Dear Parents/Carers,

**Applied Learning Awards:**

Last week we celebrated great success at the Applied Learning Awards. Congratulations to all students who were nominated for an award and to the students who won awards for V.E.T. and School Based Apprenticeships and Training. We were very honoured to win the Champion Applied Learning School award for the 3rd year in a row and also to pick up Best Provider of VCAL. It was also gratifying to see so many of our employers getting awards, in particular Elanora Aged Care Facility who won the school business partnership. The coffee shop which is a highlight of the Hospitality program and Coffee Skills course relies heavily on the co-operation of the facility to ensure that the equipment is maintained and in order and residents are informed about program events. We work closely with the Facility Manager and Life style Coordinator.

**Award Submissions:**

This week we have been busy writing up submissions for the State VCAL awards so we hope we have some success in a larger arena. We will be putting in submissions under VCAL Integrated Program, Individual student awards, Staff Team Award and Student Team Award. We also have submissions in for the Principal Association of Specialist School Awards and will know shortly if we have been shortlisted.

**Camps:**

The Year 12 Queensland Holiday was very successful and the students benefited from the extensive planning they did to organise their stay in Queensland. It’s a great way to incorporate real learning and real outcomes into the VCAL curriculum. We still have the Sailing Camp, Year 8 Camp and the Brighton Grammar Camp in the coming weeks.

**I Learn We Learn Project:**

The Brighton Grammar project that has involved Brighton Grammar students working with Berendale students designing applications for IPads has been very successful and we are organising a learning conference next year to highlight our learning from the project. Throughout the project we have had the benefit of a researcher and evaluator and the program has also been overseen by Dr Debra Bateman. We will share the day with other schools who have worked in partnerships on Technology projects. Parents are welcome to attend and we will give you more information closer to the event in 2015.

**Ticket to Work:**

Our program which has been very successful involves students working in Apprenticeship and Trainee programs independently with employers or in the school based Horticulture program. We are pleased that this program will continue again in 2015 and that ATEP will again organise the experience with a new RTO provider, ADVANCE.

The Ticket to Work program commenced at Berendale School as a pilot program. It has now been extended throughout Victoria and recently across Australia operating in all states except the ACT. The program has placed over 260 students across Australia in School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships. It’s a real credit to our school and to the local group who has worked so hard to promote employability for students with disabilities.

Have a great week,

Regards, Paula Barnett
WELFARE MATTERS

**World Festival of Magic**

A reminder to parents to please return your ticket orders by the end of the week. This will ensure that you get the show time of your choice. A further reminder that you can also bring family members and friends along to this world class magic show on Saturday 22nd November, 2014. Please contact me if you have any questions.

**Christmas Party for Special Children**

This year’s Christmas Party for Special Children will be held at the Moonee Valley Racecourse on Sunday 14th December from 9:30am to 1:30pm. If you are interested in receiving an invitation for your child/children to attend please contact the school. This is a free event and invitation only. If you would like to know more please give me a call.

**Special Olympics Invitation**

Many of you will be aware that the Special Olympics national games have just finished at the weekend. This national event is held every four years. About 900 athletes and officials took part in this year's games in Melbourne. As you would have seen in the last newsletter Berendale’s Harvey and Jarrod competed in the swimming events with a number of past students also participating in a variety of sports. If you would like to know more about this exceptional organisation and how to become involved please contact the school or visit their website [www.specialolympics.com.au](http://www.specialolympics.com.au). We have several tickets to Special Olympics Southern Region Christmas Lunch to be held at the Chelsea RSL on Sunday 23rd November. Please let me know this week if you like to attend on behalf of Berendale.

**Skate of Mind**

Please see the attached flyer advertising this upcoming youth event ‘Skate of Mind’ to be held at the Sir William Fry Reserve, Highett, on Saturday 15th November. This is a free event with lots of entertainment and fun. Run by the Kingston Youth & Family Services it would be great if some students, brothers and sisters participated in the event. Over the years youth workers from KY&FS have delivered a number of excellent programs to our students, so it would be good to support them in return.

**NILS Loans**

The purpose of this program is to provide people with a low income the opportunity to have a NO interest loan for the purchase of white goods. The Family Life NILS scheme aims to ensure access to essential household items, health, education and any other items that contribute to the overall health and wellbeing of the family. Please call the NILS officer on 8599 5433 to arrange an appointment, or to find out more about the scheme.

**Preloved Uniforms**

A reminder to parents of our school leavers for 2014 that we are always grateful of any preloved school uniform items that you are able to donate to the school. These preloved items can really help our families with limited income. A big thank you to the parents who have already donated clothing, it will put to very good use and again thank you for your support.

Dr Maree McCutcheon  (Student Wellbeing & Family Support)
Dear Berendale People,

It was very pleasing to see a near full attendance at our last school council meeting which was held on Wednesday 22nd October. It is with regret that I offer my apologies in advance for my absence on the 19th November as well as the graduation day which is on 2nd December. It is always an honour and a privilege to issue any award or certification to our students and I would like you all to know that I will be thinking about all of those students who I will not be able to see graduate on their special day.

Through the pioneering achievements of Paula and the committed staff, our school is becoming recognised by the amount of awards that have recently been presented to students as well as staff members. If you are interested to know of these awards, please ask Seth or Paula about the list of achievements that we acknowledged during the recent presentation of awards. Well done to everyone and it just goes to show that amongst the private, Catholic & government schools, we are great educational institution.

I would like to also take this opportunity to share a new word that I learnt at our last meeting and have taken the time out to define, the word is “pedagogy” and it is commonly utilized amongst educational academia and as per the oxford dictionary defines “The method and practice of teaching” So now we all know what that means.

I look forward to seeing you all upon my return where upon I’m sure that I will be relieved of the cold temperatures of Europe. Enjoy your preparations for Christmas and the holidays that are about to take place.

Yours sincerely,

Konstantine Peltekis

Berendale School Council President.
Berendale back on water
for a new season of Sailing

Sailing at Berendale kicked off again with the wonderful help of the crew from Black Rock Yacht Club in perfect conditions last Friday morning. The student crew consisted of some new hands and some old experienced hands, who were happy to show everybody the ropes. The students and their crew of volunteers sailed in two pacer dinghies, others helped keep a weather eye in the rescue craft. Here’s hoping for some more great weather for the weeks ahead.
Weathers changing, need water to survive

VOLUNTEERING

Sam one of our school staff, takes students over to Fairways Retirement Home in Sandringham each week. The students and Sam have setup a Gardening project. They also take the in-house dogs for a walk. They have planted Broad beans and Broccoli which are now used in their kitchens.

Taking Oscar and Coco for a walk

Planting Broadbeans and Broccoli

Watering after Harvest
In Term 4 some year 10 students are attending a drivers education 6 week Course at METEC in Bayswater.

The students have both theory and the practical driving sessions on these days. All students were very nervous on the first day but are now confident driving a car.
Applied Learning Awards at the Brighton International

On Thursday the 16th of October students and staff attended the annual Applied Learning Awards which recognises Students, Teachers, Schools and Employers/Partners for their efforts in VET and VCAL.

It was a fantastic night and the Berendale students did really well with the following students winning in their category:

- Arnold Bamroong for his SBAT: Certificate III in Retail Operations.
- Derrion Hayes for his SBAT: Certificate II in Horticulture studies.
- Yousuf Saigal for his VET studies in the area of Automotive.

Keira Davis, Marcus Laszlo, Casey Robinson and Sam Yates were also nominated for their efforts in their respective SBAT programs. Other nominations were for Nicole McLeish VETs trainer for her work with the horticulture SBAT program based at our school and Streat Golf Pty Ltd. For their role as an SBAT employer.

This year Berendale won the Champion Applied Learning School of the year and VCAL Provider. Two of our partners were also recognised with Elanora winning the Business-School Partnership award and ‘Concerns’ R Growing’ winning The SBAT Employer award for their work with Jack and ATEP winning the Group Training Organisation award for the Horticulture SBAT based at the school.
Cert 11 in Automotive

Cert 111 in Retail Operations

Jenny Tupper accepting Jack Anderson’s Award—Certificate 111 Horticulture

V.C.A.L Provider

Elanora-Business School Partnership

Nominees for SBAT Employers

Keira and Marcus nominees And Jack with the Award winning Certificate
The Court Yard

We have a new garden in the court yard between the swimming pool and the art room. Sub school 2 did the mural and the sculpture. The horticulture Vet students planned and planted the garden. Please visit our beautiful garden.
Last week we stayed at Surfers Paradise. We went on Monday and came home Friday. We flew with Virgin. It was a good flight. During the week we went to Byron Bay, Nimbin, Movie World, Sea World and Wet n’ Wild. We had breakfast at the hotel but we had lunch and dinner out every day. One night we had a BBQ. It was hot every day and we also went for a swim. I liked Wet n’ Wild because the rides were really good. Everyone liked all the theme parks.

On the way home on the plane we got to have a drink and something to eat.

By Tatjana
The Special Olympics National Games (Oct Mon, 24th - Fri, 28th) was a huge success. Both Harvey O’Dwyer and Jarrod Diggins (Yr 10) had a fantastic experience swimming for the Victorian team. Both boys swam very well and achieved success by breaking some personal best times and winning medals.

The opening ceremony was held at Lakeside Stadium. One thousand athletes with an intellectual disability proudly marched into the stadium in their state uniforms to the roar of a crowd of over 4,000 people. This was very special to Harvey because his dad helped to carry the torch into the stadium to light the cauldron as part of the Law Enforcement torch run.

Jarrod and Harvey stayed at the Pullman Hotel in Albert Park for the full week with many of the other athletes from all around Australia. They lived together, ate together and had fun together. They competed in their sport and then supported others when they weren’t competing. Some of the different sports were tennis, golf, tenpin bowling, football, bocce, gymnastics, athletics, softball and equestrian.

The spectacular Closing Ceremony was held at the Palais Theatre where the “Flame of Hope” was extinguished. All the athletes then went over to Luna Park to celebrate the successful games by going on lots of rides.

If any student is interested in trying out one of the sports offered by Special Olympics go to Special Olympics Victoria webpage for details,
Take Control in 2015 and Beyond!

- Do you have an Intellectual Disability or Autism Spectrum Disorder?
- Do you want to get ready for work but have been told you aren’t suited for it?
- Do you want to try work in real workplaces and get 1 on 1 training?
- Are you leaving school in the next couple of years?
- Do you have or are planning to apply for funding from DHS but are not sure what would be the best use of it?

Ability Pathways to Independence will be holding an information session on how we might be able to help you get ready for, get and keep a job in your community.

Hughesdale Hall-Cnr. Poath & Kangaroo Roads, Hughesdale, (Melway: 69 C7)

November the 13th - 6.00pm until 7.30pm

If you’d like more information about Pathways to Independence, have a look at our website page!


or 📞 Ruth Harris on 0428490260. Email ruth.harris@abilityemployment.com.au

Peter Symonds on 0418137980 Email peter.symonds@abilityemployment.com.au
The DVD from the school’s Performance Night is now available for parents to purchase from the school.
The cost is $10, please complete the attached form and return to school with the money in an envelope.

Student Name:__________________________________________________

Number of copies of Awards and Performance Night DVD:____________________