



Newsletter

31st July 2017

Exciting Parking News!!

Over the January 2018 school holidays a gravel carpark will be constructed at the school. This is an exciting joint project with the Mornington Peninsula Shire and Benton Junior College. Our College Council President Mrs Kate Butterworth and Mr Eddie Dunn successfully applied for a grant late last year. This project was approved by the Shire for the 2017/18 financial year with the cost shared between the Shire and College. The carpark will be on Longwood Drive on the land that the council shares with us adjacent to the basketball court. The placement of the carpark site has been chosen to have as little impact on the student's use of the land as much as possible and to ensure consideration towards our neighbours. The Shire have had their engineers design the plan for the carpark and a copy of this is available in the office area at BJC for you to look at if you wish. The carpark will allow for off street parking for approximately 40 cars. The carpark will be gravel and is a basic one way design. The entrance to the carpark will be at the top end of Longwood Drive. This is due to safety reasons ensuring that when leaving the carpark drivers will have the best view of the driveway as possible. College Council would like to thank the Shire for working with them to help to alleviate the parking situation around BJC.

Staffing

Over the past few weeks we have had some staffing changes. We welcome back Mrs Foster from leave and if you get an opportunity, ask her about her exciting trip to Africa. We welcome CherylInn Playseed who has replaced Lisa Cuming, and Rebecca Holland who is replacing Thea Smith who has started her family leave.

Parent Survey

Over the next week a randomly selected group of parents will receive a letter to ask that they participate in this year's Parent Survey. 2017 Parent Opinion Survey will be conducted online between Monday 7 August 2017 and Sunday 27 August 2017.

What is new in the 2017 Parent Opinion Survey?

The refreshed survey is aligned with the new Student Attitudes to School Survey and three of the key priority areas outlined in the FISO (Framework for Improving Student Outcomes):

- excellence in teaching and learning
- positive climate for learning
- community engagement in learning

Like the Attitudes to School Survey, the Parent Opinion Survey is now online for faster turn-around time on results and improved data quality.

What are the benefits of the refreshed survey?

The survey will be administered from a secure online survey platform to provide the following benefits to schools and parents:

- the online survey provides flexibility for parents to complete the survey at any time that fits their own schedules
- schools and parents are no longer required to manage and return paper data forms
- schools will be able to access their own survey results from this portal after the survey has closed, shortening the turn-around time on survey results

Parent responses are confidential, and parents can be reassured that schools are unable to link responses to individuals. Schools will be responsible for directly contacting parents to invite them to participate, and providing them with the survey link.

Trivia Night

What a great night!! A big congratulations to our fundraising committee for organising a wonderful event. Everyone who attended had a fantastic time.

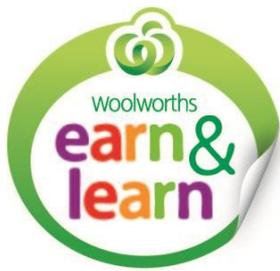
Kerry Griffin

Principal

Our Mission:

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





Woolworths Earn & Learn 2017

This year we will be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to get new educational resources for our school/early learning centre – and all we need you to do is shop for your groceries at Woolworths.

From Wednesday 26th July to Tuesday 19th September or while stock lasts, we are collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers. You will get one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every \$10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet and when it's complete, the Sticker Sheet can be dropped into the Collection Box here at the school or at your local Woolworths.

At the end of the promotion, we'll be able to get some great new equipment. The range is extensive and offers lots of items ideal for our students – including resources for Maths, English, Science and some fantastic fun supplies for Arts & Craft, Sport and for our library. If you'd like to know more visit:

woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

2017 Important Dates

Term 3

Wed 2nd August	Scholastic Book Club Issue 5 Due
Fri 4th August	Yr6 Family Life Sessions Payment Due
Thurs 10th August	Yr4 Mornington Secondary College Permission Due
Fri 11th, 18th & 25th August	Yr6 Family Life Sessions
Tues 15th & Thurs 17th	BJC Presents "Shrek the Musical JR"
Thurs 17th & Fri 18th August	Yr4 Mornington Secondary College
Mon 28th August	Yr1 Storytelling at Mornington Art Gallery Payment Due
Fri 1st September	Yr2 Melbourne Museum Payment Due
Mon 4th & Wed 6th September	Yr1 Storytelling at Mornington Art Gallery
Thurs 7th & Fri 8th September	Yr2 Melbourne Museum
Fri 8th September	Reach Rookys #3 Payment Due
Fri 15th September	Yr6 Reach Rookys #3
Fri 22nd September	Last Day of Term 3 2:30pm Dismissal

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.

Asbestos School Audit

Recently our school was reviewed by a specialist hygienist for Asbestos containing materials. The hygienist inspected our school buildings, furniture and equipment during a three day visit last week and sent for further analysis materials that may potentially contain asbestos. The materials tested included two cement sheets, one masonry sheet, shelves in the school kiln and rope on the inside of our school's fire proof safe.

We have now received the final analysis of these materials and are pleased to report, consistent with previous asbestos reviews at our school, that there was no asbestos containing materials identified. The temporary signs placed on buildings during the testing have all been removed.



Benton's Young Artists Represent!

Over the school holidays Ethan from class 225 entered an online art competition for the YouTube channel, Art for Kids Hub. His work was incredibly well received by the creators of the channel and he was awarded a winning prize. Look at all of the bright colours of the USA's Independence Day fireworks and how nicely they contrast with the pitch-black night.



Ethan said this piece took him a whole day to complete. Congratulations, Ethan! We are all incredibly proud of you!



Art for Kids Hub is an online channel with the creators based in the United States. It is a wonderful place to go and have a look at some 'how to' drawing guides where you can refine your artistic skills. They are enthusiastic about all types of artwork and encouraging kids and their families to create art together!

<https://www.youtube.com/user/ArtforKidsHub>

We also had some wonderful local representations of our students' artworks down at Benton Square Shopping Centre over the winter holidays. Sixty pieces snapshotting a range of works from Foundation to Year Six were on display alongside other local primary schools. We are incredibly lucky to have such creative and enthusiastic students at Benton Junior College who create artworks of which they can be extremely proud, I know Mrs Marshall and I are!

Here you can see a tiger created by one of our Year One students, Rufus. All selected pieces showed care and time, just like you can see in Rufus' artwork.



The Rotary Club of Mornington asks Benton Junior College each year to participate in this mini-gallery and we are thrilled each time! We know how much excitement and pride is generated through the display and acknowledgement of our students' hard work.

Thank you to Ethan and Rufus' families for sharing these pictures with us.

Emma Hannan and Michele Marshall

Art Teachers



YEAR SIX UPDATE

EXHIBITION

Sharing the Planet

The Year Six students have started working on their PYP Exhibition, which is an individual unit of inquiry that they design, plan, organise and present according to their own interests and passions. It is an exciting opportunity to showcase the skills and understandings that they have developed over their years at primary school. The students have been collaborating with their peers to form their Lines of Inquiry and they will be having their first mentor meetings this week. Our Exhibition will be on display for the whole school community in September, so stay tuned for more information. In the meantime, here are some photos of our fabulous inquirers, hard at work and play!



Primary Years
Programme

A visit from Everest!



Last week we welcomed an unlikely but extremely cute visitor to our school. Everest is a puppy in training for a VERY special job...one day he will hopefully become an assistance dog to a child that has a disability. Every person with a four legged best friend knows the benefits of their unconditional love and loyalty. Now imagine a dog that is loving, loyal and has been expertly trained to help a child.

Mrs Emma Limpens, one of our relief teacher here at Benton Junior College and her family have the enormous and very rewarding task of raising a puppy.

Everest is being trained to keep children calm and reduce melt-downs, particularly for children with autism; Mrs Limpens explained to us that Everest will act like an “anchor” to keep the child safe. He is also being raised to help children sleep better, reduce anxiety and build communication. Most importantly, imagine the comfort and companionship that DKD dogs provide. We thoroughly enjoyed our visit and we can't wait to see Everest up in our classrooms again soon.



Stella Pays it Forward!



We were really proud to hear of Stella's great idea to 'Pay it Forward' during our Cadbury Fundraiser. Stella's actions displayed the perfect combination of our Learner Profiles and Attitudes, to brighten the day of staff at the Box Hill Hospital during what was a tough time for them. Here's some words from Stella to explain it a bit more...

From the school, I took home the chocolate fundraising box to sell and buy chocolates. When I took the chocolates home Mum, Dad and I had this idea of donating them to people in need. Mum wanted us to start with the Box Hill Hospital where sadly a surgeon was hurt. We got people to donate money for the chocolate fundraiser so we could come into the hospital and give out chocolates to the nurses, doctors and paramedics to say thankyou for what they do and to brighten their day. This links to

action time, sharing and caring for people in the community. Thankyou to everyone who donated money and thankyou to the people at Box Hill Hospital for helping the community. This was an awesome experience and I encourage everyone to show compassion in their community too. - Stella F

AWESOME WORK STELLA!

FUNDRAISING REPORT

What an exciting couple of months it's been! Towards the end of last term, Crazy Hair Day raised \$833.80 and sales from Hot Dog Day raised \$1877.55, plus the Cadbury Chocolate Drive raised over \$8000! Together we have all helped to raise well over \$10,000 just from these 3 events!

The total funds raised from the Trivia Night last Friday was just under \$7,500! We'd like to say a big thank you to all staff, students, parents, businesses and of course our hard-working Fundraising Team who have all contributed to this awesome result for our school. We are still paying off playground equipment but the faster we do that, the sooner we can plan other new and exciting things for our children to benefit from!

Alicia Newnham

(Fun) Fund-Raising Team Coordinator

