



Newsletter

6th March 2017

Bike and scooter storage area

It is wonderful to see so many of our students being active riding bikes and scooters to school. It is important that when they collect their bikes and scooters that they do not touch other peoples. A few weeks ago one of our new Foundation student's scooter had the handle taken off and they could not find it. He was obviously upset as he had just got the scooter for Christmas.

Also a reminder to all our students they are not to ride their scooters or bikes in the college grounds.

Everyday Counts

Included in this week's newsletter is an article from the Department of Education about the importance of students being at school. The article talks about each day missed is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy and literacy. Please take the time to read this article.

Foundation Rooms

Last week Mr Morris and I had a visit from representatives from region to discuss what can be done about the water damage when it rains heavily. Currently DET have employed an engineer to design a plan to fix this problem. They are now sourcing tenders from DET approved plumbing groups. They hope over the next couple of weeks to be able to inform us exactly what will be done and when.

Water Safety Week

I was fortunate enough to be able to go down and watch our Year 5 and 6 students participate in this event. The weather was definitely on our side and the students were able to participate in some amazing activities. Congratulations to the students who were extremely committed and showed a great deal of enthusiasm. Also a big thank you to Mr. Ho-garth for organising this event every year, I know the students at BJC love it.

10 Questions you can ask your children when they come home from school

It is so easy to fall into the trap of asking your child the same question every day. How was school today? Or what happened at school today? So I have included some questions you might like to put into your repertoire. At BJC we want to develop a growth mindset and we need our students to realise that they can learn from their experiences. How many of us make mistakes and promise ourselves "well, I will never do that again" or "next time I will try it this way". This is the attitude we want for our students so that they can learn from activities that didn't quite go the way they wanted. So over the next few weeks try using a few new questions.

1. What did you do at school today that made you think?
2. What happened today that made you keep going?
3. What can you learn from this?
4. What mistake did you make that taught you something?
5. What did you try hard at today?
6. What strategy are you going to try now?
7. What will you do today to challenge yourself?
8. What will you do to improve your work?
9. What will you do to improve your talent?
10. What will you do to solve this problem?

Kerry Griffin, Principal



Our Mission:

*To motivate to learn; to teach to think; to encourage to imagine,
and to show the compassion to care globally*



Primary Years
Programme



When placing your child's Subway orders please double check forms and ensure correct money is given as some prices have increased this year.

GYM HIRE

The school gym is now available for hire from Mondays through to Saturday.

Please contact Kate on 0419 371 527

In 2017 we will continue to use Compass School Manager as our main communication tool. We will no longer use the Tiqbiz App.



2017 Important Dates

Term 1

Monday 6th & Tuesday 7th March	School Photos
Tuesday 7th March	Prep Parent Early Numeracy 9.05am—10.05am
Friday 10th March	Whole School Assembly 9:15am
Monday 13th March	Labour Day Public Holiday
Wednesday 15th March	Bookclub Issue 2 Due
Wednesday 15th March	Prep Parent Early Literacy (Repeat) 9.05am—10.05am
Thursday 16th March	"Growing Up Online" Presentation Performing Arts Centre 5:30pm—7:00pm
Saturday 18th March	BCJ Fair
Friday 31st March	Last Day of Term 1 School Dismissed at 2:30pm

Term 2

Monday 17th April	Easter Monday Public Holiday
Tuesday 18th April	School Resumes for Term 2
NB: These dates are accurate at the time of publishing but may change according to school needs. Changes to this list will be published in future newsletters.	



Ride in Harmony – everyone belongs

Ride 2 School Day at Benton is happening on **Wednesday 29th March!**

Aim of R2S: more students coming actively to school more often!

This year we are celebrating by competing in **obstacle courses** and **coming actively to school** in our **house colours**. Active children go into the raffle to win a **Jones Cycles** drink bottle!

- **Students dress in house colours!**
- **Students can come actively to school:** walk, ride, skate or scoot. Come to school via your normal active route or meet at the beginning of an ACTIVEpath at approximately 8:20am. Teachers will be there to help supervise the masses and parents are encouraged to be active too! ATAs will be at the gates handing out stickers to all students.
- **Extra bike/scooter parking** will be available on the basketball court behind the gym.
- **Raffle tickets for active students**- given out by classroom teachers to active students
- **Hands up count** – classroom teachers will fill in
- **Obstacle course fun!** During the day, classes will participate in an obstacle course run by the ATA's.
- **Announcement at end of day:** we will announce the total number of active Benton kids, the most active class and raffle winners!

In primary school, some students miss on average 3 weeks of school per year. That's half a year of school by the end of year 6.



EVERY DAY COUNTS

Primary school attendance

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

Why it's important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Getting in early

Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It's vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

What we can do

The main reasons for absence are:

Sickness – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

It's vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term if it can be avoided.

"Day off" – Think twice before letting your child have a "day off" as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

Truancy – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent's permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don't fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.

- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child's school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Training Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:

www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx

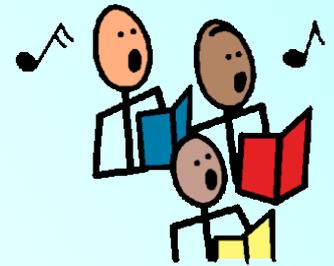
From the Music Room

Music has started brilliantly at Benton Junior College in 2017 with all Year levels displaying incredible enthusiasm and energy. The Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 children have been learning the Australian National Anthem and have impressed us with both their singing and their knowledge of what our national song means.



Once again the Artist of the Week is an eagerly anticipated part of the music program for Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children. This is where they have the opportunity to see and hear the music of an influential musician or singer as part of their lesson. Responding thoughtfully to music is a vital part of our curriculum. So far this year we have discussed acts as diverse as The Beach Boys, The Pretenders, R.E.M and Jessica Mauboy. The children's thoughts and opinions on these artists has been impressive and very interesting.

A reminder that the ensemble band must be ready to play on Mondays, Wednesdays and in particular Fridays at lunch break in the junior music room. Mrs Catford and Miss Smith have our choirs also beginning to rehearse and we cannot wait to hear from them very soon. They are always a highlight.



Ant Richards and Paul Seaman
Music teachers

Sports News

Students in Years 4, 5 and 6 have enjoyed Water Safety Week at Mills Beach.

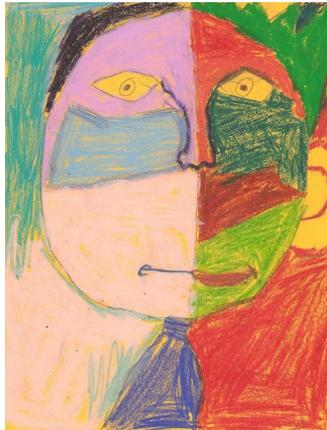




Come to our Art Show!

@ the Benton Fair Saturday 18th March

(in the Lloyd Poole Auditorium, where assemblies are held)



Come and view your child's self portrait that they have spent time and care creating during Art lessons this year. For only a gold coin donation! We hope to see you there. Don't forget we'll have the 'Guess the Teacher' Competition!

Mrs Marshall and Miss Hannan

日本の食べ物

Japanese food!

Japanese food is delicious and quite a healthy take-out choice. The Har-nath family sat down to an おいしい oishii/delicious Japanese dinner the other night. What types of Japanese food can you see them eating?

Feel free to send Mrs Jones a photo of your family enjoying Japanese cuisine too!

jones.adele.r@edumail.vic.gov.au



いただきます！ Itadakimasu/Let's eat!

ジョーンズ先生

Mrs Adele Jones

スミス先生

Mrs Thea Smith

シーマン先生

Mr Paul Seaman



Growing Up Online

Performing Arts Centre
Benton Junior College
Thursday 16 March, 5:30pm – 7:00pm

This school community presentation will be of interest to all families whose children will grow in an ever changing technological and digital world. Parents and guardians are encouraged to attend this free presentation sponsored by our school.

This informative and entertaining session for parents and carers is delivered with Susan's famous 'no nonsense' approach & will cover the positive benefits of technology as well as what parents need to be aware of:

What are kids doing online – The popular social networking sites and apps such as KiK, Musical.ly and Instagram. What they are, what are the legal ages to use them & why these rules should be obeyed. The difference between an 'online friend' and a 'stranger'.

Online Grooming – What is it and when/how does it occur? What are the warning signs & what to do if you suspect this is happening to your child.

Cyberbullying - What it is, where it happens, what it looks like, how to prevent and what to do if it occurs. Also the legal consequences and the possible criminal charges.

'Sexting' – the taking and sending of explicit images...what are the REAL consequences. (Primary school kids too).

Potential dangers and safety tips – how to assist the children in your care to stay safe online via parental controls and restriction passcodes.

Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner – Role, Resources & Reporting.

Be confident in setting rules and boundaries around internet use in the home. It's OK to say NO!

The session will conclude with time for questions.

For Parents, Guardians and School Staff



Susan Mclean is Australia's foremost expert in the area of Cybersafety and young people. She is a mother of three and was the first Victorian Police Officer appointed to a position involving Cybersafety and young people.

She took her first report of cyberbullying in 1994 and since then she has conducted extensive research and has completed advanced training in this area in both the USA and UK and is a sought after presenter and advisor to Schools, elite sporting bodies such as the AFL, GP's, and both State and Federal Governments.

She is a member of the National Centre Against Bullying (NCAB) Cybersafety Committee and is afforded 'expert' status on the Safer Internet Programme Data Base. She is also a member of the Australian Government's Cybersafety working group and a published author.

Her book 'Sext's Texts & Selfies', is the definitive parents' guide to helping their children stay safe online.

What Susan doesn't know about Cybersafety is not worth knowing! She is absolutely brilliant and her presentations are dynamic and entertaining. She has the unique ability to connect with each audience from young people to adults.

(Dr Michael Carr-Gregg Adolescent Psychologist)

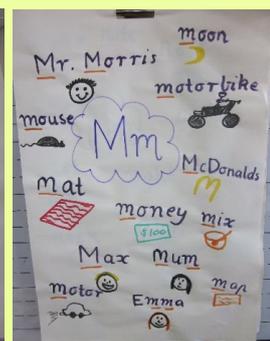
Welcome to Foundation!



The first few weeks of school have been full of fun and learning. The students are settling into the routines of the classroom, after a tricky start! Many of them have overcome hurdles like carrying heavy bags, opening lunch boxes and glad wrapped sandwiches. They are developing independence and confidence each day. Each Foundation class has been on a tour of the school to help them become familiar with the grounds and important places. We started our Buddy program with the Year Five students which is being enjoyed by all involved. Initially they will share information about themselves and eventually their buddies will become an extra support peer to help them in their learning and in the school ground.



We recently started our Unit of Inquiry under the Transdisciplinary Theme 'Who We Are' with the focus being 'The choices people make about their needs and behaviours affect personal health and wellbeing'. We will develop an understanding of what a healthy lifestyle is – healthy food, exercise and good relationships with friends, safe behaviour both at school and at home. The students will engage in a range of learning tasks to build on their understanding of how choices impact on their lives.



Promoting Student Wellbeing

Helping to Build Resilience

Adults sometimes look back on their childhood as a time when they were always happy, but life's ups and downs are a part of childhood too. Children need to build resilience skills to be able to both enjoy good times and deal with hard times. Helping children learn how to manage life's ups and downs and build their coping skills supports their mental health and wellbeing now and into the future. Feeling good protects mental health and wellbeing.

Did you know that experiencing positive emotions such as joy, pleasure and having fun are essential experiences for building and maintaining a healthy mind across our whole lives?

Skills and qualities that help children cope with life's ups and downs

Trust that the world is safe and that there are caring people to help them.

Belief in their ability to do things for themselves and achieve their goals.

Feeling good about themselves and feeling valued for who they are by their parents and carers.

Optimism that things generally turn out well.

Regulation- Ability to manage their feelings, thoughts and behaviours.

Children develop these skills and qualities and learn to keep a balance over time, initially through their experiences in coping with small stresses with help from supportive adults. When bigger stresses come along, even though at first they might feel quite distressed, children can draw on what they have learned about helping themselves to cope and feel better. Looking to others for support continues to be an effective way of coping.

How are your child's resilience skills developing?

Resilience is the ability to cope with life's ups and downs. Children's resilience is enhanced when they:

are loved by someone unconditionally

have an older person outside the home they can talk to about problems and feelings

are praised for doing things on their own and striving to achieve

can count on their family being there when needed

know someone they want to be like

believe things will turn out all right

have a sense of a power greater than themselves

are willing to try new things

feel that what they do makes a difference in how things turn out

like themselves

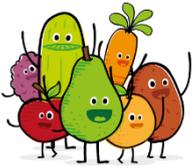
can focus on a task and stay with it

have a sense of humour

make goals and plans, both short and longer term

Kirsten Smith

Welfare



Nude Food Tuesdays at BJC



	WINNER PREP	WINNER YEAR 1	WINNER YEAR 2	WINNER YEAR 3	WINNER YEAR 4	WINNER YEAR 5	WINNER YEAR 6
TUESDAY 28 TH FEBRUARY	001- 90%	108- 56%	229- 48%	323- 57%	440- 39%	518- 39%	Water Safety
	WINNER!						
TUESDAY 7 TH MARCH							
TUESDAY 14 TH MARCH							
TUESDAY 21 ST MARCH							
TUESDAY 28 TH MARCH							

Remember!!

Every Tuesday, pack a nude food lunch box using packaging items that can be reused. Each week, the class that had the highest percentage of children with no rubbish in their lunch boxes will win the Pineapple Trophy and will get their name on Winners Board!

Well done to 001 for being this week's Nude Food class!



SATURDAY 18 MARCH 2017
10AM - 4PM

RAFFLE

OVER \$9,000
WORTH OF PRIZES
UP FOR GRABS!

ONLY \$1PER TICKET

Raffle tickets have been sent home.
There are more available at the main office.
Return your sold tickets before 11/3/17 to
enter the Super Salesperson Competition
to try & win a \$100 iTunes voucher

Don't miss out on the fun!

- Zorb Balls
- Cup and Saucer
- Inflatable Slide
- Jumping Castle
- Chair o Plane
- Dodgem Cars
- Cha Cha
- Inflatable Challenge



Unlimited amusement rides wristbands

\$30 on trybooking.com/242589. \$35 on the day*

* Single ride tickets also available on the day. * Cash purchases only on the day.
ATMS onsite

Please help make the BJC Fair amazing!

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**DAYS TO
GO**



We need help with the following working bees.
Please let bjcfair17@gmail.com know if you can help.

- Fri 17/3: erection of car park temporary fencing
- Sun 19/3: dismantling of car park temporary fencing
- Thurs 9/3: preparing cake stall information packs
- Fri 17/3: pricing plants for the plant stall
- Wk comm 13/3: sorting bric-a-brac donations
- Roster volunteers, and much more...

Please don't assume that someone else will do it!
If you would like to help, we'd love to hear from you.

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