



Kindergarten & Playgroup

EDUCATING the *WHOLE CHILD*

Newsletter

Term 1 Week 2

Wednesday 8th February 2012



VERSE OF THE WEEK

I laid me down beside the sea,
Endless in blue monotony:
The clouds were anchored in the sky,
Sometimes a sail went idling by.
Upon the shingles on the beach
Gray linen was spread out to bleach,
And gently swell
The languid ripples rose and fell

Important Dates

Friday 10th February: *Swimming Lessons begins for Classes 2-6*

Tuesday 14th February: *Parents and Friends Meeting - in the kitchen*

Tuesday 14th February: *Class 3/4 Parent Meeting 7-9pm*

Friday 17th February: *Welcome Family Picnic 6pm at school*

Saturday 18th February: *School Working Bee 10-12pm*

Thursday 1st March: *Kindergarten and Ring a Rosie family picnic - in the kindergarten gardens and a working Bee to prepare for the Fair 12.15 - 2.45pm*

Sunday 4th March: *Autumn Fair Day 10.00am - 3.00pm*

Tuesday 21st February: *Pancake Day*

Monday 20th February: *Class 5/6 Parent Meeting 7 - 9 pm (please note change of date)*

Wednesday 7th March: *"School in Action" Tour*

Monday 12th March: *Labour Day, Public Holiday*

Tuesday 13th March: *Parents and Friends Meeting*

Wednesday 21st March: *Parent Teacher Interviews Class 1-6,
School finishes at 12:30pm*

Saturday 24th March: *School Working Bee 10-12pm*

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 28th March: *4yr old Kinder Harvest Festival*

Thursday 29th March: *Prep, Class 1-6 Harvest Festival*

Term Dates

Term 1 Ends: Friday 30th February

Term 2: Tuesday 17th April- Friday 29th June

Term 3: Tuesday 17th July - Friday 14th September

Term 4: Tuesday 9th Oct - Friday 14th December

Camps and Excursions

Monday 27th - 29th Feb: *Class 5/6 Halls Gap Camp*

Thursday 1st - 2nd March: *Class 3/4 Mt Buangor Camp*

Office Contact Details:

Newsletter and General Enquiries: welcome@ballaratsteinerschool.com.au
Business Enquiries – Louise: business@ballaratsteinerschool.com.au
Invoice Queries – Nicole: admin@ballaratsteinerschool.com.au

Family Picnic



Please joins us on our annual Family Picnic
On Friday 17th of Feb at 6pm. This is a great
chance to meet new and existing parents
And for the children to share their school
Environment with you.
Please BYO your Picnic food, drinks, rugs Etc.

*If you have a health care card please ensure the office has a copy of it so
you can get your fees discount, and E.M.A. payment. Kindergarten
parents also need to supply the office with a copy of their health care card
to received the Government Subsidy.*

Our Kindergarten and school are **Code Red Schools** as decided by the Education department. This means that any day that is declared a **Code Red Day** our school and kindergarten are not allowed to open. We will be communicating with parents via mobile phones and email, so please ensure the office has your latest phone numbers and email contacts.

KINDERGARTEN & RING A ROSIE

Welcome to Ring a Rosie and Kindergarten 2012. It is a pleasure to meet our new families and to see how much the children who were with us last year in Ring a Rosie have grown and blossomed. In our Kindergarten circle we exploring sailing boats, seashells and sea animals, focussing on the experiences that many of the experiences that the children may have had at the beach over the summertime. In Ring a Rosie we are starting with some familiar nursery rhymes and circle games such as Here we go round the Mulberry Bush that help us to all move together holding hands around the circle. In Ring a Rosie we are exploring puppet plays and stories that help with separation. For the first week our puppets enjoyed their first day at

kindergarten. We shall now move on to a healing story by Australian children's author Susan Perrow about a baby koala who leaves his mother's back for the first time to find some food for himself. I highly recommend Susan's book called 'Healing Stories for Challenging Behaviour' to all families with preschool and prep aged children. Metaphor and example through story are wonderfully effective and gentle ways to help us support our children and encourage more socially positive behaviours when necessary.

We have two important dates for your Kindergarten diary.

All families are invited to the Community Welcome picnic to be held at 6pm on Friday 17th February in the school yard.

And secondly our **Kindergarten and Ring a Rosie Family Picnic and "Prepare for the Fair" Working Bee** which will be held during kindergarten on Thursday 1st of March at 12.15pm.

Ring a Rosie children and families may bring a picnic lunch at their usual pickup time.

All kindergarten families are also encouraged to attend (also those who are not usually at kinder on Thursdays) -please bring a picnic lunch.

We will sit outside to enjoy our picnic together. It will be a day of fun and work...children and families from both groups can meet, play and get to know each other as we beautify our garden in preparation for the fair and open day. It's also a good chance to work off your community hours and avoid the fee.

Please be aware that we have a child at risk of anaphylaxis in the group so please do not bring nuts or egg dishes to the kindergarten and there will be no sharing of lunches on that day.

Please let Ambika know if you are unable to attend.

oting

PREP NEWS



Welcome to Prep 2012! We have had a wonderful start to the year with more tears from



Mums than the children! And just in case it helps Mums are welcome to have 'quiet time' and cuddles on the pink couch or a cooling rose water footbath if they get to nervous at goodbye time.

The children are listening to the Grimm's fairytale 'The Elves'. This is a shorter sweet tale with deep moral meaning; it explores the rewards of simple domestic life and being in the service of others. I hope that this tale will complement the Preps more involved domestic duties at Prep.

As it will take a little while for your young child to feel completely confident with myself, Rosie and Emily please remind them that they can always go to Lisa or another adult if they need to.

We've had a winning streak with all our morning teas getting the thumbs up, and Rosie and I will work towards empty bowls over the next few weeks.

We've all noticed that the Preps are tired by 3:20pm and are struggling at the moment with the extended hours of Prep. If you would like your child to have a half day to break up the week let me know and we can discuss how to best approach with the student. Sometimes a day off or an early afternoon with Mum & Dad can work wonders!

Thanks for a great first week, and please don't hesitate to speak with me if you need to.



I'll be poking around for a class carer this coming week, so if your keen as mustard don't hesitate to let me know.

If anyone would like school photos from last year, please let the office know immediately - this week - and we can order some more.

CLASS 1&2

Hello everyone. Well, here we are at the start of a new school year, with lots of exciting things in store!

Class 1 has begun the year with Form Drawing as their first Main Lesson. In this Main Lesson, the children encounter straight lines and curves which they have to copy into their Main lesson books. These lines will act as a basis for the construction of printed letters and numbers. This requires a great deal of concentration on the part of the children.

Class 2 children begin their year with a Main Lesson on the fables mainly centred on animals. The stories are centred around lessons to be learned. The moral of the tale is left for the children to work out, and they usually always do!

This is a Literacy Main Lesson with the children writing sentences and recognising the nouns and adjectives. In addition, we have the talents of Sarah, who will take the children for Singing, Barbara for German, Anna for Craft and Marian for Eurythmy.

Swimming starts for **Class 2** this Friday and continues each week for Term 1. It will be a full and busy year, and I am looking forward to it.

Please don't forget to pack your children's bathers and towels etc for swimming lessons on Friday. All permission slips must be returned and don't forget to mention if you plan to collect your child from the pool.

CLASS 3&4

Class **three** have started work on the story of the Egyptian sun god Ra. This main lesson block focuses on the nouns and verbs we use in

our writing, richly weaving learning with the stories. Class **four** are learning about the Kalevala, the Finnish mythology. We have been focusing on the rich use of writing, using the wonderful descriptions in the text as a model to really stretch ourselves in our descriptive writing.

I look forward to meeting with as many of you as possible at our class meeting which is coming up soon, it is a lovely opportunity to learn more about what we do and to ask any questions about the operation of the class.

Also I have finalised plans for our first class camp. We are going to stay at Mt Buangor near Beaufort on **Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd March**, camping over for one night. It would be wonderful to have some parent helpers for this trip; we have plenty of equipment so if you would like to accompany your child that would be lovely. I will send out all the details very soon in a full letter.

Gareth.

CLASS 5&6

Class five and six have returned from the summer holidays settled and eager to learn. We have a busy and exciting year ahead of us for both the classes. Our first

main lesson for the year is the study of Ancient India, in which we are listening to stories about the Ancient Indian times and the gods of India.

We will be going on a class camp to 'Jinchilla'- Halls Gap, The Grampians on the **27th February** to the **29th February** where we will be treated to various adventure activities guided by Ned Gregory.

As the year is still fresh and the open day is coming up, children are asked to bring in some of their favourite main lesson and subject work from last year to fill out the classroom display next month.

Svantje

Those silly little nits are alive and well within the school already this year. Please Please check your child/ren and treat them this weekend to ensure we can get rid of them as soon as possible. It is hard when some are treating their children and are being reinfested with those children who are not being treated. There are some great leave in conditioners on the market that do work in deterring the little hoppers. We have attached a information notice on how to treat them if you haven't had the experience before!

Parents and Friends

Garden working bee 18th February at 10am

come one and all to the next garden working bee on Saturday 18th of February. We will be trying to beautify the yard to show case our school off at the school fair. In reality that means weeding and bark chipping of course, but all god fun while meeting friends and making new ones. We will finish about 12 noon and share a sausage sizzle. Please email me you intention of coming for catering especially any vegetarians to chrisreupert@hotmail.com. See you there, Christine Reupert

Autumn Fair Update

Thankyou everyone for handing in your forms (Autumn Fair Job lists) so promptly, if you haven't as yet please could you ASAP.

There is a Parent's and Friends meeting next **Tuesday 14th Feb at 9am** in the school kitchen, please join us if you can.

We are in need of donations for our Autumn Fair Raffle; if you have anything you could donate it would be greatly appreciated. Some good examples are Jams, pickles, artwork, vouchers and any ideas you can think of please email parentsandfriends.bss@gmail.com

Please drop your donations to the office.

Ps Tamzin is happy to take any calls in regards to the raffle, you can contact her on 0438 347 880

community noticeboard

Iyengar Yoga - Jo Tasic



Iyengar yoga is a thoroughly tried and tested method that assists each student as an individual to develop strength, clarity, awareness endurance, and alignment, in addition to flexibility and relaxation. The Iyengar method encourages and clearly develops self-awareness, intelligent evaluation, and inward reflection.

Students learn to understand postural habits and observe actions, learning how they stretch from their more flexible areas and how they rely on their better-developed muscles for strength. With this information students of the Iyengar method begin to observe change as the weaker parts strengthen and stiff areas release, thus awakening and realigning the whole body. Over time the body naturally moves into better alignment and with this less muscular work is required and relaxation and stability of character increases naturally.

In the beginning standing poses are emphasized. Standings build strength and ease of movement throughout the entire body, increasing general health and vitality, and improving circulation, coordination, and balance.

Postures for deep relaxation and the treatment of specific ailments are introduced from the beginning

to promote a holistic understanding of health and wellbeing for each individual. Gradually, as the student progresses, sitting and reclining postures, forward bends, inversions, backbends, twists, arm balance, and flowing sequences are introduced.

Iyengar yoga has 4 distinguishing characteristics that make it different from other forms of Yoga.

1. Technical intricacies.
2. Specific sequencing of postures.
3. Time spent in postures
4. Integration of all of these 3 aspects.

Timetable

Term 1 - 2012

Wednesday

6 - 7:15 Yoga Basics

7:30 - 9 Level 1

Venue

Ballarat Steiner School - 244 Moss Ave, Mt. Helen

Term 1 Dates

Wednesday 8th February - Wednesday 28th March

*8 Week Term

Cost

Basics - *\$128

Level 1 - *\$136

Bookings essential - Limited spaces

For all inquiries please contact Jo Tasic - Ballarat Iyengar Yoga

0412 581 031

Email jotasic@hotmail.com

What's on at the Art Gallery of Ballarat

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NEWS FLASH:

6.2.12

After School Classes - Term 1

There are still places available in the Gallery's Term 1 After School classes, which start tomorrow, Tuesday 7 February

Sculpture and Mark-making

Drawing inspiration from works in the Gallery, this workshop encourages participants to explore their own mark making and the use of symbols to create their own sculptural objects. Tutor Pauline O'Shannessy-Dowling is a Ballarat artist who enjoys the exploration of mark-making on paper and canvas. Pauline develops and evolves the workshop over time so for those who have done classes with her before, there will some exciting new challenges and discoveries.

Date: Tuesdays 7 February - 27 March

Time: 4pm - 5.15pm

Cost: \$96,\$80 Gallery Members

Age: 5 - 8 years

3D Artwork with Eliza-Jane Gilchrist

Come and try bending and shaping paper. This workshop will explore making patterns on paper, then cutting and sticking the paper to create a three dimensional sculpture. Tutor Eliza-Jane Gilchrist is a local sculptor who runs workshops in schools and with community groups. This workshop is a development of classes Eliza Jane has offered at the Gallery before, so a repeat visit will definitely be worth while.

Date: Wednesdays 8 February - 28 March

Time: 4pm - 5.15pm

Cost: \$96,\$80 Gallery Members

Age: 5 - 8 years

Painting and Drawing; Explore the Techniques

Learn how to draw and paint using a range of materials, including pencil, ink, pastel and watercolour, then create a collaborative work to be exhibited in the Gallery window. Tutor Abbie Matthews is a visual arts teacher and has taught kindergarten students through to seniors. She is also a practicing artist who has exhibited widely.

Date: Thursdays 9 February to 29 March

Time: 4pm - 5.15pm

Cost: \$96,\$80 Gallery Members

Age: 8 to 14 years

To book for all classes, contact the Gallery on 5320 5858 or artgal@ballarat.vic.gov.au

To Parents Who Have a Child with Learning and/or Behavioural Difficulties

I am currently training in Extra Lessons, a professional accredited intervention program, which addresses the underlying causes of learning and behavioural difficulties. The program includes activities which foster the development of literacy and numeracy skills, social skills, spatial awareness and concentration. This program is also very effective for those children who simply want to learn more effortlessly

Any parents, who would be interested, can call me, Emily Young, to discuss the program and other details. Further information at www.extralesson.com.au

Emily 5332 6726 emily_young@iprimus.com.au

Piano Lessons- breakthrough method

Simply Music is a revolutionary, Australian developed piano method for people wanting to learn piano.

This breakthrough program has students of all ages playing great sounding pop, rock, classical, blues, jazz, accompaniments and arrangements from their very first lessons.

For more information please contact Michael Young on 0403 066 817

And visit www.simplymusic.com

Sherab Holley would like to offer private violin tuition in Buninyong, if you are interested please phone her on 0418 585 532

If you have a business you wish to advertise or items for sale, you may place an advertisement in this section of the newsletter. This is a free service for our community members and for others, a requirement is a fee of \$5 or 10% of monies made may be donated to the school

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*The Ballarat Steiner School adheres to the following principles:
- Equal rights, freedom of speech, openness and tolerance to the value of others, the Australian Government and its laws.*