

Belvoir Special School Newsletter



38 Gayview Drive, WODONGA, 3690

Welcome to Term 3 and I hope that all our Belvoir families have enjoyed the opportunity for a break to refresh ready for the second half of the year.

Staffing Updates

As we commence Term 3, I would like to provide an update on our Staffing in the School:

- Room 3 Chloe will be joining Emily and Claire in Room 3. This will be a smooth transition for our Room 3 students as Chloe has been supporting the room during term 2.
- Room 7 Linda will be replacing Danielle in Room 7 for the rest of Term 3. Linda was able to spend several days with Danielle and the Room 7 students this week to support a smooth transition. Linda is excited to get to know our students and their families in the coming weeks.
- Room 13 Michaeli will be joining Room 13 replacing Claire Knobel. This will be a smooth transition for our Room 13 students as Michaeli has been supporting the room during term 2.
- Room 8 Lynsey will change her working days to M, T, W and Sam Hooper will be in on Th, Fri while Tracey is on long service leave
- We welcome Sara Verity into Room 10 on a Monday along with Bec Taylor who will be replacing Shannen in this room Monday to Friday.

Kim McNamara will be in Room 17 Tues, Wed from Week 5 onwards.

DATES TO REMEMBER

July 22, Finance Meeting

July 27, General Meeting

Dyson's Bus Numbers:

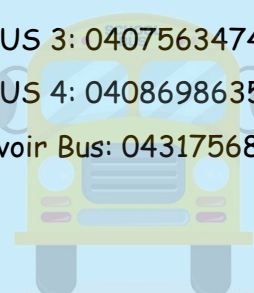
BUS 1: 0408691885

BUS 2: 0417041196

BUS 3: 0407563474

BUS 4: 0408698635

Belvoir Bus: 0431756813



This school year there are a number of new faces that make up Belvoir's Allied Health therapy team. From left to right is, Ebony Moran (Speech Pathologist), Tayla Bogle (Occupational Therapist), Cindy Elkington (Allied Health Assistant), Ellie Gleeson (Speech Pathologist) and not pictured, Mikaela Uebergang (Speech Pathologist). At different times the therapists may be in contact with you and we felt it is often helpful to put a face to a name.



TERM 3 & BEING COVID-SAFE

While there are less COVID restrictions in place as we commence the new term, the ongoing challenges of the pandemic still remain with a high number of cases in the local community as well as this year's flu season.

As we return for Term 3, it is vitally important that we continue to maintain our high standards around being COVID-Safe. Each and every one of us still have a role to play in this global pandemic and encourage all of our Belvoir community to do our part. Please continue to ensure that students remain at home if unwell, encourage students to physically distance, cough / sneeze into the elbow and wash their hands regularly.

Rapid Antigen Testing (RAT)

It is recommended that rapid antigen tests are used by students and staff when symptomatic. Household contacts are required to test negative using a rapid antigen test on at least 5 out of 7 days if they are attending or working at a school. The School will have a supply of RAT kits for our community which can be provided on request through the School Administration.

If students receive a positive test result at any time, parents must:

Report a positive result to the School, via phone 02 60598987 or email to

belvoir.wodonga.sds@education.vic.gov.au ; this is so the school can record that they will be absent while in 7-day isolation, provide support and learning materials as needed, and let the rest of the school community know there has been a positive case onsite and that they should monitor for symptoms.

Report this through the Department of Health system ([Rapid antigen tests | Coronavirus Victoria](#)) or via the Coronavirus Hotline at 1800 675 398.

If a student has recovered from COVID-19, they are not required to get tested or isolate/quarantine if re-exposed to a case within 12 weeks of ending their isolation period.

All students and staff who return a positive result from a rapid antigen test should also follow the latest advice at <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/rapid-antigen-tests>.

Face Masks

The current advice from the Victorian Government is:

Wearing a face mask can help protect you and those around you. Face masks stop droplets spreading when you talk, cough, sneeze and laugh, which lowers your chance of spreading or catching the virus.

While the wearing of a mask is not compulsory, the Victorian Governments advice strongly recommends the wearing of face masks in indoor settings.

Household contacts attending the School who are over 8 years of age are required to wear face masks indoors unless they have a valid exception.

Everyone including students aged 8 years and above must wear a face mask when travelling on public transport, taxis or ride share vehicles.

Transporting Students to the School

Parents/carers are able to leave isolation if other arrangements cannot be made to transport their non-infectious child via private vehicle to and/or from school.

The person leaving self-isolation must travel directly to and from the location, making no stops, unless there is an emergency or as required by law. They must remain in the vehicle at all times, unless it is reasonably necessary to leave the vehicle to deliver the person to and from school, and must wear a face covering whilst outside the place of self-isolation.

We again thank our Belvoir community for their ongoing support, encouragement and understanding as we work together

ROOM 8 NEWS

Lisa, Jo, Lynsey & Tracey

Welcome to Term 3! Room 8 have enjoyed their first week back. We have shared our holiday stories and enjoyed getting to see each other again.

We have had an indigenous focus for the start of this term and the students have really engaged with our beautiful book this week 'Welcome to Country' which has gorgeous illustrations and narrative. We have also enjoyed making a collaborative artwork to celebrate NAIDOC Week and have been learning about what this is and why it is important.

This week we started looking at Place Value during our Math sessions and it has been great to see the class build on their prior knowledge and skills. Our Green Pod term topic is 'Big Things'. We are looking forward to exploring the geography of Australia and looking at 'Big Things' that can be found locally and nationally.



ROOM 14 NEWS

Ellissa & Sheree

Week 1 has been a busy one so far for the students in Room 14. We have been working with numbers during maths and focussing on re-training our brains with good reading habits after the holidays. We went on our first outing of the term to Yackandandah. We walked along the Lions Walk trail and had something to eat at Sir Issac Issacs Park. It was a bit muddy, but some really nice people had put some bark down to walk on so we didn't slip over. We have lots of exciting things planned for this term and can't wait to experience them all!



Visual Art NEWS

Emily

This week in art Yellow Pod have been exploring line , creating firework pictures with oil pastels and watercolours. Green pod created birds in flight using oil pastels and water colours. Purple pod got crafty and created some colourful collages inspired the by the artist Henri Matisse and Orange pod have created some underwater themed art using scribbles and watercolours.



Orange pod



Green pod



Yellow pod



Purple pod



ARENA



In the last week of term 2, we had Arena Theatre (finally) complete their residency with us. They worked with green and purple pods to explore the theme Bloom, and generated some incredible interactive works with students' ideas and creativity. Songs and stories were recorded. Animation and sculptures were crafted. Videos of the process and of student's experiences with Bloom were recorded. On the Friday, the whole school walked through the gallery that was created and the feedback was super enthusiastic! Students were engaged by seeing themselves and their peers as artists and performers. Thanks to Wodonga City Council for the grant in 2019 that made this residency happen and to Eliza, Christian and Jolyon from Arena Theatre! Keep an eye out on Facebook and Seesaw as we hope to share some of these incredible works soon!





We have some exciting news!

As an extension of the Mental Health Practitioner Program at Belvoir Special School, in Term 3 with a number of identified students from Orange Pod and the Life Skills Friday Program, we will be participating in The Brave Program (online). This initial pilot of 2 groups will be run over 10 sessions as follows;

Friday Life Skills Program: Friday weekly session

Orange Pod: Monday fortnightly session (commencing the 18th of July)

The Brave Program is a free online program which is based on cognitive behavioural therapy and designed for young people aged 8 to 17 years to build understanding of own emotions and support those experiencing anxiety or mild mental health concerns. The sessions run for 30-40 minutes, are interactive, fun and ensure that all participants feel safe.

There is also a free supporting online program for parents/carers who would like to build their own understanding and capacity to better support child mental health and wellbeing in a proactive way. If your child has been selected for this initial trial, you would have already received parent information at the end of Term 2 via email.

Should you like to learn more about the program or sign up your child/ parent follow the link <https://brave4you.psy.uq.edu.au/>

For any further information please feel free to make contact with Grace Churches (Mental Health Practitioner) grace.churches@education.vic.gov.au

