

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

10 June. Finance 4.00pm
14 June: Queens Birthday, public holiday
15 June. Council 7.00pm start
16 June. Reports go home
17 June. Parent interviews
23 to 25 June: Roses Gap Grades 3,4,5&6 + three other schools
16 August: music festival school performance at Costa Hall. Parents welcome. Date not yet confirmed.
24 September: likely date Friday before AFL Grand Final, public holiday.
11 October: Swimming, Blue-water term 4 11/10, 18/10, 25/10, 8/11, 15/11
1 November: school shut, professional development day all staff. Students will not be required at school.
2 November: Melbourne Cup
March 30 to 1 April 1 2022: Sovereign Hill Grades 5 & 6 + three other schools

PTO: Term dates 2021

Student of the week.

Riley Kerr: for listening intently in class and always trying his personal best. 21/5

Violet Ohrwalder: for her outstanding efforts during home learning 4/6

Beeac Primary School



Beac Primary School is a child safe school 7 June 2021



We did pretty well, didn't we.

Ritual back slapping aside, it was pretty obvious to me that everybody played their part magnificently in the latest Covid drama. My grateful thanks to all parents who just took it on the chin and spent another crazy week working around the latest "circuit breaker" lockdown rules. I am grateful for having a staff with equal parts strong work ethic and "can do" commitment. They organised, timetables, a week of off site work and a staff work roster, whilst writing end of semester reports on software they haven't used before. The stars of the show, our students also came to the party. Whilst reports of 'covid exhaustion' abound elsewhere, our kids just got down, and got the work done. As our last year's results show, our unusual approach to off-site learning

got stellar results for English and Maths that were some of the best in the State. So I have no doubt that this high impact on-line teaching, also had good outcomes last week.

Well, we are back, but none of us have a crystal ball to predict what will happen next.

At this stage the virus has wreaked a little havoc in a few areas of our program. Last Friday's theatre excursion to Colac had to be cancelled. An excursion to the Acciona windfarm has become a Webex talk. The Roses Gap multi-school camp has a big question mark hanging over it: more details below.

I'd like to say a big thankyou to all students and parents who organised to bring back all the laptops. Everybody, who returned on Friday, without exception, brought them back! How good is that!

I would like to thank Ean and Dorothy, from the Farmer's Arms, for a local cash donation which they gave to our school. We are always grateful for the kind thoughts of this sort.

Finally, I am reminding everyone that next Monday is the Queens Birthday public holiday. No students will be required at school on that day. I look forward to our next Council meeting on the next day, and it increasingly looks like it will be via Skype, although there'll be no final decision yet until after this Thursday.

Enrolments 2022: prep open day Wednesday 26th May.

My grateful thanks to Kara Wishart for running the introductory session, the mums and students who turned up and Jenny Clarke who ran a round table afterwards promoting the highlights of a parent view of what life is about at our school.

At this stage, the number of students leaving at the end of the year is almost equal to the number of students enrolling at the start of next year. So we eagerly wait to see if any further enrolments will occur before the start of 2022. In the growing town of Beeac, I'm hopeful that we will get lucky.

Please don't shoot the messenger.

I won't include the article that I wrote last time about the importance of your child staying at home if they have any symptoms of illness. I also made the point that we are required to send them home and isolate them until parents arrive to pick them up. However, I have again included the Department's article, "Managing illness in schools and early childhood". It explains the detail of what we need to do to support each other when we have a sick child.

Roses Gap: we wait.

As briefly outlined above, we wait for a Department decision after Thursday this week. We wait, with three weeks to go, to see if it will go ahead in a modified form, or have to be pushed forward to later in the year.

Just a brief reminder that a re-calculation of the costs per child has come down from \$335.19 to \$332.

Some students came to school: is that fair?

The rules explained.

Parents may be aware that we did have a small number of students attending school each day last week. I've had a couple of queries about the rules surrounding this. These are the rules:

Schools must continue to provide on-site supervision for students in the following (two) categories:

1 Children where both parents and/or carers are authorised workers who cannot work from home, work for an essential provider and where no other supervision arrangements can be made:

- Where there are two parents/carers, both must be authorised workers, working outside the home in order for their children to be eligible for on-site provision

- For single parents/ carers, the authorised worker must be working outside the home in order for their children to be eligible for on-site provision.

The full list of essential workers can be found at <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/authorised-provider-and-authorised-worker-list> Alternatively parents can google "authorised worker".

2 Children experiencing vulnerability, including:

- children in out-of-home care
- children deemed vulnerable by a government agency, funded family or family violence service, and is assessed as requiring education and care outside the family home

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**Beeac
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Australia's Biggest Morning Tea Invitation.

"Beeac Primary School hosted an inaugural biggest morning tea to raise vital money for cancer research and patient support". So reads the opening sentence of the recent Colac Herald article posted elsewhere in this newsletter. Organised by Paul Madder and supported by our staff, we were glad to see so many local people come in to support this initiative. The funds raised have been donated to Cancer Council.

Succulents.

We thank Colin and Tammy Coysh for spending a recent weekend planting succulents, donated by Jenny Clarke, in to two disused garden beds. The mini gardens have raised a lot of interest from our students.

Playground update.

A recent safety report commissioned by our school identified out of date equipment which we have had to remove. In addition, the report also stated that additional soft fall was required.

My thanks to Grant Keating, Col Coysh and Hiram Clarke for coming in with their tractors and equipment to tidy up and make the play area a safer place for our students.

Pictured here is Hiram removing a monkey bar. As mentioned in an earlier edition, the surplus equipment was available for parents, and has now been taken by the applicants.

Small schools big connections: Grade 6 students

Pictured here are our Grade 6 students participating with four other schools in a five way discussion about what life will be like when they all move next year to Year 7 at their local secondary school.

As mentioned in an earlier article, there will be five Webex sessions and a some further real visits to neighbouring schools, all designed to alleviate anxiety about transition and assist in making connects between other students of the local small schools.

Reprint of Covid advice

This Departmental email that arrived today, Sunday, summarizes it all: "It is crucial for everyone to remain vigilant by always staying home when unwell, wearing a face mask, performing regular hand hygiene, and maintaining physical distancing from others when practical.

The school community continues to have an important role to promote COVID-19 testing when a student or staff member has any symptoms, no matter how mild, and ensuring they remain home until they are well.

Getting tested and staying home until results are known is critical to limiting community transmission.

School communities should continue to check Victorian locations where there is a risk of exposure to COVID-19 and take the required public health actions. The list of current exposure sites can be found on case alerts - public exposure sites..

Term Dates	Start	Finish
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
2022 Term 2	26/4	24/6
2022 Term 3	11/7	16/9
2022 Term 4	3/10	20/12



Evie Vassiliou.



Will Milne.

Baking blitz boosts fundraiser

BY BILLY HIGGINS

Beeac Primary School hosted an inaugural Biggest Morning Tea day yesterday to raise vital money for cancer research and patient support.

The morning tea event is part of the Cancer Council's nation-wide donation appeal.

Beeac schoolkids baked up a storm on Wednesday with an array of scones, slices and cakes on the menu, and invited family and friends along for a taste of their treats and a look around their school yesterday.

Beeac PS teacher Paul Maddern initiated the event for this year, with full backing from his colleagues and the school community.

"I thought it was a good community event - we can have friends and family come to the school - and it also raises money for a good cause," he said.

"(The students are) always excited to do a bit of cooking, but also to have their friends and families to come down and they can show off their environment and work-spaces."

An average of 156 people receive a cancer diagnosis each year in Colac Otway Shire, as part of 36,000 across Victoria.

While the official morning tea day was yesterday, the Cancer Council encourages people to host their own fundraisers until the end of June.



Violet Ohrwarder, Megan Black and Emily Holman.



Lily Milne and Ben Cahill.



Dylan Groves and I



Dylan Groves.

Frustration at apple hei

BY GRETA LANNEN

Apple Bay residents have

100 apples, while the couple was away.

day or night. Our neighbours didn't hear anything, we've

they've got permission and they're doing a job'.

quire info what typ

One of the most important things we can do to slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) in our community is to stay at home when we are unwell, even when we have the mildest of symptoms.

What you need to know

1. If a child is unwell, even with the mildest of symptoms, they must stay at home

If a child becomes unwell during the day, they must be collected from school/early childhood education and care (ECEC) as soon as possible.

2. If a child has any of the symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) outlined below, however mild, they should get tested and they must remain at home until they receive their results:

- fever
- chills or sweats
- cough
- sore throat
- shortness of breath
- runny nose
- loss of sense of smell or taste.

In certain circumstances headache, muscle soreness, stuffy nose, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea may also be considered symptoms.

For further advice:

- call the 24-hour coronavirus (COVID-19) hotline 1800 675 398
- call a general practitioner
- use the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) [online self-assessment tool](#).

Visit: [Where to get tested](#).

3. A child must stay at home until they are symptom free, even if their coronavirus (COVID-19) test is negative

If a person has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or been identified as a close contact they must isolate/quarantine until they receive clearance from DHHS.

Children with persistent symptoms due to underlying conditions such as hay fever or asthma

whose symptoms are clearly typical of their condition can continue to attend ECEC/school. They should be tested for COVID-19 if they develop symptoms that are different to or worse than their usual symptoms. They should consider getting a medical certificate from their GP to attend ECEC/school if they have persistent symptoms that may overlap with symptoms of COVID-19 such as cough or runny nose.

Younger children (pre-school up to Grade 2) may have prolonged post viral symptoms

such as a runny nose or cough and may return to school/ECEC following a negative COVID-19 test even if they are not completely free of symptoms. They will need a medical certificate from their GP to confirm they are otherwise well or have recovered from their acute illness.

For information on the minimum periods students and children need to stay at home for other conditions, refer to the [DHHS school exclusion table](#).

4. Children do NOT need a medical certificate before returning to school/ECEC

Once symptoms have cleared, there is no requirement from the Department of Education and Training or DHHS for children/students to have a medical certificate before they return to school/ECEC.

Thank you for your support in following these steps, together we can all stay safe.



INSIGHTS

Help kids tap into their inner resources



My first parenting mentor, Maurice Balson, author of *Becoming Better Parents* constantly reminded parents, “If you want your child to be resourceful you need to put them in positions to develop their resources.”

Balson’s resourcefulness message is just as apt today. Coping with change, dealing with small losses, handling rejection and overcoming disappointment are the types of experiences that build a child’s or young person’s inner resources.

Developing resourcefulness is the appropriate approach to take when considering the disruptive impact that coronavirus is having on kids’ lives. A child who is struggling to come to grips with the changes brought about by the pandemic initially needs an emphatic, supportive approach. They also need encouragement to tap into their inner resources to help them manage the hard times. The following strategies will help develop your child or young person’s inner resources.

Give them a chance to be resourceful

Harry, age 10, often leaves his lunch at home. His father, who works from home, won’t take forgotten items to school. Harry either misses lunch or persuades his friends to share their lunches with him. Either way, when Harry leaves his lunch at home he’s forced to rely on his emotional or physical resourcefulness to get by. And he does.

Catch them being resourceful

A child’s behaviours that gain a parent’s attention generally expand. Highlight a child’s good manners, acts of kindness or honesty and you’re more likely to get a repeat of those behaviours. Positive parental recognition is a high motivator for most kids. To encourage your child’s resourcefulness, focus your attention and positive comments on acts of resourcefulness and resilience they exhibit.

Encourage creativity

Sylvia, age 13 walked to school each day, saving her bus fare to spend on clothes that were out of reach of her parents’ budget. Sylvia found a way to overcome her money problem in her own way. Children and young people usually come up with very creative solutions when they’re allowed to own their problems.

Develop coping skills

Kids rely on their coping skills to help them manage their emotional states when life throws them curve balls. Build your child’s set of coping skills through direct teaching, modelling and discussion. Humour, distraction, relaxation, exercise, play and thought-distancing are some of the more common coping skills kids can use to help them tolerate their difficult feelings.

