

# Montessori News

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BEECHWORTH VIC 3747 Beechworth Montessori is a Child Safe School

Week 10 – 18 September 2017

The newsletter will be distributed fortnightly with room reports appearing in alternate editions.

Term 1 - 1st February to 31st March (9 weeks) 2017 Term Dates:

Term 2 - 18<sup>th</sup> April – 30<sup>th</sup> June (11 weeks)

Term 3 - 17<sup>th</sup> July – 22<sup>nd</sup> September (10 weeks) Term 4 - 9<sup>th</sup> October – 20<sup>th</sup> December (11 weeks)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
18 <sup>h</sup> September Dental Visit Week	19 <sup>th</sup> September	20 <sup>th</sup> September	21 <sup>st</sup> September International Peace Day Peace Gathering 2.45pm	22 <sup>nd</sup> September  Coffee Morning  Cycle 2 & 3  Athletics Program  Last Day Term 2.15pm finish  Goat's Cheese Orders  DUE
School Holidays				
9 <sup>th</sup> October	10 <sup>th</sup> October	11 <sup>th</sup> October	12 <sup>th</sup> October	13 <sup>th</sup> October
First Day Term 4		Upper Hume Athletics		Coffee Morning
16 <sup>th</sup> October	17 <sup>th</sup> October	18 <sup>th</sup> October	19 <sup>th</sup> October	20 <sup>th</sup> October
				Coffee Morning
				Hume Regional Athletics
23 <sup>rd</sup> October	24 <sup>th</sup> October	25 <sup>th</sup> October	26 <sup>th</sup> October	27 <sup>th</sup> October
		Parent Information Evening		Coffee Morning
30 <sup>th</sup> October	31 <sup>st</sup> October	1 <sup>st</sup> November	2 <sup>nd</sup> November	3 <sup>rd</sup> November
				Coffee Morning
6 <sup>th</sup> November	7 <sup>th</sup> November	8 <sup>th</sup> November	9 <sup>th</sup> November	10 <sup>th</sup> November
	Public Holiday		Junior School Council (C3 nominated students) 10am-1pm	Coffee Morning

For any further dates, the **School Stream** App on your smart phone currently shows the next 90 days of events. For the rest of the year please see the calendar on our website.

### A note from Susi

Around the globe, **September 21** is observed as the **International Day of Peace** as designated by the United Nations General Assembly. This year, the International Day of Peace will focus on engaging and mobilising people throughout the world to show support for refugees. Its messages will showcase the shared benefits of migration to economies and nations. Ultimately, it will be about bringing people together and reminding them of their common humanity.

For Maria Montessori, peace was on the forefront of her mind when she created the Montessori Method. She strongly believed, "Establishing lasting peace is the work of education." Through education the Montessori child learns to be a peaceful child and as an adult becomes a peacemaker.

In the Montessori classroom peace education manifests itself in many different ways such as:

- The classroom culture a busy hum in the air as children move about the classroom, making choices, working at their own pace, conversing with peers and teachers, immersed with concentration and at times relaxing.
- Children learning how to work as a community, helping one another, and talking to each other when there is a conflict.
- Grace and Courtesy lessons such as how to wait, persevere, how to interrupt politely, how to take care of belongings and the classroom. These lessons empower children to be self-aware, empathetic, responsible and independent.
- Students engaging in community service at every level within the classroom for youngest students and outside the classroom and the school in the community for older students.

To celebrate International Day of Peace you will notice in the foyer we have posed the question, *When you close your eyes and think of peace what do you see?* Please come and share your vision, write your thoughts and add to the wall. You are also welcome to attend a **Peace Gathering this Thursday 21 September at 2.45pm.** Cycle 3 students will be performing a song to the Cycle 1 & 2 students after which the whole school will join together to sing Light a Candle for Peace.

**Barrowthon School Entry & Everyone is Welcome!** What a great way to spend time with our families and friends. Set aside **Saturday 21 October** and join us for anything from an hour to a day or more to share the load pushing a wheelbarrow 88kms from Beechworth to Mount Buffalo to raise funds for our cause the *Murray Valley Sanctuary Refugee Group*. This group assists refugees to settle in Albury-Wodonga by providing funding and support to those on humanitarian visas in order that they can achieve independence and integration.

https://www.facebook.com/murrayvalleysanctuary

Send an email to <a href="mailto:beechworthmontessoribarrowthon@gmail.com">beechworthmontessoribarrowthon@gmail.com</a> to let us know you are keen to be involved whether it is making a donation to our cause or registering as a team member. Further information for those registering including organising a fun training get together, the roster for the weekend and info about accommodation for those interested in staying in Porepunkah will be out soon!

**Intentions for 2018:** It is that time of year to ask you to let us know, by the end of this term, of any changes or possible changes to your child's enrolment at Beechworth Montessori in 2018. A reminder we require a terms notice thus if a child is not returning to Beechworth Montessori in 2018 we should be notified at the latest in the first week of term 4. Thank you for your assistance and please feel free to see

me if you have any queries.

Wishing you all happy, healthy and fun-filled holidays, Regards Susi

# **2017 - Important Dates**

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November – Grandparent's Day Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November – Instrumental Evening Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November - Pupil Free Day

## **Goat's Cheese Fundraiser**

An email about out Goat's Cheese Fundraiser was emailed to all families as well as copies of the order form placed in Parent Pockets. Order forms are due back at the school by the end of term.

2kg tubs of premium Australian spreadable goat cheese marinated in Australian Extra Virgin Olive oil, garlic and herbs with 7 months shelf life are available for \$34 per tub (RRP \$70) with \$10 per tub being donated to Beechworth Montessori.

# Walk to School Month...starts Monday 9th October

Every October, the Walk to School program for Victorian schools encourages school children to walk, ride or scoot to school. It's a great way to help students learn healthy habits and achieve the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity every day. Each class will be recording how many times students walk, ride or scoot to and from school during October.

## **Smiles on Site Dental Van**

Beechworth Montessori School is participating in the Smiles Onsite (Dental Van) program, please find below a link that directs you to our company's online dental consent form. We offer a FREE Dental Examination for all students and Medicare Bulked Billed treatments if needed. Our Dental Van will be at Beechworth Montessori School in the last week term 3. If you would like your child/children to participate in our service please fill in the dental consent form by clicking on the blue link. This form can be filled out on your computer, smartphone or iPhone.

Dental Consent Form Link: https://form.jotform.co/72129241286859

Your child will go into a draw to win a Virtual Reality Headset and will also receive a Goody Bag when attending the mobile clinic. Thank you for taking the time to read this and we hope to see your child/children at our clinic!

Regards, Smiles Onsite Team

**BMS Admin Note:** Some parents have noted that they wish to be present for their child's appointment. A schedule will be organised today or tomorrow and you will be notified (if you have requested) of your child approximate appointment

time. If you do not receive notification, please contact us feonar@bms.vic.edu.au

## **Italian**

Today we were lucky to have an Italian student from Italy. Elisa Frascolla is from Macerata in the centre of Italy. She has been in Australia for 3 months and today she came to Montessori Beechworth and helped Mauro in his Italian classes. The students enjoyed meeting Elisa and speaking in Italian to her. They were very curious and asked a lot of questions about Italy and her background. Grazie Elisa



Maria Montessori was nominated for three consecutive years, 1949, 1950, and 1951, for the Nobel Peace Prize. Maria Jervolino wrote the following in her proposal for the 1951 Noble Peace Prize: *Dr. Maria Montessori is universally known for her contribution to the cause of peace and the brotherhood of nations, to which she has dedicated the best years of her long and active life, laying the foundations of a true science of peace by means of an innovated form of education.* 

# **Peer Support Program Sessions**

#### Week 6 – Joining In with Others – 8th September

In this week's Peer Support session the children will be exploring how to join groups and how to accept others into their friendship group. The activities will give the children a chance to practise these skills, as well as how to say no in a respectful way, cope with being told no and inviting others to join them.

Encourage your child to discuss with you the importance of saying no to people in a respectful way so that they don't lose friends. Also discuss with your child various options they have at school if they should find themselves without anyone to play with during break time.

#### Week 7 - Good Winners - 15<sup>th</sup> September

In Peer Support this week children will be focusing on the skills of winning in a friendly way and coping with losing. The children will participate in various activities and discuss how to accept the outcome of a game, no matter what it is, in a friendly way in order to maintain those friendships.

During the week encourage your child to practise these skills in all aspects of life - whether it be weekend sport or choosing what to watch.

### Week 8 – A Better Friend – 18<sup>th</sup> September

In this week's final session of the Peer Support module *Keeping Friends* the children will be participating in a board game, reinforcing all of the concepts and skills that have been learned over the past 7 weeks.

They will be reminded of the qualities of a good friend and the skills needed to maintain friendships and make new friends. Each Peer Support group will have the opportunity to celebrate what they have learned and the new friendships and connections they have made.

# **Cycle 2 News**

# From the Moonstone & Turquoise Rooms

So much has happened since our last contribution. Lessons on the hydrosphere and space cycles are coming to an end with the children enjoying the many experiments and demonstrations we use to help consolidate understanding. We have enjoyed Father's Day Night, run, jumped and thrown at the school sports, been creative with a visit from a cartoonist, and enjoyed many drama games.



# **Cycle 3 News**

## From the Tigereye & Topaz Rooms

#### **School and District athletics**

The school's Athletics Carnival was a great day, with the Cycle 3 students getting lots of experience with the shotput, high jump, sprinting, long distance running and discus, before the younger

students arrived in the afternoon for their races. They then attended athletics workshops run by the Cycle 3 students and the afternoon closed with a series of hilarious relays with children of all ages.

Well done to all our Cycle 3 students who competed in the Beechworth & District Athletics carnival on Tuesday 12th. It was so wonderful to see students having a go at events that they may have found challenging, just giving it their best shot. There was also some very lovely encouragement going on, with students cheering on each other and even running along beside them to keep them going. Thanks to Lisa Cogger and Lou Ritchie for helping out. Well done to Hagen and Eli for making it through to Upper Hume. Hagen broke the record for the 10 years boys long jump, with a jump of 3.84 metres.

#### **Daily observations and Individual Conferencing**

Across both rooms, we have been trying to do daily classroom observations of around 10 minutes where we sit and quietly observe our students. During this time, we might focus in on particular students or we might try to observe as many students as we can. Things we might note are what work is the child doing? How long are they able to focus on a piece of work? What are they drawn to in the classroom? What materials do they enjoy using? If they are distracted by social matters are they able to come back to their work? Later, in conferences with individual students we might share with them some of our observations. For more information on the importance of observations in the Montessori classroom you may like to read <a href="http://www.montessoriservices.com/ideas-insights/the-art-of-observation">http://www.montessoriservices.com/ideas-insights/the-art-of-observation</a>.

We have also begun individual conferences with the students, during which we look together at how the children are keeping their diaries, what they have been working on – and what they have not been working on! The purpose of these conferences is to help the children become aware of themselves as learners, observing their own progress, assessing their independence/responsibility, and discussing what they avoid, why and how they might approach these topics.

#### Cartooning

On Monday, the Cycle 3 students were thrilled to have cartoonist Matt Glover come in and teach them how to draw cartoons. Students had a go at drawing particular characters by copying Matt from the board, step by step using various shapes, lines and dots. Then we had a go at creating some of our own characters using different shapes.

#### Other work

Wow! So many wonderful lessons fill a Cycle 3 classroom- here are a few that have gone on over the past few weeks across both rooms with various small groups of students: Anatomy (parts of the eye- including a dissection with expert helper Dr Christie Rodda!), Geometry/Geography (how many degrees does the sun move in an hour on our sundials?), History (including the Ancient Mayans and their maths), Electricity (currents, circuits and magnetism), Atoms and elements, Botany (types of fruit), Botany (bush foods), History (Australia and types of fossils).

The Topaz, Year 6 students, as they approach the end of their Cycle 3, have taken on the challenging task of identifying all the different types of clauses within sentences, work that would probably baffle most of their parents! They are also in the last stages of geometry, having found the volume of most common solids, and are pleased to have entirely filled their first work book of 'finished work' (work that has been completed and decorated). Tigereye Year 6s have been having fun with square roots, Pythagoras

and conducting interviews for the Year 6 newspaper. Increasingly over the next term, their minds will be turning to graduation and the new life coming up next year.











Feasts have loomed large on the Topaz class program toward the end of this term. Charlotte and Sage were inspired to hold a Spring Feast on the last day of winter, and we all sat down to lunch at a table decorated with origami flowers and a glossy floral menu. Next week, Louis, Luka and Ted, with the help of the (self-nominated) servants, will be preparing and dishing up a medieval feast to the king, queen, knights and ladies of their court, as part of their study of the Middle Ages. The menu, while still three courses, has been pruned back to one dish per course, after some discussion about what is achievable with only two servants. In Tigereye, we have also been doing some edible history, making corn tortillas after learning about the Ancient Mayans. Next term, we are planning a big Roman feast!

# Montessori Matters Promoting peace at home

Source: The Age of Montessori presented by Mary Ellen Maunz and Randall Klein

Peace education is an important part of the Montessori Method and classroom. Dr Maria Montessori saw hope for "a higher form of civilization" through the education of children. As she said in *Education and Peace*:

"An education capable of saving humanity is no small undertaking; it involves the spiritual development of man, the enhancement of his value as an individual, and the preparation of young people to understand the times in which they live."

Here are 5 practices for promoting peace at home:

- 1. **Be a good role model!** This is very important. Children are watching and learning from every single thing you say or do. Be mindful of the example you're setting. Don't rant about your cranky co-worker, or gossip about the neighbour. Refrain from arguing with your spouse (or anyone else for that matter) in front of the children. Show compassion, forgiveness, and understanding when talking to or about other people. In short: talk kind, think kind, and be kind!
- 2. **Define peace with your children.** Talk about what peace means to you and ask for their thoughts. The idea of peace can mean different things to different people. Peace can be as simple as a quiet moment, or as monumental as a world that's free of conflict. Talk about it, share your ideas, and be open to *really* hearing your child's opinion. You may be surprised by what your child can teach you.
- 3. Practice conflict resolution skills. In Montessori classrooms, a special peace object can be used in times of conflict. Children involved in the conflict sit in a circle, facing one another. Whoever is holding the peace object gets to speak. Everyone else listens respectfully and without interruption. Then the object is passed to the next person and it is his/her turn to speak. Another technique is a peace corner, table, or area where children go to find 'calm'. Things like pictures of nature, sand timers, seashells or kaleidoscopes are kept in this spot. Children choose to go to the peace area on their own when they are seeking a moment of serenity. Peace can be as simple as a quiet moment.
- 4. **Encourage your children to help care for their environment.** This teaches respect and love toward others. Activities like watering plants, feeding pets, filling bird feeders, and gardening encourage children to interact with their environment and teach love and respect for others.
- 5. **Read.** Not only is the act of reading peaceful in itself, but many books also do a great job of teaching concepts of peace. Whenever reading books about other cultures or customs, demonstrate respect by keeping your tone and words positive. It probably goes without saying, but be sure to choose quiet books when you're trying to promote peace. Reading together also has the bonus of encouraging your child's love of learning, as well as providing some quality snuggle opportunities.

# **Community Notices**



# **Speech Pathology Services**

Private Speech Pathology assessment and therapy services available at Yackandandah and Beechworth Montessori (for BMS students).

Rebates may be available through medicare or private health. HCWA and NDIS registered practitioner.

For an appointment please contact Meg on 0422514386 or <a href="meg@megengel.com">meg@megengel.com</a>



# Registrations are now being taken for the 2017/18 **LITTLE ATHLETICS Season**

Fees for this season are:

One child \$115, Two Children \$210, Three Children \$305 Four Children \$400, Uniforms \$35

All registrations MUST be completed online at www.lavic.com.au before attending a registration day on:

\*\* Saturday 7th October 10am – 2pm \*\*

Monday 9th October 4pm – 5:30pm **Appin Street Sports Complex** 

\*\*This year we are combining our first Registration Day with our Come and Try Day, where we will also be celebrating our 50th Birthday. Kids are welcome to come down and have a ao at: \*\*

\* Long Jump

\* Triple Jump \*Vortex \* High Jump \* Shot Put \* Sprinting

**Turbo Jav** 

www.wangarattalac.com.au









wanaaratta20

Wanaaratta Little Aths

@wanagrattalittleaths

Contact us... wangaratta@lavic.com.au



# Beechworth Wanderers Cricket Club **Registration Day**

Sunday 17 September at Baarmutha Park, 10am – 12 noon. Beechworth Wanderers Cricket Club offers cricket for boys and girls from age 5. This includes Milo, T20, U12's, U14's, U16's and for the first time a junior girls team for 12 to 16 year olds.

Come along to our season launch and registration day from 10am.

- Meet and talk to the coaches and committee,
- Come and learn about the new format of Under 12's competition,
- We can help with registration questions on the day,
- There will be plenty of cricket games and activities for everyone,
- Grab a sausage to celebrate the new summer of competition.

You can also register online at playcricket.com.au from 16.09.17 Just search Beechworth Wanderers Cricket Club and register for the appropriate junior age group.

PLEASE NOTE ALL MILO AND T20 REGISTRATIONS MUST BE DONE ONLINE and cannot be taken on the day.

We are also looking for some people to take on coaching/managing roles for Milo, T20Blast and U12's. Plenty of support available.

For more information, go to Beechworth Wanderers Cricket Club Facebook page or contact our Junior Coordinator, Stewart Pearce on 0458 040 046.

Hope to see you there.



MUIEC ACADEMA

# SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLINIC SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2017

Ages: Cost:

5 – 14 years \$40 per day or \$100 for 3 days (Wodonga only)

Times: Location:

9 am - 1 pm South Wangaratta Reserve

Yackandandah Sports Field La Trobe University, Wodonga

Dates:

Yackandandah Sept Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Tue 26<sup>th</sup>
Wangaratta Sept Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Thu 28<sup>th</sup>
Albury-Wodonga Oct Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed 4<sup>th</sup> Thu 5<sup>th</sup>

#### **ENQUIRIES:**

To book a place, please email info@murrayunitedfc.com.au or call 0449 942 135 today!







### The Lady Birds School Holiday Music Adventure

Are you in Prep/foundation to Grade 3?
Well come sing, dance and play these school holidays with The Lady Birds!



Two magically musical programs on offer:

Stupendous Strings on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 10 am – 12 pm Breathtaking Brass on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 10 am – 12 pm

Cost: \$25 per student

Play and explore extraordinary instruments, dance & sing-a-long to live music and get creative by crafting your very own musical instrument.

Where? Sawmill House 5 Back Creek Road Yackandandah

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL** 

Call: Tijana Simic on 0416 930 411



https://m.facebook.com/theladybirdsmusic/