

# Benton Junior College



## **Our Mission:**

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

19th June 2015

## *Newsletter*

### **Reports**

As you may be aware our student reports are being distributed next Monday. Please take this opportunity to talk to your child about their report and celebrate their achievements.

Our Parent/Teacher interviews are being conducted next week so remember to book in an interview time to chat to your child's teacher.

### **Absences and Punctuality**

In reading school reports I am very concerned at the level of absenteeism of many students, which prompts me to draw your attention to the importance of full school attendance. 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. Missing school can have a major impact on a child's future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they'll have missed more than a year of school. Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes. Remember, every day counts. Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher early, as early as possible.

Parents are required to notify the school of the reason for any absence. Likewise prior advice of late arrivals or early withdrawals due to appointments would be appreciated. All explanations of absence are recorded on our school database for legal reporting purposes.

New laws introduced in March 2014 mean that parents can be fined for not sending students to school without an acceptable reason.

Acceptable reasons include:-

- Illness or accident (must be genuine)
- Medical/dental appointment (only if they cannot be scheduled outside school hours)
- Attending or observing a religious event or obligation
- Bereavement such as a death of a family member, attendance at a funeral and/or related mourning activities
- Family holidays (only if they cannot be planned in school holidays and provided they are not long term, frequent or repeated)
- Required to comply with another law

## *Diary Dates*

### **JUNE**

Tuesday 23rd and

Wednesday 24th

Parent Teacher  
Interviews

Friday 26th June

Final day to submit CSEF  
application

Friday 26th

Last day of Term 2  
2.30pm dismissal

### **JULY**

Monday 13th July

First day of Term 3

Monday 20th July

Yr 3 Wild Action  
Incursion

Monday 20th –22nd July

Year 5 Sovereign Hill  
Camp



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- Cultural observance
- Unforeseen event/unavoidable cause
- Other – special event or participation in elite sporting events/training
- Employment in the entertainment industry (within reason and taking into account academic and attendance record)

#### **Unacceptable reasons include:-**

- Birthdays
- Leisure (shopping, visiting relatives)
- Sleep in from party night before
- Tiredness from weekend activities
- A day off school
- School refusal
- Truancy

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.

#### **Uniform**

Benton Junior College has a uniform policy which requires all students to wear our school uniform. Our uniform policy also requests that students wear black school shoes or black runners. If students have physical education they are encouraged to wear their black shoes and bring their runners to change into for sport. If you are purchasing new shoes or runners for school over the holidays please remember our policy states black shoes or black runner! In many cases students are wearing black runners and it is really only the bright shoelaces that need to be changed to black.

#### **Gallery Project**

Our building project will start next week and today our Year 2 and 5 students moved out of their rooms for a couple of weeks. Hopefully by the time we return after the holidays our gallery will be well under construction. New Parent/Teacher interview locations were sent out to parents last week along with the new class locations for the duration of the building project.

#### **SCHOOL BANKING!!**

College Council agreed at our last meeting to commence student banking in Term 3. A group of dedicated parents will start student banking through the Commonwealth bank.

Karen Johnson from the Commonwealth Bank will attend assemblies very early in Term 3 to talk to students about student banking. Parents will be given times to sign their children up or request forms be sent home to register their child/ren for banking.

Stay tuned for Student Banking updates!!

#### **Last Day of Term**

This is a reminder that the students will be dismissed from school at 2.30pm on Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> June. Our last whole school assembly for term 2 will commence at 9.10am in the big gym.

School commences back at 9am on Monday, 13th July.

I hope you all have a wonderful and restful holiday.

Kerry Griffin, Principal

#### **Friday June 26th- Nepal Earthquake Free Dress Day - Benton Voice**

On Friday June 26th (last day of Term 2), there will be a Free Dress Day to raise vital funds for Nepal, a small country in Asia that is situated between China and India. In April, a 7.9 magnitude quake hit cities in Nepal and caused avalanches on the world's highest mountain, Mt Everest. Thousands of people have died, and many have been left homeless. It's the worst earthquake Nepal's experienced in a long time. For the day, the theme for the day will be dressing up in white, as it represents hope, goodness and new beginnings. Please remember to bring your gold coin donation!

### **Music, Paul Seaman and Ant Richards**

The fun and excitement continues in Performing Arts at BJC. Our 2015 production is 'The Battle of the Bands' and auditions are already well under way. The production team including Mrs Malcomson, Mrs Hobbs, Ms Beadle, Ms Smith, Mr Seaman and Mrs Richards have been very impressed with the interest and enthusiasm shown by so many children who are keen to be involved.

It is also an excellent opportunity to introduce our Performing Arts leaders who will be very visible in this busy and exciting period. They are Ned B and Grace F from 633 and Amelia R and Reagan T from 634. They will help promote the Performing Arts area at Benton Junior College and help keep everyone informed as to what is going on with our production. These four children show outstanding leadership qualities and are very enthusiastic about their new roles.

### **LOTE, Kirby Mitchell and Chen Zhao**

During the last two weeks, Prep students learnt a range of colour words in Chinese. Year Two and Three students focused on counting and tracing the number characters from one to ten. Year Three did a fabulous job of putting the number characters in the right order and matching them with Pinyin (the English form of Chinese). As a response to the Unit of Enquiry on 'Myths and Legends', Year Four students got the opportunity to design their own Monkey King masks after watching the relevant videos. Year Five students showed their understanding about the winter in northeast China through a craftwork called 'Winter in Harbin' and Year Six students explored the Qin dynasty and Shang dynasty as part of their research program on ancient China.

### **Physical Education—Jabyn Hogarth and Jeff O'Donnell**

A further update on our talented cross country runners; of the 19 children we had competing at the Peninsula Division Cross Country, eight have progressed through to the Southern Metro Cross Country to be held at Ballam Park. We wish the following talented runners the best for their events:

9/10's Teddy B, Zoe H, Georgia T, Alex C, and Charlie H.

11's Taj S, Taylor G.

12/13's Jarrod G

We have recently also had the Mornington District Winter Lightning Premiership in which all of our Year 6 children were involved in a Winter Sport of their choice in which they played against the 7 other local Primary Schools. Our Boys Softball Team were successful on the day winning the competition and now progressing to the Peninsula Division Playoffs which will be held later on in the year. Well done Kids!

### **MPRG 'Friends of Art' Award**

By now if your child has shown an interest in participating in the Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery 'Friends of Art' Award they should have received two letters outlining the background and process for completing the works. Essentially your child was either chosen by their teacher as they have an interest in art or they themselves have expressed a wish to participate. The theme is 'Life's a Beach' and children need to complete a piece of artwork depicting life at the beach; it can be about swimming, enjoying the sand, playing in the water, surfing, sailing or more controversial issues such as pollution. Work can be completed at home or at school (the second letter informed of the days a classroom will be open for children to complete their work at lunchtime). Spaces are limited to 40 participants so there will be a selection process when the time comes in November. For more information please contact Emma Hannan on 5973 9100 or [hannan.emma.e@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:hannan.emma.e@edumail.vic.gov.au)

### **2016 Prep Enrolments**

If you have a child due to start school next year, please complete your Enrolment form as soon as possible. Enrolment forms are available from the Office.

## Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability 'Collection Notice'

There is currently no accurate national data set around students with disability and consequently no reporting on the number of students with disability. Each state and territory currently identifies its students with disability on a different basis.

Student data is necessary to enable governments to target support and resources in schools to help students with disabilities reach their potential. In order to achieve this, the Australian government and all state and territory governments agreed to collect data annually about students with disability in a nationally consistent way.

All schools in Australia, including Independent and Catholic schools, will participate in the **Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability** this year.

**The Data Collection** is an annual count of the number of students with disability receiving educational adjustments to support their participation in education on the same basis as students without disability. All schools are required to submit their data before 7 August 2015.

All schools are now required under the Australian Education Regulation 2013 to provide information on a student's level of education, disability and level of adjustment to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training.\* Data will continue to be de-identified prior to its transfer to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training. No student's identity will be provided to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training.

The collection of this information from states and territories will inform future policy and program planning in relation to students with disability.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Marc Morris on school phone 5973 9100 or the Victorian Department of Education and Training Data Collection Hotline on (03) 9651 3621. For questions after 7 August 2015, please call the Australian Government Department of Education and Training on 1300 566 046.

\* [For more information on Schedule 3—Amendments for the collection of data on students who are persons with a disability](http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2014L01723/Html/Text#_Toc404934419) Australian Education Regulation 2013 see: [http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2014L01723/Html/Text#\\_Toc404934419](http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2014L01723/Html/Text#_Toc404934419)

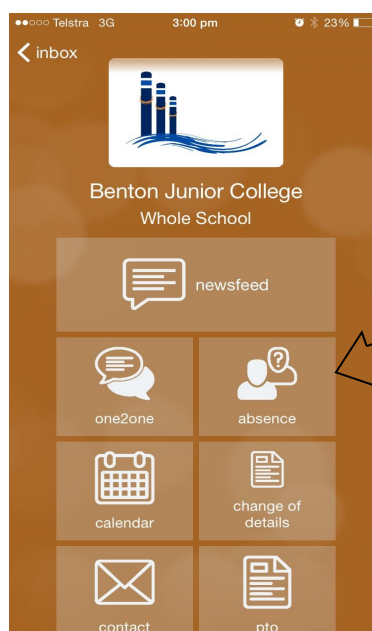
The logo for tiqbiz, featuring the word 'tiqbiz' in a bold, lowercase sans-serif font, followed by a green speech bubble icon containing a white checkmark.

We're using an app  
to communicate  
with you.

You'll be notified of our news, messages,  
events and other communications.

Simply download the tiqbiz app  
to your phone or tablet.

To download, search **tiqbiz** in your app store:



To record an Absence,  
select Whole School.

Then select the  
Absence box.

A copy of this  
Absence Note will then  
be forwarded to your  
class teacher and the  
office.