

26th FEBRUARY 2021

ISSUE NO. 1



Berendale School *Bulletin*

Excellence in Inclusive Education



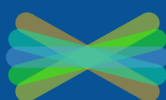
Student learning to prepare lunch orders in the SBAT Hospitality Program.

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2 Berend St, Hampton East VIC 3188

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Principal's Welcome

Paul Newson, Principal



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to what we hope will be a very different year to 2020.

I would like to give a warm welcome to our new Year 7 students and their families.

As I write this we have just returned from our mini Circuit Breaker. This was a reminder that COVID-19 has proven to be an unpredictable virus and as much as we do not want another lockdown or Circuit Breaker we must all be prepared for the possibility of another.

To consider:

- The office and classroom teacher has your up to date contact details
- Computer access at home
- Internet Access at home
- Stationery at home

Currently we are having to keep visitors to the school to a minimum. However, soon we are hoping to have some opportunities where families and carers are able to join us at school for some social functions.

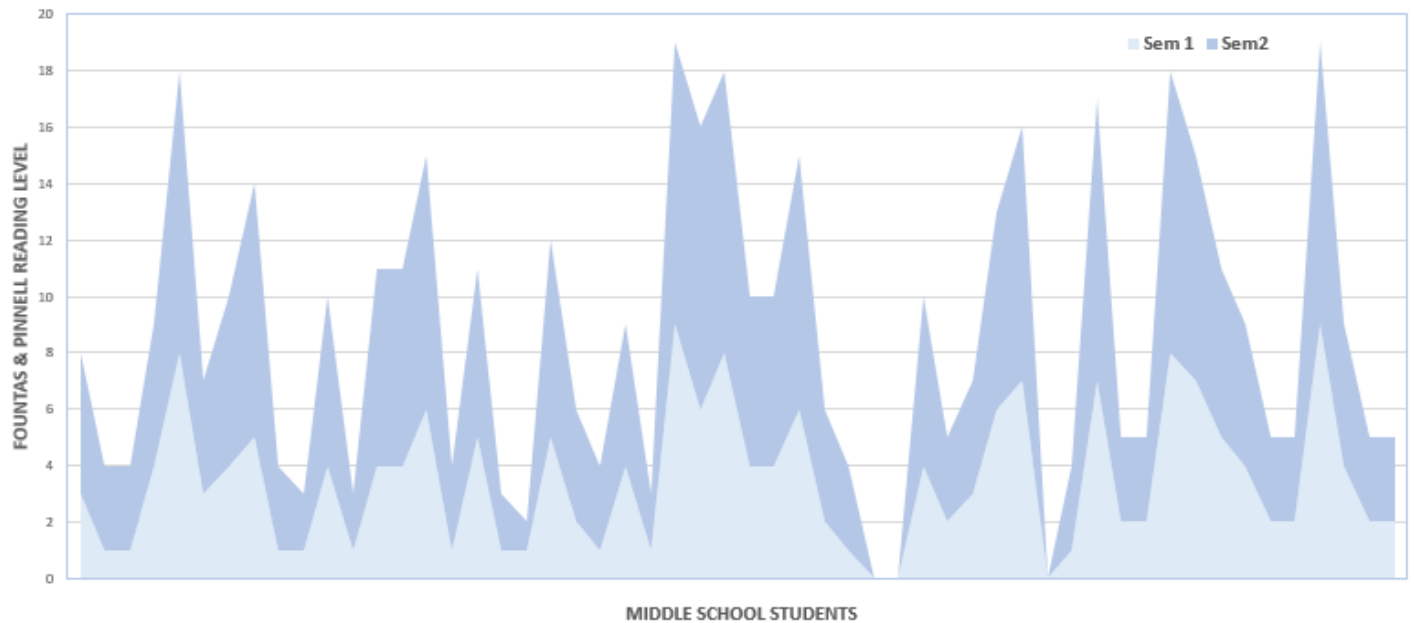
This year we have added some additional priority goals to the school that have been set by the Department of Education. **Learning, catch up and extension priority, Happy, active and healthy kids priority and Connected schools priority.** These additional goals are intended to align our focus areas with DETs COVID-19 response. Some of the initiatives that will support these goals are:

- The Tutor program to support students – employment of a Tutor
- The employment of a school Psychologist
- Application for a Wellbeing grant to support staff

In 2020 we introduced the MOI (Maths-On-Line Interview). All staff received a considerable amount of professional learning to implement baseline testing of all students. In 2021, we will continue with the program to ensure all students' numeracy lessons are targeted to achieve the best positive results.

BERENDALE SCHOOL BULLETIN

2020 FOUNTAS & PINNELL READING LEVELS: MIDDLE SCHOOL



I have also included a graph of our Literacy data for 2020. You will notice that almost all of students have made progress. This demonstrates that the targeted literacy programs we are running are improving students' literacy.

This week I met with the Principal of Katandra, Rhett Watts, to look at how we could begin to share our recreational and learning spaces. Later in the year we hope to start sharing our oval, gym, tech room, art room and other areas where possible.

Soon we will commence replacing the school fence with a modern black fence. The fence will not only improve the aesthetics of the school but also the security. The current fence is buckled, broken and a patchwork of repairs.

From our Middle School - Mandy Thomas

The Middle School team are excited to get back to business in 2021. We have welcomed sixteen new Year 7 students who are already showing their adaptability and potential across the curriculum areas. With some changes to class groupings in Year 8 and 9 there is the possibility for the students to form new friendships and to produce some fabulous work. Increasing Maths skills across the school is a high priority this year, but we will also continue to use the highly successful Fresh Start Phonics program in English which saw such fantastic results last year.

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From our Senior School – Chris Goaley

The Senior School team have started preparing students for a number of workplace opportunities in order to develop their employability skills. Our School Based Apprenticeships have commenced in Horticulture and Hospitality (Certificate II and III). All senior students have selected their elective program where they had the choice of gaining experience in a particular work industry such as;

- Horticulture
- Hospitality
- Art
- Sport Leadership
- Volunteering (community engagement)

Furthermore, Senior Sport has begun where students have chosen to participate in competitive team sports (basketball and beach volleyball) to improve their fitness, team work and social skills.

Regards

Paul Newson
Principal

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Key Dates for Term 1 2021

Labour Day Holiday

Monday 8th March

Curriculum Day (Student Free Day)

Monday 15th March

Year 10 Road Smart Driving Program

Tuesday 16th March

Whole School Assembly

Wednesday 31st March

Term 1 Concludes

Thursday 1st April

School finishes at 2pm



Integrity

Respect

Resilience

Independence

Berendale School Privacy Policy

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#).

Please take time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our website https://berendale.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/collection_statementsecondary_school.pdf

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents](#). This information is also available in nine community languages:

Amharic, Arabic, Dari, Mandarin, Somali, Sudanese, Turkish, Urdu, Vietnamese

Regards,

Paul Newson

Principal



Community Engagement News

Andy Ding, Community Engagement Team Leader



The Story So Far...

28th January was Global Community Engagement Day.

This day celebrated the important role that organisations, groups and individuals contribute to their community. This year's theme was *Engaging Children for Their Future*, which was fitting for us to reflect on the work the school community has done in this area so far.

Every year, we continue to build on our strengths in forming meaningful partnerships with students, parents, families, staff and organisations. Our effort has led us to build over 40 partnerships with local organisations of which 12 are pathway providers. We offer 7 diverse channels of communication for students, parents and staff to connect with the school. Also, we are passionate about preparing our students with the knowledge and skills to participate in and contribute to their community.

We are proud of what we have achieved, but our work does not stop here. This year, having one of our school's goals being *Connected Communities*, we wanted to take this opportunity to evaluate our work in community engagement. Effort has begun with the Specialist Teachers collaborating to review our community engagement work including evaluating our school's strategies to increase students and parents access to wellbeing and pathway services.

Our next step will involve inviting students, parents, caregivers and staff to attend a focus group to consult and provide feedback and ideas. Your input will help us to identify the strengths, effectiveness and gaps in our community engagement work. We will then set a new direction for our community engagement work that will be determined by our school's priorities and needs.

This is an exciting initiative for our school community in 2021. This work will drive our school community forward to develop new opportunities and strengthen existing programs, where our students can grow, develop and reach their full potential.

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Graduated Student

The work that our staff do has an enduring impact on our students beyond the formal years of their education at Berendale School. We are grateful to have a graduated student, Tim from the 2019 cohort reconnecting with our staff. Tim has been writing letters to his teachers to share his adventure from his post-school pathway. On the next page, he wrote an article to our school community to share about his journey on getting a job. Thank you Tim for sharing your story!

This idea came from a conversation with Tim and his parents in late 2020. It is fantastic to see Tim's article in this newsletter, which will benefit many from reading about his experience. We welcome and extend an invitation to the Graduates of Berendale School to share their story with our school community. Please contact myself on 9555 6141 to discuss an opportunity to write an article about your post-school experience for our school newsletter.

We partner with 12 Pathway Providers!

This means more post-school options for our students when they graduate from high school.

We have 40 Partnerships and Growing!

Partnership with local organisations provides new and enriching learning opportunities for our students in the broader community.

How Berendale School Engages with Its Community?

Website

Newsletters



Multiple ways for parents and caregivers to connect with their child's learning.

School Wide Events

SSG Meetings

Integrity

Respect

Resilience

Independence



Meet Our 2019 Graduated Student, Tim

Hi, my name is Tim. I graduated school back in 2019. I'm writing for the School Newsletter, to describe what I have achieved since leaving school.

On Mondays and Tuesdays I work for Waynes Cleaning and in the VLine trains offices. My favourite thing is keeping the place neat and tidy. I really enjoy meeting all the VLine staff and they always see me do a great job. On my days off which are Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, I really enjoy spotting trains. In the future, I would like to get a job at Pacific National working as a manager.

I'm working towards getting my full license. I am practicing my Hazard Test. This test helps me learn road safety rules.

I am still able to keep up with my hobbies. Dad, Matt and I have been working on building a model train set. I have two train boards. One is an Australian board and the other is an English board. They're nearly finished.

I can't wait until my 21st birthday party in April.

Tim



Class 10A News

Hayley Seager, Classroom Teacher

Hi everyone this is a photo of the class singing Happy Birthday to James.

James turned 15 this year.

This is not the whole class as some students were away.



Art and Technology News: Welcome Back!

Andy Ding, Art and Technology Teacher

Art and Technology Projects

It has been an absolute joy to welcome our students back for a new school year. In the Art Room, students have been enjoying learning to use new materials and techniques. Whilst in the Technology Suite, students have been experimenting with robotics, 3D printing and filmmaking equipment.

One particular project to highlight is the Year 11 and 12 Mosaic Art. The students requested to study this topic and they have been practising their skills to create a mosaic artwork using both traditional and contemporary techniques. Next, they will apply their newly learned skills to decorate a collection of ceramic pieces with mosaic. These pieces will make a delightful addition to our school's Annual Art Show in Term 2 this year.

SSG Evening

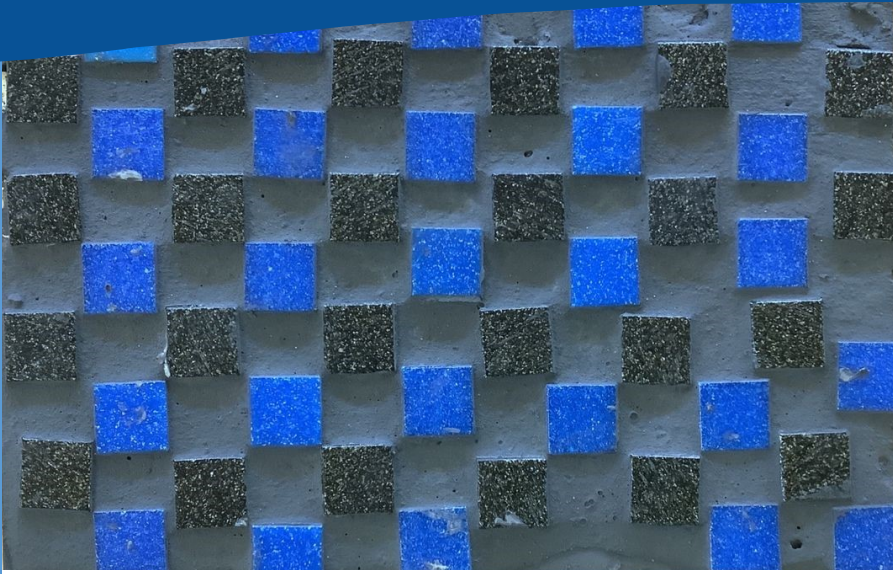
It was also wonderful to meet many parents and families at the recent SSG Evening. We discussed student interests and uphold a high expectation for participation and learning in Art and Technology. I strongly believe that ideas and feedback from parents are a pivotal contribution in the planning and development of our students' learning program. From our discussion, I am excited to share that there will be more opportunities for students to develop their self-confidence, conversational skills and fine motor skills in their Art and Technology lessons in 2021.

Extracurricular Programs

Many extracurricular programs have been organised for our students. We have organised the annual Artz Blitz competition on Friday 19th March, where students can attend to create an artwork based on a given theme. Their artwork will then be exhibited at Kingston Arts Gallery for the public to see. We have also organised an afterschool program Tech Club, which will be starting soon this term. In Term 1, students will work in a team to produce a film for the Focus on Ability Film Festival.

We invite parents to go onto Compass to see the details of these programs and encourage their child to join.

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National Ride2School Day

Ben Clancy, Health and PE Team Leader

On Friday 19th of March we celebrate National Ride2school Day. National Ride2School Day is Australia's biggest celebration of active travel and one of the best days on the school calendar. The day has helped thousands of schools to empower and enable students to get physically active on their journey to school, giving them the opportunity to create healthy habits for their future.

We are encouraging families to ride alongside their child to school on this day depending on their level of independence. No bike, no problems, you can give walking, scooting or skating a go. Remember to be safe and always obey cycling laws when riding. For more information please visit the Bicycle Network website. <https://www.bicyclenetwork.com.au/rides-and-events/ride2school/>



**NATIONAL
RIDE2SCHOOL DAY**
Friday 19 March 2021

The poster features an illustration of four children commuting to school: a boy on a scooter, a girl on a skateboard, a boy on a bicycle, and a girl walking with a school bag. They are on a path with trees and a 'SCHOOL' sign.

are excited to be celebrating National Ride2School Day on Friday 19 March 2021.

National Ride2School Day is the perfect opportunity to kick-start new healthy habits and promote the many benefits of active travel. We encourage all students and their families to leave the car at home and give riding, walking, scooting or skating to school a go. It's sure to be a fantastic day and we look forward to seeing you there!

 **RIDE2
SCHOOL** 

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Berendale School



Term 1, 2021



BOARD GAMES & LEGO

Monday and Friday
recess and lunchtime
Allied Health Room



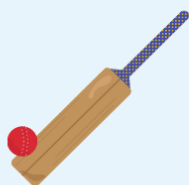
BASKETBALL

Monday lunchtime
Basketball Court



VIDEO GAMES CLUB

Tuesday lunchtime
Tech Room



CRICKET

Tuesday lunchtime
Oval



ART CLUB

Wednesday lunchtime
Art Room



SOCCER

Thursday lunchtime
Oval



CHILL OUT

Thursday lunchtime
Allied Health Room



The Berendale School Bulletin was created by students and staff of the Berendale School Community.

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