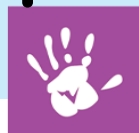


Belvoir Special School Newsletter



38 Gayview Drive, WODONGA, 3690

Dear Parents/Carers,

The start of the school year is always a busy and exciting time for students and staff as we return with renewed enthusiasm and energy for the year ahead and I would like to congratulate all the students on the wonderful way they have all settled back into the routines of school. As I walk around the classrooms it is great to hear lots of chatter and laughter as students and teachers go about setting up for the year ahead.

STUDENTS ARRIVING AT THE SCHOOL BEFORE SCHOOL

We request that students do not arrive before 8.30am. They will not be supervised by staff. Basic supervision at the front of the school starts at 8:30. At 8:45 the school gates are opened, and staff provide active supervision around each Pod.

DROP-OFF/ PICK-UP

Please use the drive-through Drop-off / Pick-up area if your child/ren are completing a quick drop off/ pick up. Please use the car parks outside the Life Skills House or next to the Hall if your child/ren need more time. A reminder that no students should be dropped off out the front of the Administration Office.

SCHOOL CROSSING

Pedestrians are always encouraged to use the marked Zebra crossings. At peak times (before and after school), the carpark crossing is supervised by a staff member. Please follow the directions of the staff member to ensure all users are safe. I would ask that as adults, we demonstrate being good role models to our students by always using the Zebra crossing and if supervised, follow the directions of staff members.

STUDENT ABSENCES:

Please call the office to notify us of any student absences. Ph 6059 8987.

SAFETY OF ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS

As we settle into Term 1, a big thank you for the way our community members are supporting the School in a number of areas. To enable this to continue, we are seeking your ongoing support and assistance in maintaining the safety of all individuals. A few points to remember:

HEALTH & HYGIENE

- With the return to school, here are some reminders as we continue to manage COVID;
- The first and second rounds of Victorian Government provided Rapid Antigen tests for students have been distributed (second round just arrived today). A reminder that students are to be tested prior to school, with any positive test to be reported to the school. Please call Ph 6059 8987. We need to know the child/ren's name and date of the positive test.
- While Rapid Antigen testing is voluntary, we strongly encourage families to support the ongoing surveillance requirements with managing the COVID-19 pandemic. We thank all families for their ongoing support keeping our community safe and well.
- To support the ongoing health of everyone at the school, please remember that it is important that your child is kept at home if he/she has any COVID symptoms:
 - a cough
 - a runny nose
 - a sore throat
 - muscle aches
 - chills or sweats
 - a temperature (more than 37.5°C)

Pennie Moffat
Principal

Deb ball training will recommence on Monday 14th February from 3.15 to 4pm. This year's deb ball has been booked for Friday 8th April (final day of term 1).

Thank you for your support!

DATES TO REMEMBER

Year 7 Immunisations - February 28th

Swimming Carnival - March 11th

School Council Meetings

General - 16th Feb

Finance - 4th March

General - 16th March

Dyson's Bus Numbers:

BUS 1: 0408691885

BUS 2: 0417041196

BUS 3: 0407563474

BUS 4: 0408698635

Belvoir Bus: 0431756813

Room 2

Lara & Tulashi

Room 2 have had a fabulous start to the school year. We have had fun getting to know each other and finding our favourite toys to play with and activities to complete.

The children have got use to our classroom routine and have been working hard in class. We have been looking at our book 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you see?' and finding our favourite animals and making our own colourful animals.



Room 8

Lisa, Jo, Lynsey & Tracey

Students in Room 8 have settled into first term and their new room well. We have enjoyed getting to know each other and playing a range of games together. Students have contributed to discussions around classroom expectations and school rules, as well as Zones of regulation.

In Literacy we have started looking at procedural texts and the features they include. Students have enjoyed sequencing pictures in order, and following the steps in a procedure. They demonstrated this when we followed a visual recipe to make muesli bars.

Room 8 have enjoyed listening to stories including 'Giraffes Can't Dance' and 'The most magnificent thing'. As a follow up activity, students had the opportunity to design and create their own magnificent thing. We had designs ranging from radios to racing cars to homes for insects. It was great to see them express their ideas through their creativity.

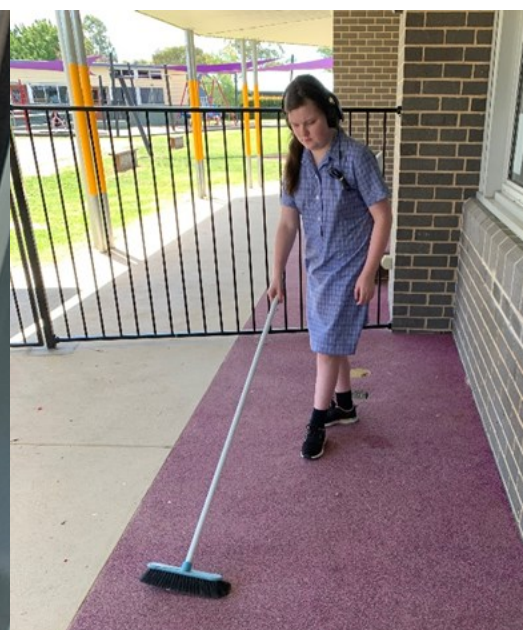
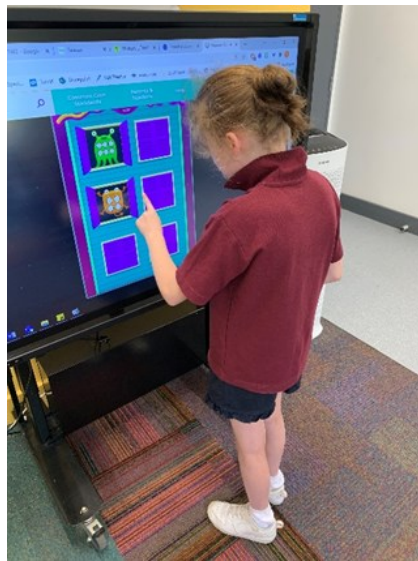
We are looking forward to a fun and productive year together.



ROOM 14

Ellissa & Sheree

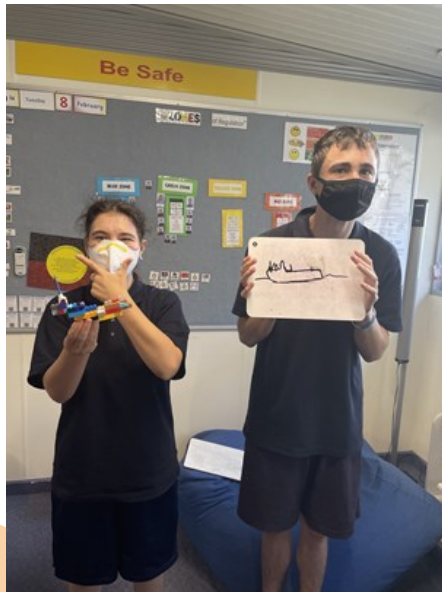
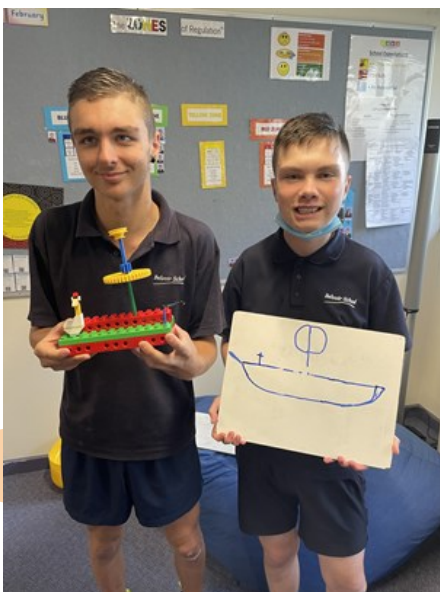
In Room 14 we have been very busy getting to know each other and our new routines. We have been earning 'purple pod money' for doing things like following classroom routines, participating in discussions and washing our hands! It's lucky that we are pretty good at this because we have to pay rent! At the end of the week, we can use our money to buy a special activity or we can save up for something bigger. We are looking forward to learning so many new things this year!



Room 21 News

Scott & Bron

Room 21 have settled in to the New Year in a very happy and positive manner. We have a large group of students in our room who are looking forward to completing many different activities and participating in many new events. Students have already been working on team building, co-operation and relationship building activities as a means to setting the class up for lots of success throughout the year. We have two year 12 students who have chosen to nominate for School Captain/Vice Captain and four students who have nominated for House Captain. Good luck to all nominees in next weeks elections.



HELP NEEDED

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As part of Room 19s class community project this term, we are making a pom pom rug for our chill-out area. We are in need of thick wool (any colour) in order to make our own pom poms. If you have any spare wool at home that you no longer need, or know anyone that has any spare wool, we would gladly appreciate your donation of wool so we can complete our project. If you could please drop any wool to the front office as soon as possible so we can make a start, that would be great!

Here is a picture of the type of wool that we need (any colour).



Here is a photo of a sample pom pom rug we will be making.



Thank you!

From Room 19

Monday the 14th of February is a very exciting day for our entire school community. It is the first day of work for Nara, Belvoir Special School's Wellbeing Dog.

Our classroom staff have been working hard to prepare their students for Nara's starting day and it has been fantastic to see and hear so many students explaining our 3 expectations when interacting with Nara.

The 3 expectations that our students have been working hard to understand are:



These expectations are important for all members of our school community to be aware of and follow, as consistency is such an important part of making Nara's transition into Belvoir successful.

On Monday, Nara will start working with 2 classrooms in the school, these classrooms will help support Nara's transition into her life at Belvoir. Please keep an eye on next week's newsletter for lots of photos of Nara's first day at school.

As a school we thank you for leaving your dogs at home when picking up child/ren up. This is to help Nara settle in and avoid unnecessary distractions at pick up and drop off time.

RAPID ANTIGEN TESTING REQUIREMENTS

All testing must be completed at home before school with parents/carers reporting any **POSITIVE** Test results to:

Belvoir Special School [\(02\) 6059 8987](tel:0260598987) with the following details:

- o Name of Student
- o Date of Test

- State Departments – depending on whether you live in Victoria or NSW:
 - o Victorian Department of Health:
 - [Report a Positive Rapid Antigen Tests](#) - Coronavirus Victoria website, or Coronavirus Hotline 1800 675 398 as soon as possible.
 - o Service NSW:
 - Register it on service.nsw.gov.au or the Service NSW app as soon as possible.

THE SCHOOL DOES NOT REQUIRE ANY NOTIFICATION OF NEGATIVE RAPID ANTIGEN TESTS.

For the latest information from a positive result after undertaking a Rapid Antigen Test:

- [Victoria Rapid Antigen Tests](#)
- [NSW COVID-19 Testing & Self-Isolating](#)

RECOVERED COVID CASES

Anyone who has recovered from COVID-19 is exempt from testing and quarantine requirements if they are reexposed to a case within 30 days of testing positive. This includes not completing rapid antigen tests as you may still test positive while shedding the virus but you are no longer contagious / infectious.


Bookclub 2022

Issue 1 Book club brochures are being distributed early next week and orders are due back by Friday 18th February.

For our new foundation parents and new parents to the school wanting to order books, there is 2 options....

1: Student order form from brochure to be handed into school with money.

2: Online ordering with the LOOP App, credit card/ debit card.



Book Club LOOP
The **EASIEST** way for parents to order and pay for Book Club!

Parents: Are you registered for LOOP?
LOOP is the easiest way for you to order and pay online for your child's Book Club order, if you wish to pay by credit card.

Parents who are registered for **LOOP** receive exclusive sneak peeks, downloads and offers throughout the school year—don't miss out!

BONUS!

Head to scholastic.com.au/LOOP and register today!

 SCHOLASTIC

The advertisement features a blue header with the 'Book Club LOOP' title and a circular logo on the right that says 'More Kids Reading More'. Below the header, the text explains that LOOP is the easiest way to order and pay online. A 'BONUS!' graphic with a starburst effect is placed next to the text about exclusive sneak peeks. At the bottom, there is an illustration of two children reading books and the Scholastic logo.



02/02/2022

Dear School Community,

Temporary Changes to Opening Hours

We'd like to advise you that due to some staff availability concerns, we will be temporarily reducing our opening hours. While we've done our best to reduce the impact as much as we can, there will be changes to our Wednesday trading hours. We'll be working to resolve the staffing issues as soon as possible, so that we can reopen to our full trading hours as soon as we can.

Until these shortages are resolved, our Wodonga store will be open during the following hours:

<i>Monday</i>	9:30am to 4:30pm
<i>Tuesday</i>	9:30am to 4:30pm
<i>Wednesday</i>	1:30pm to 4:30pm
<i>Thursday</i>	9:30am to 4:30pm
<i>Friday</i>	9:30am to 4:30pm

If there are any further changes, we'll notify you as soon as we've identified them. We'd like to apologise for any inconveniences, and thank you for your understanding.

Kind regards,

Beleza School Uniforms

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.



CSEF ELIGIBILITY

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

Criteria 1 – General eligibility

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

- on the first day of Term one
 - on the first day of Term two
- a) be a holder of one or more of the eligible financially-means tested cards **OR** be a temporary foster parent, and;
- b) submit an application to the school by the due date.

For the list of eligible financially-means tested cards refer to the CSEF Policy:
<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund/policy>

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 the above.

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

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooled, or TAFE.

Special Consideration

A special consideration category exists for

- Families on a bridging visa, temporary protection visa, in community detention or are asylum seeker families
- Students in temporary out of home care arrangements, including statutory kinship care

For more information, see <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund/guidance/eligibility>

Eligibility Date

For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/carers concession card being validated successfully with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (31 January 2022) or term two (26 April 2022).

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/carers 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/CARER 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 temporary 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.

If you are seeking special consideration, mark this in the form and provide a copy of the relevant documentation.

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 2022 closes on the 24 June 2022.

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name

School REF ID

Parent/carer details

Surname _____

First name _____

Address _____

Town/suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Contact number _____

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

- - - **OR**

☐ Foster parent under a temporary care order* **OR** ☐ Veterans affairs pensioner (Gold Card)**

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH).

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

Is this an application for special consideration (no CRN needed)? Yes ☐ No ☐

Student details

Student's surname	Student'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 Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DFFH 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 DFFH 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 DFFH 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 ____ / ____ / ____

Belvoir Special School Swimming Carnival

4th February, 2022

RE: Permission letter

Dear Parent/Carer,

Belvoir's annual swimming carnival will be held on Friday 11th of March 2022 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 9:30am and returning 2:30pm.

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** no later than **Friday 28th February 2022**.

Regards,

Todd Richardson

PE Specialist & Sports Coordinator

I _____ give permission for my child/children _____ to participate in the annual swimming carnival at the Albury Swim Centre on the 11th of March 2022. 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: _____

School Vaccination Program: Belvoir Special School

The first round of school vaccinations is being conducted at this school on **Monday 28 February 2022**.

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 **Thursday 17 February 2022**. Please return the card to the school even if your child is not being vaccinated.

Please note that ATAGI (Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation) recommends that there no longer needs to be a 7 day interval between COVID-19 vaccination and any other vaccine (including school vaccines). Therefore, if we have a signed consent card for school vaccinations, this vaccine(s) will be administered to your child on 28/02/2022, providing that your child is well on the day of vaccination. Please note that ATAGI advises that "co-administration or near administration (within 7 days) of 2 or more vaccines can lead to a higher frequency of mild to moderate adverse events...therefore your child may experience common adverse effects. Any adverse events should be reported to [SAEFVIC](#)":

- Email: saefvic@mcri.edu.au
- Phone: 1 300 882 924 (option 1)
- Online: <https://www.safevac.org.au>

Parents/guardians who wish to withdraw their consent for any reason may do so by emailing or phoning the school, and 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.