

Belvoir Special School Newsletter



38 Gayview Drive, WODONGA, 3690

Dear Parents/Carers/Friends,

It was fantastic to see all of the returning students on Tuesday as school resumed for another year. Belvoir welcomed 10 new Foundation students to the school and a further 9 new students across the rest of the school. Most of these students have had transition time at the school and this has certainly assisted with the start of the year. The influx of students has meant we have maintained our total number of students enrolled at 185. Belvoir also welcomed 3 new teachers to the school this year and 2 returning teachers. Elle in Yellow Pod and Michelle in Green Pod, Lara and Sara have returned from maternity leave and Jonathon has moved from an ES in Purple Pod to a teacher in Orange Pod for 2023.

We welcome 9 Education Support staff to our Team. Julie, Taylah, Maddie, Brittany and Robyn in Yellow Pod, Kathy, Jessica, Laura and Christina to Green Pod. It is great to have all of the new staff and students at the school and we are certainly looking forward to a productive and enjoyable year for everyone.

2024 Classroom Groupings

Although it is still early in the year most of the class groups have settled extremely well. Students are starting to work on their individual programs and classes have begun to teach formal literacy and numeracy work as well as the life skills that so many of our students need.

Student Support Group (SSG) Meetings

All staff will be contacting parents and carers over the next couple of weeks to arrange for a formal student support group meeting. These meetings are a requirement for all of our students and need to occur at least twice per year. Parents and carers are asked to bring along any ideas that they have for their child's learning program and to consider priorities that they have for their student both in the short and long term. It is a regional requirement that all SSG minutes are signed by families as a record of the meeting. Some staff will have parents and carers do this at the SSG while others will send them home to be signed. These minutes will be used to develop each student's Individual Learning Plan (ILP) and a copy of this will be sent home for all parents and carers.

Pennie Moffat

Principal

2023 DATES TO REMEMBER

School Council Finance Meeting
Friday, 9th February @ 9.15am

School Community Coffee Morning
Tuesday 6th February 9am @ Belvoir

School Council Meeting
Wednesday, 14th Feb @ 6.00pm

Swimming Carnival
Thursday, 29th February

Athletics Carnival
Thursday 21st March

Last Day Term 1
Thursday 28th March, 2.00pm Finish

BUS PHONE NUMBERS

BUS 1: 0460 935 609

BUS 2: 0460 875 492

BUS 3: 0460 896 490

BUS 4: 0460 869 012

Belvoir Bus: 0431 756 813



Belvoir Special School

'Together we can'

Parents & Carers

**COMMUNITY
COFFEE MORNING**



**Tuesday Feb
6th 9am @
Belvoir**

RSVP: leah.sisley@education.vic.gov.au



Room 19 NEWS

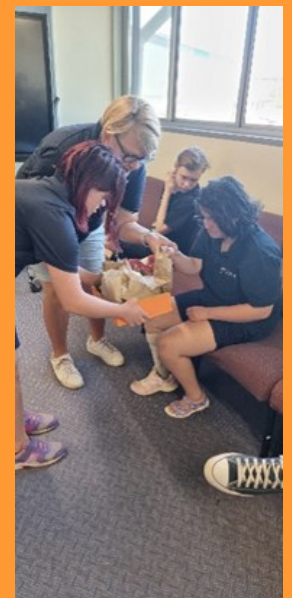
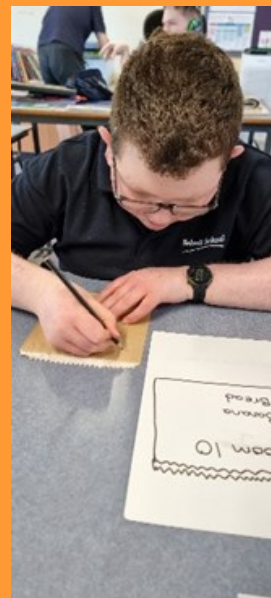
Erica, Sue & Pam



What a fantastic beginning to the year it has been in Room 19! We've dedicated time to connect with our classmates both inside and outside the classroom. This week, our focus has been on the art of speeches, and in the upcoming weeks, our students will be crafting their own for positions such as School Captain, Vice-Captain, or House Captain. We eagerly anticipate delving deeper into this process and excitedly await the speeches from our peers.

Additionally, students have actively participated in the 'Staff Café' initiative by preparing and serving food. Earlier this week, our students distributed order/menu forms to the school staff, assisted in collecting and tallying funds, and took part in cooking and packaging items for each staff member. On Friday morning, our students will proudly deliver these items to the staff members.

We are very excited to see what the year has in store for Room 19!



SCHOOL POLICIES

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

School's compulsory school uniform items are as follows:

Junior and Middle year students' uniform

Navy shorts (knee length or just above)

Navy track pants in Term 2 and 3 and cooler weather.

Burgundy polo shirt with collar.

Burgundy windcheater or button front fleecy jacket available from uniform shop.

A checked dress, with bike shorts beneath, which is the same across the school.

Broad-brimmed navy sunhat for Term 1 and 4.

Black leather school shoes or supportive pair of runners. Sandals with an enclosed heel and toe may be worn in hot weather.

Senior Students:

Navy shorts (knee length or just above knee) or knee length navy skirt if preferred.

Navy track pants or trousers in Term 2 and 3 and cooler weather.

Navy polo shirt with collar.

Navy jumper.

Broad-brimmed navy sunhat for Term 1 and 4.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Schooling is compulsory for children and young people aged from 6 to 17 years (unless an exemption from attendance or enrolment has been granted).

Daily attendance is important for all children and young people to succeed in education and to ensure they do not fall behind both socially and developmentally. School participation maximises life opportunities for children and young people by providing them with education and support networks. School helps people to develop important skills, knowledge and values that set them up for further learning and participation in their community.

Students are expected to attend Belvoir Special School during normal school hours every day of each term unless:

- there is an approved exemption from school attendance for the student.
- the student has a dual enrolment with another school and has only a partial enrolment in Belvoir Special School, or
- the student is registered for home schooling and has only a partial enrolment in Belvoir Special School for particular activities.

Both schools and parents have an important role to play in supporting students to attend school every day.

Belvoir Special School believes all students should attend school all day, every day when the school is open for instruction and is committed to working with its school community to encourage and support full school attendance.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

REMINDER – the Department (which includes our school) does not have accident insurance.

Items of personal property that are lost, stolen or damaged at school are not the responsibility of Belvoir Special School or the Department. Staff and students are reminded not to bring items of value to school.

BELVOIR EASTER RAFFLE 2024

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

It's that time of the year again when we ask our families to help us raise funds for the school by supporting our Annual Easter Raffle!

We are asking for donations of eggs, rabbits and baskets so that they can be made into wonderful and colourful raffle prizes.

If you are unsure about what to donate, please contact the office and Andrea, Jo, Viv or Blair will be able to suggest some ideas.

Tickets will be sent home next week. Tickets are \$1.00 each. Could you please return sold tickets and money to the office by Monday 25th March, 2024.

Prizes will be drawn on Wednesday 27th March, 2024 and winners will be notified by phone. Thank you for your support!



Need help to make sense of your NDIS Plan?

Let us help!

Call to book your **FREE Understand Your Plan Session** with an expert plan manager.

In your session we'll:

- help you understand the funding in your NDIS plan
- explain the different budget categories
- discuss the kinds of supports you can use
- share tips and tricks about how the NDIS works.

It doesn't matter if you're self-managed, NDIA-managed or with another plan manager.

Call to make your booking today.

Leap in!

Call **1300 05 78 78**

We also have a huge library of NDIS news & disability-related stories, PLUS the NDIS ebook series!



Foodbank

Through Foodbank Victoria, Belvoir has the opportunity to provide free food hampers to ALL our families at ANY time. There is no limit as to how many of these hampers you can access over time.

If you would like a food hamper (up to two per family per order), please request one via emailing Leah Sisley (Wellbeing Co-ordinator) leah.sisley@education.vic.gov.au.

Please see the photo provided as to what is included in the hamper. Collection times will be communicated by phone and pick up will be from the front office.

Do you need help applying for the NDIS or Disability Support Pension for your child?

My name is Natalie Ennis and I'm a Support Coordinator at PE Support Services
(ABN - 38 865 726 149)

I am available to support students and families at Belvoir Special School in applying for the NDIS and the Disability Support Pension.

I have extensive knowledge in these areas as well as being a qualified Psychosocial Recovery Coach,
Case Manager & Capacity Building Support Worker

If you would like to contact me you can do so by sending an SMS to
0497 003 574 or email
natalieennis99@gmail.com.

I look forward to helping you out.

School Athletics - House Groups

Students, Staff and Parents are put into groups according to their surnames. Each group has a name and color and it's requested that everyone wears clothing the color of the house they are allocated to:

<u>Surnames between</u>	<u>Colour</u>	<u>House Name</u>
A-D	= Red	Mitta
E-K	= Green	Murray
L-Q	= Blue	Kiewa
R-Z	= Yellow	Hume

Download our school app for free!



- Instant news notifications
- Online absentee forms
- Events and reminders



Download instructions:

1. Go to the App Store and download "School Stream" to your phone.

2. Open the app and type the school's name into the search bar to load the school's profile.

3. Make sure you agree to Push Notifications when prompted.