The Belmore News

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday 9th September 2010

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McCain Veggie Patches........

THANKYOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS SENT IN BARCODES FOR OUR VEGGIE PATCH.

We currently have 240 points to redeem for seeds, etc. So.....please continue to send in barcodes from McCain vegetable packages....because the more barcodes.....the more points.....the more equipment for growing veggies here at school!

Also a huge thanks to Andrew Jeffrey for donating 9 planter boxes and to Donna Skeet a huge thanks for donating 9 bags of potting mix to fill the planters.

Patrick Moody
As this is the last “big” newsletter for Term 3, I would like to acknowledge and congratulate:

- Our students, who work so hard to achieve all of their challenges.
- Our staff, who plan and implement all of the wonderful learning opportunities to help the student achieve, and for their adaptability to continue programs when regular team members were absent.
- Our nurse, who has been kept very busy, especially during the last 2 weeks when many students and staff were affected by the latest virus.
- Our attendant care team for their exceptional work; they are often the ones who notice when a student is unwell.
- Our office staff, who keep all of the administration details of the school running effectively and efficiently, and have been a wonderful support for me in Joan’s absence.
- The various teams of teaching and therapy staff who work together on things such as student learning, the new web-site, reporting, equipment purchasing, setting up programs, researching and sharing with each other to continue the development of even better outcomes for students, the garden team who keep the outdoors looking so great – which is so good for student well-being; the list is infinite.
- The student teachers we have had on placement, and the teachers who have been their mentors
- The social worker, who has provided wonderful support for many in our school community.
- Staff members who drive the bus, not always for their own class, which means swapping their usual role.
- Melinda, who takes responsibility for the ever-changing duty roster so capably to ensure all high needs students have a trained staff member with them, and that there is the correct number of other staff on duty.
- Our OHS team, who are so vigilant in the interests of student and staff safety.
- School Councillors for their commitment to Belmore.
- Friends of Belmore for their fundraising efforts, particularly on election day.
- And to all parents and carers – you have kept on with all of your regular responsibilities, and often been called on to come and collect a sick child, which usually means they are at home for a few days – thank you for understanding that we need to keep the effects of viruses to a minimum, we know it means extra “juggling” for you.

We hope many of you can have some respite, especially over the term holidays so that all in your families are feeling refreshed for the better weather.

We look forward to hearing about Joan’s travels when she returns next term.

Jan Welsh
STUDENT AWARDS

**Riley, Room 5** For excellent instrument-playing in music therapy. Riley strummed the guitar in rhythm then displayed precise 'stop' and 'go' when playing the chimes. Riley celebrated his musical success with a smile and a cheer!

**Angela, Room 4** For walking to and from the bus to Room 4 in the morning and at night; walking to the pool from Room 4 and walking to bay twice, all in one day.

**Zara, Room 3** For excellent sharing & participation during music therapy. Zara walked over to Steph to give her the chimes when requested, participated in actions, and smiled when she was enjoying a song.

**Anthony, Room 5** For his big improvement in your Communication. Anthony is beginning to verbalise and sign at the same time 'more' and 'finished'

**Crystelle, Room 6** Crystelle smiled, sang, played piano, and - most importantly - made direct eye contact during a 1:1 music therapy session. It was a great display of social interaction.

**Alicia, Room 5** For her fantastic participation in Music. Alicia was engaged and interacting during the whole session, listening and paying attention to Dewi.

**Senior Classrooms** For their great patience and excellent work rehearsing for the upcoming music & dance concert this Friday. The students are going to shine!

**Molly, Room 5** Molly independently and confidently sang the words to an entire verse of 'When it’s rainy outside’, a song about the clothes we wear when it’s raining. Congratulations to Molly for staying focussed on the task long after her classmates were distracted.
Staff ‘Well-Being Week’

From Monday 23rd to Friday 27th August, the staff at Belmore School participated in various events to promote the active pursuit of Well-Being! We hope that a focus on our personal well-being will create a flow-on effect to increase the well-being of our families and students. The week was funded by an in-house raffle, and we raised $138 for the State School’s Relief Fund.

Events included:
- painting with Sandy
- morning teas hosted by Speech Pathology, and another hosted by Yooralla
- a dance/movement session with Howard, the dance specialist who has been working with the senior students on the upcoming Weather concert
- a Bake-a-Cake competition (eleven delicious cakes to choose from!)
- a pancake breakfast

Staff were also encouraged to donate blood, draw an anonymous portrait of a fellow staff member, and write an anonymous card of gratitude to a fellow staff member.

After all the yummy food we consumed that week, we will soon have to host ‘Exercise Week’!

Some of the DELICIOUS entries to the Bake-a-Cake Competition
(Number 11 was the winner, Number 10 was the runner up!)
WHAT IS HAPPENING?

Our school’s website now has a new feature where you can register your email address and name and each time our latest newsletter is uploaded onto our website you will receive an alert via email advising you.

If you would like to subscribe to receive our newsletter alerts, please visit our website www.belmoresc.vic.gov.au and under the Newsletter button you will find the Subscribe to the Mailing List option. Please click on that and enter your email address. You will immediately be sent a verification email and in the email there is a link. Once you click that link, it will take you to a page where you need to enter your first name and surname.

After you have completed these steps, you will be able to receive the alerts each time we upload our latest newsletter available to our website, also whilst you are there, please feel free to look around at all the other interesting and important information we have on there such as photos, the weather forecast, Google search, event calendar, latest school news and much more.

For more information please contact allen.fiona.a@edumail.vic.gov.au
School Council met last night. A new transport policy has been ratified by council and will be available for your reference via the new school website soon. If you have any comments or questions about its content then don’t hesitate to contact myself or Jan Welsh. The new website will gradually become the new medium for delivering information to parents, prospective parents and community agencies/therapists. It will be an evolving website that will not stand still. To this point I think it looks fantastic and has some great information on it. I am also confident that the processes that have been put in place to see it is updated and remains relevant for all those who visit it will stand strong.

During discussion about new enrolments for the school next year it was decided that council would develop an attraction/marketing plan for our school. The new website will play a large role in this process and to assist we are calling for your stories as parents about your experience with Belmore School. In particular why you chose Belmore, what are the great things about it, and how your child has developed since coming to Belmore. The special community that is Belmore and how your child belongs to it are all things that would be great to share. I have been promising to do this for sometime and have now set myself a challenge to have Jacks story on line by the next school council meeting in November. Sharing your story and having others identify with it may be the deciding factor for parents ultimately choosing our wonderful school.

Lisa Evans, President

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Girl’s Night Out

Wednesday 15th September
Condotti’s restaurant (Italian BYO)
39 Lower Heidelberg Road, East Ivanhoe at 7.30pm
RSVP to Kelly by Tuesday 14th Sept Call or text 0425 739 307

FRIENDS OF BELMORE

HOME MODIFICATIONS
Wed 15 Sept, 9.30am

Friends of Belmore are holding a “Home Modifications” information session and morning tea on Wednesday, 15 Sept at 9.30 am. This session will share some experiences of Belmore parents in making their home environment more suitable for the needs of their family. Leah Picking, our Yooralla OT, will also provide information on the process for seeking support. Given that our children have physical challenges, a home modification could be something you need to consider in the future. Come along and share the wisdom of our school community, as well as some great morning tea. All welcome.

For further information, or to share your home modification pictures, contact Barbara 9438 4209 or brinderer@iinet.net.au.

9/09/2010
PLEASE NOTE
This is a reminder to any parent who wishes to take home and use equipment from the school or Yooralla during the holidays. Please notify us as early as possible so we can get it home to you. It is very difficult to organise it on the last day of term.
Many thanks – Geppie Bajema
ADVANCE NOTICE

The ‘SAVy’ Network Presents the Inaugural

“SIBLINGS VICTORIA”
PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE & PARENT SEMINAR 2010

A full day conference, networking & training opportunity for professionals who work in Early Childhood Intervention, disability, youth, education, and the mental health sector.

This day will be followed by a separate, free evening seminar for parents who have children with disabilities or special needs who wish to support their siblings....

When:    Thursday, 21st October 2010
Where:   The Treacy Centre, 126 The Avenue, Parkville

Key Note Speakers:
- Dr Tim Moore, Centre for Community Child Health, Royal Children’s Hospital
- Kate Strohm, Director, Siblings Australia

Conference Focus:
Whole family & sibling support issues in the current service sector and an interactive workshop focusing on practical applications, the Sibworks model & ways to support siblings across a variety of settings.

Panels:
What is Effective Sibling Support? Adult siblings reflecting on their experiences
Who’s Active in Sibling Support in Victoria? Meet service providers, researchers and other practitioners. Join & contribute to the network.

Full information & registration forms will be available mid September 2010. If you are interested in this professional conference or parent seminar, & want to have details sent to you, please email or phone:

Meg Moorhouse, T.I.M.E. Out Sibling Program Coordinator
Melbourne Citymission, 123 Albion Street, Brunswick 3056
Tel. 9385 3211 Email: siblingprogram@mcm.org.au

Leave your name, agency/title, address/email, telephone and you’ll be forwarded the full details & registration information.

Forward this advance notice via your networks and contacts please
Hawthorn Aquatic & Leisure Centre

Holiday Program for young people with special needs.
Age 12-20 years

Awesome Adventures
20th September - 1st October

Enrolments close Sunday 12th September
Carer News in the North

Access to Merri Community Health Services

A new central telephone number (03) 9388 9933 has been established for all new clients and or referrers making initial contact with Merri Community Health Services. By streamlining entry to its services Merri is making it easier for clients and service providers to access the services and programs they need.

Calls to this number are answered by Client Services Officers who provide information on Merri services and programs, and then initiate referral procedures including forwarding the call to the required service as necessary.

The Service Access team processes all new referrals, explores initial needs, eligibility for services, and priority of access. The streamlined Service Access model is being gradually extended to most services at Merri Community Health Service.

- programs for living with chronic illness
- diabetes education
- speech therapy
- planned activities
- children’s services
- autism support
- case management
- audiology.

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Referrals can be made by:
Telephone (03) 9388 9933
Fax (03) 9495 2599
E-referral via:
www.connectingcare.com

Inside this issue:

- Access to Merri Community Health Services
- Mental Health Program
- Disability Carer Support Team
- Aged Team
- Older Families Support & Planning Program
- Younger Carer Program
- Mingle
- Carer Consultative Committee
- Contact Us

Carrer News in the North

Newsletter of the Commonwealth Respite & Carelink Centre / CarerLinks North

9/09/2010
Monash Aquatic and Recreation Centre

MARC-abilities
Innovative support for people with a disability

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS EXPRESS PROGRAM

Join the MARC-ability inclusive swimming program during the school holidays for either:

1. Private Lessons – new enrolments
   • One on one lesson
   • 5 consecutive days
   • $71.25 per week

2. Supported Group Lessons
   • One on one support in a group lesson
   • 5 consecutive days
   • $71.25 per week

ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN!

Dates:
Week 1 – 20th to 24th September
Week 2 – 27th Sept to 1st October

For all information and bookings please contact the Aquatic Program Team:
Telephone: (03) 9265 4888
Email: marc@monash.vic.gov.au
Anxiety Disorders Association of Victoria
P.O. Box 605; Kew, Victoria 3101 Ph: (03) 9853 8089
email: adavic@adavic.org.au website: www.adavic.org

ADAVIC

PARENTING SUPPORT GROUP
A Group for Parents of Children with Anxiety Disorders
Kew Neighbourhood Learning Centre
2 – 14 Derby St, Kew

Time: 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Dates: August: 4th, 18th and 25th
September: 1st, 15th and 29th
Cost: $3 for ADAVIC members
$5 for non-members

The purpose of this group is to allow parents to express their thoughts and feelings on the unique challenges and joys of raising a child with anxiety or depression. The support group offers friendship and encouragement, in a confidential and safe environment. There is no pressure to speak, to stay for the whole meeting, or to commit yourself to attending on a regular basis.

For further information contact ADAVIC on 9853-8089
website: www.adavic.org.au
email: adavic@adavic.org.au

Anxiety Disorders Association of Victoria, Inc.
Ph: 9853 8089
www.adavic.org.au
LAST MINUTE NEWS

**Spare Clothes**

A reminder that your child needs to have a complete set of spare clothes at all times in their school bag for those unpredictable emergencies. Please replace clothes immediately if they have been used. Health and safety regulations indicate that we should not use second hand clothing, and that each child should use their own.

**WANTED**

Donations of old/second-hand towels and cloth nappies to be used for accidents, spills and messes.

Thank-you, Staff and Students

Thank you to those parents who have returned their surveys. At this stage we have only had less than half returned. It would therefore be appreciated if all surveys could be sent back to school by tomorrow, Friday 10th.

Thank you for your assistance.

“We shall never know all the good that a simple smile can do.”

By: Mother Teresa