MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

The Wandoo class was beautifully decorated for Mother’s Day. The children were meticulous in setting up their tables for their mum.

Some of the children contributed thoughts about the day:

Poppy: We looked at all the presents we made for my mum.
Estelle: I felt excited about being with my mum and showing her all the jobs I do at school and showing her all the new games.
Ridhya: My mum had fun and I had fun.
Isaac: I loved playing Maths Games with my mum.
Ethan: My mum liked when I played Chickyboom with her.
Sebastian: My mum really liked the game Chickyboom.
Alex: My mum was very happy opening her presents.
Kayla: My mum was surprised and she hugged me a lot.
Matilde: I felt as if it was the best day ever.
Lily: My mum and I felt happy and we ate her biscuits when we got home.
Tahlia: My mum felt really excited about coming to Mother’s Day at school.
Haylee: My mum and I liked looking at my books.

Boab children proudly displayed the work they have completed during term 2, and gave their mum’s beautiful artwork made with Michelle, a handmade bookmark and a gorgeous painting. They also had the biscuits made with Fran and Rebecca, displayed in a decorated origami container with special cards.

Happy Mother’s Day from all of us.
MOTHER’S DAY
MOTHER’S DAY

Mum’s Tea in Wattle

What a great turn out we had this year! It is always such a pleasure hosting this event. The joy expressed by the children in sharing their work with their mothers, grandmothers and aunties is really delightful.

Aria loved showing her mum “the classroom, and all the new jobs she has learnt. It was so fun!”

Monica was excited to show her mum her new writing book and said “it was just wonderful having mum come to school. I wish she could come every day.”

Charlotte was thrilled to have her mum at school and was sad when she had to leave! Her favourite part of the evening was when she gave her mum the present she had made her at school; a paper lantern. She thought “mum looked like she really loved it.”

I hope all of you who attended enjoyed the evening as much as your children! I look forward to doing it all again next year.

Mother’s Day Tea in Melaleuca

We love having mums and grandmas come to visit the classroom to share the work the children have been busy with.

The week before the children had carefully drawn and painted a special portrait of their mother. The children really enjoyed seeing if they could guess whose mother was whose!

Thank you for making this afternoon so special for the children – and the teachers!
**Mother's Day Biscuit Making**

In preparation for Mother’s Day, Fran Boccardo, Rebecca and Lexie and some of her friends from Boab spent one and a half days visiting every classroom making yummy biscuits for our lovely mum’s at Blue Gum.

Each class had a group working together preparing the ingredients ready for baking. Fran bought in all the ingredients and utensils for us to use.

On behalf of all the staff and children, thank you so much to Fran, Rebecca and Lexie for such a mammoth effort making approximately 540 biscuits!

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**BGMS Mothers’ Day – Lemon Biscuits**

150g butter – soft (room temperature)
90g caster sugar
1 egg
1 tsp vanilla bean paste (or vanilla extract)
Zest and juice of 1 lemon – add extra zest if you really like the lemon flavour
320g plain flour - sifted
2 tspn baking powder
Extra caster sugar and icing sugar to roll the biscuits in

Cream together the butter and sugar. Add egg, vanilla bean paste, lemon zest and juice. Mix well.

Combine flour with baking powder, add (one third at a time) to mixture & mix well using a wooden spoon. The dough should come together into one large ball.

Cover with cling wrap & refrigerate for one hour.

Roll pieces of dough into walnut sizes.

Roll each piece in the extra caster sugar, then roll and coat generously in the icing sugar.

Place on lined baking trays and bake at 170°C (fan-forced) for 12-14 minutes.
Fun was had by all for Mother’s Day Tea with the children enjoying the play time together and the adults enjoying a well deserved cuppa and afternoon tea over a catch up chat with others.
**Girl Power Workshop**

Boab mum’s and their daughters attended a Girlpower Workshop on Saturday. This is a program for girls, which has been implemented in over 20,000 schools around the world. There is a new workshop for boys called the ‘Good Guys’ that we hope to attend as well, as they are a very positive model for social skills.

We learned how to put out ‘Friendship Fires’, by using specific language and learning about positive friendships and how to maintain them.

We then had a lovely afternoon tea at Dome in Mount Lawley. What a lovely way to spend the day.

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**Mother’s Day Classic Fun Run 2014**

Whilst some mums might have been at home enjoying their much deserved breakfast in bed this Mother’s Day, a group of us were up early and into the city to participate in a fun run. The Mother’s Day Classic Fun Run and Walk is held every year and raises money for breast cancer research. Our little community has been directly impacted by this terrible cancer, on more than one occasion, and those of us participating did so with those incredible women very much on our minds.

The Blue Gum community spirit was strong on the day with many of our kids participating too! Some of us participated in the running events whilst others walked and one especially dedicated team member walked her own route after missing her bus! As a result, and much to our surprise, our school’s name was announced (repeatedly!) as the Largest School Team for 2014 and we were presented with a lovely trophy and certificate which is proudly on display in the office.

Thank you to everyone who donated to our team’s fundraising efforts. Hope to see more familiar faces in Team Blue Gum at next year’s event!
Parent Information

‘Middle Primary Explained’
It was fantastic to have a large number of parents attend the Middle Primary Transition/Orientation Meeting on Friday 2nd May 2014.

Vinita and Sujatha told us about the school values and how they are upheld in their classes.

Vinita explained how independence, self-discipline and concentration directly affect a child’s progress in Maths and Literacy and the importance of freedom to choose tasks.

We were shown an example of term plans that cater to the multiple levels and abilities of 6-9 year old children.

We learned that as far as Montessori teachers are concerned the core of a Middle Primary programme is Cosmic Education which includes History, Geography, Science and Language Arts.

Thanks you Vinita and Sujatha for your informative session.
These session will be ongoing so look out for them.

We discovered that education is not something which the teacher does, but that it is a natural process which develops spontaneously in the human being.

Maria Montessori

Past Blue Gum Student
Delaney Hyde, one of our original students when we started the Primary section of our School in 2000 is running Tae Kwon Do lessons for 3-6 year olds.

For further information please see Delaney’s flyer on the school notice board.

Board News
We hope you found the recent email from the Board providing an update on key issues useful.

Just to remind you, the Board is looking for:

- one person with policy experience (in an educational context would be even better!) to join the Policy Subcommittee

- one person with financial experience to join the Finance Subcommittee.

If you would like to help out the School in this way, please send a brief email outlining your skills to board.chairperson@bluegummontessori.wa.edu.au

Please don’t hesitate to approach any Board member if you have any questions.

Regards
Selina Horrocks—Chair of the Board
Making Stepfamilies Work

There are crucial differences between biological relationships and step relationships. Expectations and misunderstandings are responsible for much of the distress that members of a stepfamily can experience. Stepfamily couples who attend this 6 session course gain understanding, knowledge and skills to help them work together in the building of a healthy and nurturing stepfamily.

The six-week course covers

- Stepfamily structure and complexity.
- The normal stepfamily stages of development.
- Basic communication skills for clear speaking, listening and negotiating.
- Common emotional experiences and difficulties for children in stepfamilies.
- How to nourish the couple bond and work together in different roles to parent as a team.
- Passing on values in today’s technological world.
- The building of new stepfamily traditions.

WEST LEEDERVILLE
22 Southport Street, corner Cambridge Street
Tuesday, 20 27 May 3 10 17 24 June

KWINANA
Darius Wells Library and Resource Centre, Level 1, 2 Robbos Place
Wednesday, 21 28 May 4 11 18 25 June 2014

Time: 6.30-9.00pm
Fee: $75 per person, $120 per couple

Places are limited so please book now on 9489 6322