



Blue Gum News—5th June 2015
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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

8th June 2015 Parent/Teacher conversations

10th June 2015 Parent Education Series 8.45am Kambarra Piazza

Principal's News – “Congratulations BGMS does have talent!”

Love of Learning at Blue Gum Montessori School (BGMS)

A journalist from the Australian newsletter contacted the school recently wanting to know why our children did so well at NAPLAN. Our results have dramatically improved and they wanted to know why. When discussing NAPLAN results, one has to be aware that it is a snapshot of student learning at that particular moment in time. Yes our results have improved and one may question why this is the case. For children learning in a Montessori school, they are privileged to experience the Montessori prepared environment and the mini lessons provided by trained teachers who have specialised in Montessori theory and practice. This is a major point of difference from main stream schools and should not be underestimated. In Montessori, we also celebrate the holistic nature of learning and immerse our children in the love of literature, performing and visual arts, health and physical education together with exposure to learning languages other than English. At BGMS we follow the Australian National curriculum, the Western Australian standards for education together with our nationally recognised Montessori curriculum. At all levels BGMS follow best practice and are fully recognised and registered to do so. BGMS has met all criteria as part of the Montessori Quality Assurance program charter from the Montessori Australia Foundation.

If your child was to go to another registered Montessori school anywhere in the world they would follow this specialised and recognised program.

Passion for Learning!

School life can be busy and we at BGMS immerse our beautiful children in the love of learning. If children appear to lose their passion for learning we want to know why. Many factors can influence learning engagement and outcomes. Some of these reasons may include: a child's level of skill, ability to concentrate, lack of literacy, difficulties with relationships, challenges outside of school, social skills or the ability to communicate their challenges. Discovering a child's disposition to learning can help us best cater for their individual needs. We know one size doesn't fit all and the teachers are committed to working with the child and the family to best meet their child's individual learning needs. This is always being reviewed and considered.

We celebrate diversity and work towards ensuring all children have the opportunity to grow at their rate of development and according to their individual learning needs. Our multi-age classrooms celebrate diversity and recognise that learning is a journey and occurs at different times.

Transition to the next class!

As a team, we are reviewing the right time to make transition to the next class and realise this should be done according to the individual need of each child and not determined by the school calendar. We look forward to discussing this further with you when it is identified by our Montessori practitioners that your child is ready to progress to the next stage in their learning journey.

In partnership we look forward to sharing your child's learning journey at your next parent teacher conversation.

Staff Profiles



Vinita De Sa - Middle Primary Wandoo Teacher

Nine years ago when the last of my three children was ready to start full-time school I decided it was the right time, for me, to get back into the workforce. That is when my journey with Blue Gum Montessori School began. I did relief teaching in many schools including the junior primary classes here at BGMS. Soon I commenced the role of a part-time education assistant in Wattle and later Wandoo. Eventually in 2009 I was offered the role of the teacher in Wandoo.

I have realised that being a Middle Primary teacher is not a job for the faint-hearted. As with any teacher, this multifaceted role requires not just to facilitate the children's learning but to carry the role of surrogate parent, nurse, mentor, counsellor, book keeper, role model, planner and many more. Through this I have experienced a sense of achievement, found joy and fulfilment.

As part of an evolving school I have wholeheartedly undertaken numerous assignments as well overcome many challenges, experiences that have contributed to my strength and resilience. I hope to continue to use my knowledge and skills to contribute positively to the growth and development of Blue Gum Montessori School.

Staff Updates

Deb Dwyer has announced her resignation due to being offered another teaching position closer to home. This has caused feelings of uncertainty for some parents. With deep respect for Deb's decision we wish her all the very best for her future endeavours and sincerely thank her for all her contributions to Blue Gum.

Staff News

After much consideration we would like to communicate that Gwen Hills will be replacing Deb Dwyer in Melaleuca class at the beginning of Term 3 and Mereio Hughes will be replacing Gwen in Wattle class. Both teachers are very excited and look forward to teaching your children. Please be reassured the Junior Primary team works very closely together and is committed to a seamless transition for your children and the wider community.

Should you have any questions please speak directly to Dr Maree Matthews – Principal.

Social Awareness



WHITE EYE PATCH DAY

White Eye Patch Day is an awareness day for CBC (Childhood Brain Cancer). The day is run by Crusade for Cancer. It takes place on the second Friday in June which this year is the 12th.

The day aims to eventually have over 1 million people across the world wear an eye patch for Children who are currently diagnosed with Brain Cancer.

The Eye Patch is symbolic for the brain damage that often occurs in children who have brain tumours removed. Conor Colgan (the little boy who inspired the day) has partial paralysis in his face including the loss of the ability to blink with his right eye.

When you wear a white eye patch and dress in white, at Blue Gum on Friday June the 12th, you show support to the need for larger funding for research into the prevention and cure of CBC. Please join us and wear your eye patch and dress in white.

Thinking of others

Middle Primary News

This term Karri children have been learning about one of the fundamental needs of man, CLOTHING. One of the things they learnt was to make prints on fabric. We looked at tie- dye and batik print. It was a new experience for me to do this activity with the children and learn how to do it along with them! We used natural products and acrylic paints to stain the fabric

Paula

“batik was hard to draw but I enjoyed it as I like to draw”.

Maeve

“when I did tie dye I thought it was hard to put the bands on to tie it. I found batik a bit hard as I could not see what I was drawing with the glue. But I had fun doing both of them.”

Kayde

”I thought tie dye was very fun because you would make something and you would not know what it was until a long time when you would open it. Batik was cool because you make a pattern and paint it and when when you wash it off it looked very cool and different to your pattern”.

Joshua

”I think tie dye was fun and a bit challenging. Batik was fun because I liked painting it”.



School Club News

Morning and Afternoon School Clubs

The school is officially open from 8.15am for the commencement of supervision and class begins at 8.45am. To ensure our children are supervised before and after school, we have clubs in the morning and afternoon. These clubs will include:

Monday – Friday 7.30am—8.30am

Early Bird Breakfast Club

Held in Mallee every morning. Children enter through the side gate from the car park.

Children are be able to make their own healthy breakfast and engage in practical life activities.



Monday 3.00-5.00pm

Mandarin Club

The Chinese Programme will allow children to develop a perspective for Chinese language as well as Chinese Culture. Class run by Richard. Enrolment forms at admin. Cost \$150.00 per term.

Monday

Kidz 'n' Sports

Programme run by Paul. Paul supplies a fruit snack. Please ensure your child has a water bottle that is able to be refilled prior to sport commencing. Please discuss timetable and fees by calling Paul, phone 0421606425 paulr@kidznsport.com.au

Tuesday 3.15—3.30pm—School supervision for tennis children only.

Kyle Mackin's Tennis Club 3.30-4.30pm

Kyle is Certified and Registered with ATPCA and has attained official accreditation with the Australia Tennis Professional Coaches Association.

Tennis in action



School Club News

Tuesday - Drama Class 3.00—5.00pm

Jenny Moyle runs this Club. Classes include vocal exercise, improvisation, mime, puppet work and movement to music. There will also be some stage performance using scripts.

Enrolment forms at admin. Cost \$150.00 per term.



Wednesday 3.00—5.00pm

The Art of Drawing

Judith runs the art club. Classes are about passing on basic drawing and observational skills to the children, but more importantly these sessions are about encouraging confidence to explore visual expression without judgement.

Enrolment forms at admin. Cost \$150.00 per term.

Thursday

Kidz 'n' Sports

Please discuss timetable and fees by calling Paul, phone 0421606425 paulr@kidznsport.com.au

After School Club

Our after school club will commence in Term 3 2015 and be available to all students from 3pm to 6pm at a cost of \$28 per session during the school term.

More updates to follow:-



Friday 3.00—5.00

Cooking Club

Cooking class run by Andy Vernie in Mallee. Children are to supply an apron and a container to take home their wares!

Enrolment forms and a copy of this terms menu available at admin. Cost \$150.00 per term.

The Micro Kitchen cooking club for Term 2

Menu Planner:-

Week 1: Anzac biscuits (relating to ANZAC day the next day) and Crepes

Week 2: Trio of eggs

Week 3: Creative Cupcakes (relating to Mother's Day)

Week 4: Frittata and Bruschetta

Week 5: Vegetable Pasties

Week 6: Spinach and Ricotta puff pie

Week 7: Baked Potatoes with Cauliflower Cheese

Week 8: Veggie Burgers

Week 9: French Toast and Madeleines (relating to upcoming Bastille Day)

Week 10: Tarte Tatin (Bastille Day?)

Week 11: "Surprise Dish!!!"

Look forward to your joining us

Regards

Andy



Late Fees

As the 'After School Clubs' are not run by BGMS staff, it is important that children are collected on time. A late fee will be incurred to pay for the relevant staff members time.

School Parking

No Standing Zone

Please park in the dedicated parking area around the school, see below [map!](#)

Some members of our community are parking in the **No Standing Zone** outside the front of the school.

Thank you for your co-operation in keeping all children safe.

