Dear Parent/Carers

Two weeks ago I attended the Asia Pacific Congress for Inclusive Schooling where I presented a workshop on Beyond the School Gates. It was well received as an innovative program and this was further augmented by our program being featured in Tony Shaddocks' keynote address at the Congress.

Last week I was contacted by a Principal from the UK who wanted to know more about our Transition and Work Education programs and we will set up an exchange of professional knowledge and skills. Our reputation is growing on a wider basis and I am eager to learn more and set up links when I travel to USA on my Fellowship later in the year.

It was also great to share Curriculum Day with Katandra School and complete First Aid qualifications and learn more about Staff Performance and Development. Thank you to Katandra for organising the First Aid and for their generous hospitality. Thank you to Seth and Kylie for organising Staff Performance activities.

This week some of the Year 7s will be attending a Camp at Sovereign Hill. Fortunately it looks like clear skies and warm weather for the camp. Thank you very much to the staff who are attending as it is a big commitment organising and being away from their own families as well as being on duty 24 hours a day.

Principal Association Specialists Schools Presentation:

This week 5 of our staff will present a workshop at the PASS Conference in Yarra Valley. The presentation ‘Employability- Myth or Reality’ investigates the perceptions and practices that assist all students to enter into supported, part time, full time employment or voluntary work. An essential part of the presentation is the belief that students with disabilities can work.

Twilight Forum: 29th May. EARLY FINISH AT 1.00PM.

Just a reminder that all students will be dismissed at 1.00pm on 29th May so that staff can attend the Twilight Forum, ‘Making Transition Work’ This forum is part of our program Partnerships For Learning and we will be sharing the day with Montague, Yarrabah and Southern Autistic Schools. We have a fantastic program and we have over 200 staff from the schools attending.

Volunteers Needed:

We need a group of parents whose children have engaged in Beyond the School Gates activities to help with an evaluation focus group. The activity will be held at Hemisphere, Homespun TAFE on Thursday 29th May at 1.00 pm. Some of the programs run by Beyond the Schools Gates are, Self Defence, Industry Explorer, Sex Education, Mindfulness, Barista Training, Social Skills Training, Media Training, Combined Special Schools Dance Party and Respectful Relationships Girls Program. Please let me know if you can assist us by talking about the impact of programs on your son or daughter by ringing the school on 95556141.

School Fees:

We would really appreciate prompt payment of fees which are now due. Please contact school if you are having any financial difficulties.

Have a great week,

Regards

Paula Barnett
Parent Support & Information

Marriott Support Services are running an information evening on ‘Powers of Attorney and Guardianship’. It will be conducted by Jacinta Thorne from the Office of the Public Advocate. The session will be held at Marriott House, 100 Wheatley Road, McKinnon on Wednesday 28th May from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. RSVP by 21st May to events@marriott.org.au or call Naomi on 9555 0777. Berendale parents and carers are welcome to attend. Later in the year we will also hold a similar information evening for our parents, and conducted by a local legal firm with expertise in planning and advising parents of a young person with a disability.

An ongoing reminder that we have copies of MOIRA’s 2014 publications; ‘Time for a Break’ which features respite, recreation and services, and ‘Compass’ which outlines services for people with disabilities. Please let us know if you would like copies.

Youth Services

Both Bayside and Kingston Youth Services continue to work with our students. They provide us with some excellent school based programs which are tailored to our students needs. They provide camps, holiday programs and after school activities. They also provide counselling and support on an individual basis. Please let me know if you would like to access these services for your son or daughter.

Coughs, Colds and Asthma

Coughs, colds and the flu are some of the most common triggers of asthma. A flu vaccination will help protect your child. You and your student may be eligible for a free flu vaccination so please check with your doctor. Also when buying medications or herbal and natural remedies, please get advice from your doctor or pharmacist as some medications can react with asthma medications.

Please ensure that if required your student has their medication at school and that it is in date. A further request that your student’s asthma management plan is kept up to date. Thanks for your co-operation.

Men’s Health and Wellbeing Forum – City of Kingston

A reminder that the mens’ forum on mens’ health and coping with stress will be held at the Clarinda Community Centre, 58B Viney Street, Clarinda on Thursday 22nd May from 7 to 9pm. RSVP by the 16th May to Sue 9581 4647/ 0418 325 049 or reception 1300 369 436.

Paramedics at Berendale

Once again we have been fortunate in having a number of Monash Paramedic students on placement at Berendale. The students work across the school assisting staff and students with their daily activities. These young people bring energy and commitment to their tasks, and provide excellent role models for our students.

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

I was recently alerted by my phone that I had a message, I was delighted to see that I had a message from my Konnective APP to let me know about the Beyond The School Gates Dance Party which is going to take place on June 20th at the Beaumaris Community Centre. So get down and funky with all of the groovy dudes & dudettes from Yarrabah, Port Phillip Montague schools and bust a move or two without busting a gut or bone!

On the 5th May, we had an excellent day at home trying out our new culinary skills as it was curriculum day, I hope all went as well as expected.

Thank you to all those good people who have paid the school fees and allowed for assistance with planning of the years budget, keep up the great works mums & dads.

Good luck to all of those who are preparing for the school camps, I look forward to hearing about all of the great adventures and seeing the wonderful photos.

Yours Sincerely,

Kon Peltekis.
Berendale School Council President.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 21st May</td>
<td>6.00 pm</td>
<td>School Council Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 29th May</td>
<td>1.00 pm Finish</td>
<td>Combined Forum with other Special Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 3rd June 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>

**Uniform Orders**

School uniforms will be ordered from PSW once this term. I will send off the orders on May 30th.
Excursion to Monash University

On Thursday the 3rd April our IT class went on an excursion to the Museum of Computing history at the Monash University Caulfield Campus.

We were taken on a tour of the museum by the tour guide Dr Judy Sheard who is the senior Lecturer of information technology at the university. She showed us The Millionaire a very rare, geared mechanical calculator from the year 1900 manufactured in Switzerland by Hans Egli. She also showed us the Ferranti Sirius computer which was the first computer acquired by Monash University in 1962. It was an English computer with acoustic delay line memory used in the Monash University Computer Centre.

We were given a quiz to complete which we had to find the answers around the museum. At the end of the tour we were given a show bag with an information sheet about the computers in the 20th century as well as a pen and a mobile phone sock holder.

We all enjoyed learning about the history of computers

written by James and Arnold
INFORMATION EVENING

TAKE CONTROL – POWERS OF ATTORNEY & GUARDIANSHIP

Guest Speaker

Jacinta Thorne from the Office of the Public Advocate will outline the importance of powers of attorney.

Powers of attorney are documents that let you choose someone who can make decisions for you if you become unable to make decisions for yourself.

Information and Discussion

The types of powers of attorney: medical, financial, legal and lifestyle decisions.

Why it is important for everyone over the age of 18 to appoint powers of attorney.

How to appoint powers of attorney.

Presentation Details

Date: Wednesday 28th May 2014
Time: 7.00pm - 8.30pm
Venue: Marriott House, 100 Wheatley Road, McKinnon
RSVP: By 21st May to events@marriott.org.au or call Naomi on 9555 0777

MARRIOTT SUPPORT SERVICES
your options • your life
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