Dear Parents/ Carers

Thank you very much for your attendance at both the Information Night and Student Support Groups Meetings. It is so important to have contact between staff and parents. If you have not yet met with your class teacher please ring the office to make an appointment.

School Council met last Wednesday for the first time this year. We welcomed new councillors Kirsty Berthelsen (parent) and Janet Smith (staff). We have a very professional and active council led by Kon Peltekis as School Council President. It is a very approachable group who work as your representative. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact one of the councillors.

Our next big event is the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 25th March. The evening will revolve around student performances and staff and student reports. We will celebrate our achievements and discuss the direction the school will take over the next 4 years. I hope you can be a part of this important night.

**Working Bee:**

We will hold a working bee at the school on Saturday 14th March from 8.30- 2.00 pm.

We have some tasks designated for the day including, levelling the cricket pitch, painting, fixing up the shed door, cleaning out store rooms, general gardening, preparing morning tea and lunch for the workers. If you would like to help us out please fill out the attached form and return it to school by 6th March. Could you clearly indicate which area you would like to work in.

We would like a carpenter if possible to work on the shed door frame. We would also like someone who can drive or has a bobcat to level out the cricket pitch.

**Dance Party:**

Don't forget the Combined Special School Dance Party on Friday March 20th. We currently only have about 20 replies. If you are finding it difficult to book on the web site please forward the dance party return slip to school as soon as possible.

P.T.O.
Tiara Project:

Berendale School will be taking over the Tiara Project which is the service that hires out dresses for Deb Balls and formals. We will use the project as a work skill area for students as they will help to run the enterprise. We are housing the dresses in the old RTO building at the rear of the school. We are excited about helping others and also learning valuable work skills in retail, administration and customer service. The Project should be located on our site from Term 2.

Fund Raising:

Berendale School are looking to start up a parent run fund raising committee this year. There are so many areas where extra funds would enhance and assist our current programs. If you are interested in being part of this committee contact the office and leave your details.

Conference:

Kylie Scott and I will be attending the Principal Network Conference next Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Could you please issues or concerns to Sub School Managers in our absence.

Have a great week

Regards

Paula

Principal
WELFARE MATTERS

Parent Support and Information

Parents may be aware that you have access to carer respite and support. Please visit www.respitesouth.org.au for more information. This website is a resource for parents providing options for respite, or you can call 1800 052 222 to discuss your needs. We also have brochures available at school. So if you would like one please put a note in your student’s diary or give me a call on 9555 6141 Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday.

Two excellent booklets are also available from the school or online at www.moira.org.au ‘Time for a Break’ 2015 is a comprehensive guide to respite care and recreational services, while ‘Compass’ is a guide to a range of services and support options for young people with disabilities and their families. Please let us know if you would like a copy of either one or both booklets.

Tickets to Razz-Ma-Tazz

Berendale students and their families have again been offered free tickets to ‘Razz-Ma-Tazz’ a wonderful live theatre show featuring clowns, jugglers, acrobats, puppetry and much, much more. Further information and a request for tickets will be sent home later this week.

StKilda Memberships

We still have some family and youth memberships available free to our Berendale students and their families. Each family membership consists of 2 adults and 4 children and comes with a scarf for the adults and a junior membership backpack for each of the children. (The children’s tickets can be used by relatives or family friends). The youth membership also comes with a scarf. Please let me know if you would like either a family or youth membership package. Again our thanks to Mary Summers for making this possible.

Tax File Number (TFN) - Secondary School Program

Unfortunately the TFN School Program was withdrawn by the ATO as the end of 2014 due to increased security around the verification process. Now students requiring a TFN for work experience, part-time work etc. can apply online at ato.gov.au and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post Office. For further information call 1300 130 282 or give me a call if you would like assistance with the new process.

Student ID

For a young person still at school proving your identity can sometimes be difficult. A Proof of Age card is available to students 17+ years, and the school can help you with this application. Younger students can be issued with an ID card through the school. This card can be very useful in proving age e.g. for movies etc. Please contact the school if you would like more information, or to request a Student ID Card.

Camp Diversity 2015

Applications for the upcoming Camp Diversity at the Lord Somers Camp April 17th – 19th are now open. This camp caters for young people with disabilities aged 16+ years. This is always a very popular fun packed weekend. So if you are interested in your student attending please let me know immediately as the camp is usually booked out well in advance. Please note there will be a second camp held in August at the same venue.

Dr Maree McCutcheon (Student Wellbeing & Family Support)
$550 for school fees was paid into the school account on February 2. There was no identification, the amount was transferred from the NAB bank. Can you please phone the office if this was you.

### Uniform Orders

School uniforms will be ordered from PSW once a term. I will send off the orders on March 6th.

### IMPORTANT DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 9th March 2015</td>
<td>Holiday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 20th March 2015</td>
<td>6:00 pm to 8:00 pm</td>
<td>Labour Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 27th March 2015</td>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>End of Term 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 13th April 2015</td>
<td></td>
<td>Start of Term 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 20th April 2015</td>
<td>No students to attend school</td>
<td>Curriculum Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 11th May 2015</td>
<td></td>
<td>Photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 8th June 2015</td>
<td>Holiday</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 26th June 2015</td>
<td></td>
<td>School Reports to go home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 26th June 2015</td>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>End of Term 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 13th July 2015</td>
<td></td>
<td>Start of Term 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 18th September 2015</td>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>End of Term 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 5th October 2015</td>
<td></td>
<td>Start of Term 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 12th October 2015</td>
<td></td>
<td>Year 12 Queensland Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 1st December 2015</td>
<td></td>
<td>Year 12 Graduation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 18th December 2015</td>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
<td>End of term 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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I’m delighted that Berendale will now have the Tiara project under it’s care. For those of you that are attending the debutants ball, beautiful attire for that special evening will be made available by the school. Preparations are being made to store ball gowns and accessories to be made available both internally and externally.

The AGM will take place on the 25th March and it is hoped that everyone can make it, look forward to seeing you all there for the presentation.

Welcome again to those new parents and children who I have noticed on the bus and in the yard, great to see the new smiles! Thanks heaps.

Keep smiling,

Kon Peltekis
School Council President
New lines painted on all the basketball courts
Sub School 2

On Wednesday the 4th of February the year 9s/10s did the first travel training for 2015. We travel trained into city on the train and went to Federation Square. We walked to the Information Centre, travel trained to Melbourne Central for lunch, visited Melbourne Town Hall and Collins Street Arcade.
We were privileged to welcome six St.Kilda players to our Friday Recreation and Leisure program on Friday 20th February.

They kept our students mesmerised during a question and answer session in the hall.

The height difference between two of our students and the players was very noticeable.
After our students exhausted every football related question possible everyone took to the oval for an exciting afternoon of football.
The afternoon was brought to a close with signing signatures before the players left to visit another local school.

Thank you St. Kilda for a memorable afternoon, we enjoyed having you visit Berendale.
Employability Skills

On Thursday 26th February a group of students from the Year 7, 8 and 9 Employability Skills Program visited Garden World. Their aim was to explore the world of employability options in one superstore. Here’s a snapshot of what they found.

- Stock control and shelf stacking.
- Gift wrapping.
- Giving information and advice.
- Operating the tills.
There were many specialty plants that require careful handling and maintaining. The Bonsai tree and tropical plant display were fantastic.

There was a florist department.

We saw a new area being created. The man was using a machine to create a hard surface.

In addition to the many job opportunities relating to the sale of plants and garden supplies the students listed many maintenance roles and hospitality and catering positions. We were surprised to list the numerous employability options at Garden World.
On Wednesday the 4\textsuperscript{th} of February the year 10s went to the immigration museum and we walked around the museum and we tried some old clothes on and everyone got a passport.

We made a passport about our family history. It was fun dressing up in clothes representing a country.
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 you and running with Konnective.

Paula Barnett
Principal
Dance Party

Date: Friday 20th March

Time: 6:00 pm—8:00 pm

Location: Beaumaris Community Centre
Reserve Road
(Enter Beaumaris Library)

Please fill in and return to school if you have not booked online.

I will be attending the dance Party

Name:___________________________________________________________

School:___________________________________________________________

Parent Name:_____________________________________________________

Emergency Contact No: _____________________________________________

Signed:__________________________________________________________
WORKING BEE
BERENDALE SCHOOL
8:30AM
SATURDAY 14TH MARCH
MORNING TEA AND LUNCH PROVIDED

Name:_____________________________________________________________

I will work in

☐ Painting

☐ Carpentry

☐ Cleaning out Store Room

☐ Gardening

☐ Bobcat

☐ Catering

Signed ________________________________________________