

Term 2
Week 2 – 22 April 2015
Distributed weekly on Wednesday

03 5728 2940
03 5728 2500
info@bms.vic.edu.au @
www.bms.vic.edu.au
42 Gilchrist Avenue
PO Box 306
BEECHWORTH VIC 3747
Find us on facebook
@beechmonty

Term 2

13th April – 26th June

11 weeks

1 public holiday – Queen's Birthday

1 pupil free day – Report Writing

To Be Advised

Cycle and room excursions if conducted and other events if the need arises

April

25th Saturday – ANZAC Day

27th Monday – Cycle 3 Cross Country

30th Thursday – Open Day at School – observations in rooms and tours

May

6th Wednesday - Mother's Day Night 5-6pm

8th Friday – RSVP Montessori Foundation Theory Workshop

12th -14th Tuesday – Thursday – NAPLAN testing

16th Saturday – Montessori Foundation Theory Workshop – MWEI
Trainer Dianne Davis

20th Wednesday - Pupil Free Day - Report Writing day

June

8th Monday – Public Holiday - Queen's Birthday

15th Monday – 19th Friday – Cycle 1 Kindergarten (Funded and Unfunded children) Parent teacher interviews. Room schedules to be communicated prior to this date

19th Friday – Reports distributed – Prep, Cycle 2&3

22nd Monday – 25th Thursday – Cycle 1 Prep Parent teacher interviews. Rooms schedules to be communicated prior to this date

26th Friday- End of term 2.15 finish

From the Principal

On Thursday last week I attended the launch of a 12 month project launched by the Beechworth Health Service – the dementia friendly community is one of 5 pilot projects being funded by Alzheimers Australia. Montessori principles is one aspect being used to support those living with dementia in Stringybark Lodge at Beechworth Health Service. The dementia friendly project is aiming to “change our minds about people whose minds are changing” and Beechworth is the only Victorian community in the trial with other projects in SA, NT, QLD, NSW.

Alzheimers is one type of over 100 types of dementia. I am proud to have been associated with the early stage of this comprehensive project and to have participated in creating an awareness of how Montessori principles can assist those people living with dementia. We are truly a lucky community to be able to have such a deeply caring community regarding the health and welfare of all members of our society; from children through to the elderly.

Everyone can be involved as a community member to in creating a dementia friendly community – whether it be by completing the survey, taking part in training to become a dementia friendly

business/club, or joining the local dementia alliance. This alliance is open to anyone with an interest in this project, and meetings are held monthly. The alliance will create an action plan, communicate through social networks and take onboard thoughts and opinions. Anna Mackinlay can be contacted anna.mackinlay@bhs.hume.org.au or 03 5728 0200.

The more I learn about neuroscience, executive functioning and how the brain functions just reinforces why Montessori methods should be considered an essential learning method and not an alternative.

To assist your understanding of Montessori philosophy I'd like to invite you, your family members and interested friends to a **FREE** education event. An invitations and information slip has been placed in parent pocket and is included below. This event will not be held again until 2017. Please note that numbers are limited so it would be appreciated if you rsvp and cannot attend that you advise us in advance so that we can offer your place to another person.



Help shape a dementia-friendly Beechworth

Indigo Health Consortium is asking people living with dementia, carers and community members to form a group to create a more dementia-friendly Beechworth. This group will work to:

- Raise awareness of the issues facing local people with dementia
- Support development of Beechworth as a dementia-friendly community

Interested? Contact Anna Mackinlay at Beechworth Health Service:

Phone: 03 5728 0200

Email: anna.mackinlay@bhs.hume.org.au



Picture: Lynton Crabb

The Indigo Health Consortium is Beechworth Health Service, Indigo North Health, Indigo Shire and Yackandandah Health working together to improve health across the Indigo Shire.

Our students from the Student Council will represent the school at the Anzac Day service on Saturday when the new cenotaph in the Town Hall Gardens will be used for the first time. We were asked by the Anzac Day organisers for children to learn the song *Waltzing Mathilda* so that if they are at the service they can join in when this is played. Conrad has done this through the music program. If you are at service the children will be able to join in when this is played.

Finally, parents – if your occupation has changed since December, please advise the school as we are required to submit the occupation of all parents to the Government and this has a direct influence on our funding. Your support in doing so every time your employment changes is appreciated.

Heather

Parents & Friends (P&F)

Family Pancake Breakfast

run by the P&F

Thursday 23rd April

7.45am to 8.45am

Please join us for pancakes and coffee.

Gold coin donation appreciated

Helpers on the day still needed. Donations of jams and lemons gratefully accepted. Contact Helen Sellar on 0427 283 221.

Children can be dropped off at classrooms from 8.30am.

Social Catch Up - Friday 1st May from 8pm

And for those keen for a different kind of welcome to term 2 catch up, we'd like to invite all adult parents and friends to meet at the Commercial Hotel for a social drink. Email us your rsvp or just turn up. A lovely way to get to know other Beechworth Montessori parents.

Parade Feedback

This email is to thank you most sincerely for helping to make the Golden Horseshoes 2015 parade so special. It was a fun, creative and very colourful display and a terrific example of what can occur when people put time and effort into a parade. Thank you also for working so well with the parade marshalls. See you in 2016! Best regards, Christine

General News

Bluearth community event – Friday May 1st (weather permitting)

3.30pm for a 3.45 – 4.30pm

Mayday Village Oval

Students & siblings, friends & family

BYO picnic dinner for after the session

BYO water bottle, runners, active gear.

Run by our Bluearth instructor Daniel – be prepared to get active and have fun.

Some student councillors will be running activities.

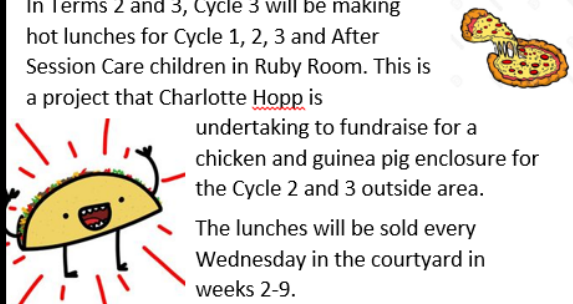
Lunch Orders next week – Week 3

Pizza - \$2 per slice next Wednesday.

Margarita & Ham and Pineapple will be available.

Lunches!

In Terms 2 and 3, Cycle 3 will be making hot lunches for Cycle 1, 2, 3 and After Session Care children in Ruby Room. This is a project that Charlotte Hopp is undertaking to fundraise for a chicken and guinea pig enclosure for the Cycle 2 and 3 outside area. The lunches will be sold every Wednesday in the courtyard in weeks 2-9.



If you wish to order lunch, please put your order form and money in the order box which will be near the sign in area for Cycle 1 and outside Topaz room for Cycle 2 and 3. Please place your order by 12 noon Tuesday.

The roster for Term 2 is:

Week 2	Sausage Rolls	Week 3	Pizza
Week 4	Tacos	Week 5	Hamburgers
Week 6	Cannelloni	Week 7	Sushi
Week 8	Pizza Scrolls	Week 9	Soup and a roll

Please bring your own plate/bowl/cup and cutlery on the day to have your food served onto.

*Vegetarian options not available every week.
*Sorry but we are unable to accommodate dietary requirements such as allergies.

Safety Around Buses

Beechworth Bus Lines are concerned regarding the safety of pedestrians around the bus. There is a complete blind spot immediately behind the bus and a degree immediately in front of it.

Please ensure you don't walk or wheel a pram immediately behind or in front of the bus – particularly if the bus is just leaving, a danger period when the bus can easily roll backwards, and the driver is unaware when a pedestrian is behind it.

Physical Education

Due to the weather forecast for Friday of rain and cold weather a decision has been made to cancel the school cross country. Students in Cycle 3 who will be participating in the District Carnival on Monday will be given an opportunity to train at lunchtime, subject to weather conditions. An indoor fitness session will be held for Phys Ed on Friday – sport will still run but be adapted for the weather.

Josh

Ruby Room News

Welcome back to term 2, I hope your Easter break was enjoyable

for all.

I would like to thank the Saunders family for having our guinea pigs over the holidays and also for fixing and oiling their hutch, a much needed job so I am grateful and to the Oke family for their kind donation of pot, pans and odds and ends that will be well used in our play. Also to our mums and dads who been our helpers in transition group last term and last week; Karen Chabaud, Karen Prebble, Lindsay, Kim, Christie. There is a roster at the reception desk for those to put their names down to help, thank you.

I would like to welcome Patrick, his mum Merridy and Patrick's pop and grandma, Ron and Heather to transition and to tots playgroup, Leonie and little Tanishka. We hope you enjoy your experiences here.

We have begun making recycled paper pots in all of the programs run in Ruby room, for some this has been a pleasant experience but the little ones have not enjoyed the sensation of the wet paper. The little pots are then being painted and the older children in ASC are enjoying the construction and design of these. We have also been kneading hot cross bun dough with sultanas and then baking them in the oven and eating them for morning tea in tots.

The weather has turned and it has been quite cold so please ensure your child has a coat to wear for when we go outside as we will be even if it is cold. Beanies are also a good idea too.

Lisa will be away for another 5 weeks on Fridays and is enjoying her Montessori course in Melbourne.

Thank you

Michaela and Lisa

Cycle 1 News

Across Both Rooms

Welcome back to Term 2. We hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable break.

As you may know we have been advised that our assessment and rating inspection will take place between 7th May – 4th June this year. Whilst we have completed our Quality Improvement Plan, there is still a lot of work to do. As such we will be holding a working bee in the Cycle 1 playground during the first weekend in May (2nd-3rd). Please let us know your preferred day and whether the morning or afternoon suits best. We will try to accommodate the majority. Any volunteers to turn a sausage or two would be most appreciated. Children are welcome too.

We will continue to play outside first thing in the morning come rain, hail or shine. Please ensure your child has appropriately clothing to keep them warm and dry. A spare set of clothes in your child's bag may be helpful.

Amethyst

We came back from the Easter break to a 'new look' room with the flooring having been laid while we were away. This has made a big difference to the light in our room – it is now much brighter. We also moved some of the learning areas, which the children have responded to well.

Cultural Subjects: Science and Geography

This term we will be doing science experiments. The children have started by making simple circuits, looking at how different liquids such as water, detergent and oil mix, discovering what happens when you look through prisms, and noting the chemical reaction when bicarb soda is mixed with various liquids.

We will continue our focus on Australia, moving to New Zealand toward the end of term. The children have talked about Australia being an island, are learning the names of the various states and territories, have made a map depicting these.



Art

The children have looked at photos of cross-hatch paintings from East Arnhem Land done on various surfaces such as bark, canvas and the human body. They were fascinated when they heard that paintbrushes used for cross-hatching are usually made from human hair, but were very happy to use commercial paintbrushes when painting their own designs. There have also been some beautiful rainbow fish made in our class using left-over Easter egg foil.

Language

WE are focusing on practising letter formation using the sandpaper letters, sounding out words with the Large Moveable Alphabet, and making simple sentences. The children have also used their visualisation skills to illustrate their favourite scene from an oral story.

Melissa, Tameeka, Martina, Lisa



Emerald

There are a number of children arriving at school without a bag or any coats, hats or changes of clothing. It is an important part of achieving independence to have access to your own belongings for which you are responsible, and for managing your own changes of clothing as necessary. This will become increasingly relevant as the weather gets colder. We intend to continue with our early morning outdoor time all term so access to their own supply of winter woollies and dry clothing will be vital.



We have started the term with a focus on the continent of North America. The children spent considerable time last term considering Australia and it is now time to start thinking outside our own world and examining other continents and how they have impacted on Australia. If you have lived, travelled or experienced North America in any way and are able to contribute to our program, we'd love to have you. You could send in photos, read stories, sing songs, teach folk dances, do cooking or come up with your own way of sharing your experiences.

We will also be focussing on history this term. We will begin with each child's individual history in the form of a photographic timeline of their life from birth to today and request that each child bring in (or email) 5-6 photos for this purpose. We will also be creating a family tree and considering family histories and request that each child bring a family photo to be represented on the tree.

Following Lynda's interest in the language curriculum and a significant amount of professional development on language learning this year, you will start to notice some changes in how the language curriculum is delivered. Whilst we have always promoted oral language and vocabulary enrichment, you will see more evidence of word maps (representing all our knowledge about a particular topic as a map); rhyming; sounding and vocab games in the classroom. If you have any questions about this, please make a time to see Lynda to discuss.

Farewell to Anouk and Audrey as they complete their transition to Cycle 2. We are all missing the presence of their leadership in the room.

Lynda, Wiggy, Geraldine





Supporting your Montessori Child

Famous Montessori Students

(note that in the US and other countries the term “kindergarten” refers to primary schooling, not the early years as we associate the term with.

“[Montessori...]: the surest route to joining the creative elite, which are so overrepresented by the schools’ alumni that one might begin to suspect a Montessori mafia”

[Read the 2011 Wall St Journal article](#)

JOSHUA BELL – Grammy award-winning violinist and subject of a Pulitzer prize-winning media story.

A world-renowned violinist, Joshua Bell is thoughtful about the role his music plays in society. In a cultural experiment turned Pulitzer Prize-winning Washington Post story, it is Bell’s humility, not his virtuosity, that most inspires. In suspending his fame to explore the true meaning of his work, Bell exhibits Montessori thinking at its best.

JEFF BEZOS – Amazon founder

Amazon’s founder, who proudly cites his Montessori roots, is a study in contradictions: analytical and intuitive, careful and audacious, playful and determined. Critics note his extraordinary ability to learn from others, one hallmark of Montessori education.

DAVID BLAINE – Illusionist & magician

David Blaine was a four-year old Montessori student when he fell in love with magic. Today he’s called “the modern day Houdini” by The New York Times, which says, “He’s taken a craft that’s been around for hundreds of years and done something unique and fresh with it... [His magic] “operates on an uncommonly personal level.”

T BERRY BRAZELTON – Pediatrician, child psychiatrist, author and harvard medical school professor emeritus.

Dr. Brazelton’s positive, child-oriented philosophy of parenting has influenced countless families to raise children who are “confident, caring, and hungry to learn”. Brazelton attended a Montessori school as a child and now supports Montessori philosophy through his lectures and publications.

JULIA CHILD – Celebrity chef & author

A student of Mrs Davie’s Montessori School in Pasadena California, Ms Child exuded a sense of fun and inspired others to try new things in the kitchen. She credits a Montessori background with her manual dexterity—a key feature of her mastery as a chef—and with the love and joy she found in her work.

GEORGE CLOONEY – Academy award-winning actor, director, producer, humanitarian, United nations messenger of peace

Good pre-school pays off: Harvard economists say kindergartners with great teachers earn more later (and are more likely to attend college and own a home) than others. So what defines “good”? Turns out Montessori’s approach—unfolding students, not molding them—guides the most successful teachers. George Clooney? Montessori pre-schooler.

SEAN “P Diddy” COMBS – Grammy award-winning musician, rap recording artist and ceo of bad boy records

The multi-talented hip hop artist Sean “P Diddy” Combs says he feels fortunate to have attended Mount Vernon



Montessori School during his childhood, recalling that, “I feel like I was nurtured into wanting to be somebody special”.

JOHN and JOAN CUSACK – Actor and screenwriter, and Academy award-nominated actress, respectively.

This sister-brother team, each of whom also has a hefty solo reputation, are not conventional heroes. That the former Montessorians’ work is described as “ideosyncratic”, “offbeat” and “fiercely original” is consistent with their belief in “a kind of Joseph Campbell theory of pursuing bliss. Whatever excites you is what you should be doing”.

PETER DRUCKER – Author, Management consultant, “social ecologist”, awarded the presidential medal of freedom Peter Drucker, once a Montessori child, is one of the most influential management gurus in history. His work focuses on human relationships as opposed to numbers-crunching; his books are filled with lessons on how organizations can bring out the best in people, and how workers can find dignity and community in their work.

ERIK ERIKSON – Psychologist & author

The Danish-German-American psychologist and psychoanalyst known for his theory on human social development, Erikson may be most famous for coining the phrase “identity crisis”. He found Montessori ideas so compelling that studied them as an adult, acquiring a Montessori teaching certificate but never teaching in a classroom.

DAKOTA FANNING – Actor

This youngest-ever Screen Actors Award nominee, history’s youngest Academy member, recalls: “I learned to read at two...in a Montessori school where they teach you to read really, really young.” Montessori kids are not technically taught to read (reading skills just emerge in the right environment, we think), but they work at their own pace in age-diverse groups—not in curriculum-dictated lockstep with same-age peers. For Fanning, autonomy led to early achievement throughout her life.

ANNE FRANK – Memoirist & author

Anne Frank’s famous diary is a natural extension of her school experience. She—like all Montessori students—learned to cultivate observation skills and record her thoughts in a journal early on. *Diary of a Young Girl* has been translated into 67 languages and is one of the best loved books in the world today.

HELEN HUNT – Academy award-winning actor

Helen Hunt, winner of some big time honors (Oscar, Emmy, and Golden Globe all one year—a feat nearly unmatched in history) is one cool Montessorian. Which makes her observation all the more interesting: “If there’s a message, it’s that the unlovable and unattractive parts of ourselves should be embraced. The only real currency between people is what happens when they’re not cool.”

HELEN KELLER – Political activist, author, lecturer, awarded the presidential medal of freedom, one of Gallup’s most widely admired people of the 20th century

Maria Montessori said that if, deaf and blind, Helen Keller became “a woman and writer of exceptional culture, who better than she proves the potency of [the Montessori] method?” In her tribute to Montessori, Helen’s teacher observes, “Only through freedom can people develop self-control, self-dependence, willpower and initiative. This is the lesson Helen’s education has for the world.”

BEYONCE KNOWLES – Singer, songwriter, actress and fashion designer, 16-time Grammy award-winner

In Houston, at St. Mary of the Purification Montessori, Beyoncé’s talents first emerged. In a school that valued both art and academics, a top student and world-class performer was born. Today Beyoncé has been nominated for more Grammys than anyone in history and is one of pop music’s most highly-regarded figures.

YO YO MA – United Nations Peace Ambassador, winner of 15 Grammy Awards, Presidential Medal of Freedom & National Medal of the Arts

A child prodigy cellist and Montessori student, Yo Yo Ma learned to early to follow his own interests and think outside traditional definitions. Today, critics call his artistic style “omnivorous” in reference to his versatility, his notably eclectic repertoire and his musical iconoclasm.

GABRIEL GARCIA MARQUEZ – Nobel prize-winning author

Marquez said his Montessori education gave him “the desire to kiss literature” and states, “I do not believe there is a method better than Montessori for making children sensitive to the beauties of the world and awakening their curiosity regarding the secrets of life.”

HM QUEEN NOOR of JORDAN – U.N. Advisor, humanitarian activist, memoirist and wife of the late King Hussein of Jordan

Her Majesty Queen Noor is an international public servant and an outspoken voice on issues of world peace and justice. Her orientation toward peace directly reflects Maria Montessori’s—herself a three-time Nobel Peace Prize Nominee whose “education for peace” philosophy underpins our approach.

JACQUELINE KENNEDY ONASSIS – Former first lady and Doubleday editor

As a child, the former First Lady attended Miss Chapin’s School for Girls in Manhattan. Miss Chapin was a pioneer in

education for girls; she attended Dr Montessori's New York lectures in the 1930s and enthusiastically included Montessori methods in her classrooms.

[Wikipedia profile](#)

SERGEY BRIN & LARRY PAGE – Google founders

"You can't understand Google," says Wired, "unless you know [its founders] were Montessori kids... In a Montessori school, you paint because you have something to express or you just want to... not because the teacher said so. This is baked into Larry and Sergey... it's how their brains were programmed early on."

DEVI SRIDHAR – Youngest-ever American Rhodes scholar, author, oxford research fellow, oxford lecturer on global health politics

At 18, Devi Sridhar (a former Montessorian) spoke five languages, played both tennis and the violin expertly, and co-wrote a book on Indian mythology. In 2002 she became the youngest Rhodes Scholar in the program's 100-year history. Interested in health as a young person, she now directs CEG's global health governance project.

TAYLOR SWIFT – Grammy Award-winning singer/songwriter

Taylor Swift, country music's youngest-ever Entertainer of the Year, attended Alvernia Montessori School in Berks County Pa. The singer is widely described as "the product of homegrown values"; New York Times calls her "one of pop's finest songwriters, country music's foremost pragmatist, and more in touch with her inner life than most adults".


WILL WRIGHT – Video game pioneer, creator of the Sims

The videogame innovator says Montessori was the "imagination amplifier" that prepared him for creating The Sims, Sim City, Spore and Super Mario Brothers. "SimCity comes right out of Montessori... It's all about learning on your own terms."

JIMMY WALES – Founder of Wikipedia

PRINCES WILLIAM AND HARRY

Community News




Healthy Eating Workshop

Learn more about healthy eating for your child?
Talk to a local dietitian and a parent educator at our free workshop

Tuesday, April 21, 7pm to 9pm @ Yackandandah Primary School
Wednesday, April 22, 7pm to 9pm @ Beechworth Health Service
Monday, May 11, 6pm to 8pm @ Felltimber Community Centre

RSVP by return email by April 10



For Rent *Beechworth* Office Studio Space

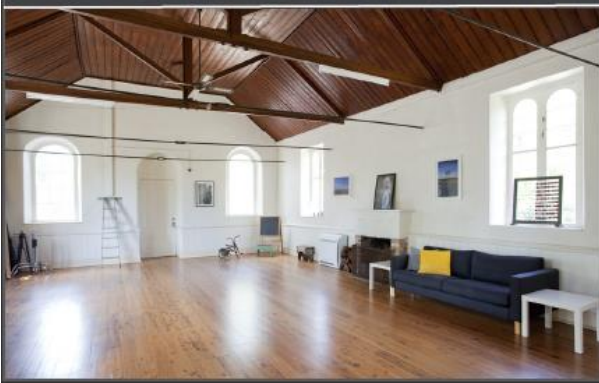
A Photographer and Graphic designer are looking to share an open plan office space in centre of Beechworth.

Situated within the charming Stone Hall (1857), the facilities include Air-conditioning/heating split system, a client area in the studio has a 3 seater couch and plenty of natural light adjoining the office space.

Rent is \$385 PCM plus GST, this includes electricity and 15GB wireless broadband, in addition - kitchen facilities, coffee machine, fridge & microwave.

A part-time or a hot seat arrangement can also be negotiated.

Phone Erin for further details
0419 390 088 or
email: erin@beechworthphotographers.com.au



Beechworth Guitar Duo

**Classical Guitarists:
Stephan and Sok Yi Bulmer**

Present a varied program of music by
Sor, Granados, Rossini, Chopin and others

**Beechworth Town Hall
Sunday, 3rd May 2015, 3pm**

**\$15 and \$10 (student/concession)
from the Information Centre
or at the door.**

www.bulmersinbeechworth.com

Email: leesokyi@yahoo.com or stefdad@hotmail.com