Emma N	12S	For her super reading this week. Well done for using fantastic expression and having a great understanding of the texts you are reading!
Gweneth D	12T	For being a kind and caring classmate who is always willing to help others. Well done Gwen!
Billy J	34C	For continually doing his very best at every learning task presented to him during our Remote Learning Time. Billy, you should be extremely proud of all your efforts!
Archie F	34E	For researching and writing a detailed information report about “Wolverine”. You included all important parts of a report and published it beautifully. Fantastic effort Archie!
Mahith G	34M	For going above and beyond when completing his learning tasks during Remote Learning. You make sure that your work is very detailed and neatly presented. Fantastic work Mahith.
Surry B	56L	For his wonderful and positive attitude to remote learning. Surry has been able to solve any problems himself and demonstrated resilience whilst learning remotely. He has also been a supportive and a kind friend to his peers. Well done Surry!
Bella L	56R	Bella has done an amazing job of online learning. She consistently completed all tasks to a high standard and has maintained fantastic study and work habits throughout this difficult time. Well done Bella.
Cooper M	56T	For displaying a high level of resilience during Remote Learning. Cooper has submitted set tasks regularly via Seesaw and participated in all our WebEx meetings. Well done!



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

This week we welcomed back our **Years 3-6 to on-site learning**. So many of our **students** have done so well over this remote period and we have been proud of the resilience, adaptability and the effort they have shown. There was plenty of excitement and smiles as friends connected again with one another and with their class teachers and some exhaustion by the end of the day. In time both students (and staff) will rebuild their pre COVID-19 learning stamina.

Parents are encouraged to contact the school if any of your children experience any difficulties transitioning back to the school setting. We are here to help.



We are continuing with our staggered approach for arrival, departure and playtimes. This will change in time but not yet. We will give parents as much notice as conditions and DET direction/advice will allow.

Our staggered start and finish times will still apply this week and next at this point in time.



Arrival Times:

8.50am	Student Surnames	A-F
9.00am	Student Surnames	G-M
9.10am	Student Surnames	N-Z

Dismissal times:

3.10pm	Student Surnames	A-F
3.20pm	Student Surnames	G-M
3.30pm	Student Surnames	N-Z

Baby News On the topic of arrivals we have some exciting news from **Temae McCormack** and **Lanny Mc Cooke** who have both recently announced that they are expecting their own new arrivals in October and November. Very clever we thought to choose Spring time for future family barbecues and events.

We congratulate both staff, partners/families and wish them well in their preparations.



Baby fact 1: Babies will sleep, on average, 5400 hours in the first year.

Considering there are only 8760 hours in a year, this seems like A LOT! But remember, babies sleep only a few hours at a time, especially during the first three months. And this is only an estimate. Every baby is different and many don't get the memo that they need to sleep this much (and for 8 hours at a time).

Last Tuesday morning Kimberley Thomas our **Puberty Educator** came to the school to talk briefly to our **girls from Years 3-6** in separate groupings. More than 95% of our girls took part.

The Victorian Government began providing free sanitary pads and tampons in every government school from Term 3, 2019 because being able to access sanitary products shouldn't be a barrier for girls and young women to getting the most out of their education.

The initiative aimed to:

- Provide students with the confidence that there will always be sanitary items available at school
- Relieve female students of the stigma, anxiety and discomfort that can be associated with menstruation and its management so they can focus on their studies
- Ease the cost of living for families.

Schools have an important role to play in promoting a positive culture around menstrual health and support for the initiative among the school community.

Schools also have a duty of care to provide students with information about the safe use of sanitary items.

Over the last few years we have been offering a special session with our Puberty Educator for our Year 4 girls and their parents which have been strongly supported. We believe there is some interest in this session being extended to Year 3 girls and their parents this year. These sessions are offered as a useful starting point for our parents in discussing this important topic but are in no way compulsory but parent choice. More details will follow in late Term 3 or early Term 4.

Our girls are already proving they are responsible and sensible with regard to the dispensing machine in the main toilet area with no issues reported to date.

Vintage Fair on hold Unfortunately, like many major events across the globe including the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, International Snail racing and now our very own **Vintage Fair** all being cancelled. It has proven too difficult to plan anything with certainty so we will wait for better times to get back up and going.



Reports will look different this Semester. The Department of Education and Training has adjusted the expectations of student reports for semester 1 in recognition of the transition to remote and flexible learning during Term 2.

We have put in plans for **Parent/Teacher discussions** on Tuesday and Wednesday of the last week where parents request this.

These will be predominantly by telephone (or on request, through our video conference platform Webex). Bookings open next Monday the 15th June from 9.30am through Compass.

Many parents may not wish to take up this opportunity given the unique circumstances we have endured for a good part of Semester 1. This is okay and is expected. Some schools may still offer to hold discussions on-site but we have chosen not to, maintaining the strong direction of the Department to limit access to adults to the school site at this time.

Drop off and pick ups Our thanks to parents who have taken extra care as they pick up and drop off children. This has made a real difference and improved safety for everyone as they use these busy areas.



We have written to the **City of Greater Geelong** and asked them to review our Mt Pleasant School Crossing. It has been encouraging to have already received some responses from Council including one from CR Ron Nelson who represents the Kardinia Ward. Mr Nelson will visit our crossing this Friday morning to view first hand our concerns. We are trying to have this crossing considered in funding for the 2020/2021 financial year

Virtual Tour This week we had Chris from **Film Bass Productions** help us create a Virtual Tour of our school. It will be available by the end of the term we hope for distribution to prospective families seeking enrolment. DET guidelines are not allowing tours to take place so we hope this will fill the void of personal tours which have always been our preferred approach.

filmbassproductions@westnet.com.au
Mobile: 0402431179



Seen here Lanny from the office helping out with the production. What a shining light you are Lanny!

Hand hygiene continues to be a focus for all grades this week and grades have established routines and processes to ensure this is regular and repeated across the day. Our **cleaning** of surfaces, touch points and also playground equipment and handrails has increased with an extra 4 hours during each day being added to our normal 5 hours schedule after school.

Our staff are maintaining **social distancing** and are following many other processes to help keep our students and themselves as safe as possible.

Importantly any student with **cold or flu** symptoms must be kept at home please. Common cold symptoms in this current environment mean students must please be kept at home.



Repeated reminders for all parents/carers

Start and end of school day changes:

- Parents/carers are asked not to congregate near gates and **maintain social distancing** along fence lines. Some of you are not doing this as well as we would appreciate.
- Staff will be supervising at the school gates and available to support students as they enter.



Stay well, stay safe and stay at home where you can.

Kind regards,
The Principal Team
(David Houghton / Sharon Liddle)

NO LUNCH ORDERS

Lunch orders will not be available until further notice - Sorry for the inconvenience.

SCHOLASTIC BOOKCLUB

DUE 5.00PM TODAY 11TH JUNE

Scholastic Book Club Issue 4 is out now! Here is the link to the electronic catalogue www.scholastic.com.au/book-club/book-club-parents/ we will be taking orders online through the Loop.

To order online just go to scholastic.com.au/LOOP or download the app.

Paper catalogues may be available to pick up at the office but there will be **no cash orders** for Issue 4.

Kind Regards
Rochelle

VICTORIAN PREMIERS' READING CHALLENGE

1788 books have been read and 7 students have completed the challenge!

The Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge is now open and we are excited to be participating again this year. The Challenge is open to all Victorian children from birth to Year 10 in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development. It is not a competition; but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by 4 September 2020.

Children from Prep to Year 2 are encouraged to read or 'experience' 30 books with their parents and teachers. Children from Year 3 to Year 10 are challenged to read 15 books.

All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and former Premiers.

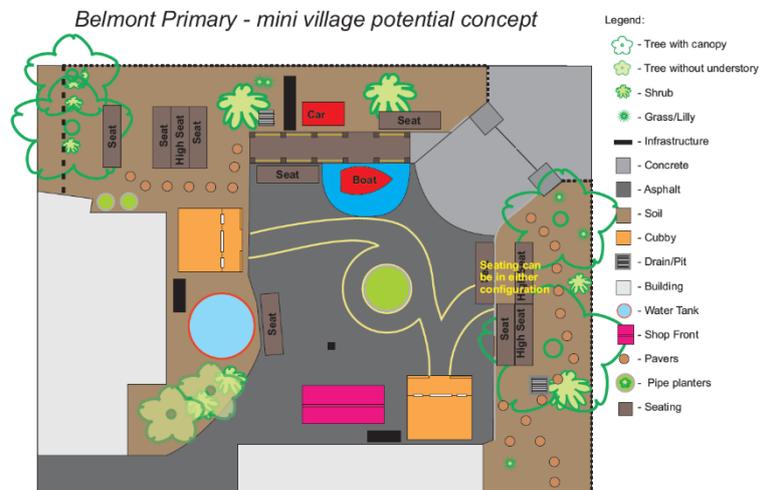
Information about the Premiers' Reading Challenge is available of Compass and we are working on distributing student access codes to all families through the student photo packs, Prep to Year 2 packages and for a small number of families, Australia Post.

To read the Premier's letter to parents, view the booklists and for more information about the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge, visit: www.education.vic.gov.au/prc Thanks to our PRC Co-ordinators, Deb Krupa and Bec Gillet for their work in organising and providing this opportunity for our school community.

Happy Reading ☺

Concept designs for our Mini Village are being developed by a working party of parents and staff.

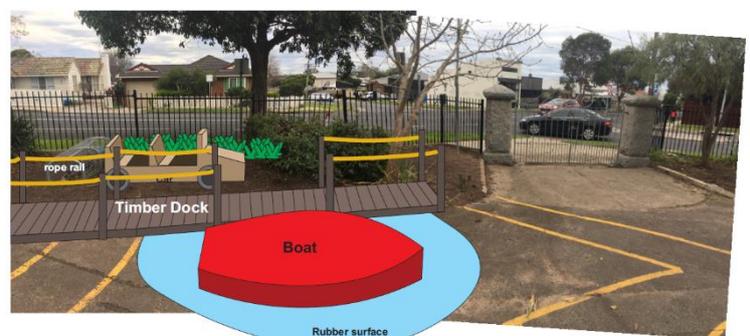
This work is being funded by a grant won by the school in 2019 to develop this play area. These are ideas only at this stage and are still in development, costing and other research.



Proposed Plan



Concept Elevation



Concept Elevation

Concept drawings done by one of our parents
Aaron Garrett.