NEW AWARDS

This year we will be introducing a new award which encourages the children to have a high level of attendance at school. The majority of children attend school regularly. It is unfortunate that there are some children who miss many days of school. This greatly impacts on their learning and they do not achieve their potential.

There will be an award presented at the End of Year Awards Night for the child/children with the best attendance for the year. There will also be a House Competition awarded at the end of each term to the House with the highest percentage attendance.

The staff would greatly appreciate the support of parents to ensure the level of attendance of Beechmont State School students reach our target of 96%.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Last week’s Students of the Week were:

Prep Leilani Sheargold, Year 1/2 Ella Best, Year 4/5 Sebastian Cording, Year 6/7 Ostin Piggott

GREAT RESULTS GUARANTEE

Last week the Minister for Education, Training and Employment announced $131 million in additional state school funding under the Great Results Guarantee.

The funding will be used by schools to develop evidence-based strategies that respond to the needs of students and deliver improved outcomes.

Under the agreement, each school will commit to guarantee that every student will either:

• achieve the National Minimum Standard for literacy and numeracy for their year level or have an evidence-based plan, developed by the school, in place to address their specific learning difficulties.

Beechmont State School will receive $27220 through this program. We will be working with the school community to develop a short term and long term strategy to ensure all our students reach their potential.

P + C AGM

Please note that our AGM followed by a general meeting will be held this Wednesday the 12th of February at 7pm in the school library. All positions become vacant at the AGM, but we are particularly looking for nominations for the positions of Secretary and Uniform Co-ordinator. If you think you might be interested or would like more information please give me a call to discuss (0438 789 035).

Hope you can make it, and for continuing members, please make sure you have your membership application in before or at the AGM.

Hope to see you Wednesday night. Kind regards, Wendy Blunt Secretary

DATE CLAIMER

Roll up!! Roll up!! Book Fair is coming and will be at Beechmont SS from 24th to the 28th February. Check the newsletter for further updates in the coming weeks.

www.beechmontss.eq.edu.au
COMING EVENTS

12 Feb  P&C AGM @ 7pm in school library
21 Feb  RAW Art
22 Feb  Working Bee  8:00-12:00
24 Feb  Book Fair starts
25 Feb  Beginning Year Assembly/Open Night
26 Feb  School Bus Mtg 7pm at Hall on Graceleigh
05 Mar  Colour Day
06 Mar  Senior Combined Band at Canungra

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 26th February starting at 7.00pm. 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.

WORKING BEE

We will be holding a working bee on Saturday 22nd February between 8:00-12:00. The gardens need weeding so we can get the beds ready to mulch. If you are free for even an hour it would be greatly appreciated. Bring buckets, gloves and a hat.

Could you please let Douglas know if you can come and help tidy up the school grounds. Thank you.

RAW ART

For those that have not paid school levy please send $9.70 by this Thursday 14th February so your child can participate in the Raw Art activities on the 21st. This is a fantastic opportunity and the students create great pieces of Art.

UNIFORM NEWS

The Uniform shop is open every Friday from 8.15am until 8.45am. -Thanks Janine

STUDENT BANKING

Student banking will resume on Wednesday 05 Feb 2014. Wednesday will be the new student banking day for this year.

There is a great new student banking program available with fantastic rewards. I will keep you posted with updates in the coming weeks.

TUCKSHOP ROSTER

Wed 12 Feb  Janine Van Boeschota
Fri 14 Feb  Elizabeth Bailey
Wed 18 Feb  Janine Van Boeschota
Fri 21 Feb  JaImee Sola
Wed 25 Feb  Janine Van Boeschota
Fri 28 Feb  Kerry Murphy
Wed 05 Mar  Janine Van Boeschota
Fri 07 Mar  JaImee Sola

SCHOOL TUCKSHOP

School tuckshop is open Wednesday & Friday’s

Tuckshop orders must be placed on the morning of tuckshop (no over the counter sales available) All children will place their orders into their class tuckshop boxes.

If you can spare a couple of hours on either Wednesday or Friday mornings to help in tuckshop that would be greatly appreciated, as well as your children love to see you helping in tuckshop. Please contact your Kathleen Callister ph: 0409 642 743

MOUNTAINS MATES MUTTERINGS

your Beechmont State School P&C Assn.
Outside School Hours Care Service
Ph. 55459124 or a/h 0417775741
email-mountainmates@bigpond.com

Welcome to Mountain Mates offering quality and affordable Before School, After School and Vacation Care

Welcome to Week 3 Term 1.

Thank you everyone for your patience over the last couple of days when our computer completely erased itself. We are now back on line and functioning normally again. Sorry if we caused anyone any inconvenience.

This week we will see Wednesday full of Art & Craft. Thursday we will start getting out and Active with some ball skills. Friday is still Freeplay Fun for everyone. Get ready to get your hands dirty next Monday because we are going to start weeding and planting to beautify our little piece of paradise. Then on Tuesday, strap on those pads because cricket is on the menu today. Tuesday’s are getting out and about playing cricket. What a great line up of activities we have in store over the week.

There is still no word on our Swimming AASCP proposal - we will keep you informed.

All accounts went out last week so if you haven’t received them via email or in your children’s bags let us know and we will get one to you.

We have a new enrolment form which we have been handing out as families use our service. Please take
the time to fill it in to ensure we have all of the right, current information.

**PERMANENT BOOKINGS**

If you wish to book your child in on a permanent basis for Before School Care or After School Care, please advise us either by telephone (55459124), email (mountainmates@bigpond.com) or in person as to the days you will be requiring.

Have a great week.

From Kim, Janine, Clare and Christie.
Your Mountain Mates Team.

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**NEWS FROM THE TEACHERS**

**PREP CLASS**

Hi there everyone I hope you are all having a lovely week. The preps will have learnt five new sounds by the end of this week. They are s, a, t, i and p. I will be sending them home this week with a little sound booklet so that you can help them to learn and practise their sounds at home to reinforce what we are doing at school.

In Maths we are looking at number. We will be practising our counting beyond 10, recognising numbers and representing their values to ten.

In art we have completed our stunning sunflowers and will be starting our Gum leaf art this week, where we will be using real gum leaves to help create our pieces. We have made some colourful turtles and last week we were adventurous enough to print some of our feet in paint.

Last week we began our unit in Geography. We looked at what we use maps for and what some of the features of known areas are. In History we will be looking at our families and in Science we are looking at The living world.

Congratulations to our student of the week, Leilani Sheargold for a fantastic effort in class. Well done!

Hope you have a good week

Warm regards,
Tania Evans
tevan27@eq.edu.au

**YEAR 1/2 CLASS**

This week we welcome six Year 2’s into our class as we become a 1_2 class again. It is lovely to have such mature, responsible, independent workers joining our class. In English Year 1 are studying the parts of simple sentences and how to use language and simple sentences to write about characters and Year 2 are studying the parts of compound sentences and using language and compound sentences to compare opinions about characters.

In Math the Year 1’s are reading, writing, modelling and sequencing the teen numbers. There is a significant literacy component to math as children are expected, even this early, to be able to read and write numbers in word form. The Year 2’s are working with two digit numbers, sequencing, adding on and subtracting 10, and locating them on a blank hundred chart.

Homework begins on Friday and will be due in the following Thursday. There are samples of Year 1 Art on display in the office this week if you happen to be visiting.

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

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**YEAR 2/3 CLASS**

Children were given their weekly spelling words on Monday and this spelling homework is due back in on Friday. Children first completed a diagnostic test, which when analysed revealed which specific area of spelling they are working within. Some children are still consolidating blends and their long vowel sounds, whereas some children are learning harder suffixes and the Greek and Latin roots of words. The words your child has brought home have been selected at a developmentally appropriate level for them. They have been encouraged to learn their words by using the Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check Method. The method has been discussed with the students in class, but is also explained below for parents. Children will be given a test each Friday to assess their attainment of these words.

**Start with: Look**
Look at the word which is first on the list and needs to be learned. Encourage your child to dissect it. Which bits of the spelling are easy and which are not so obvious? Get your child to circle or underline the ‘hard spots’, which is the difficult parts of the word, using a different coloured pen. Ask if they think the word is similar in spelling to another word that has a related meaning? Can your child break it into parts?

**Step two: Say**
Reciting the word out loud is a key way to remember the spelling. Ask your child if they think the spelling a reflection of the sound? If not what is different?

**Now the hard part: Cover**
Ask your child to cover the word which they have just studied and recited. Using the coloured paper they attached, they must now cover the list of words. Now is the time to encourage your child to be “seeing” the word that is covered. Ask them questions like, "what does the word look like", “which letter combinations can you see clearly”. Can your child remember the easy parts and the tricky sections?

**Write**
Now write the word from memory only. Keep the other sections covered and have your child write the word fresh.

**Check**
Now you can uncover the word and compare it with the correct spelling from the first column on the piece of paper. Check it letter by letter. If it’s wrong, start again! If it’s right, don’t forget to lavish praise upon them and reward them.

Happy spelling,
Demelza Atherton dathe1@eq.edu.au

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Welcome to the new Year 4-5 class. The children have settled in quickly to their new class and we are now ready to press on with our Year 4-5 work. We now have a class of 14 Year 4 children and 13 Year 5 children. We are still located in the Tasmania block in the Queenstown classroom.

Homework is somewhat disorganised as the children transferring from Mrs Mann’s room have homework to finish before Friday. The children who were in 3-4 will not start their homework until this Friday. In the meantime, they can be working hard on their daily reading and learning their multiplication tables. Cover pages also need to be finished for all of the children’s books.

In Maths, we are currently carrying out various assessments to determine where the children are with their Maths and where we need to focus our learning. We are also working on basic number concepts and operations. Children who can demonstrate that they firmly understand these concepts will move on to more challenging, problem-solving tasks.

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

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Another busy week in the Year 6/7 classroom as we settle into our routines for the year. A HUGE congratulations to Ostin P our first Student of the Week for 2014. Ostin has made an exception start to the year by showing a positive attitude towards learning, by applying himself to all tasks, and by having confidence and actively and independently seeking assistance when necessary. Outstanding!!

Congratulations must also go to Zoe and Austin M who both earned themselves classroom awards last week in Maths. Well done to you both!!

This week our class sees the start of homework and spelling for the Year 6/7s. Despite our incredibly hectic lives, it is absolutely vital that the children are sorting every night!! Other tasks can be done throughout the week however the “Words Their Way” spelling program is based on daily sorting. As this is generally a 2 minute activity, please ensure that your child is completing this task on a nightly basis.

Our times table focus for the week is 4 x or “double double” and the division partners. Please help your child develop instant recall by practising with them during the week. Family competitions in the car or over the dinner table can be a fun way to develop this skill and the kids love nothing more than to beat their parents/care givers and show off how smart they are.

Any problems or concerns please let me know.
Happy trails J Have a great week.
Tanya Stanley tstan15@eq.edu.au
COMMUNITY NEWS

CRICKET TRAINING IN THE NETS
With the rectification of the old cricket nets complete, there will be training and a bit of fun in the nets after school on Thursdays 13th Feb from 3-4pm. This is a chance to get a bit of batting and bowling practice in before the end of the season. Watch this space for further dates and information or call Dan Blunt on 0407757319.

FREE TO GOOD HOME
Free to good homes. 2 Male kittens. Born Christmas day. Domestic short haired. 1 Black and 1 Tabby. Very playful and cute. Please phone Leigh-Ann on 0412964602

Ikin Dance Australia
Audition day Sat 15th Feb 11-2pm
Be a part of the Gold Coast Titans Entertainment Spectacular this year!
Kids of all ages! – call 55221863 to register!
Email contact@ikindance.com

COMBINED NETBALL & SOCCER SIGN ON
Combined Netball & Soccer sign on at the Tennis Club Saturday 15th February 2014 from 10am.
Netball players please bring shirts back.
Any enquiries Janine 0419726781