Dear Parents/ Carers

Congratulations to our new School Captains who were elected by staff and students. Last Tuesday we heard from all the candidates who addressed a whole school assembly. I was really impressed by the speeches and the confidence students showed speaking in front of a large audience.

I met with the Captains later in the week and outlined their duties and spoke about how they could help mentor younger students. They also generously volunteered to run a number of clinics during lunch time.

The following students will receive their badges and certificates at the Annual General Meeting of School Council Captains:
Ruby Edhouse, Thomas Hart.
Vice Captains: Sheridan Browne, Thomas Stenhouse

Annual General Meeting:
Invitations will be sent out this week to the Annual General Meeting of School Council. Featured at the meeting are music and dance performances and student and teacher reports about activities throughout 2013 & 2014.

I hope you will be able to attend on Wednesday 26th March at 6.30pm.

Student Support Groups:
Each of the Sub Schools will hold Student Support Groups and discuss Individual Learning Plans. Sub School Managers will contact you to organise a suitable time to meet to discuss student plans. Please be aware that we will be using our new Reporta Pro System which reflects AusVels required reporting areas.

Beyond the Schools Gates:
Our Barista course starting this week and we have students from a variety of Special Schools and Secondary Colleges attending this program.

The Media Course is fantastic and we saw the students this week acting as Current Affairs reporters. Some of this will be shown at the Annual General Meeting. Students also enjoy socialising with the students from different schools and share lunch together at Federation Square.

The Social Skills Course has also just begun and this proved to be a much appreciated program in 2013.

Girls Camp:
Ten of our girls will attend a special girl’s camp this week sponsored by Beyond the School Gates. They will be investigating Respectful Relationships and will have presenters from DEECD, Bayside Council and Community Police who raise issues of cyber safety, community safety and health issues. They will also have sessions with a Nutritionist, Personal Trainer and Yoga teacher. We look forward hearing about how they enjoyed the camp in the next Newsletter.

School Fees:
Please remember to pay your fees prior to the end of term.

Holiday Program at Berendale:
Please see the brochure for the Holiday Program attached to this newsletter.

Have a great week,
Regards
Paula Barnett
School captains

On Tuesday morning all of our nominees gave their campaign speeches in front of the whole school. It was a nerve wrackng experience but in general, when we discussed it afterwards we were all proud of ourselves and each other.

Lastly, we would like to say congratulations to all of the nominees and especially our newly elected Captains, Thomas Hart and Ruby Edhouse and Vice captains, Thomas Stenhouse and Sheraton Browne.

From the students of SS3
WELFARE MATTERS

Student Wellbeing

From 1st January 2014 the Medicare Teen Dental Program will be replaced with the Child Dental Benefits Schedule. The same eligibility applies and services include basic dental treatment with benefits capped at $1000 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.

Bayside Youth Services Holiday Programs

Bookings for the Bayside Xtreme Teen Holiday Program open this Thursday 20th March. Bookings are essential for this excellent program as places are strictly limited. All bookings are to be made online at www.bayside.vic.gov.au/youth where you can also view the wide range of activities available and the cost involved. Please contact the youth team on 9599 4622 if you have any questions.

Razza-Ma-Tazz Tickets

A reminder that all requests for tickets to this amazing show must be returned to your class teacher by Thursday 20th March. Because of the popularity of the show there is always a huge demand for tickets, therefore NO late requests can be accepted unfortunately.

Parent Support & Information

The Extended Families Program provides flexible, volunteer based support for children with disabilities aged 6 – 17 years who experience barriers to participation in sport, recreation and leisure. The volunteers are matched closely to the needs and interests of each child and their family. Volunteers can usually provide 2-4 hours each week to support the young person. There is no cost to families aside from activity costs. Please contact Rachel De Summa on 92895 4839 or email Rachel on rachel@extendedfamilies.org.au or visit their website: www.extendedfamilies.org.au

A reminder that two excellent publications are available from the school or online at www.moira.org.au ‘Time for a Break’ is a comprehensive guide to respite care and recreation-al services, while ‘Compass’ is a guide to a range of services and support options for young people with disabilities and their families. Just let us know if you would like a copy of either or both booklets.

Paramedics at Berendale

From next Monday 24th March until the end of Term 2 we will once again have a group of Monash University student paramedics assisting staff and students with daily activities. This program has been running for three years now, and has benefits for the school through the support given, and for the paramedics who learn a great deal about young people with disabilities. Please give me a call if you would like to know more about the program.

Dr Maree McCutcheon (Student Wellbeing & Family Support)
We are heading into Autumn and the weather has begun to cool, just a little. Your footy team, should you have one, may have won its first game over the weekend and if so, congratulations! (secretly GO TIGE’S) So yes, the year has started to crank up and things are happening. If you’re unsure of everything, just download the Konnective App and check out everything that’s happening at Berendale, it’s quick way of finding out.

One thing that’s about to happen is the AGM on the 26th March where you’ll find out who’s on the council and whether you can put up with me as President for another year! If so, I hope I do more than last year, I should do as I’ve learnt from last year. I also look forward to new council members and meeting everyone for the first time this year as I was unable to attend the welcome barbeque.

Thank you to all those wonderful parents who have paid their fees, this year’s budget is starting to look more black than red.

Sincerely,

Kon Peltekis
School Council President.
Berendale.
Year 9 Lawn Bowls

On Thursday 27th February the Year 9’s went to the Brighton Indoor Lawn Bowls. Maurice showed us how to bowl and explained the rules.

We played for an hour and had such good fun that we are going back soon.

Yr 9 Students SS2.
CPR  Resuscitate a mate

On Thursday 20th February Andrew from Life Saving Victoria came to the year 9’s and spoke about the basic procedures of resuscitate a mate we learnt about the ways to help a patient and keep them safe.
Students from sub school 2 have been volunteering their horticultural services to the local community. Following a letter drop to houses near to the school students commenced work at an elderly ladies house that required the removal of overgrown shrubs and climbers. She was amazed at the quality of the work undertaken and enjoyed having our students working in her garden. Below is a letter that she sent to the school.

If any other member of the school community knows of an elderly or frail relative who would benefit from our students horticultural services than please contact the school office. Anne Claydon Horticulture Trainer

---

2 Mapoam St.
4/3/14

Berendale School Horticultural Volunteer Group

Dear Students & Teachers,

I would like to thank the teachers, Ann & Annie and any others involved, also the boys & girls who did a wonderful job cleaning my very overgrown garden. I can start again with a new look.

I very much enjoyed having them all here and I know they enjoyed it too. If I can be of any help to the school please let me know.

Thanking you all,

Lois Eden
As part of our sub one Art Program, we visited the Sand Sculpture exhibition at Frankston. The theme this year was Fantasy Stories from Storyland. Fun was had by all.
Early this month our Tuesday Subschool 2 group doing “Discover Melbourne/Travel Training” took a trip on the Melbourne Star Observation Wheel. This gave us a greater appreciation of the layout of Melbourne and its relationship to the bay. Although most students were a little apprehensive at first, everyone enjoyed the ride and appreciated the great view. Here are our student’s comments.

Sarina: It was fun. I liked the view of Westgate Bridge
Jack: It was great.
Ilai: It was good. The view of Melbourne and the bay was great.
Lewis: It was the best time I have ever had going out with the school group.
Angel: I loved the wheel. It didn’t scare me even though it looked so high before we got on it.
Alex: It was good. I wasn’t scared
Sarah Rae: It was scary but then I got used to it and it was great looking out over the city.
Ben: I wasn’t nervous at all
Sam: I quite liked it but I thought it could be cheaper. Lucky we got it at the education group price.
HEALTH

“Healthy Teens” School Holiday Program

> Get fit and have fun!
> Hang out with friends and meet new people.
> Nutritious lunches provided.

PROGRAM INFORMATION
In conjunction with Kingston City Council, Beyond the School Gates has developed this exciting new program for students aged 14+. The focus of this 3-day school holiday program is on being active, having fun, developing healthy lifestyle habits, and learning that exercise and healthy eating doesn’t have to be boring. In fact, quite the opposite is true!

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
- Secondary school students aged 14 – 18 years
- A recognised Learning Difference (e.g. Autism, Severe Language Learning Disorder, intellectual disability)
- Live or go to school in the Bayside, Glen Eira, Kingston or Port Phillip region.
- Supervision is provided but not one-on-one care, so students must be able to participate independently.

DATES, TIME AND LOCATION
- Dates: Wed 9th, Thu 10th, Fri 11th April.
- Time: 9.30am – 3.00 pm.
- Location: Berendale School (2 Berend Street, Hampton East).

DRESS CODE/COST
- Comfortable clothing that enables movement is essential. Runners/trainers are highly recommended.
- The cost of this program is $30, payable in cash to Brooke Wachter (Beyond the School Gates) on the first day of the program. Lunch on each day is included as well as fruit for morning tea.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS
During the program, students will get the opportunity to participate in the following activities facilitated by experienced staff:
- Circus Skills
- Group Fitness Training
- Treasure Hunt
- Nutrition/cooking classes
- Social coaching
- Drama
- Dance

BOOKINGS
Please book online and download permission forms at www.beyondtheschoolgates.org.au
Select “Health.” Select “Healthy Teens School Holiday Program”.
Places are strictly limited and bookings close on Fri 28 March.
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