

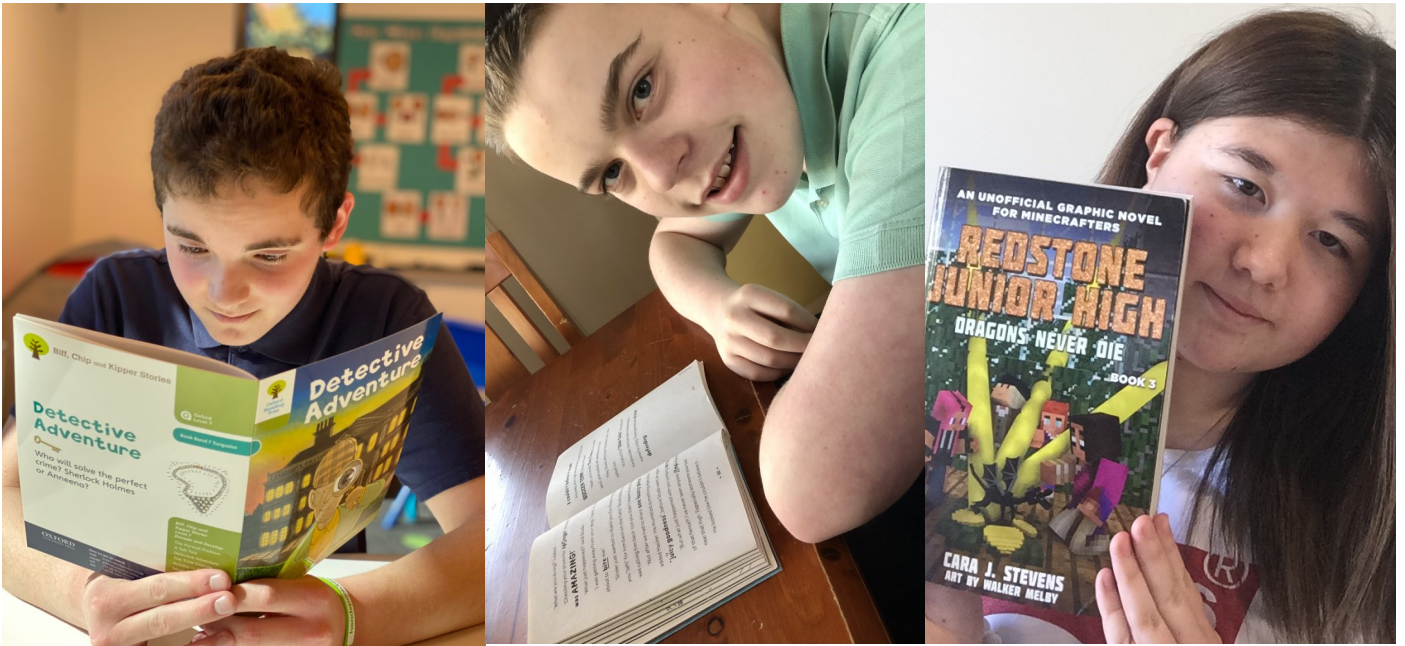
17th SEPTEMBER 2021

ISSUE NO. 6



Berendale School Bulletin

Excellence in Inclusive Education



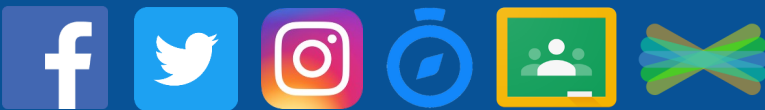
Students celebrated the International Literacy Day by completing some literacy related activities.

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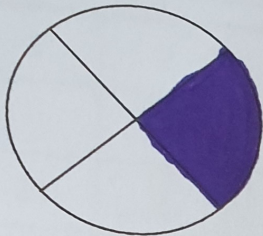
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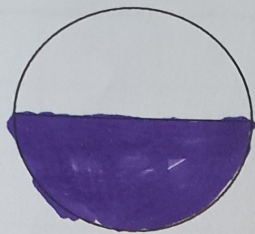
We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we gather today, the Boonwurrung/Bunurong People, and we pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples here today.



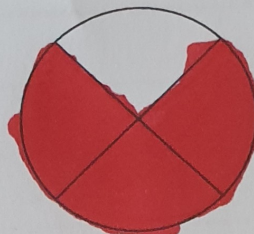
Read and Colour the Fractions



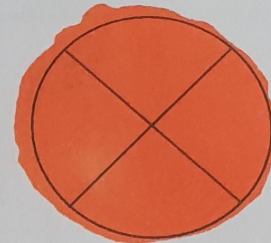
one quarter



one half



three quarters



whole

Principal's Report

Paul Newson, Principal, and Athina Caravatas, Assistant Principal

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Once again we have come to the end of the term under Lockdown and Remote Learning conditions. Lockdowns have become an all too familiar occurrence, however with the uptake of vaccines I believe we are starting to see a light at the end of the tunnel.

I would like to thank and congratulate everyone on another epic term of Remote Learning and online events. As I have said before, Remote and Online Learning is a group effort and without everyone's contribution and support we would not have been able to run such a successful program.

Here are just a few of the many online learning events that have taken place this term.

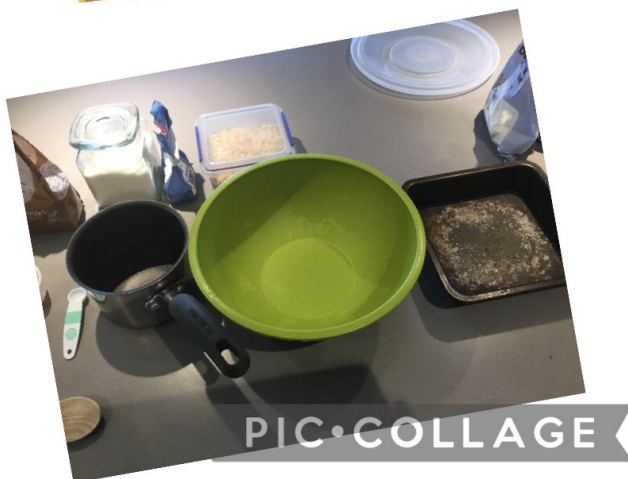
Wellbeing, by Athina Caravatas, Assistant Principal

On Thursday 9th September we had our Recharge/R U OK Day. This allowed for staff and students to have a Zoom free day - minus the home group check in! Students undertook a variety of tasks including photography, cooking and lots of physical activity. It was a well needed day away from the computer. This term we also celebrated the International Day of Friendship and Wear it Purple Day.

Alexis our Mental Health Practitioner, has been busy supporting many of our students during this extended lockdown via video and phone calls. Alexis is also organising a variety of small group programs to commence in Term 4 including Managing Stress and Anxiety, Peaceful Kids Mindfulness and Positive Psychology.

Please keep checking Compass regularly for programs and supports available to families during this lockdown period.

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Post-School Pathways, by Chris Goaley, Senior School Leader

Post school providers delivered online parent sessions to provide information about program opportunities regarding pathways to independence, supported employment, TAFE courses and community services. These providers included Outlook, Uniting Services, Gre8, The Bridge and Access Australia. Career packs were posted out to all senior students and families to take part in further discussions regarding pathway planning. Transition days will be organised for students either online or at the provider venue to gain an understanding of the program structure and expectations.

During Term 4 there are still a number of important events to look forward to including;

- Year 12 Graduation
- SBAT Graduation
- Employability courses and METEC Driving
- Interschool Sport
- Senior School Camps e.g. Year 11/12 and Brighton Grammar Camp

Curriculum Day, by Venessa Sigamoney, Learning Specialist

Our professional development sessions continued online. All staff participated in Numeracy, Literacy, and the School Wide Positive Behaviour Program activities during Curriculum Day and weekly Professional Learning Community sessions. Engagement online has presented everyone with opportunities to both consolidate and improve their technology skills together with providing the best learning experiences for all our students.

School Transition, by Mandy Thomas, Middle School Leader

Due to lockdown, we had to change the format of our Grade 6/7 Information sessions. Our new families had the opportunity to learn about Berendale and to participate in a Q&A. They also experienced our amazing Virtual Tour on the Berendale School website.

We look forward to meeting each of the Year 6 students face-to-face next term for our Orientation Program.

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SRC (Student Representative Council), by Chris Goaley, Senior School Leader

Berendale School has been working towards promoting greater student voice and agency across the school. This evidence based approach has allowed students to feel more empowered in their learning and has built school pride. A way of achieving this was through forming a Student Representative Council (SRC), which has given students an opportunity and a platform to communicate ideas and opinions to influence change. The SRC has been meeting fortnightly at school and during remote learning to ensure every student has a voice.

Examples of these implemented ideas include;

- Changes to the canteen menu
- New activities at recess and lunchtime
- Books and magazines for the new school library
- BAM dance session attended by 52 students via Zoom
- R U OK Day
- Footy themed assembly

Placement Students, by Andy Ding, Community Engagement Team Leader

So far this year, we have had 10 students from universities and TAFE completing their placement at Berendale School. We are proud to see their professional growth as they build their skills and confidence to provide differentiated support to personalise and enrich the learning experiences of our students. Their feedback highlighted how much they enjoyed working with our students, collaborating with our staff members and learning from their expertise and experiences. Thank you to the staff members who have mentored and supported the placement students to develop and deepen their knowledge in Inclusive Education.



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Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics, By Ben Clancy, Health and PE Team Leader

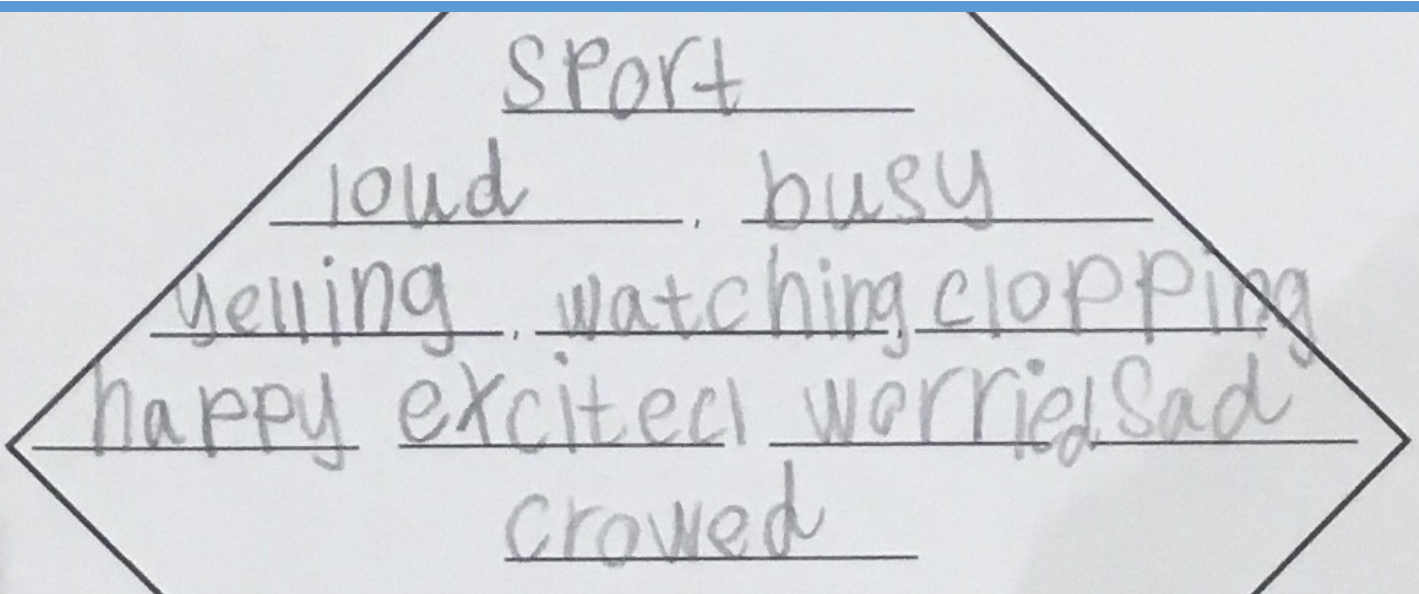
With the Olympics and Paralympics recently held in Tokyo, many classes were involved in a number of Olympic related activities. Some students sent letters to athletes of their choice through the Paralympic Pen Pal Education Program. Josh and Amy were lucky enough to receive replies from Ben Latham and Dylan Alcott respectively. Furthermore, Year 10 students were involved in the 'Be Your Greatest Webinar'. The Webinar featured two Paralympian's, Amber Merritt and Jaryd Clifford talking about their journey, followed by a Q&A session. The Webinar was very insightful and provided students with the belief that anything is possible if you put your mind to it.

Lockdowns have encouraged all of us to learn new skills and to engage in many different ways. We didn't want our new students and families to miss out on any of the experiences they may have encountered during pre-COVID times so we have created a "Virtual Tour" of the school. Please click on the link to take the tour and experience the school virtually. <https://berendale.vic.edu.au/>

I would like to congratulate Mandy Thomas who after 16 years of teaching at Berendale School will be taking up a new opportunity at Marnebek School at the beginning of term four. Throughout Mandy's many years at Berendale School she has demonstrated her dedication as a leader and as a classroom teacher. We wish her all the best in her new role.

Of course we are hoping to return to face to face teaching in Term 4.

We would like to wish our students and their families a well-deserved two week break and look forward to seeing you either Face-to-Face or Online during Term 4.



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Key Dates in Term 4

Term 4 Commences
Monday 4th October

SSG Evening
Thursday 21st October

Curriculum Day (Student Free Day)
Monday 1st November

Melbourne Cup Holiday
Tuesday 2nd November

School Social
Thursday 18th November

Curriculum Day (Student Free Day)
Monday 22nd November

Year 11 and 12 Camp
Wednesday 1st December to
Friday 3rd December

Year 12 Graduation
Wednesday 8th December



Kulin Culture in Victoria

Sammy Trist, Aboriginal Elder

Wa wa (hello) my name is Sammy Trist, I identify as a Taungurung Women.

I was born and grew up on Wurundjeri country. For 16 years now I have lived and worked on Bunurong/Boonwurrung country on the Mornington Peninsula.

For 30 years I worked in Early Childhood Education. I now love sharing and educating people about my culture. I work at Baluk Arts, an Aboriginal Art Gallery in Mornington as the Workshops Developer.

The students at Berendale have enjoyed learning about the Eastern Kulin Nation. For thousands of years they gathered on the banks of the Yarra once a year (near Federation square). The five clans are the Boonwurrung, Wurundjeri, Taungurung, Wadawurrung and Dja Dja wurrung. They came together to celebrate the land, to share knowledge, trade food and tools, and arrange marriages. They made a fire, they danced and sang for many days, this welcome ceremony is called Tanderrum.

The Kulin nation in Victoria have two totems. Bundjil the wedge tail eagle - the creator spirit, and Waang the crow - protector of the waterways.

It is tradition when you visit Boonwurrung land, that you wait on the border of that land until you have been invited. You are offered a gum leaf and by accepting that gum leaf you are to follow bundjil's lore, while you are on their land. You must look after the land, the animals and the children. You must share everything and only take what you need and leave the rest for the animals and people who may visit tomorrow.

Ngun godjin (thank you)

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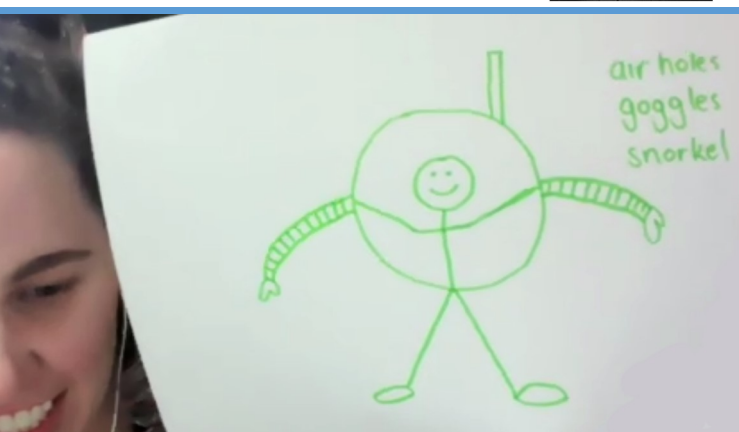
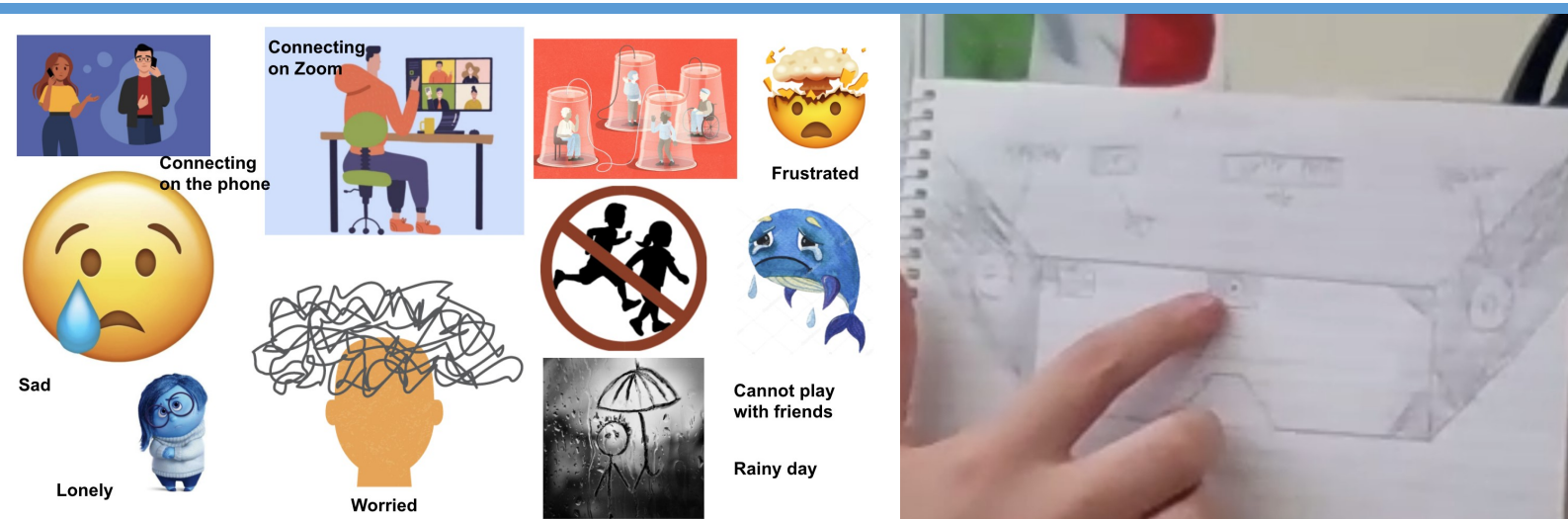
Young Change Agents at Berendale School

From Young Change Agents

Young Change Agents' social entrepreneurship programs help youth to see problems as opportunities. At this virtual program we had around 25 students from Year 10 at Berendale School participate remotely. Students conducted empathy interviews, defined problems in their communities, worked in teams to ideate and prototype solutions, and then pitched their ideas to a panel. The students came up with lots of creative ideas on how to make life better in lockdown.

Community Problems Identified

Students discussed what community meant to them and worked to identify problems and create solutions to help people in Melbourne's current Stage 4 lockdown. Some of the problems discussed include: Not being able to see friends or family, social disconnection, lack of motivation, boredom and lack of activities to do at home.



Sam Hello, our team name is Space Bubble.

Sam Our team members are Sam, Saba, Luka, Corey and Jodie, Helene and Jess.

Saba Our problem is: We cannot see our friends in lockdown or go to places.

We designed a bubble outfit that looks like an inflatable bubble. By wearing the bubble costume we can see our friends and stay safe from COVID.



Integrity

Respect

Resilience

Independence

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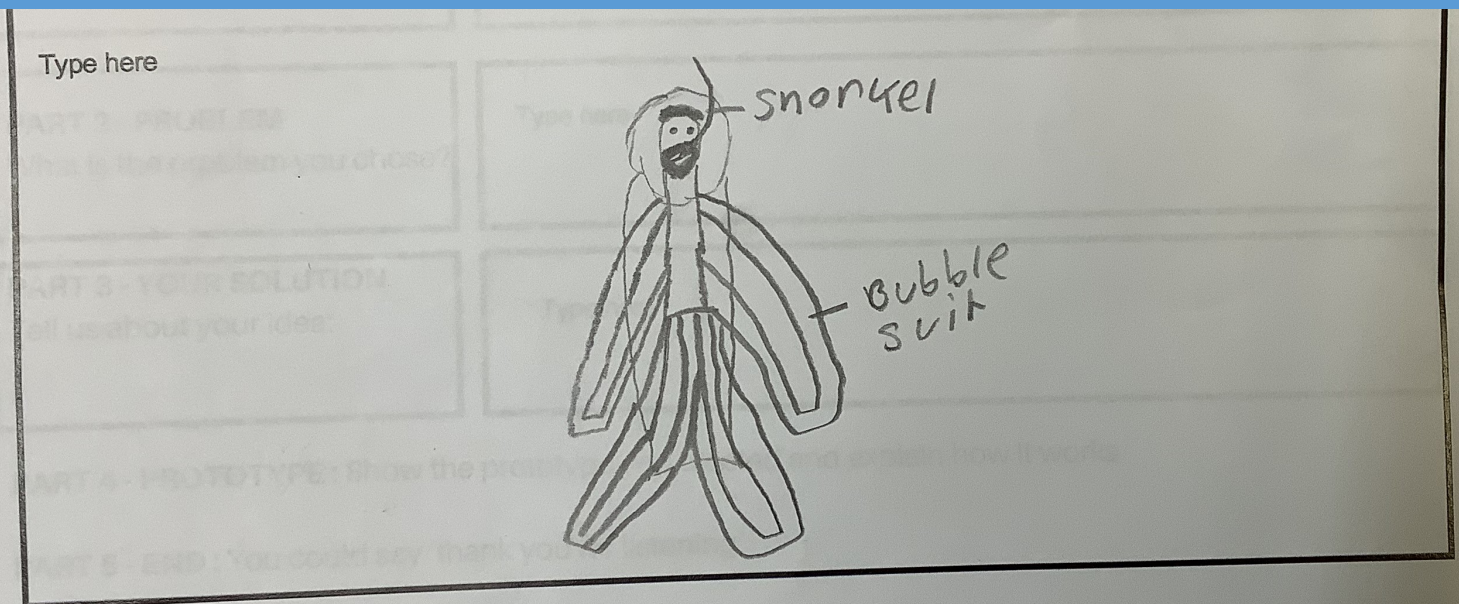
Solutions Generated

Students devised solutions in their teams to the problems identified above, including:

- A board game that gamifies the household, boosting connection and offering entertainment for families who are stuck in their houses together during lockdown.
- A wearable bubble suit that enables you to go outside and connect with friends during lockdown. The suit keeps you safe from COVID-19 and offers a fun way to socialise.
- (Judge's Choice) Sunglasses that project a holograph of your favourite celebrity giving you positive affirmations, to keep you motivated during lockdown. The sunglasses also include a daily schedule to keep you on track with your tasks for the day.
- Online cooking classes that teach you how to make fried rice, dumplings, pizza, and pasta. This will offer entertainment and meal inspiration during lockdown while fostering connection. There is also the option to make your own horse, and cook foods such as salami for the horse.

Skills Developed

Throughout the program youth teams worked their way through a number of activities, developing skills in multiple core competencies whilst preparing for their pitch: Critical thinking, Creativity, Collaboration, Communication, Pitching, Problem solving.



Letter to Dylan Alcott

Amy, Year 10 Student

Dear Dylan Alcott,

My name is Amy. I am in year 10 at Berendale School and I am 16 years old. I enjoyed watching you play in the Australian Open this year. Congratulations on winning the quad singles title. It's a big achievement to win something that you have been working hard and training for many months.

I like how you are a role model for people like me who have a disability. Thank you for creating such a great Foundation to help people to try and achieve their dreams. We are so lucky to have you do this.

I would like to ask you a few questions.

- What motivated you start your successful career?
- What helps you to get through the tough times?
- How do you celebrate your good times?
- How many athletes are in your team?
- How long have you been competing in wheelchair tennis?

From Amy





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

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