Beechworth Primary School

Be ...

Respectful, **S**afe, **P**ersistent, **C**aring ... **A**lways!

Friday 1st May 2026
Term 2, 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!

This week has been incredibly busy and exciting across the school.

Our students have had the opportunity to participate in a range of engaging **STEM incursions**, sparking curiosity, creativity, and problem-solving skills. It has been wonderful to see such enthusiasm and hands-on learning in action. Monday and Tuesday our year 3 to Year 6 students enjoyed working with our visitors from The Victorian Space Science Education Centre (VSSEC) to create water rockets. Wednesday our junior classes enjoyed their incursion with RACE Victoria. Thank you to Jane Nicholas for organising our awesome STEM events.

Our senior students also took part in the Bee School Incursions, where they explored the fascinating world of bees and their vital role in our environment. These sessions provided valuable insights into sustainability and the importance of protecting our ecosystems.

We look forward to sharing more of these enriching experiences with you in the coming weeks!

On a more serious note, we would like to reassure families that at Beechworth Primary School, the safety and wellbeing of our students remain our highest priority. Teacher supervision is provided each morning from 8:45am at both the front and back of the school.

Throughout the school day, all visitors are required to sign in and out via the office. The gate accessing Victoria Park is closed and locked, and any visitors on site are respectfully directed to the office by staff.

Should an unwelcome visitor enter the grounds, they will be asked to leave and, if required we call the police. At the end of the day, staff are on duty to supervise buses and both the front and rear of the school, ensuring a safe and orderly dismissal for all students.

We have well-established safety procedures in place, including the completion of a minimum of two emergency drills per semester. Next week, we will be conducting a lockdown drill. Families will be notified via Compass with further details. Students will be informed on the day in a calm and supportive manner, with opportunities to ask questions and be reassured, ensuring they feel safe and prepared.

Mothers Day Breakfast

On Friday the 8th we will be celebrating Mother's Day with our families with a breakfast between 8:15am and 9:00am out in the canteen space.

Orders for the Mother's Day Breakfast can be placed on Compass via the Canteen section. These orders need to be in by 10am on Monday the 4th of May. Due to having to place an order with the bakery, unfortunately late orders will not be accepted.

If you are needing assistance please contact the school office 03 5728 1066.

Industrial Action Update – Thursday 7 May

As parents and carers may be aware, staff at our school who are members of the Australian Education Union (AEU) have been involved in ongoing negotiations with the state government and the Department of Education regarding improved pay and conditions.

Union members at Beechworth Primary School will be taking **half-day industrial action from 8:45am to 12:45pm on Thursday 7th May**, as part of the rolling state strikes.

As a result, we will be unable to deliver our usual educational program during this time. A Google survey will be sent to families on Monday to determine how many students will require supervision between 8:45am and 12:45pm, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Our regular learning program will resume from 12:45pm until the normal end of the school day.

We will continue to keep families informed of any further developments that may impact our school community. Thank you for your understanding.

P.E. Teacher Update

As of next week, we are delighted to welcome Bianca Winslade into the P.E. team alongside Scott. Bianca brings great enthusiasm and a passion for physical education, and we are excited for our students to benefit from her energy and expertise in their lessons.

Bianca will be teaching Physical Education on Tuesday and Wednesday for Years 1–6, while Scott will take Foundation classes and continue to coordinate our school sporting events. Bianca will continue her current role in the Year 1 &2 classrooms on Monday, Thursday and Friday.

This change has been made to support our Mental Health in Primary Schools program. As Ngaire has taken on additional leadership responsibilities, Scott Forrest will now also provide support in this important area.

We thank all staff for their flexibility and look forward to the continued success of our P.E. program.

ANZAC Day – Beechworth

A wonderful connection to the community Saturday as we joined the ANZAC Day March in Beechworth in memory of those who gave so much. We had a wonderful group of students who came to march with us. We were very proud of the respectful way that they marched. Thank you to our students, families and staff who came out and marched with us and to the family members who joined with us to remember the fallen. We were very proud of the way that our school captains represented us as a school with Clancy Kelly and Isla Novosad laying a wreath on behalf of our school community. Thank you to Chez and Ngaire for assisting at the march. Congratulations to Beechworth RSL on an excellent ANZAC Day Service.
Lest we forget.

BPS Cross Country

What fantastic weather for our annual BPS Cross Country today, which was held during the morning session, 9.00-11.00. The students gave their best efforts, drawing on our value of Persistence as they completed their races. It was great to have parents come along and encourage the students as they undertook their Cross Country. Thank you to Scott Forrest for your organisation and to our staff and parent helpers.

2027 Foundation Enrolments are now open

BPS Open Day. Tuesday, 19 May 2026 - 9.30am to 3.00pm

We would like to welcome prospective 2027 students and families to come and visit our school. We will be running tours of the school throughout the day. If you would like to book a school tour, please contact the School Office on 57281066.

2027 Enrolment packs are available from the School Office, Beechworth Kindergarten and Childcare, and on the school website.

Year 6 to 7 Transition - Forms due to be returned by Friday 8th May

Please ensure you have read all the important information in this pack and complete the enrolment papers and return them to the school office before **Friday the 8th of May 2026**. It is vitally important that all students return these completed forms, regardless of what Secondary School they are planning to attend.

Awards

Leif, Millie, Aida, Tilda, Dahla, Molly.

Congrats on your bronze awards!

Congratulations Harlow.

You're such a respectful member of our school community.

Kind Regards,

Sue McDonald -Principal (Monday – Thursday)

Ngaire King – Acting Principal (Friday)

Email:
Susan.mcdonald2@education.vic.gov.au
Ngaire.king@education.vic.gov.au

Beechworth Primary School Office Hours are:

Monday – Friday 8.30 – 4.00

Samantha: Mon – Fri,

Kirsty: Tues– Thurs.

TheirCare (Before & After School care at BPS)

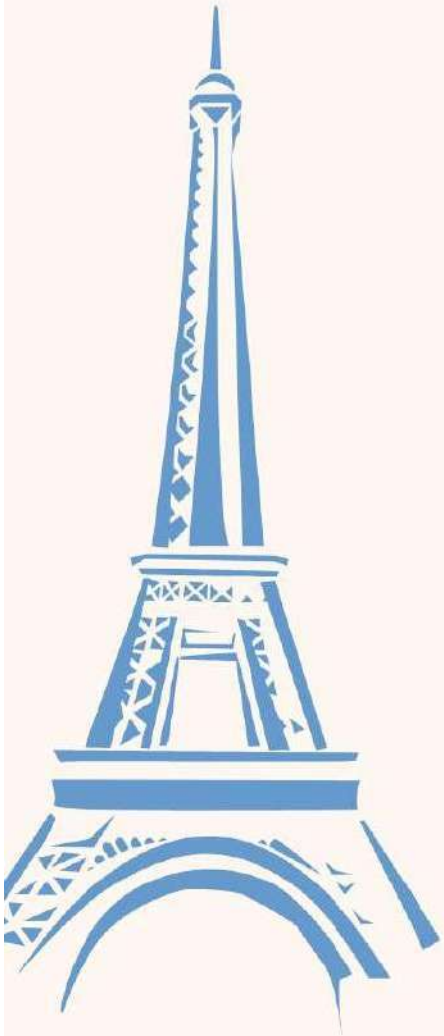
Beechworth PS Service and Bookings: Ph: 0447 717 055

Week	Date, Time	Event/ Activity
Term 2		
Week 3	Fri 8 May	Mother's Day Breakfast
Week 4	Fri 15 May	**Education Support Staff** - Thank you day.
Week 5	Mon/Wed/Thurs Tues 19 May Wed 20 May	Smile Squad at BPS 2027 Foundation OPEN DAY 9.30-3.00 School Council – 5.30-7.30pm
Week 6	Mon/Wed/Thurs 27 May - 3 June	Smile Squad at BPS National Reconciliation Week
Week 7	Fri 5 June	Student Free day
Week 8	Mon 8 June	King's Birthday Public Holiday
Week 9		No current planned events
Week 10	Fri 26 June	**Term 2 Concludes - 2:30 Finish**

ANZAC DAY

LEST WE FORGET

What's happening in French this term at BPS



BONJOUR! JE M'APPELLE GERALDINE

We are so lucky to have a new French assistant starting in our French classrooms on Mondays this term. Geraldine is a native French speaker from Montreuil le Gast en Ille et Vilaine, in France. She brings a lot of experience as a teacher both in France and Australia. Geraldine has extensive experience in the pre-school area and has an inspiring range of ideas for French songs, games and fun to bring to our French classrooms! If you see Geraldine don't forget to say Bonjour!

Bienvenue (Welcome) Geraldine!

We are exploring towns, transport and travel in our F - 6 classrooms this term.

For F-2 we are learning vocabulary around town and modes of transport, and getting to know French towns such as where Geraldine is from!

For 3-6 we are discovering hidden chateaux, uncovering myths and legends around buildings in France, and completing a unit on "travelling" (just on paper) to countries around the world where French is spoken.

Bon voyage! (Happy travels!)

STEM

This week we were lucky enough to have another visit from the Victorian Space Science Education Centre (VSSEC). The senior students were able to make their own bottle rocket and launch these on the oval. The students learnt about how forces act on the rocket at various stages in the launching, flight and landing process. The pictures show the students experimenting with different amounts of water in the bottles and different water pressures. Some of the groups were able to get their rocket to travel from the fairy tree to the soccer goals.

On Wednesday, Junior students were lucky to have QC University visit us to run the **Raising Aspirations in Careers and Education (RACE)** in Agriculture program. The session helped us learn about different careers in agriculture and how technology is used in farming. Big thanks to Miss Nick for organising this STEM incursion.

LEAF INVESTIGATORS

Healthy plants are important for food and sustainable farming, so growers carefully monitor their crops. In this activity, we acted as plant scientists by collecting leaves, making rubbings, and using tools to measure chlorophyll. We compared how leaves looked with the data we collected and explored examples of unhealthy plants. This hands-on experience showed us that appearances can be misleading and how scientific tools help farmers make better decisions, while building our observation and thinking skills.

TRACTOR CODERS

In Australia, technology is playing a growing role in agriculture, helping farmers increase productivity, reduce waste and costs, and minimise environmental impact. In this activity, we learned that coding is used to give instructions to machines, including those used on farms. We practised coding Edison robots to complete farm tasks, showing how technology can make farming more efficient. This hands-on experience helped us see real-world uses for coding while building our problem-solving and thinking skills.

BEECHWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

KEY DATES FOR TERM 2

FRI 1ST MAY - BPS Cross Country

FRI 8TH MAY - Mothers Day Breakfast 8am

TUES 19TH MAY - 2027 Foundation OPEN DAY

WEDS 27TH MAY - Simultaneous Reading Day

FRI 29TH MAY - Division Cross Country (Wodonga)

FRI 5TH JUNE - Pupil Free Day

MON 8TH JUNE - Kings Birthday Long Weekend

FRI 26TH JUNE - Term 2 Concludes 2:30pm Pick Up

Bee School

This week, 5/6K, 5/6J & 4/5P went to bee school! When we arrived, our bee teacher told us all about the jobs, and life of the different bees that live in a hive. We had lots of fun learning about bees, doing bee related activities and tasting different honey. There were lots of questions asked and answered about bees, honey and pollination. We saw a real bee hive in action, and learned lots of interesting things about bees. For example; bees flap their wings about 41 times a second and have five eyes! Bees play a big role in making and pollinating fruit and veggies so that we can eat them. After that we moved on to talking about all the different fruits, veggies and other things that we wouldn't have without bees. We started walking around collecting information to answer all different questions. Then the honey tasting! All the honeys were delicious and very sticky! It was a thrilling experience that we will never forget.

Written by Indi & Aulay

Bendigo Bank

A big thank you to our school leaders, Aulay Richer and Eddie Nelson who represented Beechworth Primary School at the Bendigo Bank Community Grant Information evening. As a recipient of a community grant in 2025, we were asked to do a small presentation to other groups within our community. Miss Nic gave a small presentation on what getting the grant has meant to our school and then Aulay and Eddie demonstrated some functions of the Sphero Robots.
We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Beechworth and District Community Bank for their generous grant of $3697.50 which, along with funding from PAFA and SRC enabled us to purchase a class set of Sphero Robots. We have begun to incorporate the Spheros into our learning in STEM and the classes have been having lots of fun while learning about coding and computational thinking.

Term 2 Programs

DRAGONFLY THEATRE GROUP
Wednesdays
Juniors (7-10) 4:15-5:15pm
Senior (10-17) 5:15-6:30pm
Stanley Soldiers Memorial Hall

DRAGONFLY - ROOTS AND WINGS RETREAT
Thursday and Friday April 9-10
2 day retreat (Non-residential)
Girls aged 10-12
Stanley Primary School

Information and Registrations at
www.thedragonflyproject.com.au

Contact: hello@thedragonflyproject.com.au

GOOD CLEAN FUN

PLAY.AFL/AUSKICK

Beechworth Auskick Centre

Baarmutha Park, Beechworth

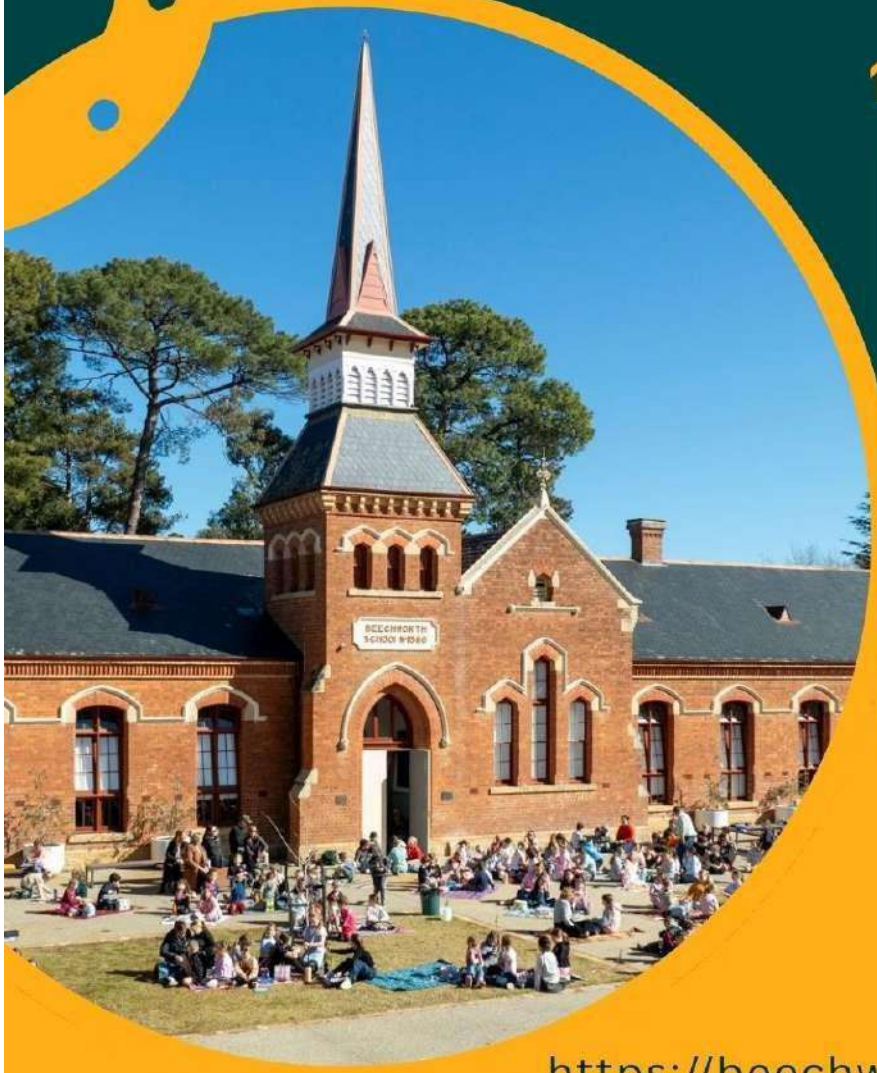
Starting Thursday 23rd April
4:40pm-5:40pm
Sausage sizzle provided on opening night

AFL PLAY

BEECHWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Transition Program 2027

Term 2: Enrolments currently open
Term 3: Submit enrolments by end of July
Kindergartens excursion to visit Beechworth PS
Term 4: BPS Year 5 Buddies excursion to Kindergartens



OPEN DAY
19th May 9:30-3:30

TRANSITION DAYS & DATES

Tues Nov 17th
(9am-11am)
Tues Nov 24th
(9-11am)
Tues Dec 1st
(9am-1pm)
Tues Dec 8th
(9-1pm)

CONTACT US

(03) 5728 1066
https://beechworthps.vic.edu.au/