The Belmore News

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday 8th February 2012

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Program Support Groups

Groups are due to resume from the week beginning February 20th.
Teachers will advise of dates shortly

Parent Meetings – Coming Soon.

Keep an eye out for additional information arriving home.

If you would like to join the email list to receive this Newsletter electronically, please contact your classroom teacher.
Welcome back to everyone in the Belmore community, and especially to all our new students, Eric, Elliott, Hannah, Taylor and Jackson and their families. Fleur Squires, Dianne Duryea, and Laura Cronin have rejoined our team.

The start to the year has been amazingly smooth. I’m sure the students have benefited from the transition planning that was put in place at the end of last year. You might remember that all students went to their 2012 room with their 2012 staff on the last day in 2011. I hope that the transition packages that students took home assisted families with the beginning of school. Teachers and therapists have been involved in handover meetings prior to the holidays, so that we can get off to a flying start. As well, teachers will be contacting all parents by phone early in the term to catch up on important details. If you haven’t heard from your new classroom team, please don’t hesitate to give them a call.

We are delighted with some facilities updates. The music room is now located in the sunny north corridor, with million dollar views of Balwyn. Dewi Pearce, our music therapist, is gleefully making great use of the space. Our gym has been significantly improved with a new ceiling hoist, some large pieces of equipment and soundproofing baffles. Thank you to Andrew Jeffery, who researched, designed, built and installed these panels.

Our priorities for the year include implementation of our new specialised curriculum: watch out for new goal statement and reporting formats in second semester. We are reintroducing reading recovery, with a special twist to make it a more flexible strategy for some of our students. We are also focussing on consistent positive behaviour management. The “Signposts “ program, which is developed for parents of students with disabilities to address behaviour will be offered to parents in term 2. All staff will be trained in term 1.

Joan Anson
**WHAT IS HAPPENING?**

*Uniform Orders*
If you require a uniform, can you please fill out the order form and return it to Belmore by 2nd March with full payment in cash or cheque? For your convenience, an order form has been included in this newsletter.
If you have any queries please contact John Loch on 9434 1022.

*From the Nurses Office*
Flu Vaccinations and Immunisation forms are coming home next week.
Please ensure your child’s immunisation status is current and update us of any changes. Thanks Ali.

**Family BBQ Tuesday March 8th 4.00-7.00**
You are invited to our 6th summer family night. For $10 per family you will be treated to a BBQ, as well as a whole raft of different activities. This year we will be having a BUSH DANCE theme.

*Please return the reply slip and money to school asap*

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**FAMILY NIGHT REPLY SLIP**  To be returned a.s.a.p. together with payment

Yes, we will be attending the family night on Tuesday 6th March 4.00—7.00

Students Name__________________________

Number of Adults__________ Children __________

$10.00 per family

Special Dietary requirements ________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________

My child ________________________________

Will/will not require supervision until we arrive at the school.
I am calling for nominations for 2 parent nominations on school council

School Council Elections 2012

What is a school council and what does it do?
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provided for its students.

Who is on the school council?
For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

- **Parent category** - 4 members. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.

- **DEECD employee category** - 3 members. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

- **Community member category** - we currently have 2 members who are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council election.

Why is Parent membership so important?
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?
No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

If you would like to nominate for school council please ring and ask the office for a form. It will need to be returned to the office by Thursday 16th February.
**Yooralla Staff Changes**

Leah Picking (Occupational Therapist) will be taking up a 12 month position as the clinical advisor- OT across Yooralla's children's services. She is working at Belmore School until the 10th of February.

Jenny Ayers (Speech Pathologist) will also be taking 12 months leave to take up a two day position at Yooralla's Glenroy Early Childhood Service and a three day position with Yooralla’s Community Children’s Therapy.

Leah and Jenny applied for and/or finalised these positions in late January so we were unable to let you know of the changes until now. I apologise for these late changes at the start of the school year.

We will be appointing a new OT and Speech Pathologist in the next few weeks to replace Leah’s three day position and Jenny’s full time position.

As Leah is still working within Yooralla she will be supporting the OTs at Belmore School. This will ensure that when the new OT starts there will be a smooth transition and handover.

Please contact Cassie Kenyon, Manager School Services or another therapist from your classroom team if you have any questions on 9819 7332.

Thankyou

**Cassie Kenyon**  
Manager Balwyn School Services  
Belmore School
Parent Support Network
We begin the 2012 timetable on Thursday 22nd March, 12.30—2.30
Come and join us for lunch (& maybe a massage!)
Topic: Back care

Kylie Innocenzi (Mum of Zoe, Room 1) is participating in the RCH Run for the Kids on Sunday 1st April.

Please help by sponsoring her efforts for the Good Friday Appeal at the following link

Disability parking spaces are great, offering only the best locations for ducks!

A note of thanks to Barbara Rinderer for this interesting photo.

Belmore School
Stroud Street
Balwyn Vic 3103
Tel: (03) 9859 8762
Fax: (03) 9819 7591
Em: belmore.sch@edumail.vic.gov.au
**UNIFORM ORDER FORM**

Name ................................................. Room No.............................................

Phone No............................................. Receipt No.............................................

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
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<td>Tracksuits - Poly Cotton Fleecy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6 to 16</td>
<td>19.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Windcheaters (Logo)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>S, M, L</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>XL-XXL</td>
<td>25.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Track Pants (patch knees)</td>
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<td>S, M, L</td>
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<td>XL-XXL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bootleg Pants</td>
<td>6 – 16</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>S,M,L</td>
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<td>In School Colours</td>
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**Order Total:** $ 

Please be careful in selecting sizes. Logo items cannot be exchanged.

Payment must be made in full with your order. Any cheques must be made payable to "Belmore School".

**Orders must be returned to school by 2nd March. NO LATE ORDERS CAN BE ACCEPTED**