The Belmore News

DATES TO REMEMBER

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Thursday 19th May 2011

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Impact Leisure Services

Holiday and Respite Program July 2011 to June 2010

For more information see website www.impact.vic.edu.au

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FRIENDS OF BELMORE

BELMORE BIGGEST MORNING TEA

Thursday 26th May at 10am, Belmore School Meeting Room

ALL WELCOME

Bring your favourite cup so you really enjoy it.

If you want to bring your favourite Tea & or Pot to share that would be lovely. Your favourite person to share it with is also welcome.

Gold coin donation to go to the Cancer Council
Currently, Fiona, Jonathan and the Leadership team are working on our application for the National Secondary Schools Computer Funding. This will enable us to broaden access to technology devices across the senior department of the school; special schools have some flexibility in the devices applied for via the funding, so we are very excited about the opportunity. We’ll keep you informed when we have been able to purchase the equipment.

School Councillors have been busy, reading the School Self-evaluation document that forms part of our School Review.

Last week, I attended an information forum for parents of pre-school children who have disabilities. More than 85 parents braved a cold wet night to attend; several special schools in our network had information tables alongside the Belmore one, and parents were actively collecting information about the options available for their child. They were very interested in the slide show which accompanied my presentation, which featured many of our students working and enjoying learning at Belmore School.

The reviewer will be attending some sessions of teacher meetings so that she is familiar with the processes we described in the report.

It’s a bit quiet at present in the senior area, as Rooms 6 and 7, and a large number of staff, are away at Garfield Camp. Our thanks to the staff who have committed to 3 days and 2 nights with our students. We wish them fun, good weather, and know they will be warm inside at night. A well-deserved rest at the weekend will be on the agenda for all.

Joan is on leave for 3 weeks, and has escaped to a warmer part of Australia for most of the time.

We look forward to many special visitors on Monday, May 23rd at 11.00.

Jan Welsh

Acting Principal
WHAT IS HAPPENING?

Room 5 out and about at Collingwood Children’s Farm.
STUDENT AWARDS

Raymond (Room 8)
For a terrific session in C.E. Ray
concentrated and followed through
with all movement sequences and made
clear choices.

Joshua (Room 1)
For being very focused and motivated
by his new communication book.

Jack (Room 1)
For great concentration in the
Sensory Room.

Tom (Room 1)
For using his new "alt-chat" device
really well at school and sharing it
with his family.
Background

The EW Tipping Foundation Dad to Dad Program is for fathers of people with a disability to have weekend away, meet other dads and find out more about how disability support services operate in Victoria.

Historically most dads have not had the same opportunities as mums to develop the supportive networks they need with health professionals, school teachers, disability support providers and most importantly with other parents.

The aim of the Dad's Initiative Program is to offer fathers of people with a disability the opportunity to meet other dads and to develop the confidence, skills and networks they need to take an active role in the support of their son/daughter with a disability.

Dad to Dad Weekends

Dad to Dad Weekends are an opportunity for dads to get away with a group of other fathers of people with a disability.

The weekends take place in a variety of destinations around Victoria including places like Halls Gap, Echuca, Queenscliff, Portland, Rye and the Dandenong Ranges. They also include a group activity like fishing, attending a footy game or a tour around the local area.

The weekends are run by two facilitators – all of the Dad to Dad Weekend Facilitators are fathers of people with a disability who have participated in the Dad to Dad Program and have chosen to offer their time and experiences to support others.

The weekend also includes a couple of information sessions around disability services and support in Victoria. This is not a course or formal education program. It's an opportunity to talk with other dads about issues that affect them and their families.

The group stays in self-contained accommodation (linen is provided) and most meals are provided.

Cost

There is no charge for the weekend - accommodation, the activity and most meals are included. Dads will need cash for a meal Saturday night and other extra purchases.
NOTICE BOARD

What dads say about Dad to Dad Weekends...

“It was good to be around other blokes that have similar issues”

“To meet other fathers that are in the same boat as me was great”

“The balance of training, opportunities to talk and the availability of free/alone time was great.”

“I had time to reflect on me as a dad and appreciate some of the strengths and qualities I have and see that I’m the same as others”

When and Where

The Dad to Dad Weekends have been planned for Term 2. The initial weekends are planned for the greater Melbourne area however more weekends are scheduled for the regional areas in the later part of the year.

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<th>Activity</th>
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<td>Fri 29th April – Sun 1st May</td>
<td>Queenscliff</td>
<td>Bellarine Taste Trail</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 13th – Sun 15th May</td>
<td>Melbourne (City)</td>
<td>AFL Football Game</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 27th – Sun 29th May</td>
<td>Rye (Mornington Peninsula)</td>
<td>French Island Tour</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 10th – Sun 12th June  (Queens Birthday Weekend)</td>
<td>Queenscliff</td>
<td>National Celtic Folk Music Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 24th – Sun 26th June</td>
<td>Dandenong Ranges</td>
<td>High Rope Adventure</td>
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The Weekends start Friday night from 6 pm onwards and finish at approximately 1pm on the Sunday.

For more Information:

To register for a weekend or simply find out more please contact the program coordinators:

Jo Richie       Tel: 0417 512 480  Email: jrichie@vic.chariot.net.au
John Page        Tel: 0407 840 296  Email: pages@netspace.net.au
Education Information Session

This is a great opportunity for parents to get ideas for strategies on how to work well with their child’s school to get the best results. Based on the Association for Children with a Disability Handbook “Positive Education Planning” you will be provided with practical ideas on how to establish a positive partnership with your child’s school. You will learn about the Student Support Group, understanding your child as a learner, setting and reviewing goals, good communication skills and being a good advocate for yourself and your child. Our presenter will be Diane McCarthy from ACD who is a well known and respected parent support worker and advocate with a special interest in the area of inclusive education. You will also hear a personal account from a parent who is currently educating her son with a disability in a mainstream secondary school. This evening is a must see for parents of children currently attending mainstream or other school settings.

Venue
Box Hill Community Arts Centre
470 Station ST, Box Hill

DATE: 31/05/11
TIME: 7:30PM – 9:30PM

Please RSVP by May 27th to Jenny Salgo at

Parent Support Network
Eastern Region Inc
Supporting Carers, Parents & Families of children with a disability

Phone: 9259 4312
Fax: 9076 0256
E-mail: psn-emr@bigpond.net.au
NOTICE BOARD

RUN melbourne
SUNDAY, JULY 17, 2011

anyone can.

From regular runners to Sunday strollers, anyone can participate in Run Melbourne, presented by The Age, and raise money for their charity of choice, set yourself a 5km, 10km or half-marathon challenge and start training today.

ENTER NOW at runmelbourne.com.au

RAISE FUNDS FOR YOUR CHARITY OF CHOICE

In 2011, participants raised more than $1.2 million for various charities, with a target of $1.5 million this year. How much can you contribute?

RUN MELBOURNE 2XU MERCHANDISE

The official 2011 Run Melbourne 2XU technical t-shirt and long sleeve tops are available in both unisex and fitted women’s style.

JOIN OUR FREE SUUNTO TRAINING SESSIONS

Free Suunto training sessions are held every Tuesday from 5pm at The Age House and on Wednesday evenings at Run Melbourne’s new store, specially running store, runners at 88 Queen St, Melbourne. Catering for all ages and abilities, they’re a great way to get in shape and meet some new running buddies.

DON’T MISS THE EXPO

Join us at the FREE Run Melbourne EXPO at Red Square from Thursday, July 14 until Saturday, July 16 for exclusive discounts on some of the leading running and triathlon brands, as well as training and nutrition seminars, fitness and health assessments and many more activities.

NEW 2KM KIDS RUN

An on-road, un-timed run, just for kids around the banks of the Yarra on Saturday, 16 July.

Enter now at runmelbourne.com.au

If you are interested in participating in Run Melbourne
please contact Sharon on 0438 007 505 or email sharon.shelley@bigpond.com

19/05/2011
Belmore School Fundraising

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

We need people willing to distribute and collect fundraising tins to shops in your local area.

There is not much time involved in this. It would be simply mean collecting the tin from school, leaving with shops in your area and then calling in every month or so to monitor whether the tin needs to be changed over.

Remember this is for our kids!!!!!!!

Please contact Wendy or Kim at the school office on 9859 8762 to arrange a time to pick up the collection tins.