

Belvoir Special School Newsletter



38 Gayview Drive, WODONGA, 3690

If you can learn at home you must learn at home.

The reason for this was reiterated yesterday by Victoria's Chief Health Officer, Dr Brett Sutton, who stated:

"My advice to the Victorian Government was and continues to be that to slow the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), schools should undertake remote learning for term two.

This is because having around a million children and their parents in closer contact with teachers and other support staff has the potential to increase cases of Coronavirus not just in schools but across the community.

By having remote learning, it can contribute to physical distancing and therefore supports efforts to drive transmission down."

The transition into Term 2 has not been easy for anyone, but we should be reassured there is a very good reason to be taking this significant step.

Learning from Home

Thank you once again for the cooperation that all families have shown with the changes that we have been required to put in place to assist the health and safety of the whole community. I have said this every time I have sent updates home to families, but I truly mean it as I understand that for many families this is very difficult. Teachers will try to make home learning as easy as possible and provide you with as much support as possible.

Teachers will have been contacting all parents over the past two days to make sure that students have everything that they need. The feedback we have received from families so far has certainly been positive and we hope that this continues into the future.

Parents are reminded that if there is anything we can do to assist then please give us a call.

ICT Equipment

A reminder to all families that if you need to borrow either an iPad or Laptop for your students to use at home on home learning tasks then please contact the school and this can be arranged. You will need to sign a borrowing sheet and will be responsible for looking after the equipment and returning it when school eventually returns to normal. Jo is making sure that each Laptop or iPad is set up ready to go and will give you a few ideas on how to use it and offer some assistance if required.

PTO—>

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Learning at School

Despite what the Prime Minister has said, Belvoir Special School is a Victorian Government School and Victorian Government School policy is for all students to learn at home if possible. We do understand that there are a small number of students who may need to be at school due to parents working or they are at risk being at home. Due to Health reasons there are a number of staff who are unable to attend the school at all. Therefore, we have a limited number of staff on hand to work in the classrooms each day and we are rostering different staff in and out on a daily basis. In order to ensure we have enough staff at school parents are required to complete an application to attend school request each fortnight. These applications need to be completed before the next week so that a roster can be established.

Requests for weeks 3 and 4 of term (27th April to 9th May) will open on Monday and will close at 9:00am Thursday 23rd of April. Those families who are already accessing the school will also need to complete a new request form. These will be sent home with your child from Monday.

Please be aware that there is increased risk for both staff and students with regard to Coronavirus as the school has not got any protective equipment as yet. We have increased the amount of cleaning and

Finally

In an effort to keep things as normal as possible we will be having a newsletter each week. As you are aware our newsletters usually have an article from classrooms across the school each week. This is going to be very difficult to do given that most classrooms are operating remotely. Parents and Carers are asked to take some photos of their children working from home during the term and if they are happy for these to be included in the newsletter, send them through to your classroom teacher. They will then collate these and we will publish some of them in the newsletter each week. We will also have tips and hints on how you can improve learning from home and ideas for activities that can keep your children engaged. Again any ideas from parents that would assist others would be gratefully received.

BUS NUMBERS

BUS 1: 0408691885

BUS 2: 0417041196

BUS 3: 0407563474

BUS 4: 0408698635

UPCOMING EVENTS

School Council Meeting

Week 3—29th April

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.

Please contact Andrea or Neve on 6059 8987 if you have any changes.

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.

Surnames between

A-D = Red -Mitta

E-K = Green -Murray

L-Q = Blue -Kiewa

R-Z = Yellow -Hume

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 our school.

 **schoolstream**
A smart solution for smart schools

(<https://www.schoolstream.com.au>)




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

 (<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/school-stream/id680416544>)

 (<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=au.com.unlimitedfx.schoolstream>)

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

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

Name:

Email address/s