



# Belgrave South Primary School Newsletter

FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER – FRIDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

## From the Principal...

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school for 2019. We have had an incredible start to the new school year and everyone is ready for another exciting year of learning and the many positive challenges that this brings.

Our staff returned the week before school commenced and were busy setting up learning spaces and looking at student learning data from previous years so that they were ready to hit the ground running. We held our Staff Learning Conference on January 29 exploring student writing performance, criteria driven assessment and moderation of writing. This will underpin the learning goals that students set in the area of writing and the provision of feedback and feedforward to improve writing performance. Improving student performance in the area of writing is one of our focus areas for 2019.

### **Welcome to Prep for our new families**

Friday 1st February was a very special day as it saw our Foundation (Prep) students officially start school. After our wonderful transition program throughout Term 3 and 4 last year, we can hardly call them new. The courtyard was brimming with excitement from Mums and Dads and the students were full of confidence and so eager to begin their primary school experience. We look forward to many amazing achievements and a wonderful partnership over the next seven years.

We have had many new students start at our school at the beginning of the year, many of whom have just moved to Belgrave South or Heights. I would like to warmly welcome all of our new families and I know that they will make many great connections with others in our local community.

## **FETE – Save the date!**

Our Fete is locked in for Saturday 30th March and is sure to be an amazing event again this year – we are sure that the weather will be much better than last year! Make sure you put the date on the calendar and let all the family and friends know that you would like them to come along. It is a great chance to have some fun and food with friends!

Wonderful events like the fete don't just happen – it takes the support of many volunteers and a huge amount of teamwork and community spirit. It is not too late to be involved. We are still looking for some Stall Captains and helpers.

A separate letter will be sent home outlining the many different ways that you can support the event and the small donations needed for each of the stalls. The hamper theme for each year level is also listed in this letter. Raffle tickets will be distributed to families in the coming weeks.

Our next fete meeting is Thursday 21st Feb at 7pm in the Staffroom – all welcome to attend.

## **Congratulations to Mr A**

Mr A was recently awarded the Outer East Metro Region Sport Ambassador of the Year at the 2018/2019 Cricket Victoria School Ambassador Awards. This is an amazing accolade for a member of our team and recognises his dedication and commitment to promoting sporting activities and getting students involved in school sport. We would also like to congratulate Mr A and thank him for his endless enthusiasm and passion for getting our students involved in sport.

## **New Solar Panels**

We are taking a huge focus this year on considering our environmental footprint and reducing our use of non-renewable energies and non-recyclable materials. This will take some time to adjust to and will mean that we have to make some changes to our practices that will take a bit of getting used to. Like any change, it can be quite disruptive at first, just think of the phasing out of plastic bags at supermarkets as an example.

I would like to encourage our students to think about the packaging of food items in their lunchboxes to see if bits of glad-wrap can be spared or snack biscuits can be placed in the sections of the container straight from larger packets rather than individually wrapped snack size portions. Our students eat their fruit snack and their lunch while seated in their classrooms which will surely help us to eliminate the need for portable packaging of food.

We have had new solar panels installed on the roof of the Junior School Building over the January holidays. With the incredibly sunny weather last week, this system was generating enough electricity to power the whole school which represents a massive change to our reliance in non-renewable sources of electricity which is amazing.

We have had gutters on the breezeway replaced to better direct water into the tanks which have also been cleared so that we can harvest more water to flush the toilets and reduce our reliance on mains water usage. We will continue to make changes to our practices and our environmental leaders will be writing about them in future editions of our newsletter.

## **Sunsmart and Hot Weather – especially hats and sunscreen**

With the weather being so inconsistent throughout the summer season so far, it is easy to forget about being sunsmart. School hats with a broad brim to protect the face, ears and neck must be worn when going outside, caps are not suitable and should not be brought to school.

It is a great idea to put sunscreen on the children before they leave for school with an easy-to-apply tube or spray in their bags for them to be able to use to reapply before going outside to play. As we are not able to apply it for them, some practice for our junior students would be a great idea. We have some school-supplied sunscreen in each learning area as a back-up but will require consent before students are able to use this so that you can be sure that it will not cause skin irritation or allergy.

### School Council Elections and Timeline

Our next school council meeting will be the final meeting of the current school council. I would like to acknowledge our school council members for the incredible job that they do and the support that they provide to the process of improving the facilities of our school and the learning programs that we provide.

Four of our parent representatives and two DET representatives will reach the end of their two year tenure in March and we will have four positions in the parent category and two DET positions vacant as a result. I would like to thank Simon Eaton, Brett Lewis, Anthony Jones, Karen Penwarden, Emelia Gaulke and Carol Ould for their commitment to being on school council and for their service to our school community, they have worked tirelessly to improve our school and its facilities and programs.

#### TIMELINE FOR 2018 SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTION:

Notice of election and call for nominations	Monday, 18 February 2019
Closing date for nominations	Monday, 25 February 2019 at 4pm
List of candidates and nominators posted	Tuesday, 26 February 2019
Ballot paper distributed (if required; if more nominations than vacancies are received in either category)	Thursday, 28 February 2019
Close of ballot	Thursday, 7 March 2019 at 4.00 pm
Vote count	Friday, 8 March 2019
Declaration of the poll and announcement to the community	Friday, 9 March 2019
AGM and First Council meeting to elect office bearers	Wednesday, 20 March 2019

*Nomination forms will be available from the office from Monday, February 18 2019.*

### Accident Insurance

A reminder for our families that Belgrave South Primary School and the Department of Education and Training do not provide personal accident insurance for students.

Parents and guardians are responsible for the cost of any medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. Student accident insurance policies are available from some commercial insurers which cover a range of medical expenses not covered by Medicare or private health insurance.

The School and Department of Education and Training do not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and there is no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property. It is advisable that students do not bring valuable items to school.

Have a great week ahead.

**Stuart Boyle**

**Principal**

## Curriculum News...



### Building a Professional Learning Community at Belgrave South

'A professional learning community that leads to continuous improvement in teaching practices and student outcomes does not just happen. It depends on a strong professional culture characterised by shared norms and values, a focus on student learning, collaborative approaches to work and reflective inquiry into teaching practices, as well as leadership that fosters and supports that professional culture.' Ingvarson says. (Lawrence Ingvarson is a Principal Research Fellow in the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) Teaching and Learning research program).

On Tuesday 28th February, all our staff were involved in professional development to strengthen our professional learning community. We were focusing on student learning in Writing.

Throughout term one, the staff will meet each week for Professional Development to build their capacity and continue to improve their teaching practices with a focus on Writing. Developing their skills and knowledge based on research in the best teaching practice in Writing. To ensure we implement consistent teaching approaches to cater for all student needs.



**Learning together at Wilson's Prom**

## **Building a Learning Community**

An effective learning environment starts with building a caring classroom.

Belgrave South is committed to ensuring that improved student learning is the highest priority. This is achieved by providing a comprehensive curriculum based on Government Curriculum Framework and guidelines with a focus on personalised learning. By identifying and focusing on the aptitude and interests of each individual student, the school provides a learning environment that ensures students have every opportunity to reach their potential.

To enable students to be the best they can requires a teaching and learning culture that helps students to become independent thinkers who can take risks, learn from mistakes and believe in their own abilities.

Research has shown that students thrive in classroom communities that meet their basic psychological needs for autonomy, belonging and competence. When such classrooms emphasize the importance of cooperation, collaboration, kindness and personal responsibility, students are more likely to treat one another with respect. As a result, they feel safer and more secure in school and are more willing to take risks to share their thinking. They are better able to stand up for what they believe and to be sensitive to others feelings and opinions. Students are more likely to be motivated to learn for the sake of learning, rather than for good grades or other extrinsic rewards.

They can work out problems, and they are more likely to take responsibility for their behavior and their learning.

The key to teaching children social and emotional skills is creating a classroom culture built on community.

Our social and emotional curriculum sits side by side with our academic curriculum. We know strong learning communities are developed through trust and mutual respect. Students need to believe they belong. They need to learn the skills and strategies to learn to regulate their emotions and be able to negotiate complex social challenges in order to learn.

To ensure we have a shared commitment to work together to create an effective learning environment the staff at Belgrave South use the first two weeks to build the learning and caring community environment throughout the whole school. The time spent establishing the learning environment for the year is crucial as the grade becomes a team and develops its sense of purpose.

Building caring classroom relationships is the key to creating a successful learning community. A strong classroom community is one in which students feel empowered and valued. Where they have a voice, but they also respect the voice of others.

Some of the areas the whole school will focus on will include the following:

Establishing class rules and routines

Developing criteria for classroom tasks

Identifying learning styles

Learning how to work co-operatively in groups and friendship skills

The importance of healthy foods, water and rest

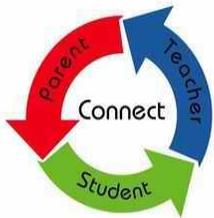
Establishing Rules and expectations of Respect for Self, Others and the Environment

Scientific studies have shown that kindness has a great number of physical and emotional benefits and that children require a healthy dose of the warm and fuzzies in order to flourish as health, happy, well-rounded individuals.

This week's focus for our achievement awards was on showing kindness.



Congratulations to our worthy recipients for showing acts of kindness.



### **Parent /Teacher Interviews Wednesday 20th February 2019** **Working together to provide the best Learning and Teaching environment for your child.**

We would like to invite you to take the opportunity to come and meet your child's teacher on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> February. We appreciate your time and interest in your child's education, and ask you to nominate a preferred time on the website - [schoolinterviews.com.au](http://schoolinterviews.com.au) and use code **ft8db**.

***The purpose of these interviews is for us to get to know your child.*** The more we know about our students, the more effectively we can cater for their needs – academically, socially, physically and emotionally. Our focus for the commencement of the year has been on student wellbeing and development along with classroom management through our Student Wellbeing Program. Meeting parents/carers is an essential part of establishing a working environment.

If your child has particular medical or social needs, please be sure to share these at the interview.

***Please be assured that all information shared will be treated confidentially and will only be used to further assist and get to know your child.***

At this early stage of the year, we are unable to give academic progress reports to parents. A formal opportunity for an academic interview will occur later in the year.

Please feel welcome to make a further appointment with the class teacher at any time during the year. We would appreciate the opportunity to discuss any concerns as they occur.

We look forward to sharing a happy and successful year with your family.

Caro Ould

Assistant Principal



## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

### CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

### MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the CSEF visit  
[www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

### HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

If you applied for the CSEF at your child's school in 2018, you do not need to complete an application form in 2019 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools in 2019 or you did not apply in 2018.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2019.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.





## FORTNIGHTLY STUDENT AWARDS!!!



### KINDNESS

Grade	Name	Reason
FB	Brodie C	Brodie you are a kind and caring member of our classroom. You have shown kindness towards your peers during inside and outside activities. Well done!
FD	Ella H	Ella you have been a kind and caring friend in our classroom over the last week. It has been lovely to see you show kindness to your peers. Keep it up!
1B	Jamieson C	Jamieson you are always demonstrating kindness at school. You are considerate and caring towards your peers and teachers, making a great role model. You are a great example of a bucket filler, consistently filling people's buckets with smiles, sharing and listening. Well done Jam, keep spreading your kindness.
1D	Alicia S	Alicia is kind and friendly member of our class and has had a fantastic start to Term 1, as part of 1D's Kindness Crew. Alecia is considerate of others feelings and consistently shows kindness towards all of her classmates by taking the time to listen, help and be a great friend to everyone. Well done Alicia!
2K	Lucy K	Congratulations Lucy on consistently displaying kindness within the classroom. You have settled in well to Belgrave South Primary and have already established many good friendships. I have witnessed your kindness and caring nature many times this week. You are always willing to share your belongings with others and you even gave an icy-pole to a friend who didn't have one! Keep displaying this wonderful quality!
2P	Mia G	Mia is a delightful student who demonstrates kindness daily. She is thoughtful of others, speaking nicely to them in her interactions and displaying patience if other students take a bit longer to do something. It has been lovely to see her include others in her play, particularly a new classmate to Belgrave South Primary School. Her open, friendly smile is very welcoming and lets others know she is accepting of them.
3B	Paige H	Paige shows kindness towards her classmates as she always speaks with respect and thoughtfulness.
3D	Archie H	Archie is always the first to show kindness. He always tries his best to support his classmates and teachers whenever they are in need. Archie always considers how he can help others and does it with a smile.
4SD	Erin G	Erin has made a terrific start to Grade 4 by regularly demonstrating kindness in the classroom. Erin speaks to teachers and peers with impeccable manners and a gentle tone exemplifying her polite personality. Her conduct in terms of portraying respectful relationships is exactly what her classmates should be aspiring to and I've been delighted to observe her so easily transition to our school this year. Well done Erin!
4ST	Allanah H	Allanah is a kind and caring member of our class, she is always eager to assist others and asks if her peers need help. In particular, Allanah has shown great kindness in our classroom by taking a new member of our grade under her wing and showing

		her the Belgrave South way! A fantastic start to the school year, I look forward to seeing many more acts of kindness!
5G	Rocky T	Rocky is compassionate and kind friend. He has spent many recesses, lunches and afternoon plays inside with a friend who was unable to play outside. He is thoughtful during learning time; he always goes out of his way to help others get ready for learning. Well done on an excellent start to Grade 5!
5H	Patience H	Patience is a thoughtful student who always takes into account the feelings of other students. She has gone out of her way to make sure that new students to both the school and the classroom have felt welcome and incorporated them in whatever she has been doing. Well done Patience.
6B	Daniel D	Daniel showed amazing kindness throughout the grade 6 camp. He supported peers who were homesick or needed help with their tents. When the camp conditions took a turn for the worse and we were required to return early, Daniel helped teachers, peers alike packing up belongings, and tents. Daniel you are a star!
6P	Logan C	During our time at camp Logan showed kindness. He was kind to our cooks, taking time out of his day to talk with them. Logan showed kindness making sure people were included in all activities. He always had a smile on his face and this makes people want to interact with him, knowing they will be treated kindly. Any task I have asked Logan to do to assist with setting up activities he has done willingly. Well done Logan.

## Important Dates...

### February

- Thurs 21<sup>st</sup>**                      **Drama Toolbox starts for Preps**
- Fri 22<sup>nd</sup>**                         **Drama Toolbox starts for Grades 1 and 2**

### March

- Fri 1<sup>st</sup>**                             **Welcome to Prep BBQ – 5:30pm – 7:30pm**
- Mon 11<sup>th</sup>**                         **Labour Day Public Holiday – NO SCHOOL**
- Fri 15<sup>th</sup>**                         **Grade 5 and 6 Reach Rookys**
- Tues 19<sup>th</sup>**                        **School Photos**
- Sat 30<sup>th</sup>**                         **STAXAFUN Fete!!!!**

### April

- Mon 1<sup>st</sup>**                         **CURRICULUM DAY – NO SCHOOL**
- Fri 5<sup>th</sup>**                         **Grade Prep – 2 - Easter Bonnet Parade**
- Last day of Term 1 – 2:30pm dismissal**
- Tues 23<sup>d</sup>**                        **Term 2 Starts**



**BHTC Open Day**

If you're interested in joining the club and playing tennis then come meet us at Belgrave Heights. All ages are welcome.

**Free BBQ!**

**Come Meet The Coaches**

**Speed Radar!**

\*1pm  
 \*17th February  
 \*Belgrave Heights Tennis Club  
 \*82 Colby Dr, Belgrave Heights



**DANDENONG RANGES**  
**Physio**

Pilates ◻ Orthotics ◻ Remedial Massage

- ◻ Back/neck pain
- ◻ Sports injuries
- ◻ Headaches
- ◻ Overuse injuries
- ◻ Sprains/strains
- ◻ Falls & balance
- ◻ Post-surgical rehab
- ◻ Women's health

OLINDA - 9751 0400 - Opposite Mt Dandenong Hotel [www.drphysio.com.au](http://www.drphysio.com.au)

# Kids Club 2019

Monday afterschool to 6:00  
Grade's 4-6

Middle 6 weeks of each term

Term 1 (February 11, 18, 25, March 4, 11, 18)

\$30 for the term.

Dinner and afternoon tea provided

Located in the KidZone building at Belgrave South Baptist Church

Program includes; Games, food, singing, resilience and character building activities and a simple introduction to bible characters and themes.

**Registrations for 2019 now being accepted**

To register your child please email [kidsclub@bsbc.org.au](mailto:kidsclub@bsbc.org.au) or contact

Hannah Denny on 0438684727



Program run by two VIT (Victorian Institute of Teaching) accredited teachers. All leaders have a WWCC card and adhere to Belgrave South Baptist Churches Child Safe Policy.

# Making changes for new beginnings



## A therapeutic support group for women

**Do you feel scared, intimidated, threatened or unsafe in your relationship with your partner?**

**Do you have control of your finances?**

**Does your partner blame you for their abusive behaviour?**

Making Changes for New Beginnings is an 6-week support group for women who have experienced family violence.

The group aims to help you identify the effects of abusive relationships and create new beginnings for yourself.

Topics covered include:

- Cycle of violence
- Difference between anger and violence
- Healthy and unhealthy relationships
- Safety planning
- Parenting after family violence

**Cost**  
Free

**Date**  
The group runs once a week for six weeks during the school term

**Time**  
Mornings

**Venue**  
Narre Warren

**Get in touch**  
For more information or to book, contact Megan on 03 5990 8400



# Uniting



## PARENTS BUILDING SOLUTIONS

### GROWING GREAT KIDS

**ARE YOU TIRED OF YELLING?**  
How to get kids to listen, without having to yell

**DEALING WITH ANGER**  
Helping parents, helping kids deal with frustration and anger

**STRATEGIES**  
Discuss and share strategies that work

**CHILDREN'S SCHOOL**  
Understand the challenges you kids face in school

**SELF CARE**  
How to cope with stress & emotions

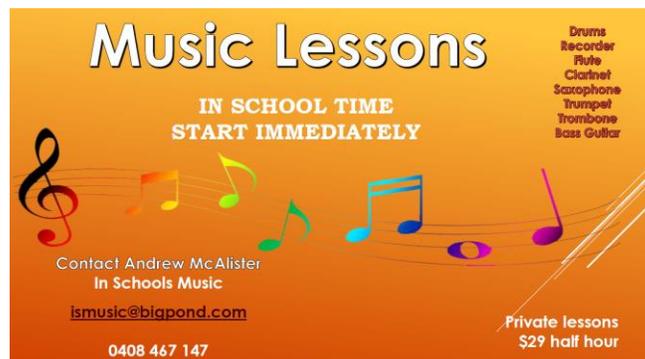
**DATES:** Thursdays 21, 28 February and 7, 14, 21 & 28 March 2019  
**TIME:** 9.30am to 12.00pm  
**WHERE:** Cockatoo Primary School  
19-33 Belgrave-Gembrook Road,  
Cockatoo VIC 3781

**COST:** FREE

**FOR BOOKINGS AND ENQUIRIES CONTACT:**  
Naomi Dewar 03 5968 8017 or Jasbir Singh 0431 203 177 or text your name to register.  
Email: [cockatoo.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:cockatoo.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au) or [jasbir.suropada@anglicarevic.org.au](mailto:jasbir.suropada@anglicarevic.org.au)



# Community Notices



**Music Lessons**

IN SCHOOL TIME  
START IMMEDIATELY

Drums  
Recorder  
Flute  
Clarinet  
Saxophone  
Trumpet  
Trombone  
Bass Guitar

Contact Andrew McAlister  
In Schools Music  
[ismusic@bigpond.com](mailto:ismusic@bigpond.com)

0408 467 147

Private lessons  
\$29 half hour

### Piano Lessons at Belgrave South

Parent funded program



Learning a musical instrument has many benefits for a child's development. We offer one on one lessons or shared group of 2 for students of all ages. Performances are held during the year. Lessons are held during school time or after school times are also available. Please contact Shelley on 0417 390 489 or email: [keyboardkids@bigpond.com](mailto:keyboardkids@bigpond.com)





ENROL NOW!

- Free introductory Tennis Lesson
- All Ages & Standards
- Group & Private Lessons
- High Performance Squads
- Hot Shots Program
- Free Racquet with all new **Hot Shots** enrolments\*

Call Kylie 0411 225 461 or Sean 0402 424 482  
 now to secure lessons. Limited places.  
 E: [tennisinstitute@optusnet.com.au](mailto:tennisinstitute@optusnet.com.au)

\*Conditions Apply




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Something for the Adults

FREE TRIAL

Simply return to enjoy  
1 x free Fitbit Cardio trial session

Belgrave  
 South  
 Primary  
 School  
 Fortnightly  
 Newsletter