

# Belvoir Special School Newsletter



38 Gayview Drive, Wodonga, 3690

Phone: 6059 8987

## COVID-19

Clearly the Coronavirus is dominating the thinking of all State and Federal authorities at the moment. Belvoir Special School has had no reports of Coronavirus. There are a number of staff and students who are choosing to remain at home and others who are taking a very cautious approach to coming to work or sending their children to school if they are feeling unwell.

Parents can be assured that unless they are following the advice or direction of health authorities to keep their child at home that they can continue to send their children to school. If parents make the decision to keep their children home as a precautionary measure only this is fine. It will be recorded differently in the absence column but parents need to let us know this is their choice.

Belvoir is beginning to prepare take home resource packs for students should the school need to be closed for an extended period of time. We do not believe that this will be necessary at present, but may be required in the future.

Attached to the newsletter is the latest information from the Chief Health Officer regarding school closures. This is the same information that was sent home to all families earlier in the week and our understanding is that the advice has not changed.

Staff continue to complete extra cross infection cleaning across the school and have been teaching students about personal hygiene as a priority over the past week. This will continue for the foreseeable future. A social story regarding Coronavirus has also been completed and is being used across the school.

At present there is minimal risk to students and staff at Belvoir, but given that many of our students are in the highest risk categories for COVID-19 we completely understand if parents keep students at home. If you would like advice regarding these decisions please feel free to give me a call at school.

## School Closure

In the event that Belvoir is required to close information will be distributed to parents through the school's Facebook page, all parent email accounts and a note will be sent home directly with students if the closure occurs during a school day.

Parents are asked to continually check these sources for information especially during the upcoming holidays. There are sure to be many changes between now and the 14<sup>th</sup> of April when school is expected to return.

## Individual Learning Plans

ILP's are being completed this week and will be sent home with all students from today onwards. Parents are asked to read through these documents and if there is a problem or anything that needs to be changed to please let us know as soon as possible.

Student ILP's are a legal document which need to be produced at least twice a year and are used to track student performance and learning towards set goals.

Whilst there are no support group meetings set for next term parents are able to request a meeting with their child's teacher to discuss any issues that may have arisen since the last SSG meeting in term one.

## Term One Holidays

A reminder to all parents that our school closes for the term one holidays on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 2:00pm. It has certainly been a very busy and different end to a term and we certainly hope that all families remain safe and healthy and can return to the school on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April when school is due to recommence for term two.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Last Day of Term 1

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March -

2pm Finish

### First day of Term 2

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April

## BUS NUMBERS

**BUS 1:** 0408691885**BUS 2:** 0417041196**BUS 3:** 0407563474**BUS 4:** 0408698635



## Department of Health and Human Services

50 Lonsdale Street  
Melbourne Victoria 3000  
Telephone: 1800 650 172  
GPO Box 4067  
Melbourne Victoria 3001  
[www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)  
DX 210081

### STATEMENT ON SCHOOL CLOSURES IN VICTORIA

**Dr Brett Sutton** MBBS MPHTM FAFPHM FRSPH FACTM MFTM

Victorian Chief Health Officer

Victorian Chief Human Biosecurity Officer

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The Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) met recently to consider the issue of school closures in relation to the community transmission of COVID-19.

The Committee's advice is that pre-emptive school closures are not likely to be proportionate or effective as a public health intervention to prevent community transmission of COVID-19 at this time.

As Victoria's Chief Health Officer and as a member of the AHPPC, I fully endorse this advice in relation to schools in Victoria.

There is currently limited information on the contribution of children to transmission of COVID-19. The WHO-China Joint Mission noted the primary role of household transmission and observed that children tended to be infected from adults.

Previous work suggests that the potential reduction in community transmission from pre-emptive school closures may be offset by the care arrangements that are in place for children who are not at school.

There is a particular risk associated with the fact that children may require care from vulnerable grandparents or may continue to associate (and transmit infection) outside of school settings.

Broadly, the health advice on school closures from previous respiratory epidemics shows the health costs are often underestimated and the benefits are overestimated.

This may be even more so in relation to COVID-19 as unlike influenza, the impact on otherwise healthy children has been minimal to date.

For pre-emptive school closures to be effective, prolonged closure is required and it would be unclear when they could be re-opened. If there were still a large pool of susceptible students when schools are re-opened, there would be likely to be re-emergence of transmission in the community.

School closures may still be considered late in the outbreak in anticipation of a peak in infection rates, for a shorter period of time. Short term reactive school closures may also be warranted to allow cleaning and contact tracing to occur.

Should evidence change in relation to school closures then my advice to the sector, in collaboration with AHPPC, would of course change also.

## **This weeks Purple Moments:**

### **Ian Room 6**

Nominated for making good choices, being respectful and working safely.

### **Servanda Room 12**

Nominated for making good choices.

### **Jordan G Room 13**

Nominated for making great choices in difficult situations.

### **Daniel Room 22**

Nominated for keeping himself and others safe by practising social skills in the orange pod playground.

### **Charlie H Room 16**

Nominated for following instructions by staying on task.

### **Blake Room 16**

Nominated for keeping himself and others safe by maintaining a safe learning environment.

### **Codey Room 7**

Nominated for following instructions and completing classroom activities.

### **Jett Room 6**

Nominated for following instructions and being safe whilst on our outing.

## **This weeks class of the week!**

***Room 13 was nominated this week as they have been very settled, staying on task and being supportive of each other. Well Done Room 13!!***

# **R3 at WMYC**

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*This year we have been excited to be a part of Wodonga Middle Years College - Felldimber campus. Our class is called R3 and we have been having a great time making new friends and learning new things. We have 16 students in our class and have forged some great friendships within the classroom and the whole school here.*

*We are learning the same things as we would at Belvoir, but we also get to participate in other activities like using the Stadium at the Leisure Centre and accessing dedicated cooking rooms. Next term we are able to participate in Woodwork, Metalwork, extra PE and other activities. Ronald has been lucky enough to make it into the school cricket team and he has tried out for the school football team too. He is waiting to hear if he made it through - there are some great sportspeople here to compete against, but Ronald is in with a good chance. We are very excited to have this opportunity.*

*The cooking program we participate in here is fabulous. We get to work in pairs at a bench each and create our own masterpieces. We are learning lots of cooking skills and practicing to be safe in the kitchen. We participated in the WMYC school swimming carnival where we even had bombing competitions...*



# **R3 at WMYC**



**We have just got back from Camp Week. We had day trips around the area. We explored Beechworth on Tuesday - Billsons Cordial Factory, The Lolly Shop, Bakery, Beechworth Gold and the Honey Shop. We baked bread and had movies and games at school on Wednesday. Thursday we went to the Albury pool and had a BBQ. It was nearly empty so it felt like we had it all to ourselves. Then Friday we went to the Great Aussie Resort where we canoed, played barrel games, had a go at Archery, jumped on the big pillow and then hung out at the pool. It has been a great camp!**





## *Room 17 News!*

What a busy term we've had in Room 17. We have been cooking once a week - making cookies, hamburgers, bread rolls, pasta bake and cake. During outings we had a meditation session with crystal bowls, visited the Hume Dam Wall and have seen turtles and fish. In literacy we have been working on who, what, where, why and how and are now busy creating our own stories. In Maths we worked on measurement, data, and numbers.



# Room 6 News

Room 6 have been busy the last couple of weeks. We went on our first Outing to Martin's Park. We have also been taking part in 'Learn to Play' sessions on a Tuesday which has been lots of fun and it encourages the boys to use their imagination. The boys thoroughly enjoy taking part in our Guided Reading sessions. This week we have been looking at 'My Bossy Dolly'. Some of our Mathematics concepts which we have been looking at are 'more and less, addition and subtraction and numbers.





# Room 11 News!

What a busy start to the year Room 11 have had. We have enjoyed sunny days at different parks around Albury/Wodonga and visiting Arnold's Fruit Market.

We enjoyed both the Wodonga and Albury libraries and got see to the Hairy McClary Exhibition. We borrowed books and love reading everyday. We are currently reading a very funny chapter book by the author Anh Do.

We have been focusing on number work and measurement. We have practiced counting on and using number lines for both addition and subtraction. We are enjoying measuring things in the classroom using different items including dinosaur footprints!

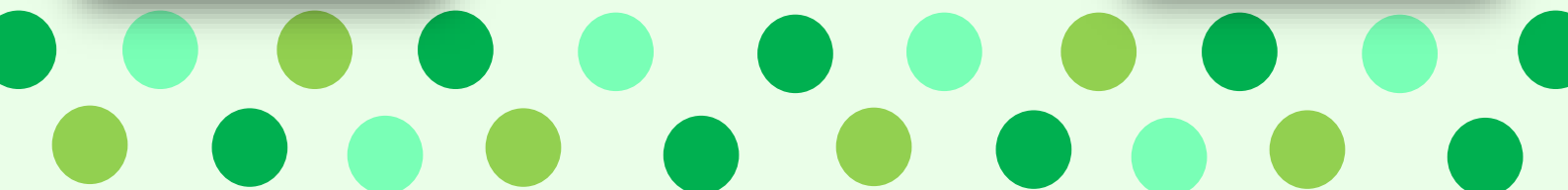
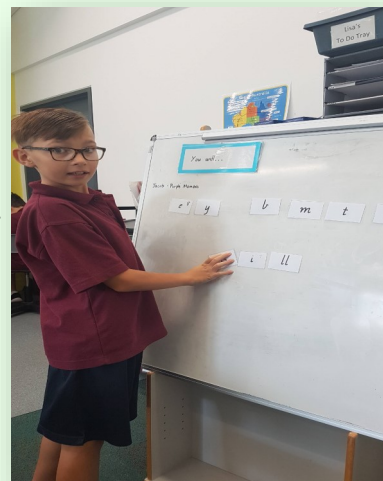
In health we have been learning major body parts and how our bodies and lives change as we move through different stages of life. This has been a topic of interest to most students and has led to some lively discussions.

In Bluearth we have been working with Room 10 to learn new games and practice our good sportsmanship, balance and motor skills. The swimming carnival was a huge success with everyone loving the water, having fun on the water slide and eating lots of sausages!



We have cooked pikelets, zucchini slice and cakes to celebrate Seth and Lachie's birthday.

We are working very hard to achieve our class reward before the end of term and were very pleased to be recognised as Class of the Week at assembly a few weeks back.



# Room 19 News!

*When I went to the shops with my Mum and my Nan there were no toilet paper. Not many people are coming to school. Things have been changing there are no outings or assemblies. -By Camron*

*I don't like cooking but we have to do it in Orange Pod. I have the coolest teachers in the world. The work is harder in Orange Pod. I have around 13 or 14 teachers, not like in purple pod. -By Tiana*

*We went fishing on our school outing. I fished with Curtiss but we didn't catch anything because there where zero fish. -By Cody*

*The work in Orange Pod is different to Purple Pod. On our outing I fished with Cody but there were no fish. I really like P.E with Ross because we play fun games. -By Curtiss*

*I like playing dodge ball in P.E -By Ben*

*At snack I like digging in the sandpit. -By Shannon*

*I'm new in Orange Pod it's been fun so far. On the outings we have been at the weir wall, on a fishing trip but there were NO FISH at all but we still had fun. We have been setting up assembly every Wednesday it's cool but it hurts my body after. -By Cassy*





Free for parents, students and staff of registered schools

How to get the school stream app on your mobile device

1. From your mobile device go to The App Store (iPhone/iPad) or Google Play (Android), search for School Stream and download the app to your phone
2. Once School Stream has finished installing, open the app, type your school name into the search THEN select your school
3. If you are prompted to accept push notifications, you will need to select OK



[stream/id680416544](https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/school-stream/id680416544)



[id=au.com.unlimitedofx.schoolstream](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=au.com.unlimitedofx.schoolstream)

## Check Out Our School's Web Page!

As many of you may already know, Belvoir has created a Web page. You can access the page by going on to <https://www.belvoirss.vic.edu.au/>

This page is used to promote events, share information and showcase achievements of classes and individual students. We would love for you to share this page with your friends and family so that everyone can see the great things happening in



**Belvoir Special School**

'Together we can'

### CONTACT DETAILS



Could all families please make sure that they inform the school office whenever they have any changes to any of their contact details e.g.. home/mobile

phone numbers, change of address etc.

**It's extremely important that we have up to date information in case of emergencies.**

### School Athletics - House Groups

Students, Staff and Parents are put into groups according to their surnames. Each group has a name and colour and its requested that everyone wears clothing the colour of the house they are allocated to.

<u>Surnames between</u>		<u>Colour</u>	<u>Name</u>
A-D	=	Red	-Mitta
E-K	=	Green	-Murray
L-Q	=	Blue	-Kiewa
R-Z	=	Yellow	-Hume

### Electronic Version of the Newsletter

Would you like to receive the school newsletter via email?

As our school is going green, to save on using excess paper we would like to offer you the option of having the newsletter sent to you electronically. If you like this idea please fill in and return the slip below to the office, or email Andrea at: [gray.andrea.j@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:gray.andrea.j@edumail.vic.gov.au)

Yes, I would like to have my weekly newsletter emailed to me:

Name: .....

Email address/s .....

## CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

Benoir SDS

School Name

School REF ID

### Parent/legal guardian details

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

First name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town/suburb \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number \_\_\_\_\_

Centrelink pensioner concession **OR** Health care card number (CRN)

-    -    -  **OR**

☐ Foster parent\* **OR** ☐ Veterans affairs pensioner (Gold Card)\*\*

\*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

\*\*Applicants must provide a copy of the Veteran Affairs Gold card

### Student details

Child's surname	Child's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
- information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and /or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

## CSEF ELIGIBILITY

Below is the criteria used to determine a student's eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

### Criteria 1 – Eligibility

To be eligible\* for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one, or;
  - on the first day of Term two.
- a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR
  - b) Be a temporary foster parent, and;
  - c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

\* A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see:

[www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx)

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

### Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and 17 years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and 18 years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooled, or TAFE.

### Eligibility Date

For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (28 January 2020) or term two (14 April 2020).

## PAYMENT AMOUNTS

### CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

- Primary school student rate: \$125 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: \$225 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to your child's school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

**For ungraded students**, the rate payable is determined by the student's date of birth. For more information, see:

[www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx)

**Year 7 government school students** who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Secondary schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents so please register your interest at the school.

## HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

### NOTE: ALL SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

1. Complete the PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN DETAILS section.  
Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.  
If you are claiming as a Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.
2. Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.
3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible. The CSEF program for 2020 closes on 26 June, 2020.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

**Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.**

**SATURDAY  
23<sup>RD</sup> MAY**

THE PRESTIGIOUS

# Jack Maher

CLASSIC

INCORPORATING THE BELVOIR SPECIAL SCHOOL

**FUNDRAISING  
LUNCH**

Belvoir Special School



RAISING MONEY FOR KIDS WITH A DISABILITY



**TABLES OF 8-10  
\$130pp**

INCLUDES: 2 Course meal, beer, wine & soft drink, prime viewing from the Deck plus Members area access after the event.

**WITH GUEST SPEAKERS DEBBIE KEPITIS  
PART OWNER OF RACING ROYALTY WINX**

PLUS former Belvoir student & Racing Wodonga media personality JACK MAHER

**TO PURCHASE TICKETS PLEASE VISIT  
WWW.COUNTRY.RACING.COM/WODONGA**  
OR PHONE RACING WODONGA ON 02 6056 1214



PRE-PURCHASE  
your raceday tickets at  
[country.racing.com/wodonga](http://country.racing.com/wodonga)



**Racing Wodonga**



**country racing**  
It's a Great Day Out