Dear Parents/Carers

Great news this week! Berendale in partnership with Montague won the Youth Pathways and Transition Award at the Education and Excellence Awards. The award was announced at Crown Palladium on Friday night. We were presented with a framed certificate and a cheque for $20,000. The award acknowledges the School Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship program ‘Ticket To Work’ which is in its second year of operation at both schools. The program is now operating in other areas and there is considerable interest from other states. We are proud to be part of this ground breaking program and thank our partners, BGK Local Learning Employment Network, ATEP, FS Learning and Youth Connect. Congratulations to the staff who have worked hard to make this program a success and to the students who always put in their best efforts.

School Council News:
At School Council Last week we discussed having a celebration for ‘One Hundred Years of Special Education in Victoria’. We are forming a committee to organise a Celebration Day which we expect to have on Sunday 20th October. Initial ideas are to hold a staff and student reunion and also run an Art Show. If you have any ideas or would like to be on the committee please let me know.

Curriculum Day:
Last Monday Berendale and Katandra combined for a Curriculum Day on AusVels which is the new Australian Curriculum. We had a very productive day and learnt about the new requirements as well as discovering resources on a site called Scootle. Thank you to Bruce McPhate for organising the venue and doing much of the leg work and to Seth Willingham for his informative presentation. Thank you also to Kylie Scott for organising the group activities.

Staff Discussions:
Staff have discussed the idea of allowing students to have ipods in the yard at recess and lunch times. This may help some students to occupy themselves and encourage appropriate social networks. Mobile phones would still need to be handed in as would any device with a camera. We will take this idea to our student reps and school captains and report on outcomes in the next Bulletin.

School Fees:
Just a reminder that your school fees for term 2 should now be finalised. Please feel free to discuss issues of financial difficulty with me by phoning 95556141. Thank you to the families who have finalised payments.

Have a great week
Regards
Paula Barnett
WELFARE MATTERS

Respite and Carelink Centre

Please visit www.respitesouth.org.au for information about respite options in the southern region. If you would like to talk with someone in person about your respite needs, please call 1800 052 222 (24 hours a day). You may wish to sign up to receive their free newsletters which contain a wealth of information about the services and programs currently available. Brochures on this service are also available from school.

Student Transport

Could parents and carers please inform the office of any changes in your student’s personal details e.g. addresses, phone numbers etc. For all students it is essential that our records are up-to-date. For those students using either Crown or Bayside Coaches, current details are required and most necessary should there be any kind of emergency. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Woolworths Earn & Learn Program 2013

The Woolworths Earn and Learn Program 2013 finishes in 3 weeks time (June 9th). Could you please continue to save the points from your purchases and send them along to school to be collated. We did get some great educational resources last year, but so far this year the response has not been as good for some reason. Your help is needed. So please request your points at the checkout, as the program doesn’t seem to have been as well promoted as in 2012. Many thanks to those families and friends, who have already sent in their Earn & Learn Points. Your support is much appreciated.

Dental Programs

Young people aged 13-17 years who are dependents of concession card holders are eligible for this service. This is a free service. Contact details are Central Bayside Community Health Services, Parkdale 8587 0350 or Bentleigh Bayside Community Health, Bentleigh East on 9575 5322. Monash Health Oral Health Services also operate a Youth Dental Program. Eligibility is the same, but for some families it may be more convenient to attend the Springvale Centre, phone 8558 9165 for an appointment. Please contact the school if you would like further information.

Parent Information (Enhancing Vacation Care)

Enhancing Vacation Care is a service provided by Joint Councils Access for All Abilities (JCAAA) which develops opportunities for young people with disabilities to participate in local community art, sport and recreational activities. The steps to access the service are outlined in this bulletin.

PACTS (Parents as Career Transition Support) Program

This excellent program will run over two evenings, Thursdays 13th and 20th June from 6:30 to 9:00 pm. All parents are most welcome. Further information will be sent home this week.

Maree McCutcheon
Hello to all the mums & dads at Berendale. I hope that you, the incredible staff & blossoming children are all aware that we've nearly reached the half way mark of the school year, so please have look at how we've all grown together.

I've watched our children learn so much with every visit to the school yard, there have been great signs of independence and social interaction that makes Berendale a place where change is inevitable.

One of the most memorable times for some so far is the RDA Centre where some of the most wonderful people are, and of course those beautifully natured horses. The change they bring to our lives and community is brilliant, please go out and visit the Centre if you can and feel how it affects everyone, I'm sure it will bring much joy.

The Year 7’s experienced the joy of being on camp at Sovereign Hill. I cannot wait to see the photos of the Red Hill mine tour, wildlife park, panning for gold and all the other activities that everyone enjoyed.

The office staff have been of great support to date, thank you for your efforts with the administrative tasks. I look forward to saying hello next time I visit.

Best Regards,

Kon Peltekis

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**WHEN PAYING SCHOOL FEES**

When depositing school fees in to the school's bank account it is very important to add in the student’s name so it can be easily identified.

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**IMPORTANT DATES**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 10th June 2013</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 28th June 2013</td>
<td>2.00 pm Finish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 15th July 2013</td>
<td>Start of Term 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 20th August 2013</td>
<td>Student free day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 20th September 2013</td>
<td>2.00 pm Finish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 7th October 2013</td>
<td>Start of Term 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 5th November 2013</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 19th November 2013</td>
<td>6.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 20th December 2013</td>
<td>12.00 pm Finish</td>
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Berendale School and Montague Continuing Education Centre, ‘Ticket to Work’, South-Eastern Victoria Region

In 2012 Berendale School and Montague Continuing Education Centre piloted ‘Ticket to Work’, a school-based apprenticeship and traineeship program for students with mild to moderate disabilities. It has increased employment options for these young people, and increased their opportunity to meaningfully contribute to the economy and society post-school. It recognises that students with disabilities struggle to successfully make the transition from school to employment, and has successfully broken down barriers with employers and parents concerned about students with disability undertaking paid employment and vocational training. The program has also enabled both schools to foster partnerships with a range of community organisations.
This term I have started work experience. Myself and 6 other students have been working at the Family Life Warehouse in Cheltenham. They also have an Op Shop in Moorabbin. So far I have been working on restoring a piece of furniture to sell. I have sanded a 3 set of drawers and now I am up to applying a clear coat of paint. Then I want to paint it shiny white. I am really enjoying this program and I look forward to Wednesdays.

By Tatjana Basile
Last week we went to Garden World and we had a look around at all the different plants. We went into a Japanese garden to look at the old trees called Bonsai. They were valued at $325 to $5000. Then we went to Southland and had a look around for worm farms. We had lunch at the food court. In the end we went on the bus and went back to school.
Enhancing Vacation Care

Information for parents and carers

Enhancing Vacation Care is a service provided by Joint Councils Access for All Abilities (JCAAA). JCAAA is an initiative of the Cities of Port Phillip and Bayside and develops opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in local community art, sport and recreation activities.

Enhancing Vacation Care works in partnership with local mainstream Vacation Care Program (VPC) providers to build the capacity of these programs to be more accessible to children/youth who have mild to moderate disabilities. Primary school aged programs provide their service to children between the ages of 6 and 12 years, Teenage programs provide their service for youth from the ages of 13 to 18 years. Enhancing Vacation Care provides funding to these VCPs so that they can employ extra staff to support the inclusion and participation of children or teenagers with disabilities in the programs, along with the provision of disability awareness training and information to Vacation Care Program staff.

Enhancing Vacation Care Eligibility Requirements

The participant (child/youth):

- lives, works, studies or recreates in the Cities of Bayside, Glen Eira, Port Phillip or Stonnington
- lives at home or lives independently with support from family or an unpaid carer
- has low to moderate disability/s and low to moderate level of need
- can feed and toilet independently or with minimal assistance

Enhancing Vacation Care Conditions

- The participant must be registered with Enhancing Vacation Care before being enrolled in one of the VCPs and before attending the program
- The participant adheres to ALL requirements, conditions and regulations of the VCP they attend; inclusive of age limits, booking processes, program fees etc
- Each participant is funded to attend a VCP for three days per week and up to a maximum of six days over the course of the holiday period (unless otherwise agreed to by the Enhancing Vacation Care Project Officer before the holiday period begins)
- Program costs and associated costs are not covered by Enhancing Vacation Care
- Staff/participant ratio is one staff for every two to three participants (children/youth)

See overleaf for the steps involved in participating in Enhancing Vacation Care
Enhancing Vacation Care

Steps to participate

STEP ONE: Assessment
Contact the Enhancing Vacation Care Project Officer to do a needs assessment. This process will enable the Project Officer to assess your child/youth’s level of need. The Project Officer will go through the different VCPs available and will work with you to determine the best program for your child/youth.

Contact Enhancing Vacation Care:
Emily Mercer
Enhancing Vacation Care Project Officer
(03) 9209 6159
emercc@portphillip.vic.gov.au
Private Bag No 3, St Kilda, VIC, 3182

STEP TWO: Registration
On completion of Step One, the Enhancing Vacation Care registration form will be sent to you. You must then complete the registration form and return it to the Project Officer as soon as possible BEFORE the holiday period begins.

Once this form is processed by Enhancing Vacation Care, the VCP that is best suited for the needs of your child/youth (identified in Step One) can be contacted and the booking process with the VCP can then be undertaken (see Step Three).

STEP THREE: Booking
There are a few parts to Step Three:

1. The Project officer will contact the VCP/s (identified in Step One) to confirm that spaces are available to book new participants into the program, and to confirm the capacity of the program to meet the needs of your child/youth.
2. The Project Officer will then contact you with the direct contact details of the VCP.
3. You will then need to contact the VCP coordinator directly and go through the program booking process as required by the VCP.
2013 PRESENTATION BALL

Family and Friends are invited to join the Berendale students in celebrating their special night.

DATE:
Thurs 1 Aug 2013

TIME:
Arrive 6.30pm for a 7pm start

VENUE:
The Ballroom at The International of Brighton, 81 Bay Street, Brighton

DRESS:
Formal

COST:
$60.00 per person including students

Soft drinks will be provided (BYO alcoholic beverages)

RSVP by Friday 14 June to Kylie Scott
Email: scott.kylie.k@edumail.vic.gov.au
Beaumaris Sharks All Abilities
Australian Rules football

Do you want to learn Australian Rules football skills and make friends in a fun and supportive environment? If so, this program is for you.

Beaumaris Sharks Football Club are on the hunt for all abilities footy players to join their All Abilities Australian Rules football program in 2013. The program aims to provide boys and girls with a fun and safe footy experience that is an introduction to the game. The program is not just about introducing children to footy, but also aims to encourage a healthy lifestyle and an ongoing association with the great game. This is achieved through activities and programs for individuals, small groups and teams, and aims to assist development of personal and social skills, while making new friends and having fun.

Who: Females and males from ages 8 to 18
Where: Banksia Reserve, Oak St, Beaumaris
When: Fridays 4pm to 5.30pm for 4 weeks from 24 May (following dates: May 31, June 7, June 14)
Cost: FREE
Contact: To register contact David Connolly at JCAAAA on 9209 6552 or dconnoll@portphillip.vic.gov.au