

**BEEAC PRIMARY
SCHOOL**
LANG STREET
BEEAC 3251
PRINCIPAL:
ANDREW ROGERS
PH. 0352 346 463

March 16. CANCELLED whole school police station excursion Colac

March 18: CANCELLED Grades 3-6 Ecolinc visit to Bacchus Marsh

March 18: Finance 4.00pm

March 23: Open Night Colac SC

March 24: whole school shuts. All staff professional development day.

March 24: first new Council meeting.

March 26: CANCELLED Colac Division Athletics.

March 27. Last day of school. Finish at 2.30pm

April 20-22: CANCELLATION PENDING (term 2, week 2, 2020) Grades 5-6 camp.

Anglesea Recreation Camp YMCA approx. cost \$260

April 25: Beeac's ANZAC dawn service starting at 6.00am

April 27: MSP photography whole school photographs. **May 1** Polwarth cross country run (fall back May 5.)

May 5. CANCELLATION

PENDING GRIP student leadership day to Geelong.

May 11. Colac golf club

May 12-14: NAPLAN Years 3 to 5.

May 15. Transition packs: Yrs 6 to 7, due back by today

May 15. CANCELLATION PENDING Colac Division Cross Country.

May 17-23. enrolment week

May 29 CANCELLATION PENDING Community knowledge garden launch & birds about town

June 6: CANCELLATION

PENDING Lightning prems

June 25: Colac Area Health dental screening

September 8: CANCELLATION PENDING Preps Grades

P-2 COPACC visit to Edward the Emu.

September 9- 11: bike ed with a visit to Colac on the 11/9

October 15: CANCELLATION PENDING bike ed challenge

October 26. CANCELLATION PENDING Winchelsea NHW schools day

November 12: Red Rock gallery poetry competition.

Student of the week

Ricky Burnet. For settling in to the "Big Room", listening closely to instructions, asking questions and having a red hot go at his work. 6/3.

Jeremiah Cowell: for his continuous words of encouragement to his peers. "Great team-

Beeac Primary School



Beeac Primary School is a child safe school

16 March 2020

What's coming up, and a 2.30pm dismissal.

Polwarth sports day done, tick. Softfall spread done, tick. New basketball court done, tick. Asbestos removal done, tick. Student leadership conference done, tick. Now begins the busy part of our term. Reports for all students for English and Maths will shortly be available on line, individual learning program meetings with some parents will shortly occur, and a professional development day for all staff is busily beckoning us. Unfortunately the Department has stopped all excursions and camps because of the coronavirus. For this term that means that both our police station and Ecolinc excursion have had to be cancelled. Because of this bus travellers will travel in at the normal time this Wednesday. Parents will be involved in our Finance meeting this Wednesday and they will also be involved in our first new Council Meeting on Tuesday the 24th starting at 7.00pm, where a rough draft of the 2019 Annual Report will be presented. Our first term will finally have an early 2.30pm finish on Friday the 27th of March. As usual we will have a party. To minimise concerns about the Corona virus we will not hold a party that includes food this term. Students should bring food for themselves and will be able to wear casual clothes.

Elsewhere in this newsletter I have summarised the latest Departmental advice on the coronavirus. (Covid-19)

End of term reports

Whilst it's great fun for our students to go on excursions, and work on line with students from other schools and listen to various visiting experts, the heart of each day actually revolves around what your child is taught by our teachers. What do our teachers teach? And equally importantly, what has your child learned from their teaching? Our Sentral online reports put parents in the same seat as our teachers. The reports tell you what your child has been learning in our class each day. The "I statements" (e.g. "I can count to 100 in 10s") describes what needs to be taught. Is your child being successful compared to other children of the same age? Is your child being taught successfully? These reports will tell you.

Less importantly, and for your interest, the reports will also tell you what the next stage of the learning journey will be for your child.

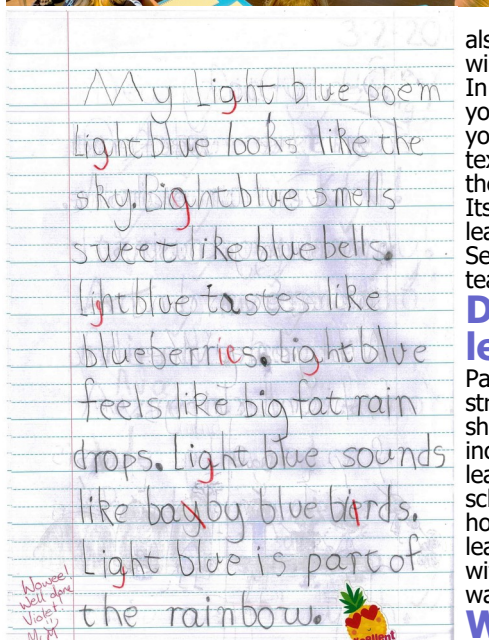
In summary: the statements in green will tell you what your child has learned (coloured green), and what your child will be taught next (coloured black). The black text is for your interest. Do you need to be worried about the black text? Do you need to do something about it? No. Its intention is to describe the next journey in your child's learning. We want you equally involved in their learning. Sentral online reports put parents in the same seat as our teachers.

Developing our new student leaders

Paul Maddern and our student leaders travelled to Armstrong Creek for a day of fun and learning about leadership. They spent time in the company of various leaders including those from the Rotary Club of Highton, student leaders from Surf Coast Secondary College and other school leaders including principals. They learned about: how to be a good leader, leading the community, and leading change. This pictures shows our students along with students from other primary schools workshoping ways to improve student participation in decision making.

Writing of the week.

Kara Wishart's class have been hard at work producing writing around different themes. As readers can see this theme was the concept of "blue". Violet Ohrwalder produced an outstanding piece of writing. Not only was it clearly expressed, but it was also extremely well spelt and the writing was well-formed. Congratulations Violet on producing some excellent writing.



Parents and Friends.

Parents and Friends are running an Easter Raffle. We would appreciate it if each family could donate an item to go towards the raffle. This could be an Easter egg, Easter craft or any other item. Please drop your donation off at the school office. It would be appreciated if all donations could be at the school by Thursday 26th March.

Each family by now should have received a book of 10 tickets to sell for \$1 each. If you would like to sell more, extra books are available from the school office. All raffle books and money need to be returned to school by Thursday 26th March. The raffle will be drawn at assembly on Friday 27th March.

Thank you for your support.

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well amongst its weight throughout the day. Keely especially had a great day, winning all her early matches. She was successful all the way up to the final round. Congratulations to all those involved..

Polwarth Sports Day.

Congratulations to everybody who turned up to make the day a big success for everybody involved. The weather was fine. As always, our children and families fully involved themselves in the day. Many of our students did well in the running, hurdles and throwing events. Successful students will shortly be informed if they will participate in the Colac Division Athletics Day on March the 26th.

Returning Polwarth Sports competition tee shirts.

Our Parents and Friends purchased the light blue sports shirt that every child wore on Polwarth Sports Day. Now that the day has ended, we ask every parent to please launder them and return them to our school as soon as possible. After they have been returned we will store them ready for use again in the following year.

Year 6 transition.

Yes it is that time of year again. We attempt to share as much information as we can get about enrolment and display dates for our local secondary colleges.

- Colac Secondary College have an open night on Monday 23rd of March this year. The flier in our last newsletter indicated that there will be presentations at 4pm, 5pm and 6pm.

Included here is information about Trinity College's Open Day on Sunday the 22nd of March. Details of the day are in this flier. We understand that parents who are unable to make that date are most welcome to ring and make an alternative arrangement. Grade 6 to 7 transition packs will be distributed early next term. Parents will need to return them to our school by the 15th of May.

Beeac's first basketball court.

This picture, taken through the court's fencing, shows the last layer of asphalt being installed over the top of the old tennis court surface. The contractors tell us that it will be cured and ready for use by the end of last weekend. So to celebrate its new arrival, we invite our students to bring in their bikes, skateboards and scooters to have fun at lunch time through the week and enjoy our latest new amenity.

Of course our students will need to wear a protective helmet and will only be able to use the facility when a teacher on yard duty is present.

Anyone for tennis?

Pictured here are Krysta Scott, Keely McEwan, Kayla Phillips and Brodie Kerr who travelled down with Paul Maddern for a day of fun at the Colac Primary Schools Lightning tennis tournament. Our school boxed

Term Dates	Start	Finish
2020 Term 1	29/1	27/3
2020 Term 2	14/4	26/6
2020 Term 3	13/7	18/9
2020 Term 4	5/10	18/12
2021 Term 1	28/1	1/4
2021 Term 2	19/4	25/6
2021 Term 3	12/7	17/9
2021 Term 4	4/10	17/12
2022 Term 1	31/1	8/4

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Farmers Arms Beec

Mondays and Tuesday
nights— kids eat half
price with full paying
adult

Sunday \$17 Sunday
Roast, served with roast
vegetables, warm roll
and sauces to
compliment.

For all enquiries and
bookings call 5234 6341.



Asbestos free school.

Over the long weekend the last of our asbestos, on the outside eaves of Warrabee, was removed and replaced early with new material. Our whole school is now an asbestos free school.

Clean up Australia

What was started thirty years ago, by an "average Australian bloke" who had a simple idea to make a difference in his own backyard has now become the nation's largest community-based environmental event. Ian Kiernan was shocked and disgusted by the pollution and rubbish that he continually encountered in the oceans of the world. Taking matters into his own hands, Ian organised a community event. We continued the work that Ian began over two decades ago, by holding our own clean up morning in Beeac. We walked around Beeac township picking up rubbish. Pictured here are students using rubber gloves to pick up cigarette butts left behind on the community oval

Winning hearts.

Paul Maddern's class were hard at work making a working replica of a working heart last week. As I'm sure everyone knows: 'The heart has four chambers: two atria and two ventricles. ... The right ventricle pumps the oxygen-poor blood to the lungs. The left atrium receives oxygen-rich blood from the lungs and pumps it to the left ventricle. The left ventricle pumps the oxygen-rich blood to the body.' Well maybe not everyone knows that. I certainly didn't, until I googled it. Nevertheless the idea of how a heart works using different "chambers" was beautifully explained by Paul, using plastic bottles to represent chambers, and straws to represent arteries.

Coronavirus: updates.

My advice for this article comes from the Education Department and it is updated on a daily basis. All school staff have access to this information.

The latest advice, in no particular order, includes the following:

- All non-essential planned gatherings of more than 500 people should be cancelled from 16 March. These measures do not include the closure of early childhood services, schools or higher education institutions. Closures will be made on the recommendation of Victoria's Chief Health Officer. Once this occurs, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) will inform the Department of Education and Training, and we will then work with the school, service or institution to implement the closure.
- If a staff member or student at your school has had close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days then the school must follow certain internal procedures: 'Close contact' is defined by DHHS as someone who has had at least 15 minutes of face-to-face contact with a confirmed case, or shared a closed space with someone for more than two hours with a confirmed case.
- Unwell students and staff: In accordance with the Department's regular Infectious Diseases Policy send unwell students or staff home. Unwell students and staff should remain at home until symptoms resolve and seek medical assistance as required.
- Schools should support students who are unable to attend school by providing educational materials that can be completed at home. (Our school is developing plans should a more general shut down become imminent.)
- What can you do to keep your family safe? Practice good respiratory hygiene:
 - ◇ Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
 - ◇ Cough into your elbow.
 - ◇ Dispose of tissues.
 - ◇ Wash your hands with soap afterwards.
- Find out more about the #coronavirus disease in Victoria: <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus/#COVID19>.

Above all, common sense will continue to prevail. Students/children who are well are expected to attend education settings as normal, unless and until the Department informs us otherwise..



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BUSINESS MANAGERS VICTORIA

BUSINESS LEADERS IN STATE SCHOOLS

Congratulations Tammy Coysh.

Our Business Manager Tammy Coysh recently applied for the Bridges Small Schools Scholarship which covers all costs of the annual Business Managers Victoria Conference in Melbourne this May. She has received notice that her application has been successful.

It is valued at \$840 and covers the cost of the 3 day conference. Conference sessions include up to date information on issues currently affecting Business Managers, HR, Finance and Administration staff working in Victorian Government Schools. The conference is focused on providing quality professional learning opportunities covering a range of topics including industry specific sessions and more. This is a great opportunity and we are sure Tammy will bring home many worthwhile resources to keep our school running smoothly.

Continental Drift via the internet



Ever been intrigued about why the east coast of North and South America is a mirror image of the West coast of Europe and Africa? Maybe you are further intrigued by the Dolphin Challenger ridge that runs north/ south in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean? Well Paul Maddern's class were certainly invited to think about this as they listened via an internet Webex discussion from a scientist who was talking about continental drift and tectonic plates. The scientist also mentioned how the long line of Volcanic activity stretching through Victoria and including Mt Eccles, Mt Napier (Hamilton), Elephant Hill (Camperdown), and Tower Hill (Warrnambool) are part of this tectonic plate movement. Interesting to think that Australia's first ancestors, the aborigines, would have watched these volcanoes spewing ashes and lava whilst they watched from what are today the townships of Warrnambool, Hamilton and Narrawong.



Geelong Football Club visit.

We love football, and many people love the Geelong Football Club. Last week the AFL team sent ambassadors to our school to talk with and workshop footy with our students. Our visitors included: Mitch Duncan, Darcy Forte, Francis Evans, Jack Henry, Georgie Rankin, and Kate Darby.

Everyone had a great time, including our girls. This year, for the first time, our girls worked with the AFL Women's (AFLW) representatives. Indeed our picture shows this happening, in a significant change that will impact positively on our national game's future.



Soft plastic rubbish collection and recycling.

Students have begun our soft plastic collection for recycling. This week students in the big room have introduced a soft plastic collection. A list of recyclable plastics from lunches etc will be displayed and students will place these into the plastic bag for collection in each room.

Monitors will be trialling this in the big room. This involves us all learning which soft plastic materials are recyclable. After one week of learning about this, monitors will take this to the little room and teach them which soft plastic to place in collection bags. They will do the same in the offices, art room and library. Students will need to monitor our processes for a while to make sure that we are recycling correctly.

Staff will take the soft plastic to Coles or Woolworths where Redcycle have their collection points.

If you are interested in recycling soft plastic at home, you should soon be able to ask your children for advice on this. Alternatively go to REDcycle website to find out everything you need to know. <https://www.redcycle.net.au/what-to-redcycle/>

Our picture shows Karen Cherry working with Jill Buscombe from Resource Smart. Along with Karen's plastic rubbish work described above she is also hard at work auditing our school's recycling processes. As we get a clearer idea of where we now stand with our environmental impact, we will be better placed to make informed decisions about what our school needs to do to leave a smaller environmental footprint in the future.

But wait, there's more. Next term, Karen will launch a Community Knowledge Garden get together on May the 29th. It will also celebrate the work that our children have been doing with their work on birds around our town..



Reduce your risk of coronavirus

- ✎ **WASH** your hands often with soap and running water, for at least 20 seconds. Dry with paper towel or hand dryer.
- ✎ **TRY** not to touch your eyes, nose or mouth.
- ✎ **COVER** your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If you don't have a tissue cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow.
- ✎ **STAY** at home if you feel sick. If you take medication make sure you have enough.
- ✎ **PHONE** your doctor or the hotline – **1800 675 398** – if you need medical attention. They will tell you what to do.
- ✎ **CONTINUE** healthy habits: exercise, drink water, get plenty of sleep.
- ✎ **WEARING** a face mask is not necessary if you are well.
- ✎ **BUY** an alcohol-based hand sanitiser with over 60% alcohol.



Find out more

www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus

If you are concerned, call the

Coronavirus hotline 1800 675 398 (24 hours)

Please keep Triple Zero (000) for emergencies only

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Health
and Human
Services

insights



Technology holiday guide for parents

by Martine Oglethorpe



As holidays approach, the role that screens and devices will play becomes an increasing concern for parents. Days when kids are usually tied up with school and activities make way for many an idle hour and, as such, parents fear those hours will be spent largely engaged with a screen or gaming console. While there is certainly no harm in some well-balanced screen time and developmentally appropriate online activities, we must remember that, as parents, we have an important role in helping our kids manage and balance that screen time. Here are a few things we can do:

Understand the battle

It is important parents know the beast they are dealing with. It is easy to shout from another room to get off a screen or whinge to our friends that 'kids of today' are all addicted to their phones, but we need to recognise the pull that many of these devices have. The social networks are designed to keep us liking, commenting and sharing. The games cajole us into having 'just one more' turn at being the last man standing. These technologies tempt us to reach just one more level, or to scroll for just a few minutes more. Our brains experience a dopamine release and a sense of insufficiency when we use a device. There is always something else to do or something else to scroll through, or one more YouTube video to watch. So our kids are up against it when trying to control their time on a device. We need to help them with that.

Get outside

We can complain that kids never go outside and play anymore, but sometimes we have to physically get out there with them or offer opportunities in which being outside and active play are appealing. We have to work a little harder at this today because we are competing with a device that answers many of our kids' perceived needs. We need them to know that their needs are greater and more varied than what their screens can offer.

Have some rules

Despite their apparent dislike of rules around technology, kids will (one day) appreciate having boundaries to help them manage their screen time. Rules can be established regarding time limits, devices in bedrooms, device-free meal times, etc. Whatever you decide is important, be sure that you have those discussions with your kids. And any discussion around rules or consequences should happen away from the screens so they are clear on the expectations. (Talking about their screen-time habits while they are just about to be the last man standing on Fortnite is probably not going to make for engaging conversation.)

One console on one television outside the bedroom

Having only one television that is connected to a gaming console or to Netflix is a good way of ensuring that the