

21st MAY 2021

ISSUE NO. 3



Berendale School *Bulletin*

Excellence in Inclusive Education



Meet the 2021 Student Representative Council.

Address:

2 Berend St, Hampton East VIC 3188

Phone: 9555 6141

Website: www.berendale.vic.edu.au



We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we gathered and pay our respect to the Elders, past, present and emerging.



Principal's Report

Paul Newson, Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

Term 2 is well underway. I would like to welcome all families and hope you have had the chance to attend one of our many school events so far.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, this term will see the return of many of the normal school functions and activities and we are looking forward to seeing families, staff and students at these events.

We started off the term with our Year 7 and 8 Coffee Morning on Wednesday 28th April. We know many of our Year 8 families missed the opportunity to meet each other due to COVID in 2020 so this year we welcomed our Year 7 and 8 families together.

Our Tutoring Program started on Thursday 29th April. Selected students have the opportunity to participate in some smaller group tuition to improve their literacy and numeracy. The initiative is a part of the state governments "catch up" priority focus as a result of COVID -19 and remote learning.

We invited Mothers or a significant person to join us for our annual Mother's Day Breakfast. This was an opportunity to meet other families and share experiences. The event was a huge success and more than 50 mothers or significant persons attended the breakfast. Our SBAT (School Based Apprenticeship Traineeship) students supported the event with making and delivering delicious food and coffee.



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During Week Three on the 6th May we conducted our second SSG (Student Support Group) meeting for the year. This is where you have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress and discuss academic goals with classroom teachers. This year we are blending the evening with the choice of face-to-face or ZOOM meetings.

On 27th May we will have our Open Night combined with our Career and Community Expo. This year we are combining the events to encourage a broader and more comprehensive evening. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Curriculum day this term is on Tuesday 15th June and will fall directly after the Queen's Birthday holiday, both these days will be student free. Our focus areas for the Curriculum Day will be Numeracy, Respectful Relationships (RRRR) and School Wide Positive Behaviours (SWPBS).

We would like to welcome Alexis Reinheimer our Mental Health Practitioner who will be working with us three days per week. The Mental Health Practitioner initiative is a two year program funded by the state government. The program supports the employment of highly skilled and experienced practitioners in mental health, disability and education. Alexis has sent information out regarding her role and how she will be able to support leadership, teachers, students and families at Berendale School within a tiered model.

Ground works are progressing. I have met with the fence architects and David Rako our school president to discuss the design and present the options to the school council.

We continue to follow COVID safe practices and now require all visitors to sign in at reception using the government QR code in addition to the school sign in.

I wish everyone a great school term.

Integrity

Respect

Resilience

Independence

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Key Dates

Careers Expo and Open Night

Thursday 27th May

Queen's Birthday Holiday

Monday 14th June

Curriculum Day (Student Free Day)

Tuesday 15th June

Year 11 & 12 Camp

Monday 21st June to

Wednesday 23rd June

Whole School Sport Carnival and Whole School Assembly

Thursday 24th June

Reports Published on Compass

Friday 25th June

Term 2 Concludes

Friday 25th June

School finishes at 2pm

Integrity

Respect

Resilience

Independence



2021 Student Representative Council

Chris Goaley, Senior School Leader

During Term 2, Berendale School have been working towards promoting more student voice and agency across the school. This evidence based approach allows students to feel more empowered in their learning and a way of building school pride.

“When students meaningfully participate in decision making about their learning, they are more likely to remain involved in education and to achieve better results”

A way of achieving this is in the form a **Student Representative Council (SRC)**, which gives students an opportunity and a platform to communicate ideas and opinions to influence change.

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A student from each class has been nominated by their peers to represent the class and will attend fortnightly meetings to discuss ideas, issue or concerns.

Our initial meeting brought up some interesting viewpoints including;

- More seating area in the shade around the school for all students to use
- More variety of sport and activity clubs during recess and lunchtime
- More signs around the school to help new students and families during tours
- Increase in specialist subjects including PE, Art and Music
- Increase in whole school assemblies and community events
- More food options on the school canteen menu



Integrity

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Wellbeing at Berendale School

Alexis Reinheimer, Mental Health Practitioner

Hi there! I'm Alexis, the new Mental Health Practitioner at Berendale School. I work at Berendale on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

What is my role?

- Providing short term (6-8 sessions) individualised counselling to students before referring them to external mental health services, if needed
- Running student wellbeing groups
- Building teachers' capabilities to support students' wellbeing in the classroom environment
- Contributing to whole-school mental health promotion programs, such as Respectful Relationships and School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support

Who can refer students to the MHP service?

- Students themselves
- Parents
- School staff

Please feel free to get in touch with me by phone at 9555 6141, or via email at alexis.reinheimer@education.vic.gov.au



Travel Training to Kingston Arts Centre

Andy Ding, Art Teacher

Recently, students in the Art Industry subject participated in a travel training program. The program was designed based on the DET Travel Education Framework, which Berendale School was involved in its development in 2016.

The students learned to:

- Walk on a footpath
- Stay in a group
- Cross the road
- Use pedestrian crossing
- Use pedestrian lights
- Manage unexpected situations on the road

On Wednesday 12th May, our students put their travel training skills to the test and walked to Kingston Arts Centre. They arrived at the gallery and met Amelia, who introduced them to the exhibition. The students had a wonderful time walking to the gallery and seeing the artworks in the exhibition.

Well done to our students on their success in the travel training program. I am proud to see our students developing their independence to access public spaces in their community.

Our next stop is the Annual Art Show. We will be busy organising student artworks for display. We hope to see you at the exhibition on Thursday 27th May during the Open Night event!





Signal Art Excursion

Sarah Storey, 9A Classroom Teacher

The year 9 students had a fantastic day out on Thursday 22nd of April. They went to Signal Art, which is a creative studio for young people 14 to 25 years, located on Northbank, in the heart of Melbourne. The program offers young people the opportunity to work alongside professional artists in a collaborative way, through multi-artform workshops and mentoring.

After catching the train to Flinders St station, the students walked to the studio. When they arrived, the students were then given different wooden shapes and blocks and were asked to build, using the city landscape as inspiration. The students created some amazing designs including a hotel, a skate park, a house, a dinosaur enclosure, a rabbit named Terry and the platform within the video game 'Bowers Fury Island'. All of the students were wholly engaged in the activity and really enjoyed the experience.

Some words from the students:

We went to the Signal art space and me and Christopher built a Bowers Fury Island. We went to the restaurant to have lunch.
Year 9 student

The people at the art place gave us wooden shapes and another student and I made a fancy castle. Jamie

I built a tower with wooden blocks. It was a great day. Conor

On Thursday we went to Signal Art space to build some funky houses and stuff. After building the houses and stuff we got lunch it was amazing the food was outstanding it felt so satisfying. And after lunch we started to head back to school. It was an amazing day. Cooper

We used scrap wood to make art, based on the city and the surrounds. We went as it was part of the art program and also for a city experience. It was super fun. We got our lunch at Southgate and we went home on the train. Finn

Excellence in Inclusive STEM Education

Andy Ding, Technology Teacher

For the past 4 weeks, Berendale School partnered with DATTA Victoria and Digital Learning and Teaching Victoria (DLTV) to host a series of webinars for teachers and educators. The professional learning program focused on the topic of *Inclusive STEM Education for students with diverse learning needs*.

I had the pleasure of planning the program and co-hosting the webinars. It was exciting to interview a line-up of talented STEM teachers and educators from other schools and learning communities, and to learn about their garden program, woodworking projects and innovative STEM activities involving drones and video games.

I also presented in one of the webinars. In my presentation, I shared the success that our students had in their chocolate making project. I provided a list of practical tips and strategies that could make STEM project more inclusive and accessible for students with disabilities.

There were over 50 teachers registered for the webinars. This success reflected our school motto 'Excellence in Inclusive Education' and demonstrated our commitment and effort in sharing our expertise and knowledge with other educators in our community.

Inclusive STEM Education for Students with Diverse Learning Needs

Session 1 - 4pm – 5.30pm, Thursday 22nd April 2021

With:

•**Andy Ding from Berendale School** on teaching design, making and prototyping for students with an intellectual disability and ASD

•**Dr. Matthew Harrison from Melbourne University** on the effective use of gaming as a teaching and learning tool for students with autism and Down Syndrome



Thanks to Google for their support for this program through their Educator PD Grants program



Golf Day

Mark Prokopiwskyi, PE Teacher

A group of students from Year 9-12 participated in an afternoon golf event run by Golf Victoria at Edithvale Public Golf Course. 12 students attended the event which hosted many special schools in and around the Bayside/East Melbourne region. Students made their way around the giant course harnessing both their driving and putting games with the aid of a Golf Victoria instructor.

All students who participated performed to a high level and in a very encouraging and team orientated fashion. All students also left with some ice-cool sunglasses free of charge as well!





Cross Country

Mark Prokopiwskyi, PE Teacher

A group of students from Years 9-12 participated in an afternoon Cross Country event in Norton Park, Watirna South. Around 20 students attended the event which hosted many special schools in and around the Bayside/East Melbourne region.

In terms of finishes, Berendale performed magnificently, with many students finishing high enough to qualify for the next stage. Keira Hubanic, a Year 10 student, finished 3rd in her age group over the 3km course and Adam Bruckboeg, Year 12, finished 1st in his age group with a remarkable time of 9 minutes over 3kms!

Well done to all students who participated!

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invites you to

CAREERS EXPO AND OPEN NIGHT

Thursday 27th May 2021 at 5pm-7pm

Venue: Berendale School, 2 Berend St Hampton East VIC 3188

Enter via the General Office

Enquiries: 95556141

Register for this event on Compass

All current and prospective students and families are encouraged to attend

Careers Expo

Post school options for students with a disability

Expo in the Hospitality Building

Meet service providers for information on:

- TAFE
- Employment Services
- NDIS
- Day Program
- Supported Employment

Open Night

All classrooms open with student work on display.

Pop Up Room for enrolment enquiries in the BER Building.

- Annual Art Show Exhibition
- School Band Performances

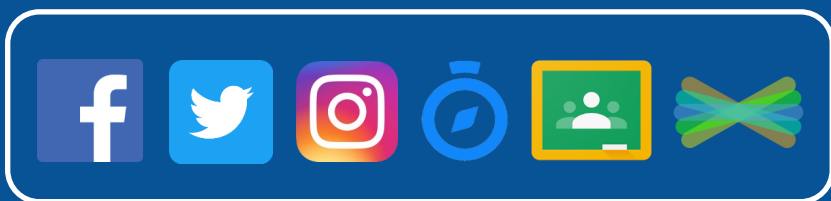




The Berendale School Bulletin was created by students and staff of the Berendale School Community.

Student Editors:

Cheyenne, Isabelle, Sophia, Giorgio, Jessica, Marcel and Shanaya 12B



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