DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday 13th December  School Council
Thursday 20th December  School Disco
Friday 21st December  End Term 4, Buses Depart 1.30pm
Thursday 31st January  1st Day Term 1 2013
Monday 4th February  Hairdresser Visit

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Reminder — The last day of the school year school will finish early and buses will be loading at 1:30pm. Please ensure that you have made arrangements to receive your children at home or collect from school 1½ hours earlier on Friday 21st December

Thank You

Elliott (Room 3) and his mum Olivia donated this wonderful water play switch toy to Belmore School.

Jess and Jed had lots of fun trying it out.

Car Seating for Victorian Children with Additional Needs

The Royal Children’s Hospital is conducting a survey about car seating for Victorian children with additional needs.

This is a great opportunity for parents and/or carers of children to have their say in the challenges that face them when transporting their child. The aim of this project is to improve the process for seeking information and funding for car seating of children with additional needs.

If you would like to take part in this survey, please visit the following site: https://secure.rch.org.au/survey/index.php?sid=25325&newtest=Y&lang=en
Junior Boy Student Award — Angus

Angus has worked well this year. He has learnt to work independently, completing his work without the need of a helper beside him all the time. He has extended his friendship to classmates, offering to read to them and providing comfort at appropriate times. Angus has learnt to self-regulate his emotions and behaviour across many challenging situations. He has made huge improvements in many areas of his school day. Congratulations on a great year, Angus!

Junior Girl Student Award — Stephanie

Stephanie has really matured this year and worked hard at achieving her learning outcomes. She communicates clearly with her eyes, expressions and vocalisations. Stephanie enjoys the social side of school and has attended both junior and senior programs in 2012. She concentrates during Literacy and Numeracy lessons focusing on instructions and also when choosing options presented to her. Stephanie welcomed and included new students to the classroom by choosing them to have turns or to say hello to. Congratulations on a wonderful year of learning Stephanie, you should be very proud of your efforts.

Information, Communication and Technology—Taylor

Taylor is an enthusiastic and attentive learner of computer technology. He is able to work independently and remember steps to develop an interactive Power Point producing presentations that include animation, film, music, hyperlinks, and navigational buttons and slide transitions among some of the new skills. He has offered to tutor his class at his other school demonstrating new skills such as inserting ‘smart art’ and setting up shows. Congratulations on a great year, Taylor!

Intensive Interaction—Hannah

Hannah was new to Intensive Interaction this year. She has enjoyed interacting with a range of communication partners and has participated beautifully by lifting her head up and giving focussed attention to her partner along with lots of smiles and laughter. She has shown an increase in her engagement and pleasure in spending time and interacting with other people across all class programs.

Communication Award — Joshua

Joshua is a natural communicator. In the very short space of a year, Joshua has mastered the use of his voice output communication device. He is now using his iPad with the program Proloquo2go to create sentences, comment on events and make his needs known. Joshua is confident using his device out in the community where he independently purchases ingredients for Room One cooking. He uses every opportunity to interact with staff and students and never gives up until he gets his message across. Well done Joshua!

Conductive Education Award—Ollie

Conductive Education was a whole new experience for Ollie this year. Although he initially found the program challenging he settled right in to the routine and flow of C.E. Ollie’s engagement in the program has dramatically improved and this is evident in his gross motor function. Ollie has gained better control over his own body movements and can now sit more independently for longer periods. Overall Ollie’s enjoyment of the program has been a highlight. Well done Ollie!
2012 ANNUAL STUDENT AWARDS

You Can Do It— Jed
Jed’s possesses an amazing determination to succeed. The advancement in his walking ability has been phenomenal. At the start of last year Jed needed his walker to mobilise or would crawl. He now walks independently without assistance due to his, “I can do it myself,” attitude. It didn’t matter how many times he would almost fall over, Jed continued to try and try to walk. Jed transfers this determination and courage to all areas of learning and tries his hardest every day at school. Congratulations on a truly outstanding effort Jed.

Hydrotherapy Award - Hannah
Hannah always works hard in the pool. She is able to swim across the pool independently on both her front and back, incorporating breathing and kicking. She listens to instructions and works tirelessly throughout the session to build up her fitness and stamina. Congratulations on a great year.

Gross Motor & Physical Education Award — Thomas
After recovering from major surgery Tom has been more determined than ever to get back to his everyday activities. Tom is so motivated by his physical programs and becomes visibly excited when he sees his walker or the plinths laid out for Conductive Education. He gives everything he does 100% and is now able to walk independently in his walker for up to 45 steps. He uses every opportunity to get out of his wheelchair and practise his sit to stand. Even when he is extremely tired he will work extra hard to complete his physical program. Well done Tom!

Junior Graduating Students

Stephanie

Zara
2012 ANNUAL STUDENT AWARDS

Leadership — Rebecca

Rebecca has been nominated for this award as a result of behaviours displayed this year that define her as a student who can be responsible, and also aware of the needs of other students. Rebecca will assist with other students without prompting, make staff aware of situations that may need assistance, and demonstrate independence with tasks given to her.

Art Award — Jayde

Jayde has been awarded the 2012 Art Award for many reasons. Here are some of her qualities that are to be acknowledged: great improvement in her attendance to school; ability to concentrate during classroom demonstration time and then able to apply her new learning to the task at hand; persistence at finishing every art activity to the best of her abilities; able to use her imagination and her own sense of taste and style to complete her artworks; able to work independently; Jayde works well with others and shares her enthusiasm for art and learning about the world around her with her peers. Well done Jayde! May you always have art in your life.

Hydrotherapy Award — Anita

Anita has increased her swimming skills, in particular her floating on her back for forty seconds at a time. Great effort!

Conductive Education — Raymond

Raymond has persevered in Conductive Education to create purposeful movements. He has increased his ability to sit and tolerate long periods of time stretching.

Communication — Sam

Sam has shown great improvement in his communication, using his symbols to make his requests and preference with great confidence and accuracy.

Intensive Interaction — Riley

Riley has been very consistent in his intensive interactions. He engages straight away into an interaction, and his responses are both meaningful and intentional. Riley will introduce new ‘conversations’ to the experience for both Riley and his partner, and gives Riley an avenue to express himself during other situations with confidence.

Music — Riley

Riley has been nominated for this award as a result of his high level of response each week in music sessions, and also during individual sessions with Megan. He responds positively to the beat of the music, and is able to copy simple rhythms on the drum, and with his voice. He chooses and engages with instruments, and clearly demonstrates the enjoyment music brings him.
2012 ANNUAL STUDENT AWARDS

Independence—Scott
Scott shows independence and maturity in his work with his peers. He completes his work independently and enjoys having ball games with his classmates.

Perseverance—Oliver
Oliver has built up his tolerance for prone lying on a wedge from ten minutes to thirty minutes without any hesitation.

Gross Motor — Glenn
Glenn has worked extremely hard at maintaining and extending his gross motor skills pre- & post- operation. His determination is commendable.

Community—Shevaun
Shevaun has been an active participant in our community access program; in particular, safety aspects.

Senior Graduating Students

Anthony Anita Raymond Shayla
Scott Jayde Sam
FROM THE CLASSROOM ... ROOM 8

Andrews Story Time

Please enjoy the following 2 stories that have been dictated word for word by Room 8 student Andrew Prentice.

I like Hospital

"I like hospital, I like x-rays, there is a doctor with a mask, sometimes I’m scared. I put cream on my arm, I do it. There are 2 Andrews in hospital, I is a tummy doctor and checks my heart, bom-bom bom-bom, I lay in a bed, no, a hospital bed, when I finish the X-rays I can leave. ‘Yawn’ ‘I yawned’ (Andrew told me to write that he had yawned). I am going to the hospital tomorrow. THE END"

The spider and the butterfly

"Once upon a time, there was a bird. No wait not a bird, a butterfly, and a spider. The butterfly went away into the roof. We (the class) sat down on the ground and the butterfly went upside down like an acrobat (because) it got stuck in a spider web, Watch out! Here comes trouble, here comes the spider. The spider stick (bit) the butterfly, and the butterfly went to the doctor. NO MORE.”

Stories by Andrew Prentice

A Christmas Carol

By Andrew Prentice
Sing to the tune ‘O Holy Night’

I like Christmas

And I like presents

Santa Claus comes and he delivers the presents

Maybe a toy, maybe juggling balls

I like toys

I want my present to be coffee
Welcome to our roundup of options for the School Holidays.

We know this is a busy time with the Summer heat, keeping kids occupied, without spending loads of money. The following information and websites provide a mixture of activities and camps available during School Holidays.

Many local community centres like the Box Hill Arts Centre run programs which are suitable for someone with a physical disability. They generally put out their program for school holidays just before the end of the school term.


A good directory that covers Melbourne, with a mixture of specific programs and general links: imvc.com.au/content/school-holiday-programs

Milor Holiday Programs: milor.org.au/services/milor-interchange/programs/school-holiday-activities

Listed programs available in Eastern Melbourne: respiteeast.org.au/school-holiday-programs

Access All Abilities offers sport and recreation opportunities for people with disabilities. Information on the Access All Abilities Program and how to contact your local person: victoria.ymca.org.au/discover/aaa.html

Mobility map for Melbourne City: melbourne.vic.gov.au/CommunityServices/DisabilityServices/MobilityCentre/Pages/MobilityCentre.aspx

General sites for planning school holiday activities:

- Planning with Kids: planningwithkids.com/2011/12/01/school-holidays-melbourne-kids-activities-dec-jan/
- Fed Square: fedsquare.com/events/school-holiday-program/
- BYO Kids: byokids.com.au/content/view/695/57/

SURVIVING THE FESTIVE SEASON

Help with financial matters
MoneyHelp is a not-for-profit service supported by the Victorian and Australian Governments. It provides free, confidential and independent financial counselling advice to Victorians who are experiencing financial difficulty. moneyhelp.org.au

Emergency Respite
Carer Respite Centre: Call 1800 059 059 or go to vcan.com.au/regional-centres to find your local centre.

Annexo: You can arrange to have after-hours support between 5pm - 8am on weekdays and 24 hours a day on weekends and public holidays. To get after hours assistance call 1800 727 280 or you can call during business hours on (03) 9807 7066.

Family retreat opportunities
There are a number of houses available that offer short-term holiday respite for carers (and their families) who support people with a disability. These houses often provide a great opportunity for one or more families to go away together. Here are just a few:

- Tootgarook Holiday House: Coordinated by The Oakleigh Centre (03) 9564 0924
- Daylesford and Rosebud Retreats: Coordinated by Care Connect (03) 9362 0000
- Don Bosco Camp Beach House: Coordinated by Don Bosco (03) 5907 2892
- St Laurence Lodge: (03) 5229 8943
  - Ocean Grove: St Laurence Caloola
  - Portarlington: Coordinated by The Brotherhood of Laurence
- Hazelwood Cottage: East Warburton (03) 5908 9517
- Wattle Tree Cottage: Warburton 0400 822 768
- Villa Maria: Mornington Peninsula - operates 3 self-contained houses (03) 9238 9610

PHOTOGRAPHIC PORTRAIT PROJECT

Darron Davies, a photographer based in Thornbury, is looking for families who have a son/daughter with Cerebral Palsy (or other special needs) for a project involving fine art photographic portraiture.

Darron, who is also a teacher with special needs teaching experience, wants to build a portfolio of photographs celebrating people with special needs. Darron aims to potentially exhibit photographs, as well as build his skills in representing a much under-represented group. Photographs will be taken with a medium format film camera. Participants will receive free prints.

Darron is of course happy to discuss the project and all its necessary sensitivities at first with participants. If you have an interest, please have a look at Darron’s website www.darren-davies.com and feel free to contact him via email or phone: darren@darrondavies.com Ph: 0405 170 493.
**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 **Friday 14th December** if you would like equipment to come home for the holidays.

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**CALENDAR DATES 2013**

8 May, 2013 - Pupil Free Day

24 July, 2013 - Reporting Day & Pupil Free Day (Please set this date aside to meet with your child’s teachers at Belmore School)

Term 1
31 January — 28 March

Term 2
15 April — 28 June

Term 3
15 July — 20 September

Term 4
7 October — 20 December

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13 more Sleeps until Christmas Day!

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Growing Together