

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

3 August: after school basketball starting 3.45, finishing 4.30pm.

5 August: Finance meeting
10 August: Council meeting 7.00pm start

13 August: Barking Spiders Arts Council project begins and runs every Friday.

16 August: music festival school performance at Costa Hall. Parents welcome, pending covid restrictions.

20 August: last day for parents to complete the on-line opinion survey.

24 August: Colac West Rotary book reading presentation

30 August: Colac SC school visit.

31 August: online NAPLAN practise test for all Grade 3 and 5 students.

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

27 October: Wide Smiles dental visit.

1 November: school shut, professional development day all staff. Students will not be required at school.

2 November: Melbourne Cup

30 November: Colac SC small schools Grade 6 transition day.
7 December: State wide Grade 6 transition day.

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

PTO: Term dates 2021 onwards

Student of the week.
No student: Covid 16/7
Lachlan Beani: for working well on his reading tasks and seeking assistance when needed 30/17.

Beeac Primary School



Beeac Primary School is a child safe school

2 August 2021

Ruminating.

We appear to be settling in well again after getting through our fifth lock down. The advice from the Department at the start of the most recent lock down was to make sure that we did three things. In order of importance they were: 1/ record student attendance, 2/ monitor student wellbeing and last but not least, 3/ make sure we had learning programs in place. As other schools around us, struggled to get daily on-line meetings going, it was great to see all three things happen very naturally at Beeac PS, as we returned to our tried and tested daily Skype program.

Snap lock downs seem to be the way of coping with the latest Covid challenges, something that Victoria has got right, with its "Fast and hard" approach to stopping the latest spread. Hopefully other States will bring their outbreaks under control so we don't have to endure yet another lock down.

According to the government's advice, we can expect to see fewer or no lock downs once our Nation reaches a National target of 70-80% vaccinated.

What's out: we ran out of time to celebrate the first 100 days of schooling.

What's in: basketball next Tuesday, Dental visits on the 27th of October, farm safety education visits for Grades 5 and 6 students, personal development education for Grades 5 and 6 students, Premiers Reading Challenge, Book Week, Jump Rope for Heart. Australian Maths Competition. Barking Spiders Arts Council project every Friday, starting the 13th of August.

Big picture: ongoing upgrade at the front of school, application for OSHC care, working party to organise a long term plan for Beeac's grounds, parent opinion survey last date 20th August, path and school crossing update request to Shire Council.

After school basketball: be there or be square.

Starting tomorrow Tuesday the 3rd of August at 3.45. Please make sure that you return the permission form for this excellent after school program. The school bus will run at the usual time of 3.30pm. The basketball program will finish at 4.30pm.

Updated Wide Smiles Dental visit.

The Wide Smiles visit on Wednesday the 21st of July had to be cancelled because of Covid. The new date will now be the 27th of October.

Year 6 to Year 7 transition.

My apologies for not letting everyone know where their Grade 6 child will be going next year. As you can see from the following message, we can't yet release that information. Nevertheless I can say that when the official announcements do come out, there will be no unpleasant surprises. "Primary and secondary schools must not communicate with parents/carers regarding the status or outcome of placement requests until Wednesday 4 August 2021. Secondary schools must not make offers to any student for specific programs prior to Thursday 5 August 2021."

Parent opinion survey: request enclosed in newsletter.

As noted in our previous newsletter, our school is conducting a survey to find out what parents think of our school. The Parent Opinion Survey will be open until Friday the 20th of August. The 20 minute on-line survey is completely anonymous, I don't get to see which families respond or what each individual response consists of. But nevertheless, I do get to see the response rate. So far this year, only 3 out of 23 families have responded to the survey. I'd be grateful if you would take the time to log on and have a go. The letter with details of how to log on was sent home last week, and is also included with this newsletter

Pie drive.

A big thanks to everybody for their patronage. The numbers keep getting bigger each year. Over \$3000 worth of pies were ordered this year, and thanks to Jenny Clarke and her Parents and Friends helpers we raised over \$600 for our school.

Farm safety: not necessarily farmers, but often visitors.

Around 20 children under 15 are fatally injured on Australian farms each year. Children under 14 years make up 20% of farm injuries each year. 64% of these injuries are males. Many of these injuries appear to be, not from farm families, but from friends and visitors who visit a farm, and perhaps hop on a bike or get too near a tractor whilst visiting the farm. These were some of the interesting statistics shared with us by Karen O'Loughlin from Hesse Rural Health Centre, who comes in every two years to deliver a 4 week farm safety course to all our Grades 5 and 6 students. The same students will also be offered a further four week course of personal education, also delivered by Hesse Rural Health Centre



Colac SC Grade 6-7 transition information.

Monday 30th August - Primary School Visits

Tuesday 30th November - Small Schools/Catholic Schools Transition Day for Year 7 2022 students

Tuesday 7th December - Orientation Day for all 2022 Year 7 students



Front school landscaping.

The front of our school is at last beginning to take shape. The original changes that were planned prior to the start of covid in early 2020 have hit many barriers to their completion. At the moment, as readers can see, the child proof fencing is going in. We expect the rest of the project to be finished by the end of the term.

**BEEAC PRIMARY
SCHOOL
LANG STREET
BEEAC 3251
PRINCIPAL:
ANDREW ROGERS
PH. 03 5234 6463**

**Beeac
Mechanical,
55 Main St., Beeac**
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



Safe internet usage.

I am most grateful to Leading Senior Constable Cathryn Hastie for coming to our school last week to talk to our grades 3/4 students and our 5/6 students about safe practices on the internet. What started as a concern from a mother who had spotted extreme language being used by some of our students on the internet whilst at home, became a marathon effort to find someone with the time to come and speak to us about what has become a community concern for our parents

After nearly two months of trying. Catherine managed to travel from Torquay Police Station, where she is based, in between covid lockdowns and servicing the needs of schools closer to her base to speak to our children.

Cathryn's messages were simple and powerful.

- Children as young as 10 years are criminally liable for things that they send out on the internet.
- No one can be trusted to share a secret on the internet. Even information shared with close friends can often leak beyond them to anonymous strangers living in other parts of the world.
- Pictures often have a whole lot of information on them that can help a stranger identify a child and track down where a child lives.
- If a child thinks they are talking to a friend that they are playing with, think again. The average gamer is a 33 year old male not living in Australia.
- Cathryn gave some helpful hints about how to create a hard-to-hack password.

For me her core message was a powerful one. Forget that you are speaking only to friends when you are on the internet. Assume everything that you say can be seen by everybody else on the planet, and that it's very easy for people to find out who we are and where we live. Long story short: be nice when you're on the internet.

I would like to thank the parents who alerted me to what some of our children were doing out of hours on the internet. I believe that all the parents of those involved who are still attending our school have been contacted about this matter.

If you believe that your child is being bullied on the internet, do please contact us at school, but as you can see, we have made much effort to address the problem, which can't happen at school because of our Department filters. Parental responsibility is an important part of making sure that ridiculous behavior doesn't occur on the internet during home time, and every parent has signed a document agreeing to making sure that their children safely use the internet when the new computers were rolled out earlier this year. Beyond what we can do to make sure safe practices occur, parents might also wish to go further and contact [How to](#)

[make a cyberbullying complaint | eSafety Commissioner](#)

Once again our grateful thanks to the important job that Cathryn completed when she agreed to come and talk to our students at Beeac Primary School.

OSHC Outside School Hours Care: the survey results and costs for families information.

Because of the recent lock down, it was impossible for parents to respond to our OSHC survey, so I am grateful for the work that Merryl Hill did, when she rang as many families as possible to get an idea of how useful our community would find such a set up at Beeac PS.

These were the results:

We have surveyed our parents via our newsletter and asked the following questions. The covid lockdown prevented parents from getting all the replies back, so we have followed up with a phone call to parents. We have received and collated the following replies from a school which has 34 students with 24 families:

Up to 17 children from our school would be interested, not counting other potential children who live in our town and don't attend our school

1 How many days a week would you use a Before School Care Program?

- 2 days a week 3 families
- 5 days a week 3 families

2 How many days a week would you use an After School Care Program?

- 2 days a week 2 families
- 4 days a week 2 families
- 5 days a week 3 families

3 What use would you make of a School Care Program in the holidays?

- 6 families would. One reply had the comment, "hell yeah"

My latest information about the costing to parents for the service are as follows. It would be difficult to give an exact cost because the actual cost is dependent on each service provider's costs and each family's income. But after speaking to one provider, the average government subsidised cost for each child at our school would be \$2.85 for a before school session and \$3.50 for an after school session. So the cost of a whole day session from 6.30am to 6.30pm would be approximately a little over \$6, based on a family with an average income.

Could our community be getting closer to becoming a one stop shop for all students living in Beeac from Prep to the end of Grade 6?..

Term Dates	Start	Finish
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

Invitation to participate in the 2021 Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey

The Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey was previously known as the Parent Opinion Survey. Each year the school conducts this opinion survey. We are asking every family to respond to the survey. Results will be used to inform and direct our future school planning and improvement.

I ask you to please take the time to complete the survey as your opinions are important to us and will contribute to the future management and organisation of our school.

- The survey will be conducted **online** and should take **20 minutes** to complete.
- The survey can be completed on any internet enabled device (iPad, Desktop or Laptop, Smartphone) and is compatible with most browsers.
- The survey will be open from **Monday 19 July to Sunday 22 August 2021**.

Please be assured that your responses are completely confidential. The survey is conducted anonymously, and it is important to us that you complete the survey as honestly as possible.

Please follow the instructions below to complete the survey. **NOTE: Only one parent/caregiver/guardian** from your family is invited to complete the survey.

To complete the survey, simply:

1. Click on the link below, or copy and paste the text into your browser. This link will take you directly to the survey.

<https://www.orida.com.au/parent>

2. Select the School and Campus name below.

School Name: **Beeac Primary School**

3. Enter the School PIN below.

PIN: PLEASE CONTACT OUR SCHOOL FOR THIS NUMBER, OR YOU CAN FIND IT ON THE LETTER SENT HOME LAST WEEK

4. When complete, please click on the tick button at the end of the survey to submit your answers. Please note that the survey will time out after **60 minutes of inactivity**.

Thank you for taking the time to participate. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Questions?

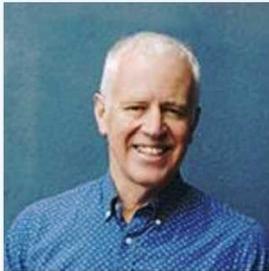
Please do not hesitate to contact me, Andrew Rogers, if you have any general queries about the survey. For specific technical or participation-related queries, you may also contact the Department or the supplier administering the survey, ORIMA Research.

- Should you have any technical queries regarding the Parent Opinion Survey, please do not hesitate to contact ORIMA Research on 1800 654 585 (toll free), or by email: pos@orida.com
- Should you have any participation or survey-related queries, please contact the School, or the Department by email: parentopinion.survey@education.vic.gov.au.



27 July 2021

Know what makes boys tick



by Michael Grose

Boys can be a mystery to many parents, particularly those who were raised in all-girl households or who have had minimum exposure to males in their formative years. Here are some insights into what makes boys tick:

Boys are more likely to learn from experience than being told

Boys, more than girls, are likely to learn many of their lessons from experience rather than being told. This can make parenting them challenging, particularly if you don't have an appetite for risk yourself. Perhaps the biggest challenge is keeping them safe so some risks need to be out-of-bounds. It can also be difficult as a parent being the support person when the lessons that boys learn bring hardship and tears.

Boys brains are designed by a different architect

In the first five years of life a girl's brain is busy developing fine motor skills, verbal skills and social skills, which are all highly valued by parents and teachers. Meanwhile, a boy's brain is busy developing gross motor skills, spatial skills and visual skills. These are all handy hunting skills. So boys often start school with a distinct disadvantage when it comes to learning and fitting in. You can overcome this disadvantage through extra fine motor activities in the early years.

Boys mature differently to girls

The maturity gap between boys and girls of anywhere between 12 months and two years, seems to be consistent all the way to adulthood. Parents should take this into account when deciding the school starting age of their sons. This maturity gap is also evident when kids

finish school and move into tertiary studies or the workplace. Girls are often better placed to succeed, and many boys get lost once they leave school. You need to be prepared to keep supporting boys well into their adulthood.

Loyalty is high driver for boys

Understand that a boy's loyalty to his friends and family is a key driver and you'll begin to understand the male psyche. They are incredibly influenced by their peers, which can hold many of them back. It takes a brave boy to get too far ahead of the pack, so they often hold each other back when it comes to achieving. Use encouragement rather than praise to motivate your son, thus decreasing his reliance on others for approval.

Boys are more likely to be visual learners

Boys generally need a reason to learn. If you are having difficulty motivating your son then try linking learning to their interests. They may play a musical instrument when they know they can play in a band or practise their kicking a football if they can see it will help kick more goals. If they love skateboarding the chances are they want to know more about it, so use this as a lever to motivate them if reading is a problem.

Boys benefit greatly from silence

Boys don't have the same innate tendency for reflection that girls are born with. Don't get me wrong, males of all ages have the ability reflect on their behaviours, values and their lives (when older) but they need the environment to be right for them to do so.

Quiet time and down time give boys the chance to let their thoughts wander around inside their heads. It also helps them get to know and even like themselves. Boys will often do their best thinking on their own, so they tend to retreat to their caves (bedroom) when things go wrong at school or in their relationships. They need to go within to find their own answer.

Boys just want to blend in

Boys are group-oriented by nature. They want to fit in. They tend to play group games and form themselves into structured friendship groups. Boys generally don't want to stand out from the crowd.

Don't put them down in front of their friends and understand that they may make poor friendship choices rather than be in a group of one – by themselves. They prefer the 'wrong friends' rather than no friends at all.

Approval is at the heart of parenting boys

Approval is at the heart of working parenting boys. They will walk over broken glass or hot coals if they feel you like them. In a sense this notion holds many of them back, as most boys will only work for a teacher if they like them and close down on learning if they sense the teacher doesn't like them. If as a mum or dad you show your love and approval of them personally, even though you may not always approve of their choice of behaviours then you'll more than likely enjoy a strong relationship with your son.

Take the time to nurture a relationship with your sons or the boys that you interact with. Some boys like to talk; others like to share an activity; some like you as an adult to do something for them; others are very kinaesthetic and love to be touched, cuddled and

hugged; while some just love gifts and mementoes. Work out the relational preferences of the males in your life and make sure you match these.

For more tips and tools for raising boys, please join us for our [Parenting Boys online course](#).

[SHARE THIS](#)



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.

