



BEACONSFIELD
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Term 1 | 18 February | Issue 1

The Beacon

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UPCOMING EVENTS

21 – 25 February
Rottneest Swimming Lessons

22 February
Beacy P&C Meeting 7:30pm

22 – 24 February
Online Parent Information Sessions (see Connect for schedule)

7 March
Labour Day Public Holiday

Dear Beaconsfield

There's an old saying that provides perspective in challenging times; *'There's no such thing as a "bad" experience, just opportunities to learn and test yourself'*.

I've thought about that saying a fair few times this year already.

I thought about it as our staff returned at the end of January under the cloud of the first COVID case on a school site for 2022. Instead of stress and panic in the days leading up to our students' return, we saw a deeper connection and more collaboration than ever before as they spent two days working together to establish the practice, content and expectations for everyone to experience success in the year ahead. Since then they've adapted quickly to any changes in the timetable to make things seem as normal for everyone as possible, something I know many parents have appreciated.

I thought about it when our students returned to masked faces, some of them brand new, and many entering unfamiliar areas of the school. Within days they were settled, many acting like they'd been there for years. Their resilience carried through to Week 2 when they switched easily to saying goodbye to parents at the classroom door (some going as far as to not let their parents anywhere near it. There are some brilliantly independent little people in our ECE Block). They then adapted again to staggered play times in an effort to prevent cross-exposure among the year levels, and will adjust when some minor changes come in again on Monday.

I thought about it when breaking the news to our Year 6s that their Camp, scheduled for Week 9 this Term, had to be postponed to later in the year. Even upon hearing they'd have to wait until Term 4 for the highlight of everyone's primary school experience, they showed optimism and understanding beyond their years. A great start for them as the example for all other years to follow.

I thought about it on a steamy Sunday morning as I looked around at the 20-something parents giving up part of their precious weekend to blow and sweep the school grounds clear so they looked presentable for our students' return the next day. Days earlier we'd been frantically trying to find anyone to come and do it for any cost as our whole grounds staff were in isolation, then here we were with our amazing community pitching in.

I've thought about it every day I see our parents on site adjusting to the mandates and advice while keeping everything else as close to business as usual as possible. In a year with a new principal, two new deputies, five new teachers, 13 new families, a new P&C President and a new Board Chair to be elected in Term 2, a bit of uneasiness would be understandable. Our community, however, remains as vibrant, strong and engaged as ever during these times. Thank you to everyone for their patience, understanding and cooperation so far this year.

The core of what I'm getting at is that it has been a fantastic start to the year at Beacy despite everything going on outside our fences. There are so many other examples in our community that fit the theme of looking for the challenge and learning in a perceived "bad" experience but the newsletter can only be so long. I'm incredibly proud to be part of such a positive, resilient community and look forward to the positivity continuing throughout the term.

Chris

Current COVID measures

- All adults to wear masks on schools site. Teachers will lower/remove their masks to teach. Students can choose to wear masks or not.
- Parents/carers are not to enter classrooms, drop off at the door
- Limit interactions between year levels through staggered break times in an effort to reduce chance of cross-exposure
- All events held online where possible, ie: assemblies, parent info sessions
- Ventilation assessment conducted late 2021, adjustments made to required rooms
- All staff to receive their third vaccination within one month of becoming eligible

Get involved – P&C and School Board

Our new playground is very nearly ready to open for business, much to the excitement of our students. This was only made possible by the work of our fantastic P&C who raise funds to provide projects just like this one. The P&C, now led by Prue Riley, is looking for new members to jump on board and share the load in delivering improvements to the school. The first meeting is next Tuesday 22 February at 7:30 pm (masks and social distancing as per health advice) and I encourage anyone interested to come along.

Our School Board is also looking for new parent representatives after farewelling Verena Merry at the end of 2021. If you would like to nominate yourself, you are welcome to fill out a nomination form, available at the front office and through a Connect notice next week. If more parents nominate than places available, the nominees are put to a community vote. The Board's role is to represent the whole school community in setting the school's direction and priorities, and assessing the school's performance. Should you wish to know more about what the board does and the role parent representatives play, please feel free to get into contact with myself or one of the current parent representatives in Richard Bostwick, Gabriele Rossi, Dan Coffey, Ruhi Bassari and Mandy Hawkhead.

Voluntary Contributions 2022

The amount of the Voluntary Contribution has been contained to \$60.00 for 2022. The money collected is used to supplement school expenditure in the delivery of the Western Australian Curriculum. Statements will be coming out in the coming week, so please keep your eye out and check your child's backpack.

Third Party Services Online Form

In line with recent DoE policy, parents are required to provide explicit consent for students to access third party services which are being used in our school. Services include Reading Eggs and the Progressive Achievement Testing platform (PAT). These services require us to share some basic personal information about your child (ie: first and last name, age) and require you to provide consent for each service before we do so. Please complete one form per child via the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/r/dYUqWsgc6D>

Please contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.

Canteen

Rima runs The Wholesome Kitchen from Wednesday to Friday with orders able to be placed in person or online through Spriggy Canteen. Please ensure you put your child's current room on each order. We have had some mix ups after orders were placed under students' 2021 room numbers. Weekly specials are advertised through Connect.

Room 10 News

The Intensive English Centre students in Room 10 have just been learning how to read and write procedures. This also includes learning lots of new vocabulary and language concepts in a fun and engaging context. The students loved making their own pizzas which involved lots of interactive language, reading recipes and writing a How to Make a Pizza procedure. The pizzas were delicious. Thanks to Mrs Page who made the yummy dough for the bases.

Beacy's STEM Studio

Congratulations to the following students for their successful applications to Beacy's STEM Studio ... hopefully, we can start working together soon!

Year 3/4	Year 5/6
Jasper H	Zach B
Mason S	Daniel H
Levi S	Ajsa A
Beatrix M	Ned H
Simona F	Mabel M
Chloe O	Sophie B
	Giselle H
	Jenna H
	Runelle Q
	Ian Esmeraldo M
	Abby B
	Logan F
	Sam S
	Maddy O



A note from the School Health Nurse

Welcome to the new school year. My name is Lily Van Der Wacht and I am the School Health Nurse who visits your school.

School Health Nurses work in schools to promote healthy development and wellbeing so students may reach their full potential. A major part of my work is focused on early intervention and the School Entry Health Assessment program. Additionally, the nurse can be contacted at any time throughout primary school if you have concerns about your child's health, development or wellbeing.

School Health Nurses serve as a health contact point for children and their families, providing information, assessment, health counselling and referral. They also work in partnership with schools to support teachers in health related curriculum and can assist in the development of health care plans for students with complex and chronic health needs.

The services provided are free and confidential.

Please contact me on T: (08) 93140100 | F: (08) 9314 0133 | Mobile: 0417969122
E: lily.vanderwacht@health.wa.gov.au

Screen time

Children and adolescents should not spend more than two hours a day on screen based activities. Excessive screen time often leads to poor health, poor fitness and overweight.

Activities like surfing the net, social networking, watching TV and playing screen games can be educational and fun, but all involve sitting still for long periods of time. Set family rules around screen time and encourage your child to try a range of active pastimes, especially during daylight hours.

<http://raisingchildren.net.au>.

Sleep

School-aged children need 10 -11 hours' sleep a night. Getting a good night's sleep will help your child to be more settled, happy and ready for school, and will strengthen his/her immune system. Here are some sleep tips:

- Have a bedtime routine – this will help your child wind down from the day.
- Keep the bedroom dark, cool and quiet This will help your child drift off easily.
- If anxieties or worries are keeping your child from relaxing, acknowledge the feeling and deal with it straight away or plan to sort the issue out in the morning after a good night's sleep.

Remember, medication is not the answer to children's sleep problems.

Contact your local Community Health Nurse, <http://raisingchildren.net.au> for more information

Gifted and Talented Selective Academic Program at Fremantle College - applications now open!



Gifted and Talented education at Fremantle College enables children with exceptional academic ability to engage and flourish in a learning environment that is intellectually stimulating and rigorous. Learning programs are flexible and tailored to accelerate, extend and enrich the learning for each student. Classroom environments that are creative, promote divergent and higher-order thinking, will foster the continued emergence of students' gifts and talents, and growth in learning. To apply, go to:

<https://www.education.wa.edu.au/giftedandtalented>

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 13 FEBRUARY 2022

W: www.fremantlecollege.wa.edu.au F: www.facebook.com/FremantleCollege/
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