

Benton Junior College



Our Mission:
*To motivate to learn; to teach to think; to encourage to imagine;
 and to show the compassion to care globally*

3/03/2009

Newsletter

College Council Corner

Dear BJC Families,

On behalf of the College Council "Thank-you All" for helping the year get off to a great start! From all reports, children have settled in nicely to their classrooms and routines and the learning is well under way. As many of you know, construction was begun over the holiday break and is still finishing up as the spaces between the relocatable classrooms are being transformed into additional Resource Hubs and fabulous learning areas. We expect all work to be completed in the next fortnight or so. In the meantime, the children have been very responsible in minding the "off limits" areas while also enjoying a close-up view of construction work in action. Thanks are also in order to the workers for both their quality work and their positive interactions with the children and staff and to Marcus Batt for the co-ordination of the job especially over the holiday break your work is well appreciated and now enjoyed by our children! This wonderful achievement cost around \$45,000.00 and was paid for by the funds raised last year. Thank you Fundraising Team and all those who made this possible! These costs are not covered within a school's global budget.

As part of our membership with the Council of International Schools, Council is committed to the ongoing evaluation and improvement of our college. We encourage parents to read the upcoming newsletter articles which will be reporting on our progress and current goals.

Another important issue that was discussed at the last College Council meeting was the current status of the funds collected from the 'Essential Educational' and "Voluntary" parent payments. At the time of the meeting, the funds received to date were quite low and so now that Christmas, the holidays and starting back are under control, we will send out reminder notices to parents in the hope that they may now be able to make a payment. While we recognize that local and global financial pressures are affecting all of us to varying degrees, as a community we are only meeting 80% of the essential payments and 38% of the voluntary payment to support our children's learning. Obviously, 100% of the children will benefit from the funds that do come in, but we believe the college community needs to be made aware of the resource limitations that the college faces when only a fraction of the essential and voluntary payments is received.

For example, the Essential Payments are spent directly on the following types of expenses (this is not an exhaustive list, but examples):

- more equipment for Physical Education such as high jump equipment and mat, hurdles,, replacement bats and balls;
- supplies for the Art Program such as modelling clays and textured papers;
- musical instruments to further enrich our collection and allow more children to learn to play;
- classroom supplies to make learning more fun;
- notebooks and PC's so that children do not have to always share

Voluntary Contributions:

- grounds improvement often hard to see in a drought but developing slowly
- library fund donations which buy all the books and software in the six Resource Hubs
- gymnasium fund which is just starting so that we can build a full size gymnasium with facilities for Outsided School Hours Care, meeting rooms for clubs after hours, additional toilets and drinking fountains. We hope to see plans soon!!!

We are grateful for the funds that have already been received, but we are mindful of the resources that will need to be delayed or cancelled due to a lack of funding. Our student achievement data is high and it is really important that we are able to continue to challenge our children and support their learning. On the positive side, it's never too late to make either contribution. The college offers a variety of payment options and the College's Business Manager - Liz Weller is happy to help set-up a payment plan for those preferring an on-going payment system. We know that Benton Junior College offers a FANTASTIC return for the investment it receives. We thank the children, parents and staff for giving their best in so many ways. When we all give our best, it's amazing what we can achieve together!

Sincerely,

World Maths Day

Children at the college will participate in a World Maths Day to be held tomorrow - Wednesday 4 March. This online learning activity involves our children playing mental arithmetic games, in real time, with children from all over the world. Last year, one million children from twenty thousand schools participated, in over one hundred and fifty countries. The website generated two hundred million questions during the practice period. Each game children play lasts for about sixty seconds and children may play as many games as they wish. The questions are appropriate for different ages and abilities. World Maths Day has been designed for five to eighteen year olds. Children can log on at home, or at college to practise before the day and also participate at home during World Maths Day. Taking part is free and gives children an opportunity to practise their mathematics skills and knowledge in an interesting context. Teachers will register



their class and will only use children's first name and surname initial. Children will receive their own username and password, so they may log into the website at home. The only other details that are passed on about our children are that they are situated in Australia and are from Benton Junior College. Our children are not able to communicate with the children whom they play against. The World Maths Day will run for forty-eight hours. Australia's starting time is Tuesday 3 March at 0:00pm. Certificates will be sent out to participants and schools who are able to answer a particular number of questions. Please feel free to visit the website yourselves:
www.worldmathsday.com

Swimming Sports

Toorak College hosted the 2009 Mornington District Swimming Carnival. It was a lovely day for a swimming meet and all of our children were eager to compete in all of their races. Ms. Penny Malcolmsen, Mr Jabyn Hogarth and all of the parents who attended the day were very proud of our children's efforts. There were plenty of ribbons for competitors who placed in their events. Most importantly of all, the behaviour of our children was terrific - they all represented our College well. Congratulations children, keep swimming!

The following is the list of children who competed on the day:

Morgan C	Jessie S
Georgina P	Tristan D
Casey C	Ryan D
Lewis W	Shae D-M
Rachael G	Cameron D
Melissa S	
Katie L	
Luke S	
Jessica V	
Sarah L	
Grace A	
Jack G	
Mikalea B	
Breanna D	
Ben L-C	
Jarrold M	
Brodey S	
Sophie P-C.	
Macey W	
Natasha J	
Melayni W	



Principal Team:

irving.cheryl.cc@edumail.vic.gov.au
 batt.marcus.j@edumail.vic.gov.au
 foster.lynette.f@edumail.vic.gov.au
 morris.marc.d@edumail.vic.gov.au
 College Council President:
 dave.zovak@crlmleaders.org

Benton children are members of a global community, connected to the whole world by ties of cultures, economics, politics and shared environmental concerns.

Benton Junior College is internationally accredited in association with:



Achieving the highest standards in International Education.



Developing inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 4 March
 Year 3 Yoga

World Maths Day at Benton

Year 4 'Meet and Greet"
 7.30pm (no children please)

Thursday 5 March
 Year 2 "Meet and Greet"
 7.30pm (no children please)

Monday 9 March
 Labour Day

Tuesday 10 March
 Year 3 Kidz Bodz

Wednesday 11 March
 Year 4 Western Creation

Tues 10 and Wed 11 March
 Yr 6 Water Safety Program

Thurs 12 and Fri 13 March
 Yr 4 Water Safety Program

Monday 16 March
 Hot Cross Bun Orders home

Tuesday 17 March
 Yrs 2/3 and Family Photos

Wednesday 18 March
 Yrs Prep/1/4/5/6 Photographs



Safety House – Keeping our Communities Safe

Get Ready for Yellow Day!

Benton Junior College will soon be having another "Yellow Day" to help promote the Safety House Program which operates in the Mornington East and Mt Martha East areas. The Benton Safety House Committee runs the Safety House Program at Benton Junior College with the support and assistance of the Benton Junior College Council. A gold coin donation will be requested on Yellow Day and this donation will assist greatly with your local Committee's future initiatives at the College. The "Trolley Coin" fundraiser last year raised over \$700 and will enable the Committee to continue to operate and to support and spread the safety message throughout college and local community. We now have a large number of Safety Houses in your local area and there might be one in your Street - so keep an eye out for the bright yellow Safety House sticker. The Safety House Committee needs some new faces to help us keep going and to build further on this very worthwhile community program that provides safety and assistance to children and senior citizens who feel unsafe or unsure when they are out and about. Your assistance in any of the following ways possible would be wonderful:

- 1) **By becoming a Committee Member.** A short meeting is held once a month, and a couple of extra hours per month assistance where needed. A great way to get to know other parents and your local community.
- 2) **By becoming a Monitor.** Now that we have a number of safety houses, these need to be monitored once a month. Approx 1/2 hour / month in close vicinity to your home.
- 3) **By offering your home as a Safety House.** There needs to be an adult home approx. 50% of the time when children would be out playing or travelling to/from school and all persons in the house over the age of 17 must undergo a police check (no cost). If you can help us out in any of the above ways, please call Louise Luke on 5977 1708 or leave your details with the College office and someone from the Committee will make contact with you.

Is there a Safety Houses in your Street?

Vine Street, Mt Martha
 Shiraz Close, Mt Martha
 Ekert Court, Mt Martha
 Secrets Way, Mt Martha
 Willjohn Drive, Mt Martha
 Roya Court, Mt Martha
 Hereford Court, Mt Martha
 Hyde Court, Mt Martha
 Paperbark Drive, Mt Martha (x 2)
 Veda Avenue, Mt Martha
 Klarica Close, Mt Martha
 Benton Square Shopping Centre -
 John Old Optometrist
 Meridian Way, Mornington (x 3)
 Serenity Way, Mornington (x 2)
 Killingholme Drive, Mornington (x 3)
 Parkside Crescent, Mornington
 Casuarina Close, Mornington
 Moorehead Avenue, Mornington
 Waltham Drive, Mornington(x2)



SAFETY HOUSE
 Caversham Drive, Mornington
 Dunns Road, Mornington
 Manor House Drive, Mornington
 Marquis Avenue, Mornington (x 2)
 Swallows Close, Mornington
 Moonrise Place, Mornington
 Kilpara Court, Mornington
 Jamboree Close, Mornington
 Bayrise Drive, Mornington (x 3)
 Spinnaker Rise, Mornington
 Boormanii Drive, Mornington
 Kathleen Crescent, Mornington
 Benton Grange Drive, Mornington
 Halcyon Rise, Mornington
 Summerfield Drive, Mornington

Dealing With Feelings A Parents' Guide Insight, Tips and Tools

A workshop for parents, grandparents, carers or anyone who works with children. How to encourage your children to talk about and manage their feelings, find solutions to their problems and make them more resilient and able to cope with life's ups and downs.
 Where: Mornington Park Primary School
 40 Robertson Drive, Mornington
 When: Tues 10 March 2009, 9.30-12.00
 How: Ring Sue at Parentzone on 5986 9940 or email susan.weatherill@anglicarevic.org.au
 Cost: Free!

REGISTRATIONS ESSENTIAL FOR THIS POPULAR WORKSHOP

"ENCOURAGING CO-OPERATIVE BEHAVIOUR"

Does your child backchat? Won't do as you ask? Is she or he ruining the roost? Want to know how to encourage your child to choose to behave well, how to set boundaries, how to find discipline strategies that will work for you? Parentzone and Mornington Park Primary School invite you to a 2½ hour informative and interactive workshop.
 Where: Mornington Park Primary School
 40 Robertson Drive, Mornington
 When: Tues 17 March 2009
 9.30-12.00 midday
 How: Ring Sue at Parentzone on 5986 9940 or email susan.weatherill@anglicarevic.org.au
 Cost: Free!
 REGISTRATIONS ESSENTIAL FOR THIS WORKSHOP

Discipline, Rules and Consequences

A 2½ hour informative and interactive workshop for parents, grandparents or anyone who cares for children aged 0-12. This session follows on from the Encouraging Cooperative Behaviour Workshop. Explore natural and logical consequences, setting rules and consistency, and how kids learn to behave well. Explore different discipline techniques and how they might work for you.
 WHERE: Mornington Park Primary School 40 Roberston Dve, Mornington
 WHEN: Tues 24th March 2009, 9.30am - 12pm
 COST: FREE But bookings essential
 HOW: Call Sue at Parentzone on 5986 9940,

Benton Auskick



Footy's Back

and Benton Auskick will soon kick off for the 2009 season. Start Up Day is 21 March 9:00 - 10:30 am
 At Benton Junior College - Call Garry Liddell on 5977 1260 or 0409 771 234

FREE TREES!

The Mornington Peninsula Schools' Environment Week Committee is again staging the free tree issue for shire ratepayers.

The event will be held on Saturday 14th March and Monday - Friday 16th - 20th March from 9am to 4pm daily.

The event is sponsored by the Mornington Peninsula Shire and Bluescope Steel.

The Venues

- Mornington Youth Enterprises - Mitchell Street, Mornington
- Hastings Garden Supplies & Mini-Mix - 2165 Frankston Flinders Road, Hastings
- Disabilities Opportunity Victoria (formerly "Wongabeena") - 25 Leon Avenue, Rosebud.

Come along and present your rates notice to collect two free native plants. (any other I.D. is acceptable)



STIRLING TENNIS COACHING MOUNT MARTHA TENNIS CLUB

LESSONS FROM \$12.00
 KINDER CLASSES - 4 YEARS

(Free racquet)
 Group Classes 8-16
 Ladies Beginners Group
 Monday To Friday
 Private Lessons

Beginners April Holiday Program
 for Bookings phone
 Stirling or Libby on 0411 082 723

Mornington Soccer Club

We are holding trials for U/13 and U/14 girls teams at 10 am Saturday 21 February at Mornington Soccer Club, Mornington Tyabb Road. Contact Dominic Salvato 0400 335 700 for further information.



J.K. CARPENTRY
 Justin Kestles
 0417 372 349
 Fax: 03 5976 1754
 jkcarpentry@bigpond.com

"Getting Out the Door"

Half Day Forum



"Getting Out the Door" will provide busy families, big families and/or single parent families with practical ways to help share the load of household responsibilities. Parents will be provided with a practical 'tool kit' of ideas they can use in their own families.

When: Wednesday 25th March 2009
 From: 9.30am - 1pm
 Where: Anglicare, level 2, 60 - 64 Wells St Frankston (in the Commonwealth Bank Building)
 Bookings: Essential Contact Snye at Anglicare on 9781 6700
 Cost: Gold coin donation, Morning tea provided.



CATHY'S MASSAGE THERAPIES

Relaxation, Sports and Remedial Massage

Rates:
 30 min massage \$40
 60 min massage \$60
 45 min remedial massage \$50

Present this flyer to receive \$10 off your first massage

For an appointment call 0425 712 467

www.morningtonindoorsports.com
MORNINGTON INDOOR sports
 Ph 5975 3200
 INDOOR CRICKET - INDOOR SOCCER - INDOOR NETBALL - REBOUND VOLLEYBALL - BEACH VOLLEYBALL - DODGEBALL - BUTZBALL - PARTI
JUNIOR SOCCER
JUNIOR CRICKET
JUNIOR DODGEBALL
CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAY PARTIES
NEW SEASON STARTING TERM 1
UNDER 11, UNDER 13 & UNDER 15 DIVISIONS
 7 Milgate Drive, MORNINGTON (melway 145 K3)