

The Phoenix



a chance for change



Helen Macpherson Smith Trust



Rotary Club of Box Hill.

Rotary Club of Balwyn.

Thanks for your support



Phone: 9898 9167

Email: berengarra@bigpond.com

Web: www.berengarra.vic.edu.au

BERENGARRA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER—2017

**B
E
R
E
N
G
A
R
R
A**

Killara Street Program

The highlight of this term has been the Killara Street Program really gaining momentum and establishing itself. Last term there were some teething problems with the structure and format of the program, so we decided to make some major alterations. Evaluation of last term's cool off/support data showed that five students' accounted for 75% of "time outs" in the morning sessions. They clearly needed more time and effort into learning to self regulate before starting the day, so it makes sense for them to start at the Killara Street Program. The students have responded really well, and are coping much better in the morning and also the rest of the day when they rejoin their normal program. They have mixed in successfully with the other Killara Street Program students. Another benefit is that the morning sessions at Harrison Street are now much calmer and more productive.

Staff Conference

In the last week on the school holidays all staff attended a two day conference at Cape Schanck. On the first day we completed the first of four training days of the Berry Street Education Model (BSEM), which underpins the basis of the Killara Street Program and will ultimately help us develop more sophisticated behaviour management processes in our other programs. On the second day, Shane Kamsner from our School Council presented an informative workshop on learning issues associated with poor working memory, something that many of our students present with. We then spent the afternoon on restorative justice and discussing ways of implementing aspects of the BSEM. The feedback forms from staff were extremely positive about all components of the conference - workshops, venue, food and even the entertainment!



Principal's report con't....

Bec Emmett

This term we sadly say farewell to Bec Emmett, our Curriculum Co-ordinator. Bec has been with us for just on five years and in that time has filled the roles of physical education, outdoor education, and maths teacher. She leaves because after 13 years straight as a teacher in three continents, she would like to have a break for a while. We all wish her well and hope that sometime in the near future she returns to the profession, as she is a highly skilled and dedicated teacher.

Illness

Earlier this year there were warnings about a flu epidemic that would be far more severe than previous years, and unfortunately that has turned out to be true. Student absences have been extremely high this term. If students are to work on their issues they need to attend regularly, and if this is not the case their progress will be impeded. In future I implore all parents/caregivers to take every precaution against flu epidemics as a simple injection has been proven to significantly reduce the chance of infection.

Well, time for a break..... Pete

Dates to remember

Term 4 staff return — October 9

Students return — Wednesday October 11

Midterm break — November 6 & 7, Cup day.

CAMP — Pathways November 15, 16 & 17

Pathways Graduation— Friday November 24

CAMP — Box Hill November 29 & 30

Report writing day — Friday December 1, Pupil free day

Term 4 ends Box Hill Graduation — Friday December 8

Staff Finish — Friday December 15