Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to the 2014 school year. I extend a very special welcome to our new students and their families and wish them well in starting their Secondary Education.

It appears the warm weather will be around until next week so I encourage all students to wear appropriate clothing including hats. We have a supply of sun cream so there is no need to supply your own. Recess and Lunch activities will be structured around the weather conditions with alternate activities in the hall or gym if required.

**New Parents Afternoon Tea with Kerri Rolfe from Moira:**

All new parents are invited to attend an Afternoon Tea on Thursday 6th February at 1.30 pm at the Pool Kiosk. Please check into the office on arrival. At this afternoon tea you will be able to meet other parents, exchange contact details and meet Kerri Rolfe from Moira who works in supporting parents and students with disabilities. We really hope you can attend. Maree McCutcheon will send out invitations to all new parents.

**Welcome BBQ and Information Night:**

Please keep Monday 24th February free for our Welcome Barbecue and Information Night. Our Family BBQ starts at 5.00pm and meat, salad and cordial are provided. At 6.30 pm parents are asked to attend their Sub School Information Night which will involve a 1 hour session outlining the curriculum emphasis of the sub school. It will also be a chance for parents to ask questions regarding school issues. All family members are welcome but we do need to know who is coming for catering purposes. A reply slip is attached to this Newsletter could you please send it back to school by Monday 10th February.

In addition to the Information Night Parent Teacher Interviews will be conducted later this term to discuss Individual Education Learning Plans. Dates will be available in the next Newsletter.

**School Council Elections:**

Attached to the Newsletter is a form outlining the School Council Election process. Parents can self-nominate so please consider whether you would like to be on School Council. We meet up to 10 times per year on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. If you would like to discuss this further please ring me during school hours.

Have a great week ahead

Regards

Paula Barnett
Welcome

Welcome students and parents to the new school year 2014. A special Berendale welcome to our new students and their families. We look forward to meeting you all at our Afternoon Tea for New Parents this Thursday, and at the Welcome BBQ on Monday 24th February. Each fortnight the Berendale Newsletter will contain information on a wide range of issues around student wellbeing and parent support. So please look out for ‘WELFARE MATTERS’ in each edition, and don’t hesitate to contact me with any questions or requests for further information.

Student Wellbeing

The Bayside Immunisation Team will visit Berendale this month, April and September as part of the School Based Immunisation Program. This year only students in Years 7, 9 and 10 will be involved in the program. Student cards will be sent home several weeks prior to the visit. Could please complete the card and return it to school, even if you don’t wish to have your student immunised at school.

A reminder to parents that students with epilepsy require an annual update from either their treating doctor or specialist, giving them permission to swim. Students with asthma also need to have their asthma management plans reviewed annually, and updated where necessary. Letters will be sent home this week with further information.

During the hot months we encourage all our students to be ‘summer safe’. If you could please assist us with this important message and provide your student with a hat or cap, water bottle and sunscreen, to help us reinforce good habits. The school does provide sunscreen issued by the Cancer Council when necessary, but we request that you notify the school immediately if your student has any sensitivity to sunscreen.

Speech Pathology

Carisse Matthews (speech pathologist), will continue with her sessions at Berendale fortnightly in 2014. Carisse conducts both individual and group sessions. If you would like to know more about her program, please contact Carisse direct on 0439 968 785. This is a fee for service arrangement, and can be accessed through a Health Care Plan from your family doctor.

Medicare Teen Dental Program

From 1st January 2014 the Medicare Teen Dental Program was replaced with the Child Dental Benefits Schedule. The same eligibility applies and services include basic dental treatment with benefits capped at $1,000 per child over a two year period. Appointments can be made with either a private or public dental provider. For more information please go to the Department of Health website www.health.gov.au/dental

RDA Vacancies

We have several vacancies in the Riding for the Disabled Program held on alternate Friday mornings throughout the year. Please let me know as soon as possible if you would like your son or daughter to participate. There are costs involved to cover riding fees, registration and insurance.

Dr Maree McCutcheon (Student Wellbeing & Family Support)
Welcome to the start of another exciting year at Berendale. I'm very pleased to be involved with another year of activities and challenges with our progressively changing school.

This year our children will not only be supported by the teaching staff and specialists within the wider community but also the parents, and I therefore welcome parents to become involved with the school council. Being part of the school council offers the chance to better understand the way in which you child is supported by the staff and facilities, it has allowed me to better understand not only my child's development but also and gain friendships with parents and teachers who I respect and share my life with today. We would be delighted to see your nomination.

In order to obtain the best facilities and activities, we would be pleased to have all school fees paid by end of first term.

Looking forward to seeing you all very soon.

Regards
Kon Peltekis
School Council President

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 6th February</td>
<td>1.30 pm</td>
<td>New Parents Afternoon Tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 24th February</td>
<td>5.00 pm</td>
<td>Welcome BBQ and Information night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 4th April 2014</td>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>End of Term 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 22nd April 2014</td>
<td></td>
<td>Start of Term 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 15th May 2014</td>
<td></td>
<td>Photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 27th June 2014</td>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>Finish of Term 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 14th July 2014</td>
<td></td>
<td>Start of Term 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 19th September 2014</td>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>End of Term 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 6th October 2014</td>
<td></td>
<td>Start of Term 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 19th December 2014</td>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
<td>End of Term 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Safer Internet Day is a global event held annually to promote the safe and responsible use of digital technologies, for children and young people. The theme for Safer Internet Day 2014 is ‘Let's Create a Better Internet Together’. On this day Berendale School students will all be involved in some activities that promote awareness about cyber safety.

Some of the activities students will be involved in include:

- Taking a cyber safety quiz
- Watching videos related to cyber safety on topics like cyber bullying.
- Exploring facts about the internet such as how long does information stay online and who can use the information.

Education Maintenance Allowance

Eligibility:
To be eligible for the EMA in 2014, you must:

be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and

be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004* or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a temporary foster parent.

* i.e – the parent/guardian must be the holder of a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at 28 January 2014 (Instalment One) and 1st August 2014 (Instalment Two).

Payment Amounts - 2014:

In 2014, the EMA payments to eligible parents will be:

- $200 for parents of eligible Prep students
- $150 for parents of all other eligible primary school students
- $300 for parents of eligible Year 7 students

Student year level (or age for ungraded and special school students) will determine the amount payable. Parents of students turning 16 years in 2014 are paid on a pro rata basis.

Contact: School Office for an EMA application form and to lodge your application. The closing date for EMA application forms to be submitted to the school is 28 February 2014. Please either send a copy of your health care card or bring it in and either Bev or I will photocopy it.
Welcome new students to Berendale School 2014

Athan

Hasib

Nelson

Rhys

Tyler

Will

Vincent

Reece
Dear parents,
We apologise that School Diaries have not yet arrived at school. We are following them up and will hand them out as soon as possible.
This document is an example of a School Council Election process for 2014. The dates included are only suggestions; however, the process must be completed on or before 31 March 2014.

### School council election process timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Notice of election and call for nominations</td>
<td>Monday 10 February 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing date for nominations</td>
<td>Monday 17 February 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be posted</td>
<td>Wednesday 19 February 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed</td>
<td>On or before 24 February 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Close of ballot</td>
<td>Tuesday 4 March 2014 4pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vote count</td>
<td>Wednesday 5 March 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Declaration of ballot</td>
<td>Wednesday 5 March 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First council meeting (AGM) to elect office bearers (the principal will preside)</td>
<td>26 March 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Schedule 4: Notice of Election and Call for Nominations**

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00 pm on

........./........./........ (insert date and year).

The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on

........./........./........ (insert date and year)

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY</th>
<th>TERM OF OFFICE</th>
<th>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD employee member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 20</td>
<td></td>
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If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Principal
Berendale is a very busy school. We often have to act at the last moment when we are offered opportunities to support our students’ learning programs and keeping our school community informed and up to date is a difficult task. This newsletter is one of the ways in which we try to do this, but the Konnective app is another way that we can help to keep information flowing.

Konnective are working closely with the department and the app in its current form is just the beginning – they are hoping that it will become a way for parents to give permission and consent for excursions and other new features in the future.

Many of you have already downloaded the app and have subscribed, we have also started to send messages and photos using the system.

We would like to encourage you to:

- Download the app from either the App Store or the Google Play store on to your device.
- Create an account on the Konnective app.
- Search for Berendale feeds on the Konnective app.

You will automatically be able to receive the General Updates and you can also request to belong to feeds that are more specific to your student or connection with the school.

If anyone would like help, please feel free to give me a call or come to the office and I can help you to get up and running with Konnective.

Seth Willingham, Assistant Principal
Welcome BBQ and Information

Date: Monday 24th February  
Time: 5.00 pm –6.15 pm  
Supplied: Meat, Salad, Bread, Sweets, Cordial

Information Night

Time: 6.15—7.15 pm  
Location: Sub School 1—Hall  
Sub School 2—Sub 2 Building  
Sub School 3—Music Room

Information: Curriculum emphasis  
Handy Tips  
Question Time

Who will attend: All Family members
Reply slip—To be returned by Monday 10 February

Reply Slip BBQ and Information Night

Name : ________________________________

Students name: __________________________

Number of Adults: __________
Number of Children: __________
Any special dietary requirements :
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________