

BEEAC PRIMARY
SCHOOL

LANG STREET

BEEAC 3251

PRINCIPAL:

ANDREW ROGERS

PH. 0352 346 463

June 8: Queens Birthday. Public Holiday. The school, including Skype contact, will be shut.

June 22: reports go home.

June 24 and 25: parent interviews by Skype.

June 25: Colac Area Health dental screening **CANCELLED. No new date yet.**

June 26: last day of school. Finish time 2.30pm

September 8: 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: bike ed challenge

October 26. Winchelsea NHW schools day

October 12: swimming term 4 1.15 to 2.15pm. 12/10, 19/10, 26/10, 2/11, 9/11

October 13: MSP photography, whole school photos (new date)

November 12: Red Rock gallery poetry competition.

June 23 to 25 2021: Rose Gap Grades 5 & 6 + three other schools

March 30 to 1 April 1 2022: Sovereign Hill Grades 5 & 6 + three other schools.

Student of the week

Josh Kennedy: for his outstanding efforts with his research report on the African Wild Dog 8/5

Brodie Kerr: remaining enthusiastic in lessons, completing all set work and seeking assistance when needed. 22/5

Beeac Primary School



Beac Primary School is a child safe school

25 May 2020

Opening for business.

I participate in a weekly, online small schools Principal meeting. I come away from each meeting feeling a great sense of relief about how our parent community's sense of decency and common sense is getting us through these difficult times. Without being specific about the trials and tribulations that some school communities are experiencing, I can say that everyone, without exception, has got down to the task of making home schooling as best as it can be. My grateful thanks to everyone for your support.



Our P-2 students return to school on Tuesday. Our 3-6 students will return on Tuesday the 9th of June (after the Queens Birthday holiday on the 8th.) As each class returns, the online component of our teaching will cease. Miss Jess held her last Art lesson last Thursday. She will be joining us, live at our school this Wednesday. Ms Macc will only be able to leave work on Skype from now onwards, as she returns to visiting schools in her library van.

Well done Ms Macc

Each year the Children's Book Council of Australia (CBCA) brings children and books together, culminating in Book Week, a week that celebrates outstanding Australian authors and illustrators. The week begins with the CBCA announcing the winners of the Book of the Year Awards in six categories. For the first time, schools were invited to apply to be part of a shadow Judging trial. Ms Mac applied and was successful. She is very excited!! This year there will be the opportunity for interested students to contribute their ideas and responses and judge the finalists in the Early Childhood category. We will join Brighton Grammar, Girton Grammar Bendigo, Eqdemic School and Delta Road Pre-School in this wonderful initiative.

Back on Tuesday: Kara Wishart.

We just want to take the time to thank everyone who was involved in making online learning a big success in the little room. The kids adapted so well and it became the highlight of my days getting to spend time with each and every one of my students on a near daily basis. I am so excited to get back into the classroom and finish our term safely and happily together!



Nine more working days: Paul Maddern.

It's been a wild ride so far learning from home, with students having gained independence and confidence at learning with technology. Only two more weeks (nine days actually, not that I'm counting) of learning in our "virtual" classroom. The light at the end of the tunnel is getting larger and I'm starting to get excited about seeing all the students back at school. In the mean time, it is great to witness how well our "big kids" have continued to adapt to this way of learning. See you all soon!!!!



As safe as we can make it.

We are thinking through ways to make our school as safe as it can be, now that our children are returning to school. As the world's knowledge about the virus increases, our knowledge changes about how to cope with it. The following statement has been issued by the Department, and is the latest statement about how we address safe-

ty issues.

The Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) has advised that a 'venue density rule' of no more than one person per four square metres is not appropriate or practical in classrooms or corridors, nor maintaining 1.5 metres between students during classroom activities. Therefore, the previously established ratio of 10 students per class is no longer required in schools.

- Visitors to school grounds should be limited to those delivering or supporting essential school services and operations. This includes student health and wellbeing services, however consideration needs to be given to whether it is essential that there are other options available.
- Additional staff, including parent volunteers, should be discouraged from attending school at this time. Activities dependent on and involving parents (e.g. specialist programs, 1:1 reading) should be cancelled.
- Close proximity between staff should be avoided where possible and especially in offices and staff rooms.

This means that areas of schools previously used by other agencies for counselling, interviews, therapy etc may not be available as they are being used to support social distancing between staff. In addition, schools may not have capacity to accommodate others on sites due to social distancing requirements

Activities that involve on-site attendance by students from different educational institutions (e.g. interschool sport or interschool debating) should not take place or be replaced, where possible, with virtual alternatives

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**Beac
Mechanical,
55 Main St, Beac**
Servicing, break downs
and repairs to late model
cars, lawnmowers and
some machinery. Towing
cars available. Now
carrying out servicing on
vehicle air conditioning.

For all enquiries and
bookings call Damien on
0417 412 152



Staff

For the rest of term no teachers or coaches will be attending the school to teach instrumental music, classroom music or Sport/PE. Library and Art will be taught. The two teachers will use the school equipment of the schools that they visit. Each school will have a box of books specific to the school that each teacher is attending each day. Returned books will be not be available for use again until at least a week after their return. The MARC van will only be used to transport books.



Sports equipment.

Rather than attempting to wipe down each piece of sport and play equipment after it has been used each day, we have created bins of equipment that will be issued for each day of the week, and not used again until at least a week later.

School bus.

A more full explanation of how our bus will be disinfected is published elsewhere in this newsletter. In addition, Trevor, our bus driver will carry hand sanitiser, and is reminding our students not to get on the bus if they are feeling ill (especially if they have these symptoms: fever, dry cough, tiredness).



First day back: 8.45 to 9.00am

Adults, not children, pose the greatest threat to virus transmission. We will meet and greet families at the front gates at the start of the day. We ask that adults do not enter the school grounds. Crosses have been painted on to the asphalt to remind adults to observe the safe distancing rule of one and a half meters. If you are using your car to bring your children to school, it will be safest for all concerned if you remain in your car.



Please ensure that iPads/ computers accompany returning students. We will sign off the returned computers later in the day. The bus will drop off and pick up students each day at the hall. Once inside the school, students will be expected to sanitise their hands either with soap and water or hand sanitiser. Drinking fountains can not be used. Taps are available for students to refill their water containers.

Half year reports: Skype it.

This year's end of semester reports will go home on the 22nd of June. We intend holding parent interviews by Skype on the 24th and 25th of June. More details of how we intend doing this will be published shortly. The last day of term will be the 26th of June with a finish time of 2.30pm.



Out with the old, in with the new

Readers can see the skip being filled with the last of the old equipment destined for the rubbish tip. You can also see one of two rooms that have been repurposed with new shelves and a new bbq waiting to be used for the first time, once we return to more normal times.



Dealing with the pandemic

I strongly believe we're on the road to recovery. After having dealt with remote learning, we're now sorting out hand sanitising, yard duty timetables and the like. So

what is next, once we have all returned to school? What will the new normal look like? Certainly there will be fewer excursions! Interestingly, many Principals are reporting how this mode of operation enabled a reconnection to be established with some previously disengaged students, how some high-ability students made greater than normal gains in their learning and how new and stronger connections have been made with many families and carers. I am very interested in trying to determine how we can continue to explore and build on these developments..

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

INSIGHTS

Helping siblings resolve their fights



With family members living in close proximity during the current COVID-19 pandemic, parents may find an increase in sibling squabbles. This is understandable as any relationship is tested to its limits by excess time and lack of space. Sibling squabbles usually arise over low level issues such as space (“He’s sitting in my seat.”), possessions (“That’s my book!”) and fairness (“It’s not fair. I was here first!”). It’s enough to send most parents around the twist.

While it seems that kids in families are programmed to fight with each other, the good news is that parents have the power to facilitate learning.

According to a recent study, sibling fights teach kids important conflict resolution skills. In fact, parents who stop their children from arguing may well be depriving them of important learning opportunities. Researcher Laurie Kramer from the University of Illinois in the US found that kids who learned how to argue with their siblings had more advanced emotional development.

Many parents also worry that their children who fight with each other will not get along as adults. The evidence doesn’t support this view. The test for strong families is more about the willingness for kids to pull together when the chips are down, rather than the frequency of the squabbling.

Healthy families know how to fight well. When parents take an active approach to helping their children resolve their fights, they are teaching them a valuable life skill as well as reducing the incidence of fighting over the long term. Here are some practical strategies to use:

Model good conflict resolution skills

Kids wear L plates when it comes to solving disputes. Some kids will yell, get abusive or even get physical when they are settling disputes. Show them better ways of sorting out problems by talking things through with your partner, compromising and apologising when you’ve said something upsetting to your partner or your children.

Help kids manage their emotions

“Yep, it would make me mad too if someone said that to me.” Usually someone’s feelings get hurt when siblings argue so make sure you recognise their emotions without taking sides. This focus on feelings helps kids develop emotional literacy and promotes empathy in siblings as well.

Monitor sibling relationships

Keep your antenna up for the signs of discord within sibling relationships. Some disputes kids can sort out themselves, but you need to be ready to intervene and assist kids in the peace-brokering, or at least to act as a safety net when one child continually appears on the wrong end of a power imbalance.

Mentor them to sort out disputes

Kids need the chance to sort their conflict out themselves, but sometimes they need a little coaching. They often invite their parents to take sides, which is usually counter-productive. Rather than trying to sort out who started an argument, focus on possible solutions, provide suggestions such as taking turns, giving way, bargaining, swapping or even walking away.

Encourage them to make up

Kids often get over disputes far quicker than adults. They can be squabbling one minute and cuddling up the next, so it gets tricky intervening sometimes. However there are times when you need to encourage a child to mend bridges with an aggrieved sibling. This can mean kids have to swallow their pride, admit that they may be wrong, make an apology or make some sort of restitution such as doing a special favour. This type of restoration means kids must take responsibility for their behaviours and is a sign of growing maturity.

Conflict and siblings tend to go together. While sibling squabbles can be annoying, they also offer parents great opportunities to help kids to handle conflict effectively, which is a great life skill.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's an award-winning speaker and the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation*, and the bestselling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. Michael is a former teacher with 15 years experience, and has 30 years experience in parenting education. He also holds a Master of Educational Studies from Monash University specialising in parenting education.

Protecting the Community

IMPORTANT CHANGES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

The health and wellbeing of our staff, passengers and their families is of utmost importance. Therefore we would like to take this opportunity to provide a summary of important changes we have implemented throughout our organisation to minimise the risk of community infection.



Disinfecting all high touch surfaces before morning and afternoon school runs.



Our buses are fully fumigated every three days.



Using medical-grade disinfectant that kill viruses.



Drivers must not come to work if feeling unwell.



Drivers are required to follow infection control procedures.



Drivers exercise social distancing where possible.



Strict procedures in place if worker or a passenger records positive case.



Parents and guardians cannot enter the bus.



Each depot has someone trained in COVID 19 cleaning/infection control.

We will continue to follow the advice and guidelines from PTV, DET and DHHS and will provide further updates should this advice impact our service delivery.

If you require further details of this policy please contact your relevant depot.

Ms. Mac's LIBRARY



NEWS

Hi Everyone

Welcome to my first remote teaching/ learning from home newsletter.

Great News The Library Van is ready and waiting to be picked up!!

Signage, Shelving and Safety rails all completed and installed.

Over the next few weeks I will fill the van with

books, books and more books!

Heaps of new ones too.

Once you return to school we can

Let the Borrowing Begin.



Until then have a look at your local library online—they have fantastic free resources

<https://www.grlc.vic.gov.au/virtual-events/children>

BOOK RETURNS BOX

Return Your Books Here

NEW SIGNS



Words needed for this picture!

REVIEWS

I picked up this book because I really like a mystery and I wanted to read a book by Jackie French.

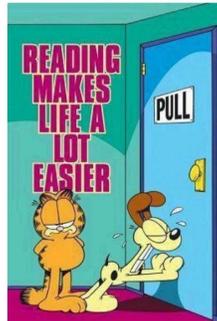
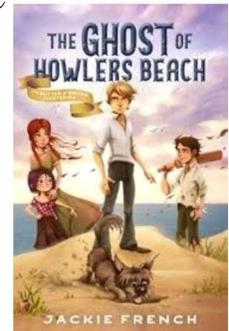
The main character is a 12 year old boy nicknamed Butter O'Bryan.

Butter has been told there are ghosts at a nearby isolated beach but are there?

I was hooked pretty quickly—How can the children Butter plays cricket with on the beach simply vanish? What secret are they hiding and who do the bones belong to?

The story is set in 1932 Australia after the polio and Spanish Influenza pandemics and during The Depression. I like the way you also find out about history and the story made me feel very lucky that I didn't live way back then.

I think this story is suitable for 9+ and I rate it



Ms. Mac's

READING

CHALLENGE

Read to a family member

Reading with Rex



Ms. Mac's RECENT READS

