



Bellevue School

Coming Up

School Closed for Teacher Strike

Wednesday 15th August.
School is closed all day.

Year 6 Parent Information Evening

Tuesday 14th August,
6:00pm

'The Beetles' Production Performances

Wednesday 22nd and
Thursday 23rd August,
7:00pm both nights

Maria Montessori Birthday Celebration

Wednesday 29th August,
11:00am

Welcome to Term 3's Montessori newsletter. It has been a pleasure to welcome our new families this term and we hope that everyone has settled in well to the new term.

Maria Montessori Birthday Celebration

This year we are celebrating Maria Montessori's birthday with a community fun family picnic. Please bring along your own picnic lunch, and if you are a baker please bring along some muffins to share! We warmly invite you all to come along and join us on Wednesday 29th August at 11am. This is a wonderful opportunity to talk to our teachers, see our classrooms, meet other families and generally have some fun.

We are supporting the "Good Neighbour" and we ask if everyone could bring along a donation of some non perishable food items. Children are able to start dropping these off in their classrooms now.

If raining our postponement date is 5th September. Please see the attached invitation for more information.

MANZ Conference

It is with much excitement that the Montessori team looks forward to the MANZ conference each year. There is always a high calibre of international guest speakers. This year the conference was held in Napier on the first weekend of the recent holidays. There were approximately 100 primary school teachers, and 5-10 times more preschool teachers.

We were privileged to have Michael Dorer over from America as the 6 -12 guest speaker. He has been involved in Montessori education for over 45 years, including two decades of educating adults to be Montessori teachers.

The Montessori team found his talks on story telling and Cosmic Education to be very valuable topics as they are key elements of the Montessori philosophy. The whole teaching team left the conference inspired and with a raft of new ideas.

How Your Child's Classroom Runs

As mentioned above, the Montessori teaching team came away from this year's MANZ conference inspired and with a range of new ideas. One of the ideas in particular that has been implemented across the team this term is proving to be very successful.

In each class, the children have been placed into three or four small groups depending on their ages. Each day of the week is dedicated to a different area of the curriculum, for example, Monday may be Math, Tuesday may be Language etc. depending on what each teacher has set up for their class. Everyday, each group receives a lesson based on their developmental needs in each of the curriculum areas.

Following a lesson, they are offered two choices about which follow up work they complete, and have one week to complete their chosen work. If you have any questions regarding these changes, please don't hesitate to see your child's key teacher.

Arriving on Time for School

The teaching team understands that there are some families that travel quite a distance in the mornings to drop their children off at school. We understand that inevitably these families will be held up in traffic from time to time. However, for those families that live closer to school, we ask that you ensure your child is at school before the 8:45 bell. Currently, there are a number of children who consistently arrive late in the mornings. With the new class changes, it is very disruptive to class meetings and lessons when children arrive late. Please let us know if there is a reason for your child being late in the mornings.

Production Log In Details

Over the past few weeks, the children have been hard at work practising for the production. The children are encouraged to continue their practise at home by logging in to the Gobsmacked website to practise the songs and dances.

To do this, visit www.gobsmacked.co.nz and enter the following details:

Log in: [bellevueschool](#)

Password: [gsmack11](#)

Welcome Scott

The M@B team are excited to have Scott Symes join them as their new team leader.



From Scott:

My name is Scott Symes and I am the new team leader at Montessori @ Bellevue. It is a wonderful privilege to be working alongside your children and providing rich learning experiences. My family and I have recently moved into the area from, you guessed it, Auckland. I have worked in primary education for 16 years fulfilling a range of different positions. I have a strong belief in inquiry-based education and look forward to the new learning and opportunities this exciting journey will bring. Please do not hesitate say hello or get in touch if you need anything.

“Never help a child with a task at which he feels he can succeed.”

Maria Montessori

From the Classrooms

The Polar Bear

I was sitting down. Sitting down, watching some polar bears swimming around in a cramped pool. All of a sudden, a baby one swam up to me. I put my hand on the glass hoping to touch it. Sadly, it looked into my eyes. It looked desperate. Desperate to get back to its normal habitat and back to its family. I wouldn't like being caged up with all these people staring at me all day. I would want freedom, to live the life I should. Slowly it started to drift away from me. I wish I could talk to it and tell it one day I would set it free.

And that was the day I decided to become a polar bear saver. I wrote a website and a book all about saving polar bears. When I grew up I went to the Antarctica and saw polar bears live. I will never forget the moment when I first met that special bear.

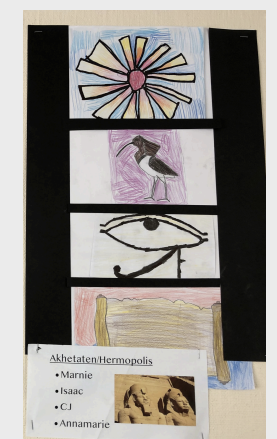
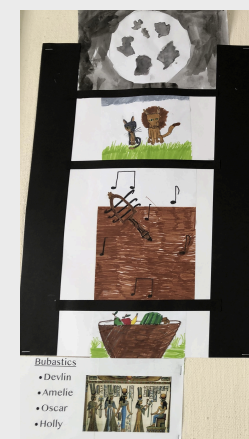
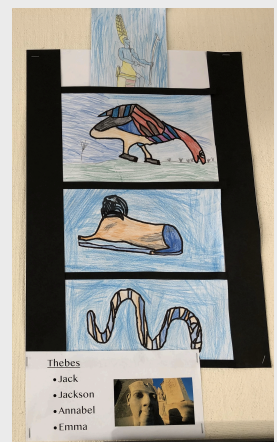
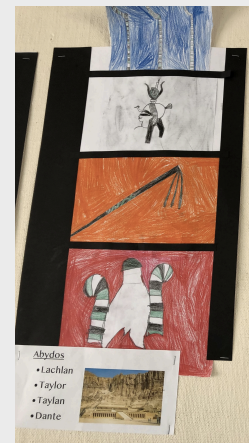
By Caitlin

Elephant Writing

The trees rustled. My herd stopped and looked at the trees, fearing poachers. Poachers — greedy, horrible, ruthless — will kill us for our tusks. Suddenly, a gun fired from one of the bushwillow trees we had been feeding on. Gary dropped to the ground after getting hit by a bullet. Desperately, I tried to save Gary, but it was too late. Gary was dead. The impatient poachers charged. We ran. A quarter of the herd was dead. When we stopped running, we looked back to see if they were following us. They were not.

By Juliet

Currently in Room 17 we are exploring the 'Coming of Man'. We have decided to explore ancient civilisations. We have chosen to explore early Egypt. Students have selected Nomes (a territorial division in ancient Egypt) and tasked with creating their territory banners based on specific information they gathered from research. The symbols and colours are specific to them and help identify their region to others. Over the term students will be exploring other aspects of ancient Egypt, creating a book to share all their new information!





Helping neighbours transform their communities

MARIA MONTESSORI BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Wednesday 29th August
11-12.30pm

Main Playing Field: Bellevue School

This year we are supporting the great work done by the **Good Neighbour** organisation, and we would appreciate it if you would bring a tin or something non-perishable to donate to Good Neighbour.

All welcome. Bring your own picnic lunch and some cupcakes or muffins to share.

Come and join the fun, talk to the teachers and experience our fabulous Montessori community.

"An education capable of saving humanity is no small undertaking; it involves the spiritual development of man, the enhancement of his value as an individual, and the preparation of young people to understand the times in which they live."
(Maria Montessori)

