IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

10th August  School Open Morning 10am to 12noon
11th August  Montessori Book Club 8.45am in Boab—Upper Primary Learning
12th August  Student Photo day
12th August  Upper Primary Parent Education Series 7 to 8pm Kurrajong RSVP at reception Tues 11th August
24th August  Book Week Parade

Principal News

Remaining safe at school!
Term 3 commenced with a staff professional development day. The main focus was maintaining a healthy and safe environment for our students. The Asthma Foundation visited and provided an overview of the latest procedures in working with children with asthma. New asthma kits will be purchased to ensure we have appropriate resources across the school. The team also practised using Epi-pens in the event anyone on school grounds requires adrenalin. We were also briefed on childhood diabetes and what we need to do in the event a child requires insulin to control the amount of glucose in their blood and to ensure they remain safe at school.

Yes hat, yes play
Please ensure your child brings their hat to school every day, as all school children must wear a hat while outdoors. Children without a hat occasionally at school will remain under cover in Gunyan and therefore miss out on playing with their peers in the playground. In the event your child does not have a hat at school more than three occasions, they will be provided with a new hat to be kept at school, and you will be charged accordingly.

After School Club
We now have a number of after school clubs up and running. To complement these clubs, we also have a new after school club that runs until 6pm to support our working parents. Lorna Kelly is the Coordinator, and will be assisted by Taryn Walford. Should you wish to book your child into the after school club, please contact administration.

Positive Education
Crispin Rapsey, our Curriculum Coordinator, is looking forward to teaching Positive education this term. All children will participate in the classes every Friday. As we implement this new curriculum with an emphasis on teaching social skills, we look forward to hearing how the children implement their new skills in the playground and outside the school. I am particularly looking forward to the children discussing gratitude and how they plan to demonstrate their appreciation for one another.

Bell time for Fathers
The academic team discussed having the fathers come to school to share in their child’s learning. The teachers felt it was really important for fathers to have an opportunity to see their child in action when they weren’t tired. Fathers are now invited for breakfast and a classroom visit on Thursday, 3 September between 8 – 9am. Please ensure you place this time in your diary to share this special occasion with your child.

Parent Education
The Parent Montessori Library is now available outside reception. Parents are invited to borrow books from this Library. Many of the books are quite expensive and we trust you will borrow the books and return them as you find them. Happy Montessori reading! Special thanks to our Librarian, Louisa Watts, and parent, Emma Barsden, for their dedication to this project. If you are interested in any other titles please let us know via reception.
Emergency and evacuation drills
Over the next two weeks we will be practicing our emergency and evacuation drills. Your child may come home and tell you about the alarms from the emergency and evacuation drills. Please encourage them to stay calm and listen to their teachers as they are guided through the safety procedures.

Presentation to school leaders
All parents, students and staff are invited to a special presentation to our school leaders (Year 6 children) this Friday, 7 August at 2.45pm in the undercover area. I do hope you are able to join us.

School photographs
On Wednesday, 12 August, the 2015 school photographs will be taken of all students and staff. This year we will have Photo Hendriks take the school photographs. Please ensure your child wears clothing that complements the following background for their individual photographs. The school uniform will certainly blend in well with this background. As part of Grace and Courtesy, I would encourage each child to bring a small toiletry bag with a flannel and hair brush on the day to ensure they are looking more beautiful than ever for their photograph. A photograph order envelope will be sent home shortly.

Background for individual photographs

Get ready to smile!

Dr Maree Matthews
Principal

DR MARIA MONTESSORI’S BIRTH-DAY CELEBRATION
Thursday, 27 August 2015

We warmly invite our families to attend our special birthday celebration by bringing lunch to eat with your child/children at 12 noon.

A gelato van will be visiting the school from 12-1pm. Children, families and staff will have the opportunity to purchase gelato or sorbet for a gold coin donation (nut & gluten free options will be available).

A coffee van will also be available from 12-1pm for parents and staff to purchase their favourite beverage.

Happy birthday Dr Maria Montessori!

BOOK WEEK PARADE
Monday, 24 August 2015
9 – 10am
Please see class teachers for details regarding costumes
Parents are very welcome to watch the parade...
Principal News

In memory

Teresa Bocking

Whilst looking forward is crucial for any organisation, it is also important to look back and remember those people who have made Blue Gum the wonderful school that it is today.

Teresa and Brad Bocking were parents at Blue Gum from 1996 until 2007. Their eldest son Aden, was Blue Gum’s first graduate in 2005, and their youngest son, Julian, graduated in 2007.

Teresa worked on a purely voluntary basis to keep the school’s finances in order for many years, before the school was in a position to pay administrative staff.

She was also instrumental in establishing the Primary School (Blue Gum was a Pre-School until 2000).

Besides her family and Blue Gum, Teresa’s other passion was for the environment. The first compost bin at the school was donated by the Bocking family.

Sadly Teresa died of cancer in 2011. On the fourth anniversary of her passing last Thursday, 30 July, we remember Teresa and her valued contribution to Blue Gum. Our thoughts are with her husband, Brad, and sons, Aden and Julian. On Thursday, Teresa’s family laid flowers at her memorial plaque and tree in the school’s playground. Teresa - ‘always a part of our school’.

‘Early Bird’ Breakfast Club

All students are welcome to attend the ‘Early Bird’ Breakfast Club that operates between 7.30 – 8.15am. The Breakfast Club is coordinated by Jenny Moyles and the cost per student is $8 per day. Enrolments may be made on the first day of attendance. Entry is via the car park rear gate.

Any student on campus without a parent/guardian prior to 8.15am must attend the Breakfast Club.

REMINDER

Students on campus between 8.15 – 8.30am

Between 8.15 - 8.30am, all students on campus without a parent/guardian are supervised by Melissa Beeck outside the administration building. This is to ensure all students’ safety.

Please instruct your child to wait with Melissa at all times between 8.15 - 8.30am

After School Club (ASC)

The After School Club is held each week day in Mallee.

This program is coordinated by our Montessori trained teacher, Miss Lorna Kelly, and is open to children aged 3-12 years. Students will be supplied with an after school snack and may participate in a variety of child initiated activities such as craft, cooking, sensory play, outdoor sport and free play.

The opening hours for the After School Club are 3 – 6 pm (however, students may be collected by a parent/guardian at any time during these hours).

For After School Club enquiries and enrolments, please contact administration on 9417 4060.

Please be reminded that any child not picked up by 3.15pm at the latest will be booked into the ASC.
Dear Parents

I would like to formally introduce myself. My name is Lorna Kelly and I will be conducting a new Montessori based Transition Class in Mallee from 12 – 3pm, as well as an After School Club open from 3 - 6pm – with both operating each week day, Monday to Friday.

I am a Montessori teacher, specialised in ages 3 to 6. I also have a Bachelor Degree in Psychology and Sociology and I have completed a certificate in Special Needs.

The aim of this Montessori session in Mallee is to assist children, both current and new, and to assist them to settle and engage in a classroom environment. As you may have seen, the Mallee classroom has undergone some positive environmental changes. I believe in creating a learning environment that is stimulating, inviting and enjoyable for children to grow and learn in. It is crucial that a classroom is created with materials and activities that enhance children’s interests, thus sparking the enjoyment of learning through their environment.

As a Montessori teacher I feel creating strong relationships, bonds and friendships are most vital for the happiness and enjoyment of learning in the early years. I am grateful for this wonderful opportunity to teach at Blue Gum Montessori School, and I look forward to getting to know you and your children. If you wish to contact me regarding the Transition class or After School Club please email me at transition@bluegummontessori.wa.edu.au

I look forward to the exciting term that is ahead of us!

“A three-year-old educated according to Montessori pedagogy becomes a master of his hand and undertakes with joy a variety of human activities. These activities allow him to develop the power of concentration.” - Dr. Maria Montessori

**Australian Early Development Census (AEDC)**

Recently our school, along with other primary schools across Australia, completed the AEDC. This census gathers information on children in Pre-Primary and provides a snapshot of young children’s progress at national, state/territory and community levels.

This is the third time we have taken part in this census and I am pleased our school was able to contribute to the information being used to shape early childhood initiatives in our community and across Australia.

The census was completed by our Pre-Primary teachers and did not require any additional work from your child. Information was collected on physical health and wellbeing, social competence, emotional maturity, language and cognitive skills, communication skills and general knowledge. The information is anonymous and combined with data from other children living in our community.

You will be able to view the information on our community, and other areas of Australia, early in 2016.

The information that the AEDC collects is extremely important in helping to shape programs and initiatives that make a continued difference to the outcomes for young children.

Please see the following leaflet that provides more information about how the AEDC works.

You can also find out more at www.aedc.gov.au

Maree Matthews (PhD)
Principal
Principal News

Schools

The AEDC is a reliable measure of child development across five domains.

- Social competence
- Physical health and wellbeing
- Emotion maturity
- Communication skills and general knowledge

Participate in the data collection so all communities have complete AEDC data.

The AEDC predicts NAPLAN results from Year 3 to Year 9.

This graph shows that AEDC vulnerability is linked to later school achievement.

Use the AEDC confidently as a holistic measure of child development in your community.

The AEDC predicts social and behavioural outcomes at school.

- Learning to think before doing something
- Good social development
- Easily adjusts to change
- Self control
- Comfortable being left at school
- Follows rules
- Helps others
- Curious about the world
- Learning emotional regulation

Use the AEDC to plan for the needs of your children.

The AEDC provides a common language and publicly accessible data for all services to engage with.

Use the AEDC to link to other services.

The years before school provide an opportunity to increase later equalities in academic achievement and life success.

SCHOOL ASSETS SUPPORTING CHILDREN:

- High quality staff
- Libraries
- Ovals
- Sporting equipment
- Playgroup spaces
- Community gardens

Examine how your assets can better support early childhood development before children arrive at school.

To explore your school profile visit at www.aedc.gov.au
Save the Date!!

Get your thinking caps on!
Blue Gum is having a Quiz Night
Saturday September 12th, 7pm ~
Hilton Park Bowls Club

More details to follow

Thanks!
Rach

Earn and Learn—Woolworths
Please collect stickers from Woolworths and place them in the box outside the Administration Office.

Introducing Taryn Walford

My name is Taryn Walford and I have recently joined the wonderful team at Blue Gum Montessori Primary School, working as an Education Assistant in the transition room.

I am originally from New Zealand and moved to Perth three years ago. Prior to leaving New Zealand, I completed a Bachelor of Sport and Exercise, majoring in Education. Upon arriving in WA, I continued my studies at Murdoch University, graduating with a Post Graduate Diploma in Primary Teaching.

I am extremely happy to be following my dream, working with, and learning from your children each day. I look forward to meeting you all in the future.

Jarrah News

From Jarrah class on being gentle with friends: The children know this song, so get them to sing it to you while they give you a massage.

Give Your Friend a Massage
Give your friend a massage. It’s a lovely thing to share.
Give your friend a massage. It’s so nice to show you care.
Rubbing rubbing rubbing go.
Stroking stroking stroking go.
Neck & shoulders, head & back…
Pressing pressing just relax…
Ooohhh… massage

Introducing Taryn Walford

My name is Taryn Walford and I have recently joined the wonderful team at Blue Gum Montessori Primary School, working as an Education Assistant in the transition room.

I am originally from New Zealand and moved to Perth three years ago. Prior to leaving New Zealand, I completed a Bachelor of Sport and Exercise, majoring in Education. Upon arriving in WA, I continued my studies at Murdoch University, graduating with a Post Graduate Diploma in Primary Teaching.

I am extremely happy to be following my dream, working with, and learning from your children each day. I look forward to meeting you all in the future.