**The Belmore News**

Wednesday 6th January 2013

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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

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**EMA ?**

Application forms need to be returned by Thursday 28th February!

If you haven’t received an application form please let Kim know in the office and she will send one home.

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**Buses to Respite Care**

This year, there is very limited availability on the buses to Villa Maria and Pendle street. Please contact me as soon as you have dates, but mostly families are going to need to arrange transport to and from each centre. Jan

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**Nurse Ali Says...**

I’d just like to remind those of you who still need to return your medical forms sent home at the end of last year.

For anyone with concerns or new updates that you would like to discuss please phone me.

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Welcome back, Ali

6/02/2013
FROM THE PRINCIPALS DESK...

A very warm welcome back to the whole Belmore School community. Students have settled into new routines and classes remarkably smoothly. We’ve had a terrific beginning to the year.

I would like to welcome Anastasia to room 3, and Elizabeth to room 4. I would also like to welcome their families to our school community. The children in these classes have been especially welcoming to their new classmates.

That sounds very formal doesn’t it, in our small school. The real truth is that Henry (Room 3 aged 7) has been in love with Anastasia from the moment he first set eyes on her, and the room 4 students are helping Elizabeth learn English.

Professional development at the start of term
In the first 2 days before the students started, we have had very professional briefings and workshops on manual handling, meal time assistance, cross infection and hygiene, and the new National Teacher Standards and how that translates into excellent teacher practice at Belmore School.

Strike Action
You will have received my letter about proposed strike action for next Thursday, February 14th. All classes, apart from room 7, will be affected. I have asked all parents to respond. Thankyou to the people who have so far.

My intention has been to give parents as much notice as possible. The situation may change in the meantime, but I will keep everyone updated.

Parent meetings
Student Support Group (SSG) meetings will be scheduled beginning next week. Please check your students book to organise a date. I encourage everyone to attend this important meeting to review and plan your child’s educational program. We want to have the opportunity to communicate with all parents. The team really want to meet you.

Student Transport Emergency Management
Procedures for bus runs on days of high risk for bushfires (DEECD and Department of Transport)

The School bus service will NOT operate in an emergency affected zone (days of extreme or severe fire danger), even though the school may remain open.

School bus services will be cancelled in full, no routes will be shortened, modified or rerouted. Schools will notify parents of cancellation of bus runs.

At Belmore, this means that

On a fire emergency day, your child’s bus service may be cancelled.
We expect the runs driven by Patty, Heather, Kim and Tim would be most likely to be affected and cancelled. The whole run would be cancelled. You would be affected even though you may live outside the affected fire zone, eg North Balwyn, Doncaster, Templestowe, Nunawading, or Blackburn
If you wished to transport your child both to and from school on those fire emergency days, please make your own arrangements.
We would contact you with as much notice as possible, as soon as we were informed. With advanced warning of a weather alert, this may be at least the day before.
And you can check the Department Website by using the Emergency Closures Button at www.education.vic.gov.au. (Please see the last page of this newsletter for more information).

Let’s hope for mild weather for the rest of summer.

Joan Anson
Junior Student Award

This certificate is awarded to

Angela Motherwell

for

Using good communication skills with a sense of humour

Senior Student Award

This certificate is awarded to

Andrew Prentice

for

Beautiful manners when requesting help.
For a copy of the booklet, email Phil at the address shown or view and save from the link below.

CENTRELINK DISABILITY ENTITLEMENT 
Information Session

If your child is 15 or over then you need to come to this session.

March 21 Thursday 1.30-3.00pm at Belmore School Meeting Room

A representative from CentreLink, Department of Human Services will conduct an information session, discussing the eligibility and application process for various entitlement for students with disabilities who will turn 16 years of age. Applications can be made when students are 15 years old.

Parents and carers are welcome and encouraged to attend. You can inform the school by writing in your child’s communication book including the number of people attending. The classroom teacher will pass on the information to Rose Ngai, the FFYA coordinator.

Thank you for your support to this first part of the Transition process.

Rose Ngai
FFYA Coordinator

PS. There will be visits to some of the Adult Services in April, the week of the 22nd. Details regarding the name of the service and the date will be announced when all confirmation have been made.
McKinnon Super Star Cougars

Basketball for all abilities
Seeking People of All Abilities wanting to develop their Basketball skills and become a member of a winning team.!!!

The McKinnon Basketball Association, Basketball Victoria and Access Unlimited are working in partnership to provide inclusive basketball opportunities across the Glen Eira and Stonnington communities.

The McKinnon program is packed with activities that gives everyone the opportunity to excel. Our coaching staff are dedicated to giving all participants a fulfilling experience. Give it a try! (Wheelchair friendly venue)

Access for All Abilities

“We love our SuperStars!”

Basketball Victoria All Abilities Special Award for 2011

Our program has been running now for almost 5 years and continues to grow.

Inclusive sport & recreation access unlimited

When: Saturday mornings @ 9.30am
Dates: FEBRUARY 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd. MARCH 2nd, 9th, 16th
(Note: Program will be held on Labour Day w/end)
Where: Bentleigh Secondary College Stadium
enter via Clarence Street Bentleigh East (melways: 77 J3)
Cost: $45 for the seven week program. $8 Casual Entry
Age: 12 up
Contact: MBA Office, 11 Clarence Street Bentleigh East
Phone: 9579 1200
Email: programs@mckinnonbasketball.org

Please note: Carers not provided, only coaching tuition

VicHealth Basketball Victoria City of Stonnington Victoria The Place To Be Department of Planning and Community Development

City of Glen Eira

Murrumbeena Community Bank® Branch
430 Neerim Road
9568 8196

6/02/2013
For individuals on the Autism Spectrum, the unpredictable and socially challenging world in which we live can be a constant source of anxiety. Research suggests there is a higher incidence of Anxiety Disorders in people with Autism Spectrum Disorders than in the general population. Further, while their symptoms may not be at a level to meet formal diagnosis, many children and adolescents with ASDs are severely impacted by their experience of anxiety on a daily basis. This workshop will provide an explanation of what Anxiety is, why it appears to be common in children with ASDs, what behaviours may indicate high levels of anxiety, and how we can help children with ASDs manage their anxiety effectively.

Date: Tuesday 12th February 2013

Time: 7.00PM – 9.00PM

Venue: Irabina Childhood Autism Services
193 Bayswater Road
Bayswater 3153

Cost: $30 for PARENTS & CARERS
      $50 for PROFESSIONALS

Please contact Irabina to place your booking on 9720 1118 or for further information please contact Orla Murphy at orlam@irabina.com

CANCELLATION NOTICE OF LESS THAN 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THE WORKSHOP—NO REFUND. PAYMENT FOR WORKSHOP IS REQUIRED AT THE TIME OF BOOKING.

Light refreshments provided.
NOTICE BOARD

Date + Time | Workshop
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**Tuesday 12th February**
7pm – 9pm | Autism & Anxiety
Presented by Special Guest Speaker - Raeelene McIlvride – Psychologist
$30 PARENTS & CARERS, $50 PROFESSIONALS

**Wednesday 20th February**
9.30am – 11.15am | Interactive Workshop - Ipad applications available for children with ASD
$10 Irabina families
$30 for non-Irabina families
$50 Professionals

**Monday 25th February**
4.30pm – 6.30pm | Managing Challenging Behaviours in the classroom
Presented by Raeelene McIlvride – Psychologist
This workshop is for Teachers & classroom assistants
$50 per person

**Tuesday 26th February**
4.30pm – 6.30pm | How to work with a child with ASD in your kindergarten or Childcare Centre
This workshop is for kindergarten or Childcare Centre staff
$50 per person

**Monday 4th March**
4.30pm – 6.30pm | Sensory Processing for children in the classroom setting
Presented by Occupational Therapist
Sophie Moore
This workshop is for Teachers & classroom assistants
$50 per person

**Monday 22nd April**
7pm – 9pm | Developing Social Skills in Children with ASD
Presented by Special Guest Speaker – Raeelene McIlvride – Psychologist
$30 PARENTS AND CARERS, $50 PROFESSIONALS

**Tuesday 23rd April**
9.30am – 11.15am | Interactive Workshop – Ipad applications available for children with ASD
$10 Irabina families
$30 for non-Irabina families
$50 professionals

**Monday 18th March**
7pm – 9pm | Managing Meltdowns in children with ASD
Presented by Raeelene McIlvride – Psychologist
$30 PARENTS AND CARERS, $50 PROFESSIONALS

**Tuesday 15th March**
9.30am – 11.15am | Toilet skills development for children with autism - One step at a time
Presented by Susan McCarthy, continence nurse
from Victorian Continence Resource Centre
$10 Irabina families
$30 for non-Irabina families

**Wednesday 13th March**
7pm – 9pm | Smiling at Shadows
Special Guest Speaker Jane Water
Author of 'Smiling at Shadows'
$30 per person

**Friday 10th May**
9.30am – 11.15am | Sensory Processing – How this can impact children with ASD
This workshop is suitable for Parents & Carers
$10 Irabina families
$30 for non-Irabina families
$50 professionals

**Monday 20th May**
7pm – 9pm | Orientation to Behaviour Management
Presented by Special Guest Speaker - Raeelene McIlvride – Psychologist
$30 PARENTS AND CARERS, $50 PROFESSIONALS

**Tuesday 29th April**
7pm – 9pm | School Transition Workshop
TOPIC 1
Choosing the Right School
NO CHARGE FOR THIS WORKSHOP

**Wednesday 1st May**
9.30am – 11.15am | Diet & Nutrition for Children with ASD
Presented by Guest Speaker
Linda Dohm, Dietitian from Specialist Children's Services
$10 Irabina families
$50 for non-Irabina families

**Friday 03/05/2013**
9.30 – 11.15am | How to Write a Social Story (part 1)
$10 Irabina families
$30 for non-Irabina families
$50 professionals

**Friday 10/05/2013**
9.30am – 11.15am | How to Write a Social Story (part 2)
$10 Irabina families
$30 for non-Irabina families
$50 professionals

**Monday 20/05/2013**
7pm – 9pm | Introduction to Behaviour Management
Presented by Special Guest Speaker - Raeelene McIlvride – Psychologist
$30 PARENTS AND CARERS, $50 PROFESSIONALS

**Tuesday 23rd April**
9.30am – 11.15am | Interactive Workshop – Ipad applications available for children with ASD
$10 Irabina families
$30 for non-Irabina families
$50 professionals

**June Date to be advised**
School Transition Workshop
TOPIC 2
Navigating the school system covering how to access funding
NO CHARGE FOR THIS WORKSHOP

**Friday 14/06/2013**
9.30am – 11.15am | Introduction to Visual Communications
$10 Irabina families
$30 for non-Irabina families
$50 professionals

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To book in for any of these workshops please fill in registration form.
If you do not have a registration form please contact Irabina and we will forward one to you.

Cancellation notice of less than 48 Hours prior to event - NO REFUND.

Payment for workshop is required at time of booking

All prices inclusive of GST Note:

Course details are correct at time of publication (20th December 2012) any changes will be advised via email if you have placed booking.

**Irabina**

**2013 January – June**
Cerebral Palsy Parent Meeting

Tuesday 12th February
Topic: Advocacy Learning to Lead
Time: 10.30am-12.30pm
Where: Belmore School, Stroud Street, Balwyn

Come along and join us for this wonderful opportunity to meet other parents who have a child with CP. Share experiences and stories, make new friends or just have a chat with other like-minded people.

The topic for discussion this month is “Advocacy: Learning to Lead”. In addition to this, every participant will receive a free gift of a new toothbrush specifically for people with limited mobility. Light refreshments provided.

We hope to see you there and refreshments are provided.

RSVP on 03 9478 1001 or cpsn@cpsn.info

525 High Street Preston VIC 3072
toll free phone 1300 277 600
email cpsn@cpsn.info www(cpsn.info)
Do you like a Challenge?

Parks Victoria is currently organising two teams for the Oxfam Walk to be held in Melbourne in April, 2013. The aim of these team entries is twofold- to support Oxfam and to raise public awareness of the all terrain wheelchairs available in parks. For the first time in an Oxfam Walk, an all terrain wheelchair called a TrailRider will be used in this famous 100 kilometre event. The passenger in the chair will be supported by members of the two teams who will operate as sherpas for the TrailRider chair.

To find out more about the TrailRider chair and its features go to http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/explore/access-for-all-abilities/improving-park-access-for-all

Parks Victoria is seeking a person who enjoys a challenge to join the team. The new team member selected will be the chair passenger for the event and will play an integral role in the team. To be selected you would need to meet the following requirements:

- Be under 80kgs in weight
- Have good general health
- Be willing and able to sit in a chair for extended periods of time and potentially in all weather conditions
- Be available for team training sessions on weekends leading up to the event

To find out more about the Oxfam Walk event go to http://trailwalker.oxfam.org.au/
NOTICE BOARD

Wednesday, 27th of February, 2013
9.30am - 4.30 pm
Abbotsford Convent, Community Room
1 St Heliers St Abbotsford VIC

“A HOME OF MY OWN”
Upholding the Sanctity of Home

When we think about home we generally think about a place that is dear to our hearts. A revered place that nurtures our personhood and surrounds us with love and warmth. It's one of the few places that we can be ourselves and seek refuge in a busy and chaotic world! Conversely if you have a disability the sanctity of home is often replaced by a limited menu of services, programs and predesigned accommodation options, that you need to “fit” into! This seminar aims to uphold the sanctity of home and provide the opportunity to hear from a range of inspiring speakers who have tackled the question of ‘accommodation’ in more typical, innovative, personalised and life giving ways, while creatively supporting people, some of whom require some very complex support arrangements (for a variety of reasons).

This seminar is designed for people with a disability, families and others who are genuinely interested in exploring alternative possibilities and the notion of home more

Guest speakers

Janet Kees from Toronto, ON Canada has been thoughtfully involved in the lives of people with disabilities, their families, and allies in community for over 30 years. She has been the coordinator with the family-governed Dehaoke Support Network almost from its beginnings 20 years ago when families designed and built a housing co-operative where seven of their sons and daughters with disabilities now call home. They have sustained a vibrant and diverse community spirit within the cooperative and the broader community. All of Janet’s work focuses on individually-designed arrangements ensuring that each person lives a meaningful, involved and secure life within their communities.

Alison Ouellette from Windsor, ON Canada has been very active in the family support and advocacy movement. Along with family and friends they developed and implemented a visionary plan so that their son David who lived with different abilities could move into a home of his own. Although Dave sadly passed away in 2009, Alison continues to share his wonderful achievements in the face of adversity to celebrate 9 very successful years in his own home. She talks and writes about Dave’s everyday life, his small business and inspires other parents to advocate for their sons and daughters no matter what stands in their way.

Living Distinctive Lives (LDL) in Melbourne was created by families as a creative alternative, to congregate care models for individuals primarily with intellectual disability who would like to live separately from their families, but remain well connected and supported by them. LDL aims to assist each person to move into a home of their own, create personalised supports, be included in and contribute to their local community, build and sustain reciprocal relationships with a range of citizens and extend each person’s potential.

To Register
Please complete the attached registration form and send to:
Email: info@belongingmatters.org
Fax: (03) 97398333
Post: 2/18 Floriston Rd, Boronia, VIC 3155
Registration closes: 18.02.13 (Early registration is advised)
Registration will not be accepted without payment

NB: Registration form is not included in the newsletter. Please email or phone Belonging Matters for a copy.

Cost
Standard: $220.00 (Incl GST)
Concession/family: $55.00 (Incl GST)
Other charges may apply

Further information:
Phone: (03) 9739 8333
Email: info@belongingmatters.org
LAST MINUTE NEWS

To all Parents & Carers

All information about closures and cancellations can now be viewed from the Department’s website by clicking on the 'Emergency Closures' button at the bottom of the Department’s website home page.

Go to
www.education.vic.gov.au

Note the example on left.

Information includes School and Early Childhood Service Closures and Bus Service Cancellations

Visiting Hairdresser, back in 2013

Our hairdresser Alex is visiting us again this year with her first visit to be on Monday 18th March.

The new process that was implemented requesting that you book the service using a booking slip worked very well last year.

Each child will bring home a Hairdresser booking slip in the front of their diaries in the week prior to the Hairdresser attending. This form also provides a place for you to give instructions to the visiting hairdresser making the service even more easier to use.

Your $20 contribution is required to cover the costs of the volunteer.

Please support this service so that we can continue to ensure it’s provision.