The Belmore News

Wednesday 12th September 2012

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday 13th Sept  School Council Meets
Tuesday 18th Sept  Belmore School’s 50th Birthday
Friday 21st September  Early Finish, End of Term 3
Monday 8th October  Term 4 Commences
Tuesday 9th October  ZimboyZ
Thursday 11th October  School Council
Tuesday 16th October  FFYA 7pm
Friday 26th October  NDIS Morning Disabilitea
Tuesday 6th November  Melbourne Cup Day Holiday
Thursday 8th November  School Council
Thursday 15th November  Graduation Dinner
Tuesday 20th November  Volunteers Morning Tea
Tuesday 11th December  Awards Morning
Thursday 13th December  School Council
Friday 21st December  End Term 4 — Buses Depart 1.30pm

Have you RSVP’d your attendance to next weeks 50th Birthday Celebration.
An email to the school on belmoresch@edumail.vic.gov.au with the number of persons attending along with you would be greatly appreciated.

Nurse Ali Says...

We have seen the beginning of some beautiful spring weather. Make the most of it. Health is maintained through nutritious food choices and regular exercise balanced with relaxation and having fun, this weather is ideal to support this. Creating small, achievable changes to how you live each day will lead to vast rewards.

We have had two reported cases of head lice.
Continue to be vigilant when your child is unwell and keep them home until they are well enough to participate in school activities. Family support for this has been fantastic this term please, and the school has been a healthier environment due to your commitment.

... keep happy and healthy, Ali

12/09/2012
FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK...

50th birthday celebration
Our big party is coming up next Tuesday. You are invited! Please come along and share the excitement with the students. We have invited all our past students, parents and families, staff and supporters. If you know of someone who you would like to invite, please ask them to come along.

We have been doing lots of planning and preparations, with a special mural unveiling in the courtyard, a time capsule, children singing, as well as exhibitions of photos and memorabilia from the past. As our past School President, Lisa Evans commented, “It will be a wonderful celebration of all the people, achievements and magic that is Belmore.”

Last week of term next week. Buses will be Half an hour earlier.
School will finish half an hour early on the last day of term next Friday 21st September. I hope everyone has a refreshing holiday, and look forward to seeing everyone back at school on 8th October.

Sports Day
Yesterday was sports day at Belmore. The students had a ball, and were all involved in basketball, quoits, relays and bowling. They worked well in groups of 2 classes and moved around to all the different activity stations. Everyone had a picnic lunch outside in the sun, followed by some play time and a sing along with Megan and Paul. Students were proud of their efforts and delighted with their medals. It was great to see junior and senior students playing together.

Jan Welsh 45 years of service
Congratulations to Jan on a magnificent career in education and leadership. Jan has a wonderful understanding of the needs of our students and an unerring touch in providing the right support at the right time. She is a huge part of what makes this school the friendly, warm and resilient place that it is. Jan has been at the forefront of all our progress on the teacher quality track. Jan keeps promising us that she’s not ready to leave yet! Thank goodness!

Father’s Day breakfast
What a great new initiative by our school council blokes. Thanks to Michael, Andrew and Guy for organising and running the BBQ. Thank you also to the Dads who came along. It was a wonderful opportunity for fathers to get together and then join their kids for a while in their classrooms to see them first hand in action. Do you have any feedback… please let School Council know.

Our School Raffle
Thank you to the people who supported this raffle. About half the tickets were returned, but it was a magnificent effort with $564 being raised, of which $423 is for Belmore. The rest goes to support the Scouts. Let’s hope that someone in our community wins one of those great prizes.

Industrial Action
What a magnificent community this is. Every family kept their child at home. Thankyou to every one of you for your support.
All but one teacher was on strike, as well as 8 assistants. The staff remaining worked very hard on urgent school-based projects such as preparing for he birthday celebration, classroom resources etc. This industrial action is unresolved and another strike is planned for February next year. In the meantime there is an ongoing campaign around a 38 hour working week and limitations on student reporting.
As you know the strike day was called on a pupil free day. A new pupil free day will be announced for term 4.

Joan Anson
FROM THE CLASSROOM... SCHOOL SPORTS DAY
Junior Student Award

This certificate is awarded to

Jack W

for

His good use of switching

Senior Student Award

This certificate is awarded to

Jayde S

for

Her performance in the concert as the Queen
Junior Student Award

This certificate is awarded to

Angus M

for

Excellent performance and behavior during the Schools ‘Opening Ceremony’ Concert

Senior Student Award

This certificate is awarded to

Oliver D

for

Excellent work in the sitting program in CE.
Oliver sat independently with a straight back for over half an hour
You are cordially invited to the 50th Birthday Celebration of Belmore School on Tuesday September 18th 2012

From 10:30am with a Plaque Unveiling Ceremony

Meet up with old friends
Share photos and memories

Finger food lunch provided

RSVP to Belmore School
belmore.sch@edumail.vic.gov.au
by Monday 3rd September 2012
On Tuesday 18th September along with our festivities celebrating the 50th Birthday of the opening of the school on this site, a Silent Auction will be held raising money for the school's equipment and programs from some generously donated items.

Items Include;

- Omni Wine Cooler,
- McDonalds gift vouchers
- A Bottle of Chamborde
- Book Hampers,
- 24 x 250ml Crown Glass Coke a Cola
- 20 pce dinner set of Couple fine bone china
- Coal Creek Childrens Train & Park passes
- Handbag & scarf
- Ironman DVD
- Sherrin football signed by Richmond FC
- Sherrin football signed by Western Bulldogs FC
- Official Hyundai A League soccer match ball signed by team captains Alex Wilkinson – Central Coast Mariners and Matt Smith – Brisbane Roar
- Geelong FC flag & packet of cards in tin
- Geelong FC flag & packet of cards in tin
- Geelong FC packet of cards in tin and souvenir team signed printed mini posterGreater Western Sydney (Size M) Guernsey No. 49
- Essendon FC Team 2012 poster
- Holden Racing Team Jacket (Size L) and accessories RRP $220+
- Palace Cinemas 4 double passes
- Benedetti Pizza & Italian Cuisine $20 Voucher
- Mixed Foodies Hamper (teas, chocolates, sweets, sauces wine, recipe books, mugs, t-towels, biscuits etc)
- Zart Art, Box Hill North $25 Voucher
- Fenix Fitness Club, Mooroolbark, 3 month Membership (redeem by 30.9.12) … Valued at $395
- Phillip Island 3 Park Pass for 2 Children (ages 4-15) (Expires 21.2.13) Valued $37.40
- Melbourne Museum 2 Adult General Admission tickets
- Puffing Billy Railway Family Pass (2 Adults & up to 4 Children 4-16) Valued $81
- Pre-school book pack, various titles
- Early primary boys book pack, various titles
- Early primary girls book pack, various titles
- Upper Primary girls books and craft pack
- Toy hamper
- Infant toy/book hamper
- Barwon Ridge Mixed Dozen Wine pack

And more……..
INTRODUCING MEGAN

Hi Belmore,

My name is Megan Spragg and I’m the new Music Therapist here at Belmore School.

I’m looking forward to getting to know the students, families and staff that make up the Belmore Community over the next wee while. Feel free to come and say hello.

I come from Christchurch, New Zealand and have been working as a Music Therapist there for the last 6 years. My experience is mainly in Special Education in both Mainstream and Special Needs schools, including schools very similar to Belmore.

Megan

THERAPY CORNER

Will you need Equipment for home during school holidays?

If you require any of your child’s school equipment to be sent home for the term break please inform your classroom teacher as soon as possible.

It is not always possible to have equipment sent home on the bus on the last day of term.

Thanks.

Please let your Therapist know by this Friday 14th September if you would like equipment to come home for the holidays.
What experiences and opportunities are you or your child missing out on?

Are you missing out on being part of a sports group or social activities?

‘Program Development for All Abilities’
is here to help you to achieve things you didn’t think were possible.

‘Program Development for All Abilities’
facilitated by Kathryn Hay, can assist you! Kathryn develops individual programs to suit the participant’s needs which can help create self-esteem and social confidence, as well as assist in improving co-ordination, health and fitness.

What-ever your needs are, we can meet them!
One on one individual sessions as well as small or large groups are catered for. All activities are aimed at skill building, interaction, team work and most importantly, the provision and opportunity to interact socially, helping maintain and build new friendships.

Your individual needs are important to us!

Programs can be run during schools hours, in the afternoon or in the evenings.
Fees will vary accordingly.

For more information please contact Kathryn Hay mob
0411 125 517 or kathrynhay@optusnet.com.au

Qualifications Include:

Testimonial 2012
“Kathryn Hay has been instrumental in the development of our award winning ‘All Abilities Program’ from its small beginnings in 2009 of nine participants to now over 30 participants per week”.
Alison Cody: General Manager McKinnon Basketball Club
**NOTICE BOARD**

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**Sibling Support Program – September 2012 School Holidays**

*Irabina will be running a ‘Sibling Support Program’ group over the coming school holidays in September, held at Irabina in Bayswater:*

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<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Irabina:</td>
<td>Dates:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 193 Bayswater Road, Bayswater</td>
<td>Monday 24th September (12:30pm - 3pm)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tuesday 25th September (9:30am - 3pm)</td>
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<td>Wednesday 26th September (9:30am - 3pm)</td>
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**BACKGROUND TO SIBS**

Siblings of children with autism often have a range of experiences that are very different to those of their friends and peers. They may experience a range of emotional reactions, both positive and negative, and although it can sometimes be difficult for siblings of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, many feel they have benefited greatly from the experience. Regardless, it is important to acknowledge the unique situation of these siblings, and discuss their feelings, as well as just giving them space to be themselves. Sib Support is a play-based education and support group for children who have a brother or sister with an Autism Spectrum Disorder. Its focus is on normalizing their experiences and feelings, developing supportive networks of other children who can understand what life can be like, and boosting their coping strategies for when things around them get tough.

Within the group, siblings are given the opportunity to:

- Discuss their experiences with their brother or sister with other children in a similar situation (be they good or bad)
- Talk about Autism Spectrum Disorders in a child-friendly way, and understand how it presents in their sibling, and how it impacts their family
- Discuss the talents that they have, and the ways they cope and flourish at home
- Have lots of positive attention, which builds self esteem, by playing games, reading books, and having fun with other children who can ‘put themselves in their shoes’

**GROUP STRUCTURE**

- **Phase 1**: 2½ days at Irabina during a week in the school holidays (children book in for the 2½ days)
- **Phase 2**: Ongoing ‘catch up’ sessions throughout the school term where children are invited to come to Irabina for a play date with new friends, maintaining the network that was developed during the holidays.

**BOOKING**

- Please register your child by calling Irabina Reception by Friday 7th September, and a background information pack will be sent to you to assess your child’s eligibility for the group. All background paperwork is to be returned to Irabina by Friday 14th September. This group is not suitable for children with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- Cost: $100 for 2½ day program
- Open to: Primary-school aged siblings of a child with Autism Spectrum Disorder, between Grades 1 - 6 (it is not restricted to families currently accessing services at Irabina), who have not attended an Irabina Siblings Program previously.
  - Irabina reserves the right to cancel the holiday group if enrolment numbers are not sufficient.

For any enquiries please contact: Aggie Chan (aggiec@irabina.com) or Su-Hwei Moey (sum@irabina.com) on 9720 1118

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ABN: 52 006 215 396 / WWW. IRABINA.COM / T: 03 9720 1111 / F: 03 9720 6677 / 4145 Bayswater Road, Bayswater VIC 3153

12/09/2012
Dear Families, Teachers and Therapy staff,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce Laser Touch, a Melbourne based company making acrylic products. With many of us with children with disabilities we see a need in the market for products to help a wide range of needs.

Our first product is a key-guard for Proloquo2Go on the iPad.

One of our closest friends was looking into getting a Vantage lite, this is a great product but with the price of over $7,000 this was a hard sell. Our son has been using Proloquo2Go for the past 18 months on an iPhone and iPad. With the iPad having such a smooth screen there is not a great deal of tactile response back.

We had to start looking at how we could make a key-guard for an iPad more tactile, like Vantage Lite. While looking into different products, we found many key-guards sitting far away from the screen, making it harder to activate the button on screen. Most of our development time working on this problem. As always the solution was very simple, Magnets.

The iPad has built in magnets so we are utilizing them within our key-guards. In this way the key-guard sits as close to the screen as possible. A lot of screen covers allow the key-guard to be attached even when you close your case.

You can select Orientation, Message window size, toolbar size and columns (the grid), we also offer the ability to add a custom name to personalize your product.

We are working on expanding our range of products, so if you have anything that you could see benefiting anyone with a need, please feel free to contact us.

We would appreciate you forwarding this on to all your Families, Teachers and Therapy staff. I have attached an ad that can be used in your newsletter, if you feel that is appropriate.

Kind Regards

Craig Laird
Laser Touch
www.lasertouch.com.au

A: Unit 2 1093 Doncaster Rd
Doncaster East
VIC, 3109

M: 0404 388 827
Disability Expo 18th September 2012
10am – 2pm
Brandon Park Community Centre
649 Ferntree Gully Rd Glen Waverley 3150
Melways Ref: 71 C8

Taking place at this event:
All Abilities Wheelchair Soccer Tournament
Time: 11am – 1pm
Presentation: 1.15pm

Are you interested in participating in the Five a Side Wheelchair Soccer Tournament?

Call RIDE on 1300 886 798 – We would be more than happy to sign you up!!!

New! this year we will be running the very first Inclusive Sports Tournament. We are looking for Teams, community and corporate of all abilities interested in participating in this fantastic and fun event!

The winning team will receive a prize presented by the Mayor of Monash with a photo opportunity.