



# Belgrave South Primary School Newsletter

FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER – FRIDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

## From the Principal...

Dear Parents and Carers,

In conversation with an incredibly insightful member of our parent community they mentioned a saying that has resonated with me following the severe weather events of the last week. 'Situations like this don't build character, they reveal it.' What has been revealed by our community has been incredible flexibility, cooperation, kindness and generosity. I know that these and other positive traits will continue to prevail over the coming months. You are a wonderful community.

### **Father's Day**

I would like to wish all of our Dads a fantastic Father's Day for Sunday. I hope that you are able to enjoy time together as a family and make the most out of being home together on such a special day. Now, more than ever, it's the little things that make the biggest difference. A hand drawn card, scrambled eggs on toast or just a great big hug mean the world.

### **Welcome Foundation 2021**

I would like to warmly welcome our new Foundation 2021 students and their families to our wonderful school community. Meeting our new families on screen and giving people a 'virtual' tour around the school has been something that I have looked forward to each week this term. Our planning is well underway for the transition program in Term 4 and we are incredibly excited at the prospect of our new students and their parents being able to join us at school if guidelines allow. Our gift to our new students this year was a copy of a shortlisted book title from the Children's Book Council Awards "Bat vs Poss" by Alexa Moses which carries the message of sharing and making friends, a great start to social skills at school. It is one of my favourite books from the awards this year and I hope our new students enjoy it as much as I do.

We have planned a session for parents of new Preps with Professor Kay Margetts from Melbourne University exploring the timely theme of 'Your child is ready for school.' Please share this flyer with any families that you

know who have children starting school next year as it is so important for parents to be reassured that their children will make a great start despite the challenges of 2020. A copy of the flyer is in this newsletter and is on our website.

### **Heading Towards Term 4**

In advance of the Premier's announcements on Sunday, we look forward to the likely staged return of our students and staff in Term 4. As soon as the roadmap is released officially and more detail is provided to schools, we will communicate important arrangements with you.

Our staff have been working incredibly hard in their level teams to review our curriculum programs in readiness for the return of our students. Each team has identified key areas of learning that will be a priority in their Term 4 program incorporating elements of Term 3 units where it is recognised that students will require extra support on their return to school. In this way, we will balance the impact that an extended period of remote learning has had on normal student growth.

Our focus will be supporting our students to build on the learning that was commenced during remote learning and to focus on the individual needs of each student rather than where we think they should be at this particular time of the year. Please know that our school will continue to make adjustments to our curriculum and teaching for an extended period spanning several years to support the learning of our students.

Alongside this, an equal and immediate focus will be on the emotional literacy that is crucial to our learners being able to transition back to school successfully. Returning to school is effectively another transition phase for our children that will be supported by their teachers and teams from day one.

There is a lot of media focus at present on key year levels repeating. It is my strong belief that this is not necessary and is not an option that is in the best interests of the social and emotional development of students nor does it provide the academic growth that repeating similar learning experiences anticipates. The work that we do as teachers and leaders over the coming terms will ensure that our students continue to grow and develop in all areas. We must remember that our children are still learning so much each and every day both from their teachers and from us as parents. Learning during COVID-19 is not just about literacy and numeracy but also about problem solving, emotional intelligence, emotional regulation, interpersonal skills, communication, self-awareness, technology, time management and the list goes on. This situation has reinforced that it is the skills of adaptability and perseverance that are vital to our development.

Our teachers have and continue to conduct 'Teacher-Touch-Bases' in lieu of traditional parent teacher conferences acknowledging that ongoing conversations about learning are needed at the moment and into the future. Please continue to speak with your child's teacher or make contact with Carol Ould or myself if you need to discuss any aspect of your child's progress.

Take care, stay safe and know that we are here.

**Stuart Boyle**

**Principal**

**Wednesday  
November  
18 2020**  
**7:30 PM**



We would like to invite you to attend a transition session presented by Kay Margetts, an Associate Professor in Early Childhood Studies at the University of Melbourne. Kay has been a valued part of our Transition program for a number of years and is renowned worldwide on her knowledge of how best to support children and families through Transition.

This will be an informative and interactive evening where Kay will discuss the importance of how you can support your child with their transition from preschool to school. Kay will discuss strategies for you to support your child through the transition process with a focus on social and emotional development, independence and resilience.

The session will take place face to face in the Bartley Learning Centre and or via Zoom depending on the government guidelines at the time of the presentation.

## **PARENT WORKSHOP** **with Kay Margetts**

### **Your Child is Ready for School**

#### **ZOOM DETAILS**

Click on the meeting link before the meeting to activate Zoom and test your speaker and microphone and explore a little.

#### **JOIN FROM PC, MAC, IOS OR ANDROID**

<https://unimelb.zoom.us/j/97349578643?pwd=UmcvSk00cmFUUIVZZWRIK3JzaDhoQT09>  
Password: 730728

#### **OR JOIN BY PHONE**

Dial (Australia): +61 3 7018 2005 or +61 2 8015 6011  
Password: 730728

When you click on the meeting link the first time it will automatically download Zoom to your device or provide a link for you to do this.

Test speaker and microphone by clicking on the link for doing this. Click 'Join with Computer Audio' and join the meeting.

You can try this out after receiving this information and before the meeting. As the meeting is not scheduled until Wednesday 18 November at 7:30pm, after experimenting, click 'leave the meeting'. If you do not have a camera on your device, you can still join the meeting.

#### **DURING THE MEETING**

You can swap between Speaker view or Gallery view. Speaker view shows small images of participants and a large view of the person speaking. Gallery view shows all participants in the same size and the image of the person speaking is framed in yellow.

When Kay is speaking, participants will be 'muted'. From time to time Kay will ask if anyone has questions or comments and this is the time when you will 'unmuted'. If you want to write questions during the session you can use the 'To everyone' 'Chat' function located at the bottom of the screen (roll-over).



**Educating with purpose • Encouraging high achievement**  
**Enriching the development of our children and community**

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