PRINCIPAL’S COMMENTS

It is hard to believe that we are already into Week 3 of first term. Everyone has settled back into the school routines and I am most impressed with the way the Preps have adjusted to school life. Please let the teachers or me know if your child is having any challenges. It is so important to have honest, open two way communication so please do not hesitate to contact me if you need to discuss any issue.

BEGINNING YEAR ASSEMBLY AND OPEN NIGHT

We are looking forward to the Beginning Year Assembly and Open Night. We have decided to combine both events and we believe that it will be a very successful night.

This special night will be held on Tuesday February 19 starting with a free BBQ put on by your P&C Association. The BBQ starts at 5.45pm and then the formal part of the Assembly starts at 6.20pm. All students new to our School this year are formally introduced to everyone. Your child is required to introduce you to their teacher. Children are to wear school uniform.

Following this the parents will move to the classrooms to spend some time with their child’s teacher. The evening should be concluded by 8:00pm. Food is free; drinks are for sale before and after the Assembly. Nothing at all is available during the actual Assembly, the tuckshop will be closed.

YEAR 4/5/6/7 SYDNEY/CANBERRA TRIP 2013

We need to start to organise the trip to Canberra in Term 3. This excursion is open to students from Years 4, 5, 6 and 7. Last year 24 children indicated a level of interest in participating in this wonderful opportunity to visit our nation’s capital city. I have spoken to a tour company and the ideal number of students would be 30, this maximises the use of bus and accommodation giving the parents lower costs.

The children will be spending 1 night in Sydney and 3 nights in Canberra. The cost is approximately $800. This includes airfares, accommodation and 3 meals per day. Once numbers are confirmed the tour company will give us an actual cost of the trip.

I wish to invite all parents who are interested in sending their children on this trip to complete the form at the end of the newsletter. We need to move quickly as this trip will need plenty of organising!

Could you please return the completed expression of interest by 15 February 2013.

ANAPHYLAXIS

Anaphylaxis is the most severe form of allergic reaction and is potentially life threatening. It must be treated as a medical emergency, requiring immediate treatment and urgent medical attention.

Anaphylaxis is a generalised allergic reaction, which often involves more than one body system (e.g. skin, respiratory, gastro-intestinal, cardiovascular). A severe allergic reaction usually occurs within 20 minutes of exposure to the trigger and can rapidly become life threatening.

One of the triggers of anaphylaxis can be food. Peanuts are a food type which is commonly associated with anaphylaxis and we do have children at Beechmont who have an allergic reaction to peanuts. The school would appreciate if parents refrained from sending any peanut products to school in order to minimise the risk of an allergic reaction occurring.

Please feel free to contact Mr Roberts if you need any further information.

A caring family school...
COMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY
Feb 13 Senior Band
Feb 14 Instrumental Music
Feb 15 Parade
Feb 18 Book Fair starts
Fri 19 Beginning Year Assembly/Open Night, BBQ 5.45pm
Feb 22 Raw Art No Parade
Feb 27 P & C Annual General Meeting 7:00 pm

P & C NEWS

The P & C Annual General Meeting has had to be rescheduled. It will now be held on Wednesday 27 February at 7:00pm.

HATS

School Hats are a part of our School uniform policy approved by the P&C and Staff. All children are required to wear a School Hat, not a ‘street hat’.

If children wear a non School hat then their play will be restricted to the Covered Area and not the outside areas.

Hats are the same as School shirts, shorts and dresses. They are expected to be worn each day. Please make sure your child has the appropriate uniform each day.

IS YOUR CHILD ON THE BUS?

If your child travels on any of the School buses then it is really important that you come to the Bus Meeting at the ‘Hall on Graceleigh’ on Wednesday 20th February starting at 7.30pm.

There is generally only 1 bus meeting a year unless issues arise that need all parents’ input.

So please make the effort to come along to the bus meeting so that any issues you might have can be openly discussed.

SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking is a wonderful way to encourage your child to save and reinforce positive saving habits.

Student Banking forms are with this weeks newsletter to open an account. Please seriously consider setting up a School Banking Account for your child.

Student Banking is every Tuesday, just send your child’s deposit book and money to the office and we will do the rest.

Mountains Mates Mutterings

your Beechmont State School P&C Assn.
Outside School Hours Care Service
Ph. 55459124 or a/h 55333340
email: mountainmates@bigpond.com

Welcome to Mountain Mates, your Before School, After School and Vacation Care specialists.

Welcome to week 3. Last week we started our term program, on Monday Kim and the kids made a delicious chocolate cake. Tuesday the children made some unusual critters out of egg cartons. Wednesday saw our first day of AASCP with our Archery coaches, the children had a great afternoon and I would like to thank them for their good behaviour when the were explained the rules of safety and whilst they waited their turn.

Thursday afternoon the children got to visit the mobile library and they would have come with membership forms, could you please ensure they are returned to Mountain Mate by Thursday next week as they scramble to earn some extra pocket money.

Dinner this week will be Hamburgers and for dessert Chocolate Cake.

Have a great week.

From Kim, Janine, Kerry, Clare and Kara.
Your Mountain Mates Team.

BOOK FAIR 2013

Roll up!! Roll up!! Book Fair is here next week and we are really looking forward to another exciting and crazy week in the Library. Book fair arrives Friday with hopefully will be here early enough for the students to come down for a preview and to write their “wish list”. Parents, this could be a great opportunity to get a few extra chores out of the kids as they scramble to earn some extra pocket money.

The Book Fair provides us with a wide range of great books priced from just $5. We will also have the usual stationery and posters as well. Attached to this week’s newsletter is a small catalogue to give you some idea of the books that are in this Fair.

YEAR 4/5/6/7 SYDNEY/CANBERRA TRIP 2013

I would like my child ______________________

To attend the year 4,5,6&7 Sydney/Canberra camp

Parents Signature ______________________

Email address: __________________________________________

__________________________________

Email address: __________________________________________
The Fair will be open every day next week before school from 8am until the bell, during playtimes, and after school until 3:30pm, but will close early on Friday (8:45am) so that it can be dismantled ready for pick up. We will also be open from 5:30pm until 8pm on Open Night (Tues Feb 19). Please drop in and see the terrific range of books we have on sale.

This event is the major fundraiser for the Library for the year. We receive generous commissions from the sales we make which go directly into providing your children with a wide range of literature, so please support us in this venture.

NEWS FROM THE TEACHERS

YEAR 1/2 CLASS

This week in English we are looking at the deliberate choice of verbs and images to create emotion. In grammar the year 1’s are writing simple sentences and the year 2’s are learning to use conjunctions to make compound sentences. Spelling groups have been established and incorporated into homework activities. Homework is due in on Thursday please.

In Math we are learning to sequence the days of the week and the months of the year. It is very helpful if parents talk with their children about how long/often everyday family activities take e.g. we grocery shop weekly, watch T.V. daily, it takes an hour to wash the car etc.

Thank you for the baby photos that are coming in, these are crucial to our science lesson and thank you also for the efforts you are all putting in to their home readers. It is much appreciated.

If there is anything you wish to discuss you are welcome to contact me on 55459100 or kpryo8@eq.edu.au

Wishing you all a good week,
Kerry Pryor

YEAR 2/3 CLASS

Children were given their weekly spelling words for homework yesterday. They have been given words that are developmentally appropriate for them. In class children were encouraged to use the ‘look, cover, write, check’ strategy to learn their words. When they are ‘looking’ at the words they should think of other words that look the same, e.g. night, light.

They can think of a way of remembering the tricky part, e.g. piece of pie. For words that are very tricky to learn they could make up a ditty (mnemonic) for example to learn to spell because, students may make up Boys Eat Crunchy Apples Under Sleeping Elephants. Additionally, they could ‘look’ if the word follows a spelling rule. When they get to the ‘write’ part of the strategy students could write out any misspelt words many times. They could also spell the word aloud to someone, but they should be writing out the words on the paper provided in their homework books. Students should stretch out the word and write the letter combinations for the sounds. They should use known word parts, e.g. prefixes, suffixes, blends, compound words, and the rules about adding them.

Homework will be handed out every Monday and is due back each Friday. Each week children are expected to read their daily reader, practise their spelling words each night and complete the maths or literacy sheet by the Friday due date.

Have a great week, Demelza

YEAR 3/4 CLASS

Well done to all of the children for making such a positive start to the 2013 school year. Last week we spent time consolidating concepts from last year and assessing where we need to go for this term. The children have worked hard and have settled in to the new year well.

Homework will begin this Friday. The homework sheet will be handed out on a Friday and collected on the Thursday, two weeks later. This fortnightly homework sheet allows children to get into the routine of planning their work ahead and gives them extra time to complete some of the longer homework tasks. Having a nightly routine for homework is important at this stage and for the children’s future years of schooling. The homework sheet will be pasted into a homework book and will be sent home on Friday in the children’s communication folder. Please let me know if there are any problems with homework.

In Science we are working on a unit of work related to classification of plants and animals. This week we will be going into the local environment and exploring how animals can be grouped or classified.

Have a great week.
Regards, Dan Albright dalbr1@eq.edu.au

YEAR 5/6 CLASS

We have had a wonderful start to the year. Last week we went over class rules and expectations and it was wonderful to see that our class is so keen to improve and learn. We did a goal setting activity where times tables, handwriting and socials skills were the most prominent goals to achieve.

The children were very mature about the disruption caused whilst the new carpet was being laid and worked well in a new environment.

Congratulations to all the children who remembered to complete and return their homework on Friday. If your child is using the Ed Studio, they will also need to keep a log on usage as part of their
The children have quickly settled back into the school routine. It is pleasing to see everyone putting in their best effort. It is so important for the Year 6 and Year 7 children to be role models for the rest of the school. It is vital for all the leaders to show consideration to their school mates, teachers and other staff at all times.

Most children are remembering to complete all homework on time. A gentle reminder from parents may be needed to be given to some of the children. Can you please remember to sign the various pieces of work.

The Year 7s will be running the Assembly each Friday. It is up to each child to prepare what they will be saying. We will guide them but ultimately it will be up to each child to ensure they are ready when it is their turn to speak. The first group did an excellent job last week. Well done Jasper, Amy C, Sidney and Desi.

As part of our Book Fair celebrations, the Year 6/7 class will be entering Scholastic’s Book Club competitions. This involves the children completing a variety of challenges (crossword, picture hunt, word building challenge and code cracker) and posting their entry forms in. Winning students receive a $20 Book Club voucher as well as a book for every child in that class. Last year, Katrina won a prize which was very exciting and we are hoping to repeat our success this year. These activities will be completed during class time, as part of our literacy rotations. If you do not want your child participating please contact us here at school.

Have a great week
Tanya Stanley tstan15@eq.edu.au &
Crichton Roberts crobe60@eq.edu.au

YEAR 6/7 NEWS

Spelling words were issued yesterday. Spelling tests are on Fridays and the words must be practiced as part of their homework task. The words provided are based on a child’s results from the Words Their Way program. If your child finds they have the same words that they have had in previously, it will be because the test has shown they need practice in that particular area. Children have also been encouraged to practice only the words that they cannot spell, and if they get 100% on their spelling test three weeks in a row, they will be provided with extension words.

Hope you have a wonderful week.
Regards, Katie and Joyce
kmann38@eq.edu.au  jbour96@eq.edu.au

SOCcer SEASON 2013

Sign on for this season will be on Tuesday 19th February at the first school assembly or you can email or telephone (details below).

2013 season fees are $185.00 for all matches, club fees and Gold Coast Soccer insurance and rego, or $196.00 including all the above plus our end of season professional team photo and individual player’s photo.

The Get in the game grant of $150 is also available for those needing some assistance with fees this season. Applications for this can be done on line, any queries contact us, but all in need are eligible.

FYI
The first game is scheduled for Saturday 6th April.

Training for the season will be on Tuesday afternoons between 3pm and 4pm on the oval.

For further information contact Rich 55331227
info@manakithomes.com.au
COMMUNITY NEWS

WANT A CHILD FREE NIGHT?

BABY SITTING
If you have a function to attend or just simply need some child free time

AFTER SCHOOL CARE
I can also help with homework

I COME TO YOU!
LOWER BEECHMONT AREA

Hi, my name is Audrey. I am 17 and a Lower Beechmont resident.

ALSO AVAILABLE FOR HOLIDAY PET CARE

Please ph: 55331390

HOUSE FOR RENT – LOWER BEECHMONT

3Bed, 2 Bath, 2 large living areas
Breathtaking views over hinze dam,
Quiet Street - walking distance to shop.
Ph Kay 0412 334971

CRICKET NEWS

Cricket is on again this Saturday 16th but not the following Saturday 23rd due to hall unavailability.
All Welcome

Netball  Netball  Netball
Fun  Fitness  Friendship

Beechmont Netball Club would like to invite all current netball players and any new players to attend our sign on information day this Saturday 16th February
Where:  Netball court Graceleigh Park
Time:  9am
Could all current players please bring their singlets so we can do a fitting training this year will be every Friday for every team starting 22nd February.
First game of the season is 2nd March

SOCCER SEASON 2013

Please note: There has been some confusion with the Auskick that was advertised in last week’s newsletter.
This is not Beechmont Junior Soccer.
This is an additional training session that the children can sign up for.
Enrolling in Auskick does not make the children registered players for the soccer club.
Any queries here please contact Rich 55331227.

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