

“AIM HIGH”

Issue 38
November 26th 2008

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Term Dates for 2008

6th October – 19th December

Dates to remember:

Transition Day – 12th Dec

Junior Information Evening-
15th Dec

Grade 6 Graduation-17th Dec

End of Term 4 – 19th Dec

**1st Day for Students in 2009 –
Monday Feb. 2nd.**

Personalizing Learning – What does it mean?

Victorian education is currently working towards implementing a more personalized approach to student learning. This is supported by the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS), the new student report format and now more focus on the value added progress of each student.

Instead of student learning being prescriptive to a year level or group, our teachers work really hard at trying to individualize learning, ensuring all students are taught what they need to move them to the next point in their learning. At Bellaire, our teachers are coaching students in developing their own learning goals to ensure each student's learning needs are focused. All teachers have actively engaged in trialling a range of strategies to develop a personalised learning approach applicable to the age level of their students.

The result has been improved results in student learning, with students being able to identify and work towards their individual goals. This was particularly evident in the Bellaire's NAPLAN results in Years 3 and 5, with our school mean being above state mean, especially in spelling, grammar and punctuation.

At Bellaire we are also working hard to include 'student voice' by trying to develop ways that students can make choices about their particular areas of interest. Research tells us that students are motivated by having some choice in their learning. The work we are currently involved in is attracting school visits from across Victoria and has also resulted in recent presentations about Bellaire in NSW and England.

Why are we doing it?

Education needs to develop as our students will move into a world very different to the one we currently know. Science, innovation, digital capabilities and sustainability are big issues our students will need to prepare for in their future. With the aim of developing innovative, creative, technology savvy, responsible learners, we need to further develop curriculum that engages and motivates.

2009 Parent Requests have now closed:

2008 teachers work closely with their team members to effectively place students for their next school year. Teachers consider both academic and social needs to best place students. Thank you to those parents who felt there was an additional consideration that we also needed to be aware of. This input will also be considered when placing students for 2009. As we are in the process of forming classes, parent requests are now closed.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

PREP B	Ariana	For always being persistent with all learning tasks and being a great role model in Prep B!
PREP C	Pahul	For his brilliant work in mathematics on Place Value. Great work Pahul!
PREP F	Ethan	For showing persistence and determination in class and making great progress this term!
PREP S	Ethan	For always trying his best and being a great role model to the other children in Prep S!
JUNIOR B	Jake	For being a dedicated learner and challenging himself.
JUNIOR G	Heidi	For her improved reading and persistence!
JUNIOR H	Keeley	For working so hard in all maths lessons!
JUNIOR J	Ben	For his outstanding effort and excellent work produced for homework.
JUNIOR L	Dylan	For his positive and enthusiastic effort towards his work.
JUNIOR M	Max	For the terrific effort he has made to achieve his writing goal.
JUNIOR S	Sophie	For her fantastic reading activity work, collecting and making a Thrass graph.
JUNIOR W	Teagan	For being an incredibly efficient classroom helper in Junior W.
MIDDLE A	Darcy	For getting along with everyone and persisting to make great improvements in his writing.
MIDDLE B	Will	For doing a fantastic job as ‘the fox’ in the play!
MIDDLE C	Georgia	For continually being a positive class member and always being willing to help others.
MIDDLE K	Kaitlin	For always being a great worker and a wonderful friend.
MIDDLE L	Luke	For his great focus during writing this week. Well done, Luke!
MIDDLE V	Kate	For an outstanding improvement in her writing and for achieving her writing goals!
SENIOR B	Gemma	For being such a patient and kind senior buddy during prep transitions.
SENIOR C	Joel	For always being polite, helpful and trying his best.
SENIOR H	Eliza	For always being a polite, friendly and helpful member of the SLU!
SENIOR K	Ashley	For showing good sportsmanship, determination and a passion for representing Bellaire at Kanga 8’s cricket thus week. Well
SENIOR M	Sophie	For trying hard in soccer during sport hour.

WORKING BEES

This Sunday is the last working bee planned for the year and we are asking all Preps parents to come along and help on **Sunday, 30th November**

PLEASE note this date in your diary as we need as many helpers as we can muster! Much appreciated.



ARE YOU LEAVING?

In order for us to make decisions about the number of staff we will require for classes next year, we ask that parents notify us as soon as it is confirmed that your children will not be at Bellaire in 2009.

TERM 4 CASUAL DRESS

Term 4 casual dress has arrived! This term we will be raising money for the State Schools Relief Fund. This committee, developed during the Great Depression, has the aim of providing basic items of footwear and school clothing to children in need. It enables disadvantaged students to receive new footwear and clothing thereby enhancing the self esteem and well being of many deserving students. This is a great way for our community to give to others who are less fortunate than ourselves.

This term we will leave it as just a simple casual dress day but with a bit of a Christmas twist! So put your tinsel to good use, get your red and green clothing out and get into the spirit of the season! We will be asking for students to donate a gold coin towards this fundraiser.

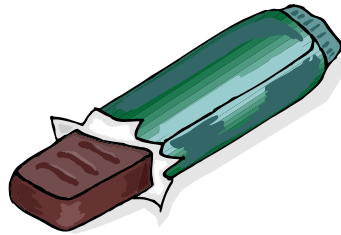
When – Friday 12th December

Why – State School Relief Fund

Theme – Christmas Theme!

CHOCOLATES

There are still quite a few families who have not returned their chocolate money – could you please do so asap.



LIBRARY – PARENT HELP NEEDED

It is time to get the library resources in order. If you have any time **during the last hour on a Wednesday** to assist with this job and other related jobs (book repair, cleaning etc.) it would be greatly appreciated. If we start now and keep it in check, it won't be a big job at the end of the year. No experience is necessary as I will show you what to do.

Thanks

Debra Brown

UNIFORM SALE

This **Friday 28th November**, the Uniform Shop will once again have a sale of second hand uniform. The uniforms will be sold for a gold coin donation which will go to the State Schools' Relief Committee – which provides shoes and uniforms for disadvantaged students in Victorian State Schools.

The Uniform Sale will be held at the front of the Uniform Shop from 2.30pm – 3.45pm.

PLEASE NOTE: Friday 5th December is **not** a school holiday as stated on the fridge magnet that went home early this year – when the magnets were printed we had not been informed that Gala day was to be on a Saturday this year.

SALVATION ARMY

CANNED FOOD DRIVE

(A group of Belmont High students are currently organizing a canned food drive on behalf of the Salvation Army.)

Please help the Salvation Army by donating tins of food for the hungry.

A collection box is located in the school foyer. Thank you for your support

Tarni and Sana-Belmont High School

BARWON INTERSCHOOL EQUESTRIAN SERIES 2008

Congratulations to Lachlan, Sarah and Jessica who last Saturday won the Primary School Perpetual Shield for 2008 (top scoring primary school over 4 rounds). Points are calculated on placings at each competition. Overall placings for our team members for 2008 were:-

Sarah 1st

(horse "Smarty Pants")

Lachlan 4th

(horse "Gem")

Jess /Sarah -9th

Sarah also won Reserve Champion on the day on her new horse "First Outing" and won the overall Dressage Champion for 2008 (Primary School)





**12th AUSTRALIAN
MASTERS GAMES**
20 February – 1 March
Geelong 2009

Over 30 and love sport? Register Now in 12th Australian Masters Games

Are you over 30 years of age, love sport and enjoy socialising with like minded people? Well get your friends together and register in the 12th Australian Masters Games and participate in over 70 sports this summer in Geelong.

Now is the perfect time to decide, commit and experience Australia's largest multisport festival in Geelong from 20 February – 1 March 2009. Join thousands of people from across Australia for an unforgettable 10 days of Serious Sport...Serious Summer Fun!

Age is no barrier anymore. Its time take out boots and the old football strip from the cupboard and start training now for the Games which are open to anyone over the age of 30 (for most sports), regardless of your sporting background or ability

Individual and team events feature in more than 70 sports, including an AFL Super Rules competition will be held at Skilled Stadium the home of the mighty Cats.

The Australian Masters Games is not just about sport, it's about meeting new people and socialising. The social calendar is jam packed with exciting acts to satisfy the muso in all of you. Play hard and party harder throughout the ten days of entertainment.

Register now via the online registration system at www.AustralianMastersGames.com or phone **1300-725-266** to request a Registration Booklet.

Now is the time to enjoy what really matters in life: Fun, Fitness and Adventure!
HURRY REGISTRATIONS CLOSE SOON!

An invitation to all parents

INTERNET EDUCATION AND SAFETY

'Protecting teens in the cyber world'

In the interests of student online safety, Belmont High School is offering to parents a unique opportunity to learn about internet safety and cyber bullying. For parents, the presentation will show you:

- Where your children are going online
- What your children are doing online
- Methods and techniques used by internet predators
- Indicators of when children may be at risk
- Protective and preventative measures

Our presenter (Brett Lee) has had many years of experience as a police officer specialising in the field of undercover internet child exploitation investigations. He is now an Internet Safety Consultant and will be at Belmont High School on Monday December 1.

During the day Mr Lee will work with our Year 7, 8 and 9 students and then with teachers after school. Additionally we have arranged for him to conduct a special presentation for parents in the evening.

The details are:

Internet Education and Safety Parent Program

Belmont High School Library

Monday December 1

7.00pm

We ask that interested parents please register for attendance by contacting the school Office on 52435355 or by email at belmont.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au

I encourage parents also to have a look at the iNESS website at www.iness.com.au

Garry Schultz

Principal Belmont High School