



Friday 13th October 2023
Term 4, Week 2

Beechworth Primary School is committed to the implementation of Child Safe Standards to promote the safety and wellbeing of all young people.

Principal's News

Welcome to our week 2 Newsletter.

It is great to be back at BPS and seeing our students happy and engaged in their learning. Our school Capital Works project is nearing an end with just a few finishing touches to be completed and it is terrific to regain full use of all areas of the school. It is exciting to see the spaces being set up and the students are loving them. Thank you to Scott Forrest and Ngaire King for running the school in my absence last week as I took a little Long Service Leave. It makes it so much easier to enjoy a break when you know that you have left things in good hands.

School Vandalism

Sadly, over the past 3 weekends there has been various acts of vandalism at the school grounds, including the breaking of several windows, damage to gardens and new fencing, graffiti, and disturbing behaviour towards our lovely chickens. These actions are disappointing to our students and staff alike who are proud of our beautiful school. It should be noted that a Government School is not a public place for free access, however at BPS we highly value allowing our wider community access to our playgrounds and oval after hours and on weekends. It would be so disappointing if the access to the school was not able to continue. If you see someone on our school grounds doing the wrong thing, please let them know that it is not okay and contact the local police if needed.

Summer Uniform Reminders

At Beechworth Primary School, we believe that a uniform promotes a sense of belonging, equality and school pride. The uniform has been designed to take account of comfort, flexibility, ease of care and cost. The basic colours are bottle green, yellow and black. As determined by School Council, it is expected that full school uniform will be worn by all students each school day.

Our Summer uniform includes:

- BPS Bottle-green polo shirt with yellow trim and school logo
- **Black school shorts or skort** of a reasonable length (*not short running or sporting shorts, or bike shorts*)
- **Broad-brimmed BPS bottle-green hat**
- White, black or grey socks
- Closed in school shoes or runners (black recommended)

Indigo Shire Junior Ambassador Program.

The Indigo Youth Ambassador Program commenced this week. The program runs for six weeks each Monday and is facilitated by the Indigo Shire and the Mandala Project.

Congratulations to our BPS Junior Ambassadors for 2023, Grace White and Jemima Neil. I'm sure that they will be excellent representatives for our school. It is terrific that we have the opportunity to engage with other students from across the shire through this program to develop our students' leadership skills.



VHAP For Term 4

This Term we have three of our senior students participating in the Victorian High-Ability Program. Congratulations to Hazel Carr, Quinn Doyle and Elvie Evans-Barr who have all shown excellence in Literacy, particularly Writing. They will all engage in a one hour weekly online writing session to expand and extend their writing ability.

St John's First Aid in Schools.

Good news, I have been able to book the St Johns First Aid in Schools for Friday 17 November. The First Aid in Schools Program is a free program we offer that teaches primary school children lifesaving skills to give them the confidence to act in an emergency. The program is delivered via a 60-minute face-to-face session run by St John Ambulance Educators. At BPS they will be running a lesson for each class, beginning with Foundation with a storytime lesson with a simple message about DRS (Danger, Response and Seeking Help) with a gentle increase of information appropriate for each year level, ending with the 5/6 classes who do the DRSABC.

SWPBS Awards



This week, we have three students who received Bronze Awards, congratulations to Dristan, Charlie and Egypt. We also have two students who received Silver Awards, congratulations to Lila and Devi.

Thank you all for being good role models for our students and showing our school values.

Student, Classroom Placement for 2024

Parents who wish to make specific requests regarding classroom placement for their child in 2024, are required to send their [request in writing by Friday 27 October](#). These can be delivered to the office or emailed to Sue on: susan.mcdonald2@education.vic.gov.au.

There are three types of parent requests the school will consider when using parent input into the process.

1. Parents can request a separation. Valid reasons why their child would not learn to the best of their abilities if in the same classroom as a particular student.
2. Parents can request a pairing. This requires both sets of parents to put in writing a request for their children to be in the same classroom.
3. Parents can request a type of teaching style. This requires a description of the attributes their child learns best with, parents are unable to request a particular teacher (by name).

Please note:

- That teachers have not been allocated to 2024 classes and this will not happen until very late in the year.
- **We do not refer back to requests from prior years** as the relationships between children change over time. We will do our best to accommodate requests, but **we cannot guarantee that they can be met**- should this be the case you will be contacted.

To ensure all families have clarity around the class placement process, the following is an outline of the initiatives Beechworth PS undertakes to ensure our classrooms are balanced and true places of learning.

1. Classroom configurations of student groupings is a balanced and educationally sound configuration based on: gender balance, academic balance, additional needs balance and an even distribution of numbers across year level classrooms.
2. Students have a voice regarding their placement by nominating five (5) learning partners which they rank from 1 to 5. This will occur early November.
3. The principal and whole teaching team then reviews the lists vigorously to ensure classrooms are successfully configured.

Regional Athletics

After qualifying at the Division Athletics to compete at the Regional Athletics, we are super excited to hear that Violet placed 3rd after competing in the 1500 metres at the SSV Hume Regional Athletics held at Albury today.

Congratulations Violet.

Kind Regards,
Sue McDonald
Principal

susan.mcdonald2@education.vic.gov.au



Fresh North Queensland Mangoes
Direct from the farm to you!

Support The BPS Parents and
Friends Association
Mango Fundraiser



If you *love mangoes*, here's your chance to indulge in fresh juicy Kensington Pride mangoes and support our fundraising drive.

We are selling trays of mangoes picked and packed during the premium harvest.

Due to weather conditions, Australia's Mango supply is going low this year, so this is a great way to secure good value Mangoes and support our school!

Cost per Tray is: \$26 for approx 4.5kg Mangoes
Place your order by: Friday October 20

Order and Pay on Compass! Mangoes will be delivered to the school in early December.

Jump Rope for Heart kicks off this term at Beechworth Primary School!



Jump Rope for Heart is the Heart Foundation's primary school skipping challenge that helps kids move more, have fun and raise funds for lifesaving research and programs.

This year we hope to see our student Heart Heroes at BPS get out and have some fun and enjoy skipping throughout the program!

[Register your child online](https://www.jumprope.org.au/parents), so they can receive the full benefits of the program and participate in online fundraising, simply follow the link below to get started.
www.jumprope.org.au/parents

Students will be skipping throughout the term during sport and break times, during this time you can share their online fundraising page with family and friends to help raise money for this great cause.

We will hold a whole school Jump Off Day in Week 8, this will mark the end of the program and is a chance for everyone to come together to skip and show off their newly learned skills.

Thank you for supporting the Jump Rope for Heart program!

Smile Squad is visiting BPS starting Wednesday 8th November

Smile Squad provides standard strength fluoride toothpaste that is generally used by ages six and over, unless recommended by a dental or trained health professional.

If your child is under six, please talk to a dental or trained health professional to find out if your child might benefit from using this toothpaste. You can also choose to put the toothpaste away until they turn six or give it to someone else in your family to use.

Do I need to attend my child's appointment?

No, you do not need to attend your child's appointment. You can attend if you would like to, and you can take your child to the community dental clinic if you prefer.

The Smile Squad team look forward to seeing you soon.

Sign up to Smile Squad at:
<https://bit.ly/smilesquadvic>

OR use the QR code:



Whole School Theatre Production



*** Updated ***

The production will take place over two evenings with the younger grades split between the two. If you have students in Prep/1 the show will be on Wednesday 22 November. Students in grades 1/2 will perform on Thursday 23 November. Students in all other year levels will need to be available for both. Please let us know asap if this is not possible.

Ticket allocations and more details will be available soon. Please continue to hold onto cardboard boxes for costume making and if you have any sewing or art skills and you would be willing to help out, please contact the school office and put your name down.

For the diary ...

Week	Date	Event / Activity
TERM 4		
Week 3	Wednesday 18 th October	School Council meeting
Week 4	Monday 23 rd & Friday 27 th October	Year 5 Buddies Excursion to Kindergarten
Week 5		No planned events
Week 6	Tuesday 7 th November Wednesday 8 th November	Melbourne Cup Holiday – No School Smile Squad
Week 7	Tuesday 14 th November Tuesday 14 th November Wednesday 15 th November Friday 17 th November	Variety Bash Breakfast – fundraiser 6.30-8.00am Prep Transition Day 1, 9.00–11.00am School Council meeting St John's First Aid in Schools F-6
Week 8	Tuesday 21 st November Wednesday 22 nd & Thursday 23 rd Nov	Prep Transition Day 2, 9.00-11.00am BPS Production
Week 9	Tuesday 28 th November Thursday 30 th Nov – Friday 1 st Dec	Prep Transition Day 3, 9.00-1.00pm Year 3 & 4 Feathertop Chalet Adventure Camp
Week 10	Monday 4 th – Thursday 7 th December Monday 4 th – Thursday 7 th December Tuesday 5 th December Wednesday 6 th December Friday 8 th December	Senior Swimming Program (Yr 3-6) Junior Swimming Program (F-Yr 2) in Wangaratta Prep Transition Day 4, 9.00-1.00pm School Council – final meeting for 2023 BPS Swimming Carnival
Week 11	Tuesday 12 th December Thursday 14 th December Friday 15 th December	Statewide Step-up Day Year 6 Graduation Class Party Day
Week 12	Wednesday 20 th December	Last day of school for 2023. 2.30pm finish

Beechworth Primary School Office Hours are: Monday – Friday 8.30 – 4.30

- Jeanette: Mon – Thurs 8.30-11.30, Fri 8.30-3.00
- Samantha: Mon – Fri 8.30–4.30

TheirCare (Before & After School Care at BPS)

- Service and Bookings: phone 0447 717 055
- Area Manager, Rick: 0459 555 671



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