

Belvoir Special School Newsletter



38 Gayview Drive, WODONGA, 3690

Firstly, let me wish all mothers, grandmothers, and mother figures a happy day for this Sunday. May those little rays of sunshine – your children – bring you great joy for the day, and for every other day of the year too!

This week it has been wonderful to see student's diligently creating special gifts for those import female figures in their life. The focus and excitement they demonstrated as they created and explained what they were making was amazing and wonderful to experience.

COLD and FLU

With the arrival of colder weather, cases of influenza (the flu) and COVID are increasing throughout Victoria. Our community is at risk of higher rates of students and staff affected by the flu, COVID and other illnesses over the winter season.

To help keep your child and our school community safe, please take the following steps if your child has any cold or flu-like symptoms:

- keep your child at home until their symptoms pass
 - common flu-like symptoms include a high fever, cough, runny nose, loss of appetite, body aches and feeling extremely weak and tired
 - diagnosis of the flu can only be confirmed by a doctor after a nose or throat swab
- encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and ask them to cover their nose and mouth when sneezing and coughing.

Winter Clothing Reminder!

Winter and colder days are on the way! This is your friendly reminder to check that you have cold weather uniforms (pants, trackies, jumpers) ready for those chilly days and they are labelled.

2024 DATES TO REMEMBER

Prep Tour
13th May 10.00am
Year 6/7 information session
27th May 10.00am
Finance Meeting
7th June
School Council
12th June

BUS PHONE NUMBERS

BUS 1: 0460 935 609

BUS 2: 0460 875 492

BUS 3: 0460 896 490

BUS 4: 0460 869 012

Belvoir Bus: 0431 756 813

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ENROLMENTS 2025

We are now taking enrolments for 2025 and will be running a Prep Tour in week 5 and Year 6/7 Tour in week 7 this term.

On Monday the 13th of May at 10:00 we will be running a Prep Information session and school tour for prospective 2025 prep families.

On Monday the 27th of May at 10am we will be running a Year 6/7 information session and school tour for perspective families.

If you know of a child who will be starting school in 2025 or transferring in 2025 and family is looking to enroll at Belvoir Special School, I ask that you please inform them of the Prep and Year 7 2025 Tours.

Interested parents and carers will need to contact our School on [\(02\) 6059 8987](tel:0260598987) so they can book in for the Tour.

Attendance tips for parents

- Schools want to work in partnership with parents – act early if you have any concerns by contacting your child's school and asking for advice and support
- Remember that every day counts
- There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student can affect their social connectedness
- Talk positively about school and the importance of attending every day
- Open and prompt communication with your child's school about all absences is a good idea
- Avoid making routine medical and dental appointments during the school day or planning family holidays during the term
- Seek help from your school if you are concerned about your child's attendance and wellbeing. Schools want to work in partnership with parents to support student attendance and wellbeing.

Child safety and wellbeing at Belvoir Special School: information for families and the school community

The Victorian Government has announced new [Child Safe Standards](#) to further strengthen child safety across organisations, including schools. The new standards recognise the critical importance of families and the broader school community in maintaining and promoting child safety and wellbeing.

Belvoir has reviewed and updated our child safety policies and procedures to ensure they meet the requirements of the new standards. These are available to view at the school's front office.

We are committed to continuous improvement in our approach to child safety and wellbeing and welcome feedback from families and members of our school community on ways we can further strengthen our child safety policies, procedures and practices.

If you have any suggestions, comments or questions, please contact Pennie Moffat.

Pennie Moffat
Principal



International Day Against LGBTIQ+ Discrimination (IDAHOBIT) is held annually on 17 May– Week 5

The Department of Education is committed to ensuring all Victorian government schools are respectful, safe and inclusive places of learning and work for all students, staff and members of our school communities.

As part of this commitment, the department supports all schools to join the many other schools and workplaces across the country to recognise International Day Against LGBTIQ+ Discrimination (IDAHOBIT) on Friday 17 May 2024.

This is to support lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and gender diverse, intersex, queer, questioning and asexual (LGBTIQ+) people in our schools and the community, in accordance with Department of Education's equal opportunity and anti-discrimination policy for students and employees, and the obligations in the Child Safe Standard 5 to uphold diversity and equity for everyone regardless of their background, characteristics or beliefs.

We believe it is important to teach our students about acceptance, respect and inclusivity. By doing so, we are not only creating a safe and supportive environment now, but also preparing students to thrive in a global society.

Patrick Burns (Safe Schools/ Department of Education) will be delivering professional education to our staffing group during our staff meeting in week 5. We look forward to continuing to work in partnership with you and all our families to support everyone to be safe and thrive at our school.

For more information, refer to the IDAHOBIT website www.idahobit.org.au.



CHARITY GALA



TICKETS
\$155
Per Person

**SATURDAY
25 MAY**

Tables of 8 or 10
(Individual Tickets Available)



Featuring Comedian: *Bev Killick*

INCLUDES:

Race Day Admission,
Entertainment, Auctions,
Two Course Meal, Beer, Wine,
Cider & Soft Drink for 4 hours.

PROUDLY SUPPORTING:



Belvoir Special School

TO PURCHASE TICKETS:

Please contact Andrew Dear
on (02) 6059 8987 or by email:
Andrew.Dear@education.vic.gov.au



www.racingwodonga.com.au



Orange Pod Swimming



Swimming lessons have started this week with Orange Pod enjoying water play and bubble blowing.



Water rescue, boat safety and the correct use of Personal Flootation Devices (PFD) was also practiced by many of our students.





Association for
Children with a
Disability

Free online workshop



Teens and Beyond

Do you have a child with disability aged 13+?

Then this FREE workshop is for you!

This popular series will give you practical information, skills and confidence to navigate the teenage years.

This is the only workshop that covers the full range of information relating to teenagers with disability in one place.

More information:

A three-part workshop. Each session is 2 hours. Content is intended for families of children with disability in Victoria only

Bookings are essential

Professional workshop facilitators are parents of young people with disability

Workshop dates:

- Monday 13, 20 & 27 May 10:00 am
- Monday 13, 20 & 27 May 7:00 pm
- Tuesday 14, 21 & 28 May 10:00 am
- Wednesday 15, 22 & 29 May 7:00 pm

Topics include:

- Financial support
- Getting the right NDIS support for your teen
- School and post-school options
- Wellbeing: friendships, communication, behaviour support and good mental health

Read more and register now



bit.ly/TEENSmay24

Contact us

✉ educate@acd.org.au

☎ 03 9880 7000 or
1800 654 013 (regional callers)

Room 13 News

Room 13 has had a great start to Term 2. In writing, we have started to learn about procedures and have practiced sequencing and following different types of procedures including recipes to make ANZAC biscuits. In maths we have been learning about measurement and have explored a variety of units of measurement, such as measuring our height in cm. The students also enjoyed the challenge of who could create the heaviest ziplock bag by filling their zip lock bags with items from around the classroom.



This week we were also fortunate enough to be invited to the Scot's School Community Matinee of Freaky Friday. The students were amazing audience members and enjoyed the live performances. We also went to Noreuil Park for an outing where the students saw the new developments and played on the oval and sporting facilities nearby.





School Expectations



• Follow Instructions



• Be Safe



• Be Respectful

Developed by: 2019/2020 Curriculum Review Team
Approved: 2019/2020 Curriculum Review Team
Reviewed: 2020/2021 Curriculum Review Team
Reviewed: 2021/2022 Curriculum Review Team

TERM DATES 2024

	START	FINISH
Term 1	29/01/2024	28/03/2024
Term 2	15/04/2024	28/06/2024
Term 3	15/07/2024	20/09/2024
Term 4	07/10/2024	20/12/2024

Please note that school finishes at 2.00pm last day of the term except for Term 4.

Parental Concerns or Issues

Belvoir Special School welcomes feedback, both positive and negative, and is committed to continuous improvement. We value open communication with our families and are committed to understanding complaints and addressing them appropriately. We recognise that the complaints process provides an important opportunity for reflection and learning.

We encourage and value open positive relationships with our school community and understand that it is in the best interests of students for there to be a trusting relationship between families and our school.

Parents are able to contact the school through the student diaries which are sent home with students each day, or they can ring the school to speak with classroom staff before or after school most days.

If the matter is urgent parents are able to email belvoir.wodonga.sds@education.vic.gov.au or call the school on 02 6059 8987 and speak with or organize a time to discuss the issue with either Michelle Heintze-Moller, myself or relevant staff.

Our full complaints and other policies can be found at:

[Policies and Forms - Belvoir Special Development School \(belvoirss.vic.edu.au\)](https://belvoirss.vic.edu.au)

Pennie Moffat
Principal

School Athletics - House Groups

Students, Staff and Parents are put into groups according to their surnames. Each group has a name and color and it's requested that everyone wears clothing the color of the house they are allocated to:

<u>Surnames between</u>		<u>Colour</u>	<u>House Name</u>
A-D	=	Red	Mitta
E-K	=	Green	Murray
L-Q	=	Blue	Kiewa
R-Z	=	Yellow	Hume



Room 10



This week has been a very exciting time for Room 10. We were lucky enough to be invited to go see The Scots School Albury 2024 Showcase Musical – *Freaky Friday*. On Wednesday we caught the bus and ventured over to Albury to go watch it. Everyone came back saying it was great and they enjoyed watching it.



This term our Topic we have been learning about is Chemical Science. This involves lots of experiments and looking at reactions. This week we looked into erupting our volcano we have been creating out of paper, glue and paint. We added the bi-carb soda with red food colouring mixed in to the middle of our volcano and then we took turns to add the vinegar. There was lots of squeals of delight and excitement over it erupting and asking to add more vinegar. We also experimented with the mentos in soft drink. This was also a very fun and exciting experiment for everyone.



We have also been working hard on some Mother's Day presents but we can't give too much away. We hope all our Mums wake up to a lovely surprise on Sunday.





FoodShare's Community Pantry service supports members of the community experiencing financial hardship by providing:

- fresh fruit and vegetables
- protein and dairy products
- pantry staples/ household items/ frozen

How to access the supermarket:

If you or your family are struggling to put food on the table but you have funds available to cover the cost of a voucher, the agencies listed below are facilitating access to FoodShare vouchers.

1. You will need to buy a \$25 or a \$15 voucher from one of the below locations 2. Take the voucher to redeem it for food and supplies at 81 Wigg Street—FoodShare supermarket.

Vouchers are available from:

- The Personnel Group- 02 6041 1577
- Hyphen - Wodonga Library Gallery
- Vincent de Paul - Wodonga- 02 6024 3493 and leave a message for a call back
- VACCA— 03 5756 9000



The Department of Transport & Planning [Travel Pass program](#) provides free 30-day Travel Passes to Victorian students who are experiencing crisis to ensure they can continue to attend school by using public transport.

The program was recently expanded to include caregivers of eligible students, ensuring that they can accompany a student on their journey.

Students' eligibility is determined on a case-by-case basis by the school and the passes can be used across Victoria's public transport network.

Travel Passes

Primary, secondary and specialist schools can receive 30-day Travel Passes free of charge to give to students in crisis.

Travel Passes can be used on:

- bus, train and tram trips in metropolitan Melbourne (Zone 1 and 2)
- all regional town buses
- PTV inter-town buses
- V/Line coaches
- V/Line trains.

How to apply

Students can apply directly to their school.

Government schools can apply on behalf of students via their State Schools' Relief online portal.



Wodonga Central Auskick Centre

Is searching for the next stars.

Mondays starting 6th May

4:40 – 6:10 pm

Martin Park 2 Gordon St Wodonga



10 weeks

\$ 91

Bargain

Join the fun today

<https://www.playhq.com/register/051a44>

Any enquiries contact centre coordinator 0424 298 821

Download our school app for free!



- Instant news notifications
- Online absentee forms
- Events and 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.