



BADEN POWELL COLLEGE

Baden Powell College Newsletter

Issue One

A word from our College Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am very impressed with the way our students have settled back into the school routine to start the 2024 school year. Across the College our classrooms are calm, orderly and students are focused on learning.

Our Curriculum Day held on Monday January 29 was facilitated by our Leadership Team and an Education Consultant working with the college. We provided teachers time to work collaboratively together to plan our curriculum overview documentation, work on our college strategic direction and a focus on phonics for our primary team. We value staff collaboration at Baden Powell College, this enhances consistency across the team/classes and ensures that your children get the educational knowledge and skills from a team of staff and not just one individual teacher.

We are excited about the year ahead and believe we have everything in place to ensure success, this includes but is not limited to:

- An external Literacy educational consultant working with our teachers on effective teaching strategies and using data to provide our students the best educational program. For the last three years we have upskilled our staff on effective reading strategies and the teaching of writing.
- An educational Numeracy consultant working with the Secondary Maths Teaching team.
- Internal coaches working with staff to further improve their practice in all curriculum areas.
- Explicitly teaching our school values and other Wellbeing programs across the school.
- The implementation of a college wide reward and acknowledgement system.

I strongly believe we run an exceptional educational program here at Baden Powell College that provides all students the opportunity to develop their own knowledge, skills and individual talents.

At Baden Powell College we pride ourselves on our presentation and we hold high expectations of students wearing school uniform. We require all students to wear the uniform on a daily basis. We also ask that any additional items worn (for example jackets, tights and hair ribbons) are the school colours. Wearing uniform is a reflection of the pride we have in our school, is part of our identity within our community and supports our priority of developing an inclusive environment. If you require any assistance with uniforms, please come and speak to a member of the Principal Class or Wellbeing team.

Baden Powell College is a large multi-campus college with over 1000 students. As you would know from being parents, at times children make bad choices. Good kids make bad choices, and it is from these mistakes that they reflect, learn and develop with adult guidance. Like all schools, sometimes we have incidents when children physically or emotionally hurt each other. Our staff are very good at following up on this and facilitating discussions with the students, so they develop and learn from their choices. There is a range of levelled consequences put in place depending on what has occurred, as we particularly do not tolerate children putting hands on each other and physically hurting others.

2024 Curriculum Days

Friday April 26

Friday June 7

Monday July 15

Monday November 4

2024 Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY

Monday 12

P-6 'Getting To Know You' Parent/Conferences.

Tuesday 13

P-6 'Getting To Know You' Parent/Conferences.

MARCH

Friday 1

School Photo Day - DH Campus

Thursday 7

Year 7 Immunisation

Friday 8

School Photo Day - Tarneit Campus

Monday 11

Public Holiday - **NO School**

Friday 15

Year 7 - History Up Close

Thursday 21

Harmony Day

Thursday 28

Last Day of Term

School dismissed at 2pm



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If your child has issues your first port of call should always be your child's classroom/homeroom teacher as they are the ones that spend the most time with your child and if told will have followed the incident up. From this point if you are unsatisfied you would speak to the team leader of the area and then if required a member of the Principal class team.

There have been some staffing updates since our final communications of 2023, the grade levels and classes impacted have had direct communication from me outlining this. Please have a look at the staff lists included in this newsletter. Those that have picked up positions at other schools are:

Mandeep Bajwa
Benjamin Dallimore
Adrianna Elbayeh (ES)

Kevin Hay
Matthew Fellows

Orville Orbaldo
Helen Spedding

We thank these staff for their contribution to the students of Baden Powell College and wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

Celebrations Policy –

Last year we identified a need for a celebrations policy as we were seeing varying requests from parents on their child's birthday, and we were also mindful of the complexity of managing food allergies. The policy is found on our website [celebration_policy.pdf \(bpc.vic.edu.au\)](https://www.bpc.vic.edu.au/celebration_policy.pdf) The key information being communicated is:

Parents/guardians will:

- Ensure all items are pre-wrapped, with the ingredients provided to avoid exposure to unknown substances and cater for different allergies that students may have. For example; Icy poles, lollipops etc.
- Ensure there is one item for each child in the class.
- Ensure the diverse range of cultural needs of the students within the class will be accommodated including dietary, religious needs e.g. halal, vegetarian, vegan options allergies or small token such as a piece of stationery (pencil, eraser, sticker). It is a Baden Powell College preference that food items are limited to a water based icy pole.
- It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to discuss these arrangements prior to the celebration with the teacher. Items need to be prepackaged and organised, so as not to detract from learning time.
- Students will be permitted to hand out celebration gifts at a time that has the least impact on learning.

Celebration of our school year and our learning will occur at the end of Term 4 with a class celebration communicated via compass. Expectations for sharing of food will be reiterated and communicated to parents via compass.

Information for Parents/Carers:

Parents/guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs. Parents/guardians can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers. The Department of Education does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property.

Dogs on school grounds

No dogs are permitted within the school grounds. If you are walking your pet to drop off or pick up your child(ren) please make sure you wait outside the school gates. This is for the safety of our students and the pet.



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Helmets

It is great to see so many children riding their bikes and scooters to school. Riding to school helps establish life-long habits of physical fitness and healthy lifestyles. It is imperative however that children are riding safely and using protective gear to keep them safe. **ALL CHILDREN RIDING BIKES AND SCOOTERS MUST WEAR A HELMET.** As members of the Education Department we are obliged to minimise risk and keep children as safe as we can. If we are aware of a risk we have to act to minimise the possibility of an accident or injury to a child even if the risk is presented outside school. We need to all work together to keep all our kids safe. Also a reminder for students that once you get to the gate, you need to walk your bike from that point. Bikes and scooters must be walked to the bike shed for the safety of others.

Cameras:

Our college campuses have a CCTV system throughout the grounds to ensure the schools security. If you would like more information on this you can review our CCTV policy found on our website.

Parents cannot take pictures of other students in the yard before or after school without the consent of the other child's parents. This behaviour is a breach of privacy.

Children at school before the yard is supervised:

A reminder that the school yard is not supervised by staff until 8:35 am and students should not be in the yard without a supervising adult before this time. We operate a before school program which is open from 6:30 am for those students who need their children supervised before the school day begins. Our motivation for this is to keep all children safe and ensure that they are supervised.

Blocking driveways:

Our neighbours at both campuses have the right to access their driveways at all times. Please do not block these.

Updated COVID information:

There is at present an increase in community transmission of COVID-19 in Victoria. You can help us keep our school as safe as possible by taking 2 important steps:

1. Ensure your COVID-19 vaccinations are up to date. Information on how and where to get vaccinated is available on the Get vaccinated webpage.
2. If your child shows symptoms of COVID-19, please ensure they stay home and get tested. The easiest way to test is to use a rapid antigen test (RAT).

Free RATs are available from our local council where you can collect 2 packs of 5 RATs and an extra 2 packs for each person in your household. People with disability and their carers can get 4 packs of 5 RATs. You are not required to have a Medicare card and you can collect RATs as many times as you need. You can also buy RATs at supermarkets, pharmacies, and other retailers.

If your child has symptoms but tests negative, please ensure they stay home until they no longer have symptoms. If the RAT test result is positive, please ensure they stay home for at least 5 days and until there are no more symptoms. Thank you for your support – these steps will help us all stay well

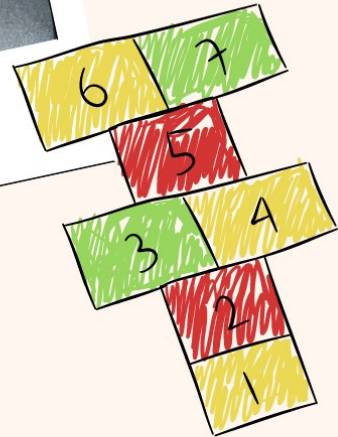
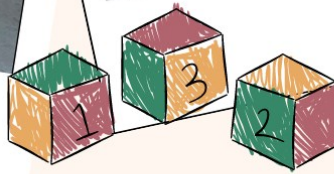
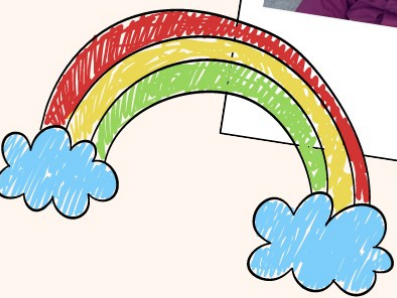
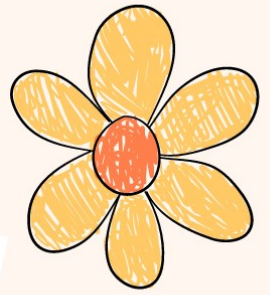
Regards

Vicki Minton

College Principal



FIRST DAY OF PREP!



It was a wonderful start for our Prep students.
We are so proud of how confidently they
settled in to their new grades, meeting new
friends and immediately engaging in activities.



BADEN POWELL COLLEGE

Congratulations

TO OUR 2024 STUDENT LEADERS

COLLEGE CAPTAINS:

Riley T9C & Otile T9B

VICE COLLEGE CAPTAINS:

Zaid T8D & Chelsea T8B

DERRIMUT HEATH CAPTAINS:

Zane D6A & Jerica D6A

DERRIMUT HEATH VICE CAPTAINS:

Marijana D6A & Aayan D6A

TARNEIT CAPTAINS:

Daalia T6A & Milla T6A

TARNEIT VICE CAPTAINS:

Navami T6C & Bellah T6B



BADEN POWELL COLLEGE

Student Birthdays

Happy Birthday to all of our
students who have a Birthday in
January & February

Aadhya	Charlotte	Imogen	Merema	Reigan
Abeeha Zahra	Chase	Isaac	Mia	Rihanna
Abhi	Chloe	Ishani	Milahnee	Ryder
Adonai	Christopher	Jaswinder	Milla	Saanvi
Agam	Clement	Jaxx	Millie	Samantha
Ahmad	Cyan	Jayla	Milud	Samir
Alazar	Daaniel	Jordan	Mirei	Sarah
Alex	Daffany	Justin	Mmasa	Savannah
Alicia	Dahlia Mary	Kafa	Mohammad	Siaunofu
Amena	Damien	Karmandeep	Mohammed	Sophia
Ammar	Daniel-Love	Kasanga	Morgan	Sophie
Amos	Divu	Kathra	Nabhy	Tahmira
Anad	Eda	Koshin	Nabiha	Tayne
Angus	Ekamnoor	Kumail	Nadiyah	Theo-Lahrell
Anush	Elana	Lachlan	Navami	Tong
Anyia	Elijah	Lavayah	Nayla	Tristan
Aquila	Emanuel	Leila	Nazira	Ujwal
Archer	Erin	Leo	Neil	Veronica
Armaan	Ezeh	Levi	Nethumi	Waleed
Asha	Freya	Lewi	Noah	Yasmin
Asiya	Georgina	Livroop	Noela	Yehen
Ava	Halim	Maddison	Noosha	Yousif
Averie	Hanzo	Maiu'U	Nuria	Zachary
Avi	Harley	Manan	Ofa	Zainab
Ayanh	Harmony	Maoama	Orielle	Zakaria
Ayden	Harper	Mareos	Penny	Zane
Bao	Henry	Mateni	Prince	Zayn
Boston	Hussein	Matthew	Raean	Zion
Brylan	Ibrahim	Mehraj Singh	Rehan	Zoe
Chance				Zufar

Tarneit P-9 Campus Staff List 2024

Phone- 8734 0900

Email- baden.powell.p9.tarneit@education.vic.gov.au

Prep

TPA Cassie Wruss

TPB Elise Sturt-Baker

Grade One

T1A Carmela Talia (TL)

T1B Berna Gulcan

T1C Cassidy Hovey

Grade Two

T2A Glen Nelson (TL)

T2B Julie Bolton

T2C Jess Price

Grade Three

T3A Ashlee Elkins (TL)

T3B Sujata Parmar

T3C Cody Weston (M, Tu & W)

T3C Kelly Williams (W, Thu & F)

Grade Four

T4A Tiffany Rigoni (LSp)

T4B Rebecca Cassar

T4C Racheal Scales

T4D Shae Friedrichs

Grade Five

T5A Meredith Vella (LSp)

T5B Kanella DeSilva (TL)

T5C Andy Elbe

Grade Six

T6A Lisa - Ann Watson (TL)

T6B Anthea Skilton

T6C Karishma Chowdhury

Year Seven

T7A Matt Beggs

T7B Alice De Valle

T7C Kirby Hunt

T7D Tracey Cui

Year Eight

T8A Jillian Noy

T8B Jothikumar Bava

T8C Audrey Bugeja

T8D Karen Woods

Year Nine

T9A Jothikumar Bava

T9B Oliver Becroft

T9C Jillian Noy

T9D Liam Brazil

Anita Milina

Nathan Baker

Kelly Jewers

Joseph Nguyen

Laura Monks

Kelly Wilson

Vanishree Kulkarni

Harvey Nish

Ayesha Dharmabandu

Primary Curriculum

Visual Arts

Sebastian Wallace

Italian

Simone Costello

P.E

Emre Tepebasi

Science

Dylan Ward (TL)

Secondary Electives

Food Tech

Jillian Noy

Food Tech Assistant

Melissa Howe

Woodwork

Jothikumar Bava

Performing Arts

Kirby Hunt

Visual Arts

Ayesha Dharmabandu

PE/Health

Nathan Baker

Lab Tech

Piper Mangan

Leadership

Principal

Vicki Minton

Assistant Principals

Rebecca Young P-2 & CET

Jason Vandy 3-6

Adam Miller 7-9

Leading Teachers

Teaching and Learning

P-2 Ash Marruso

3-6 Debra Dodd

7-9 Chloe Mommers

Student Wellbeing

Kristy O'Shannessy P-4

Sarah Hamilton 5-9

Counsellor

Matthew Upcott-Bayes

Mental Health Practitioner

Pratiksha Chandel

Multicultural EAL

Di Healey

Maria Pywell (M, Tu & Thu)

Clair Gauci-Burns

Library

Sue Love

ICT Office

Mario Galimberti

Hung Lam

Jay Sajul

Administration

Business Manager

Amy Cropley

Ruth Astbury

Kirti Kirti

Deb Murphy

Sarah Schmautz

Sarah Stevens

Farizah Zainuddin

Education Support Officers

Ishrat Banu

Sharon Beck

Rita Busuttill

Faye Dounas

Kylie Drummond

Clair Gauci-Burns

Fotini Papageorgiou

Hira Saeed

Jacqui Woods

Jana Zivalj

Facilities

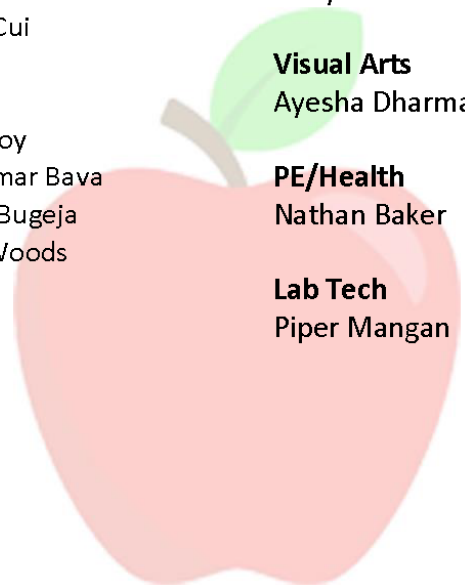
Christine Wruss

Gardener

Claudine Hodges

Maintenance

Jason Kegg



Derrimut Heath Campus Staff List 2024

Phone- 9748 8688

Email- baden.powell.p9.co@education.vic.gov.au

Prep

DPA Deb Bennett (TL)

Grade One

D1A Emma Eads

Grade Two

D2A Bethany Klinko

Grade Three

D3A Kain Wilson (LSp)

Grade Four

D4A Holly Brown (TL)

D4B Rowena Dunlop

Grade Five

D5A Alan Henshaw

Grade Six

D6A Mel Geddes (TL)

Curriculum

Visual Arts

Emma Slattery

Italian

Mariam Ogrinz

Science

Emma Slattery

P.E

Melissa Padoin

Library

Bonnie McFarlane

ICT Office

Mario Galimberti

Hung Lam

Jay Sajul

Multicultural EAL

Di Healey

Maria Pywell

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Administration

Business Manager

Amy Cropley

Ruth Astbury

Kirti Kirti

Farizah Zainuddin

Educational Support Officers:

Brenda Hutton

Karen Jefford

Nikita Kohli

Jenny Kriz

Adelle Meddings

Phyllis Mifsud

Facilities

Christine Wruss

Gardener

Claudine Hodges

Maintenance

Jay Kegg





Play is Declining, and so is Mental Health

In primary school it was bike rides, cubby houses, climbing trees, playing marbles, jumping on the trampoline, and being outside – always outside... and it was almost always with my best buddies: Andy Lucas, Ben and Jay Walter, Richard and Ian Duddy (I've never done a shoutout to my old buddies before...but here it is, after so many years).

In my teens, it was ultra - long bike rides (of 50 kms or more – that was a lot for a 15-year-old who wasn't a cyclist), surfing, skateboarding, and exploring the bush in the mountain behind my house.

I was lucky to grow up in the 80s.

It was probably the last decade where kids had the sort of freedom that I had. With every decade since, research shows that children have become more restricted, more structured, and less able to play and explore in their neighbourhoods away from adults. It's well documented that the amount of time available to kids for free play is declining.

Unfortunately, that's not the only thing that has changed since the 80s.

In 1980, less than 10 in 100,000 teen boys died by suicide, and for girls it was only 2 in 100,000.

By 2000, it had increased to 13 in 100,000 for teen boys and 6 in 100,000 for teen girls.

While in 2020, the number of suicides among teen girls remained steady, for our teen boys it jumped again to 17 in every 100,000.

Behind those stark numbers is the equally alarming doubling in the prevalence of anxiety and depression in our teens and young adults over the last 15 years.

Why?

Screens are the most commonly-blamed culprit. While the scientists behind this argument make a compelling argument, there are alternative explanations. One is that parents are more controlling than ever before. A related idea is that children don't get to play anymore.

I'm not the only one who believes that the decline in free play is a contributing cause. Kids are constantly being pulled away from the opportunity to engage in real life, physical (and outdoor) play because:

- Screen-based activities entice kids away from the outdoors.
- Parental concerns about safety leads to restricted opportunities for independent exploration.
- Many children find their afternoons and weekends filled with structured activities such as organised sport and extracurricular activities, leaving little time for unstructured play.
- The focus on academic achievement and structured learning means that most of our kids' time is spent either in school, doing homework, or engaging in other adult-directed activities, dramatically limiting the time available for free play.

The problem with reducing play time is that play is a direct source of happiness for our children. Studies show that kids prefer outdoor play with friends to screen based activities, and outdoor play is consistently ranked by parents as the activity that makes their kids the happiest – *if we can get them to do it!*

What exactly is it about play that has such a big impact on wellbeing?

Play satisfies all of our basic psychological needs. By definition, play is self-directed. Play is the vehicle through which kids build skills. Play is how children make friends.

As parents, how can we give our children the freedom to play?

1. Strengthen autonomy – allow our kids more choice in how they spend their time. Cut back on structured extracurriculars to enable them more time for free play. Move away from adult-directed activities to unsupervised play (as developmentally appropriate).
2. Build competence – set up the environment with equipment for open ended play. Open Ended toys build competence because there is no right way to use them, and the materials can be modified to meet the level of play that your child is ready for.
3. Relatedness – build a community of people your kid can play with easily. Things like introducing your family to other families in the neighbourhood is a great start.

Giving our kids an idyllic childhood with freedom to play and explore isn't just good for them now. It helps them build the resilience they need for healthy adulthood too.



AUTHOR

Dr Justin Coulson

Dr Justin Coulson is a dad to 6 daughters and grandfather to 1 granddaughter. He is the parenting expert and co-host of Channel Nine's Parental Guidance, and he and his wife host Australia's #1 podcast for parents and family: The Happy Families Podcast. He has written 9 books about families and parenting. For further details visit happyfamilies.com.au.

A close-up, slightly blurred photograph of a person's hands playing an acoustic guitar. The person has dreadlocks and is wearing a grey t-shirt. The background shows other band members, including a drummer, in a dimly lit, warm-toned environment.

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Monster Clean Up Day

Tarneit Creek



Photo Credit: Asif Hussain

**Be part of a monster clean up on
Clean Up Australia Day.**

Do your bit to help our environment.

Where: Meet at Baden Powell Skateboard Park, Baden Powell Drive, Tarneit

When: Sunday March 3rd. Registration starts at 10:00, work starts at 10:30

What: We will be picking up litter along Tarneit Creek, from Derrimut Road to Morris Road. Tools will be provided.

A light meal will be served at 12:00pm.

Please wear appropriate clothes and closed footwear. Please bring your own gloves and water bottle. Please be Sun Smart.



This event is run by NatureWest,
with support from Wyndham City
Council. For more information
please ring Bruce on 0407 880 590

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