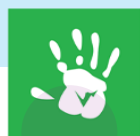


Belvoir Special School Newsletter



38 Gayview Drive, WODONGA, 3690

SWIM CARNIVAL

Our annual school swimming sports will be held at the Albury pool on Thursday the 11th of March.

Activities will begin at the pool at 10:30 and will finish by 1:30pm. Not all students will be able to last this long and parents are welcome to join us at any time and take their students home at the point where they have had enough.

We will be having a free sausage sizzle on the day and the canteen will be open. Unfortunately we will not have the pool all to ourselves and members of the public will be able to enter so we ask for as many parents to come along and assist as possible. There are a number of jobs that you can assist with and you will be more than welcome either in or out of the pool.

All students must return a note to ensure that they are able to come to the sports. The note also allows students to have a go on the waterslide if permission is given. There is no cost involved for the day;

however the notes **MUST** be returned.

Hopefully the weather will be as it has been over the past few days and we will all have a fantastic day.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Dyson's Bus Numbers:

BUS 1: 0408691885

BUS 2: 0417041196

BUS 3: 0407563474

BUS 4: 0408698635

Belvoir Bus: 0431756813

Uniform Shop Hours:

Mon-Fri 9:30—4:30

Closing Dec 18th 2:00pm

Reopen — Jan 2nd

Vaccination Dates

Consent Card — Due Feb 15th

Vaccination Date — 22nd Feb

Swim Carnival Dates

Permission Slip Due — Feb 26th

Swim Carnival — March 11th

Arena Theatre

Coming to Belvoir — 22nd- 26th Feb

School Council

The first meeting of the Belvoir School Council will be held on Wednesday the 17th of February. There is at least one vacancy on school council this year and we are always looking for parents who may be interested in taking a place on council.

If you are interested in seeing what school council does then please feel free to come along to our meeting on Wednesday the 17th evening from 6:00 - 8:00pm. For more information on School Council and the election process please see the Fact sheet 1: school council elections- information for parents.

It is a great time to be involved in council if you are interested.

Principal Pennie Moffat

School Vaccination Program

2021 - Year 7 Vaccinations

The first round of school vaccinations is being conducted at this school on Monday 22nd February 2021.

The following vaccines will be offered on this day:

YEAR LEVEL	VACCINES OFFERED
YEAR 7 MALE & FEMALE STUDENTS	GARDASIL®9 (HPV) DOSE 1 OF 2
YEAR 7 MALE & FEMALE STUDENTS	BOOSTRIX (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough) 1 DOSE ONLY

These vaccinations are funded on the National Immunisation Schedule. Should your child miss out on starting their vaccination course this year they may not be eligible to receive them for free in subsequent years.

Parent information packs were sent home recently.

ALL relevant sections of the consent card must be completed, signed and returned to the school EVEN IF YOUR CHILD IS NOT being vaccinated.

To consent to your child being vaccinated with one or more vaccines, please tick and sign the relevant **YES** sections of the consent card in blue or black pen.

If you **DO NOT** wish to have your child vaccinated with one or more vaccines or if your child has already been vaccinated, please tick the relevant **NO** section on the consent card and return them to the school by **Wednesday 17 February 2021**. Please return the card to the school even if your child is not being vaccinated.

Parents/guardians who wish to withdraw their consent for any reason may do so by emailing your withdrawal of consent to Council's Immunisation Team on **immunise@wodonga.vic.gov.au** before the vaccination day.

Please ensure that your child is wearing their sports uniform or a short sleeve shirt on the day of vaccinations (without too many layers underneath), this will enable a smooth vaccination process.

If you have any enquiries about the program or your child's vaccinations, please contact Wodonga Council's Immunisation Team on 1800 655 360.

Room 11

Danae, Courtney, Kylie & Claire.

WELCOME TO ROOM 11

Room 11 students have all settled in really well to their new Room/Pod and School.

CONGRATULATIONS Room 11.

This week we have been getting to know each other, enjoying listening to stories and learning to identify emotions.



R3 News

What a great start to the year we have had in R3! Everyone arrived super excited and raring to go. It's only the beginning and everyone is trying to settle in and work out where all the elective classes are. So far, the Year 9 students have begun their electives – Drama, Woodwork and Art. The Year 8 students have all begun the Food and Fibre elective which they've embraced with lots of enthusiasm. They've cooked beautiful crisp biscuits and eggs baked in a roll. Apparently, they were all so delicious they refused to share with anyone else. We think they are all so lucky. The Year 7 students are still yet to start their electives and are keen to start.

The whole class began their Food Tech class today where we had a tasting platter. The students had to select 6 items to try. The students all took a risk, trying new foods and noting down their likes, dislikes, feel, smell, taste etc. There were some slices of olives, salami, capsicum, blue cheese, feta cheese, lemon, peach and chilli, to name a few of their options. It was amazing to see all the students have a go – as the expectation is that they all try the foods we will cook. They surprised all the staff by all trying the chilli! Most even tried the blue cheese. Many students surprised themselves by what they liked. Alec ate 2 pieces of chilli – liking the taste and Brad enjoyed the blue cheese – something he'd never heard of before.

Everyone is very excited to start the Thursday Afternoon Activities where some students will go swimming, learn boxing, play ultimate Frisbee or basketball to name a few of their options. This is one of the best days of the week as the whole school participates and everyone gets to meet like minded people and make new friends.



Room 21

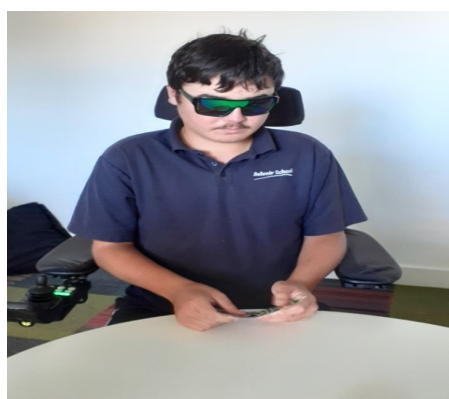
Olivia, Courtney, Bron & Dylan.

Orange Pod Room 21 News

What a great start we have had up in Orange Pod! This week students have been preparing their speeches for School Captain, Vice-Captain and House Captain positions. Students have presented these to the their Purple and Orange Pod peers today and the students who have been successful in gaining a leadership position will be announced at next week's Senior Assembly.

As well as preparing for their speeches, students have also been getting to know each other through playing cooperative games with their peers and staff.

Next week students begin their VCAL, PINICLE and SPEC programs which they are really looking forward to.



Kaleb very cool playing UNO.



Ky playing Snakes and Ladders.



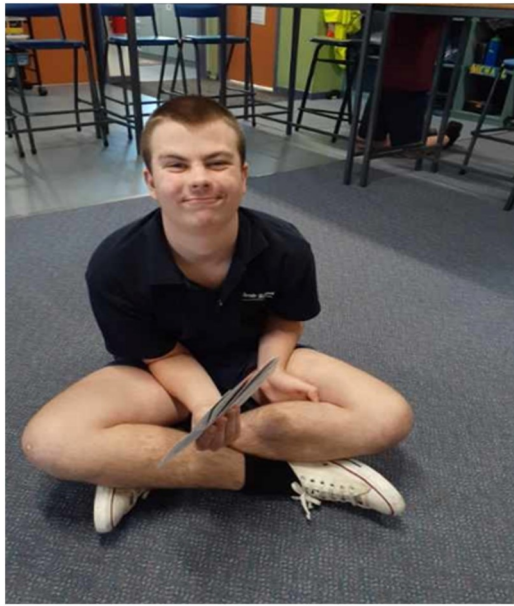
Austin getting serious in UNO.



Charlie enjoying sensory time.



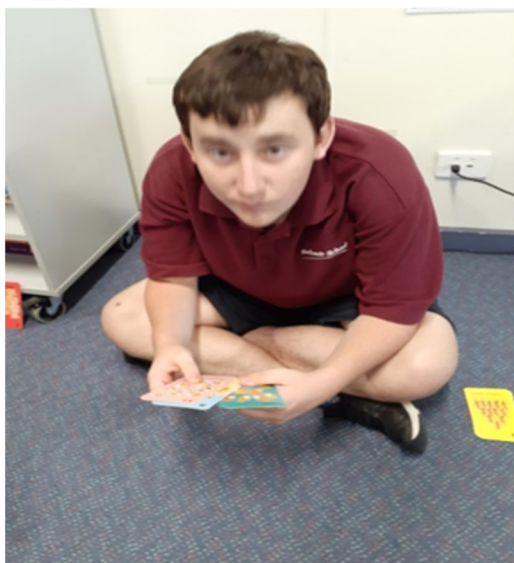
Cullen practicing his School Captain Speech.



Will enjoyed playing cards with his peers.

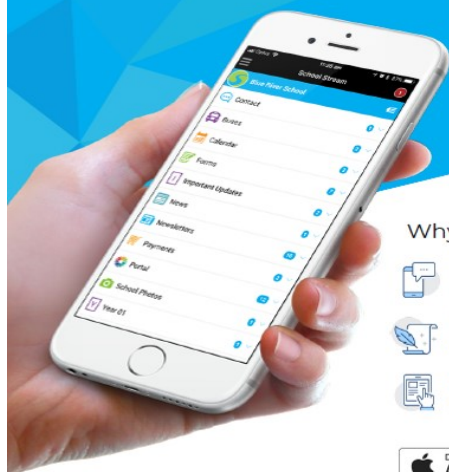


TJ showing great concentration.






Ethan taking his game of cards very seriously.

Download our school app for free!



Why download the app?

-  Receive instant notifications for important news.
-  Easily register absentees and excursions.
-  Keep up to date with events and set reminders.



Download instructions:

1. Go to the App Store and download "School Stream" to your phone.
2. Open the app and type the school's name into the search bar to load the school's profile.
3. Make sure you agree to Push Notifications when prompted.



Book Club LOOP

LOOP is the Scholastic Book Club Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform.

It's easy to order and pay online for your child's Book Club order using your credit card. If your school is not yet in the **LOOP**, speak with your school's Book Club Organiser.

Head to **scholastic.com.au/LOOP**

or



Follow these **easy** steps!

1. Simply grab your child's Book Club catalogue and either **SIGN-IN** or **REGISTER** your account.
 2. Add your child's first name and last initial (so the school knows who the book is for), then select your **SCHOOL** and your **CHILD'S CLASS**.
Note: You can order for multiple children at once if they attend the same school.
- Looking for **MORE** product information? Additional content such as videos and downloads are available for select titles. Select your issue and enter the item number to view information on titles and some great resources, such as videos and reviews.
- HOME | ABOUT | REGISTER | HELP
- LOOKING FOR MORE PRODUCT INFORMATION?
3. Click on **ORDER** and enter the item number from the Book Club catalogue.
 4. All orders are linked directly to the school for submission to Scholastic. Books will still be delivered to your child's classroom if you order by the close date.

That's it! There's no need to return paper order forms or payment receipt details to your school.



School's Web Page!

As many of you may already know, Belvoir has created a Web page. You can access the page by going on to

<https://www.belvoirss.vic.edu.au/>

This page is used to promote events, share information and showcase achievements of classes and individual students. We would love for you to share this page with your friends and family so that everyone can see the great things happening in our school.

CONTACT DETAILS

Could all families please make sure that they inform the school office whenever they have any changes to any of their contact details e.g.. home/mobile phone numbers, change of address etc.

It's extremely important that we have up to date information in case of emergencies.

Please contact Andrea or Hannah on 6059 8987 if you have any changes.

WELCOME BACK TO TERM 1!

Please ensure masks are worn when on site.



Early Intervention Music Therapy

A place to grow, connect and create with other children & families who access early intervention services in Wodonga/Albury.

Registered Music Therapist Simone, provides a space for children to be themselves while supporting them reach their NDIS goals.

We sing, play instruments, learn new skills and go on musical adventures together while making new friends along the way.

Music Therapy is an evidence based allied health profession and can be funded by the NDIS.

New group starting Feb 3rd Wed mornings & runs for the school term.

Contact on: simone@musicgarden.com.au or 0458 627 688

Coming to Belvoir 22nd February to 26th February.....



arena theatre co

Arena produces high quality, original and artistically ambitious theatre for young people. Our work is presented by Australia's major theatre producers and arts centres, and toured internationally.

We believe in theatre's unique ability to provide a space of reflection, celebration and transformation for young people. Our aim is to speak to young people in languages they understand, in the spaces they occupy, but in ways they never thought possible.



<https://vimeo.com/314641429>

Arena will be working across Belvoir school to create and build an interactive and multimedia production by the end of the week. We will hopefully have public viewing of the work in some capacity... stay tuned!



Belvoir Special School

'Together we can'

Belvoir Special School Swimming Carnival

29th January, 2021

RE: Permission letter

Dear Parent/Carer,

Belvoir's annual swimming carnival will be held on Thursday 11th March at the Albury Swim Centre. On the day students will need to wear swimmers, sun smart hat and sunscreen. Students will be bussed to and from the carnival, leaving the school at approximately 930am and returning 230pm.

Please note: To ensure the safety of all students, parents /carers of students in prep classes **must** attend on the day to assist with your child's supervision.

A free sausage sizzle will be provided for students at lunch and the pool canteen will be open throughout the day to purchase snacks. The pool will also open their slide to students throughout the day and again with your written permission your child can use this facility.

Please complete the following permission slip and return to the **office** by **Friday 26th February**

Regards,

Ross Hayward

PE Specialist & Sports Coordinator

I _____ give permission for my
child/children _____ to participate in the annual swimming carnival at
the Albury Swim Centre. I also give permission for my child/children to be bussed to and from the venue.

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

I also give permission for my child/children to use the slide on the day of the carnival.

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

BELVOIR SPECIAL SCHOOL

School Name

5222

School REF ID

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname _____

First name _____

Address _____

Town/suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Contact number _____

Centrelink pensioner concession **OR** Health care card number (CRN)

- - - **OR**

☐ Foster parent* **OR** ☐ Veterans affairs pensioner (Gold Card)**

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

**Applicants must provide a copy of the Veteran Affairs Gold card

Student details

Child's surname	Child's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
- Information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and/or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant _____

Date ____ / ____ / ____

CSEF ELIGIBILITY

Below is the criteria used to determine a student's eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

Criteria 1 – Eligibility

To be eligible* for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one, or;
 - on the first day of Term two.
- a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR
 - b) Be a temporary foster parent, and;
 - c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

* A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see:

www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and 17 years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and 18 years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooled, or TAFE.

Eligibility Date

For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (27th January 2021) or term two (19th April 2021).

PAYMENT AMOUNTS

CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

- Primary school student rate: \$125 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: \$225 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to your child's school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student's date of birth. For more information, see:

www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx

Year 7 government school students who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Secondary schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents so please register your interest at the school.

HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

NOTE: ALL SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

1. Complete the PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN DETAILS section.
Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.
If you are claiming as a Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.
2. Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.
3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible. The CSEF program for 2021 closes on 25th June 2021.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.

Fact sheet 1: school council elections – information for parents.

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the broad direction of a school, in accordance with Ministerial Order 1280 Constitution of Government School Councils, and the Education and Training Reform Act 2006. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

For most primary school councils, there are several possible categories of membership:

- **A mandated elected parent member category** – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department employees can be parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.
- **A mandated elected school employee member category** – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- **An optional community member category** – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. Department employees are not eligible to be community members.
- A small number of school councils have **nominee members**.

For all schools with a Year 7 and above cohort, there is an additional category of membership:

- **A mandated elected student member category, two positions.**

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills and a range of experiences and knowledge that can help inform and shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

Code of conduct for school councillors

School councils in Victoria are public entities as defined by the *Public Administration Act 2004*.

School councillors must abide by the Code of Conduct for Directors of Victorian Public Entities issued by the Victorian Public Sector Commission. The Code of Conduct is based on the Victorian public sector values and requires councillors to:

- **act with honesty and integrity** – be truthful, open and clear about their motives and declare any real, potential or perceived conflict of interest and duty
- **act in good faith in the best interests of the school** – work cooperatively with other councillors and the school community, be reasonable, and make all decisions with the best interests of students foremost in their minds
- **act fairly and impartially** – consider all relevant facts of an issue before making a decision, seek to have a balanced view, never give special treatment to a person or group and never act from self-interest
- **use information appropriately** – respect confidentiality and use information for the purpose for which it was made available
- **exercise due care, diligence and skill** – accept responsibility for decisions and do what is best for the school
- **use the position appropriately** – not use the position as a councillor to gain an advantage
- **act in a financially responsible manner** – observe all the above principles when making financial decisions
- **comply with relevant legislation and policies** – know what legislation and policies are relevant for which decisions and obey the law
- **demonstrate leadership and stewardship** – set a good example, encourage a culture of accountability, manage risks effectively, exercise care and responsibility to keep the school strong and sustainable.
- Be sure to vote if the election goes to ballot.
- Contact the principal for further information.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

Each member brings their own valuable life skills and knowledge to the role. However, councillors may need to develop skills and acquire knowledge in areas that are unfamiliar to them. It is important to have an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

Indemnity for school council members

School councillors are indemnified against any liability in respect of any loss or damage suffered by the council or any other person in respect of anything necessarily or reasonably done, or omitted to be done by the councillor in good faith in:

- A) the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a councillor, or
- B) the reasonable belief that the act or omission was in the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a council.

In other words, school councillors are not legally liable for any loss or damage suffered by council or others as a result of reasonable actions taken in good faith.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to participate in and vote in the school council elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider:

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual timeline has been varied by the Minister for Education.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the parent member category.

Department employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work, are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt via post, email or by hand following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

- Consider standing for election to school council.
- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do.
- Be sure to vote if the election goes to ballot.
- Contact the principal for further information.