Dear Parents and Carers

A big event for students in school since the last newsletter has been the Careers Expo held on Thursday 14th August for the parents and families of our Year 9 students. This program, where students research and present ideas about an industry sector they are interested in, is now in its fourth year. The program is facilitated by Youth Connect, a community partner that always brings a wealth of information and innovation to the classroom environments here at school.

The program is successful on so many levels; our students learn about the requirements and possibilities for employment in a diverse range of sectors, students experience authentic workplace interviews, have a chance to visit and meet with employers and people working within their chosen area of interest and finally, at the Expo, get to share their hopes and aspirations for positive and productive futures with their families.

Our students did a fantastic job! It was evident from their excellent displays that they are certainly setting themselves high expectations for their futures and they all demonstrated an admirable level of self-belief. As a parent or carer you may wish to ask your child what they see themselves doing after their 5 years at Berendale, it can be fascinating to learn what they think!

Paula is in the USA for the next 3 weeks meeting with a number of individuals and organisations who also strive to deliver better transitions to employability for young people with disabilities – we look forward to learning what she discovers and how these new ideas and approaches can combine with Berendale’s own philosophies in this area.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS Bunnings Mentone Sausage Sizzle: – are you able to either coordinate or help out on Friday 14th November, 2014? This is always a great chance to raise a considerable sum of money for students at school, please give me a call if you think you can help in any way.

SCHOOL CONCERT Tuesday 16th September: order form for tickets is in the newsletter – to avoid the last minute rush (and possible disappointment), I urge you to get your orders returned to school as soon as you can.

YEAR 7 PARENT GROUP Thursday 28th August: more details included on the ‘Welfare Matters’ page, it would be lovely to see as many of you as possible at this event.

Have a great week
Regards
Seth Willingham
Acting Principal
Extended Families Program

A reminder to parents that you can access this excellent program by contacting Olivia Nam, the new program coordinator on 9289 4839, or email her at Olivia@extendedfamilies.org.au. The Extended Families Program provides support for young people with disabilities by providing a trained volunteer to help the young person access sport, recreation and leisure activities after school and at weekends. There is no cost to families apart from the activity costs.

Year 7 Afternoon Tea

We are looking forward to hosting an afternoon tea for our Year 7 parents on Thursday 28th August 1:30 until 3:00pm. Invitations were sent home last week. Thank you to parents who have already replied and a gentle reminder for others to please send you replies to your class teacher as soon as possible. Thank you.

Bayside Youth Services

Bayside Youth Services hold two after school sessions at the Peterson Youth Centre (Cnr Hightett Road & Peterson Street, Highett) each week. On Mondays from 4:00 – 5:30 pm the ‘Be Yourself’ program for students 10-17 years teaches personal skills such as cooking, self care and friendships. Every Thursday the ‘drop in’ program (3-5pm) is very popular. Students choose activities from games, arts & crafts, music & movies and computers. Afternoon tea is provided and both sessions are free. Please contact Kelly Edwards at Bayside Youth Services on 9599 4622 or email kedwards@bayside.vic.gov.au for further information.

Tax File Number (TFN)

Berendale is able to make an application to the ATO for a Tax File Numbers (TFN) for our students. This is an easier process than applying online. Please give me a call if you would like to know more about the process and what you need to do.

Movie Tickets

I have a limited numbers of free Hoyts movie passes to give away. They will be distributed on a ‘first come’ basis. So please give me a call if you are interested.

Parent Support

A program of yoga and gentle exercise for parents is being conducted at Yarrabah School, 23 Mill Street, Aspendale on Wednesdays 20th and 27th August, and 3rd September from 9:30 – 10:30am. Please call Kerri Rolfe at MOIRA 8552 2222 for information. Several Berendale parents have booked a place and we look forward to hearing their experiences. We could possibly hold sessions at Berendale in the future if there was enough interest from parents. Let me know your thoughts, thanks.

Dr Maree McCutcheon (Student Wellbeing & Family Support)
Students enjoying a game of basketball

Uniform Orders
School uniforms will be ordered from PSW in the early 4th term. I will send off the orders on 23rd October. You can access the uniform order form from the Berendale web page.

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Perrin was participating in the Special Olympics Development Snow Sports Camp run by Disabled Winter Sport Australia at Falls Creek. He was skiing with two other Special Olympics athletes and was coached and guided by volunteers of Disabled Winter Sport Australia. This camp focused on developing his skiing skills and working a little bit on racing technique in preparation for the Disabled Winter Sport Australia Race Week next week and the Victorian Interschool Snow Sports at the end of the month. The guides were amazed by how strong of a skier he is, and explained that they were struggling to keep up with him sometimes and felt that he was guiding them. Disabled Winter Sport Australia run a number of different camps throughout the snow season and get participants from a range of programs, such as Special Olympics.
This term students in Subschool One and Subschool Two have had their Performing Arts Program enriched by working with SEDA Arts students who visit us on Tuesdays. They work with our students to develop drama skills in the morning sessions and they run a Hip Hop dance class for a very large group of interested students in the Gym in the afternoon. The SEDA students also run lunchtime activities for our students.

The SEDA Arts Development Program is a joint initiative between SEDA, Arena Theatre Company and The Song Room, specifically designed to engage students in their education through their passion for live production and performance. The program provides senior secondary students with the opportunity to complete their Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) and nationally recognised Vocational Education and Training (VET) certificates while developing key life skills, including organisation, team work and initiative. Most of the SEDA students are hoping to develop careers in either acting, performing or stage production.
Berendale Performance Concert Night

Students have been working extremely hard throughout the year and are looking forward to showcasing their items.

**When:** Tuesday 16th September 2014 at 5.30 pm for a 6.00 pm start (Students to arrive by 5.30 pm)

**Where:** Kingston Arts Centre
985 Nepean Highway
Moorabbin VIC 3189

**Tickets:** $10.00 Adults  $ 5.00 Children  (non Berendale Students)

**No cost for Berendale Students.**

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**TICKET ORDERS**

Berendale Performance Concert Night

Name: _____________________
Class: ______

I / We require adult tickets. [ ]
Total enclosed: $_________

I / We require children tickets [ ]