



Bellevue School

Coming Up

Junior Trip to the Science Roadshow

Thursday 24 August,
9:00am - 1:00pm,
Bethlehem College

Maria Montessori Birthday Celebration

Thursday 31 August,
Montessori @ Bellevue

School Disco

Thursday 21 September
From 5:00pm

Parent Education Evening

T.B.C. for later in the term.
Keep an eye on our
Facebook page for further
updates.

Welcome to Term 3's Montessori newsletter. We are looking forward to an exciting term with a variety of interesting events coming up. A special belated welcome to our new children and their families.

3 Hour Work Cycle Changes

So far the response to our new 3 hour work cycles has been positive. The children are enjoying the extra time to complete a wider variety of work. It has also been very positive to see the relationships between the seniors and the juniors strengthen during the lunch break times.

A reminder of the new timetable:

- 8:45 start everyday (the children can enter the classrooms from 8:30)
- 3:15 finish (except Tuesdays when we finish at 2:45 so the staff can attend the staff meetings).

Following the new timetable trial at the end of this term, we will be inviting you to provide us with feedback of how you felt the trial went.

Request for Items

The Junior Montessori Class is now using one of the break out rooms as a construction room for the children. We see this as a way of developing the children's communication skills, creativity, and problem solving skills. For this, we are requesting donations any old cardboard boxes, cardboard rolls and tubes etc.

In preparation for the Maria Montessori Birthday Celebration, we are also in need of 2L milk bottles and lids. These can be dropped off in the Junior Class.

Science Roadshow

The Junior Class is very excited about their upcoming trip to the Science Roadshow on 24th August. A reminder to parents to please return the permission slip and \$8 to the school office as soon as possible. Thank you to the parents that have already volunteered to help on the day.



Maria Montessori Birthday Celebration

On August 31st, the children from Montessori at Bellevue and Montessori at Arataki will come together to celebrate Maria Montessori's birthday. Following on from last year's very successful event, this year there will be a range of activities and games centred around the theme of recycling and sustainability.

**“It is the child
who makes the
man, and no man
exists who was
not made by the
child he once
was.”**

Maria Montessori

Parent Help Required in the Senior Class

This term the Year 7 children will be visiting local preschools as part of their Year 7 Programme. They will have the opportunity to support and lead the younger children in their learning. For this to be possible, we require parent help to take the Year 7s to and from a preschool. This would be once a week for four weeks (on the same day each week) on a day that suits you, from 12:30pm to 2:00pm. Parents are not required to help while at the preschool. Please contact Mike or Deirdre if you are able to help.

International Languages Week

As part of International Language Week celebrations this week, we have had parents come in to share their native languages with the children. The children have enjoyed listening to stories and everyday speech in a wide variety of languages, including Korean, French, Spanish, and Polish. Thank you to the parents that volunteered their time to make this possible. Sariah, CJ and Kyla have also shared their second languages with the new entrants.

Community Picnic at Te Puna Quarry

The Junior Class are planning to hold the postponed Community Trip from last term at the end of this term, when the weather is better. More information to follow closer to the time.

Keep an Eye on Our Facebook Page

A reminder that dates for upcoming events, as well as updates from the classrooms are posted to our Facebook page regularly.

Special Newsletters on Seesaw Learning Journals

The Junior Class will be sharing any important newsletters and permission slips on Seesaw for parents to access.

Birthday Lunches

Every month or two, the Montessori@Bellevue children come together to celebrate those that have had birthdays that month. We do this in the form of games lead by the senior children, followed by a shared lunch prepared by the birthday children. This has been a positive way to foster our sense of community, and grow relationships.

Staff Professional Development in Wellington

In the April holidays, the teachers of M@B and M@A, along with Leanna and Lee, attended the annual MANZ (Montessori Aotearoa New Zealand) Conference in Wellington. The central theme for the conference was 'Sustaining the Light in Every Child'. During the 3 days, the staff further developed their understanding and application of Montessori's Cosmic Curriculum, as well as the Mathematics Curriculum. The guest speaker, Michael Duffy, provided a wealth of new ideas, and left the staff inspired and refreshed.

Otumoetai Showcase Writing by Toby Currin

On Tuesday the 2nd of August I went to see the Otumoetai Intermediate showcase. Luckily, I got to sit in the front row.

The first act was a rock band. It was really loud. I did not want to block my ears because that would have been rude.

I was pretty impressed by their artwork because of how resourceful they were, for example they had yellow Christmas lights inside a light shade for a firefly tail.

I really enjoyed the dancing because of all the skills and flexibility they had. There was a kid who was amazing, he did back handsprings into the splits and it was awesome.

I really enjoyed the showcase because of all the confidence the kids had. Surprisingly, they got up there and did their act with no hesitation. I really liked the lighting they used especially the purple lights because my favorite color is purple. They flashed lights of all colors at the audience and when it shone right in your eyes it was kind of blinding.

The showcase was a really good experience for me because now I have quite a fair idea of what I want to do at Otumoetai Intermediate.

By Toby Currin

15.8.17