

Welcome!

There have been plenty of smiles and great manners being displayed as students proudly wearing their Beenyup uniforms enter the school grounds with their families each day ready and eager to learn! We have had such a wonderful start to our foundation year and we are looking forward to building brighter futures together for our children and sharing the wonderful opportunities they have to experience success, feel joy and be challenged at Beenyup Primary with our school community.

For those who I have not yet met at the gate or along my travels throughout the school before and after school, I extend a warm welcome to you and your family. It is truly an honour to lead our new school which will become renowned for its commitment in providing a strong sense of belonging and the opportunity for every child, every day to find joy, be challenged and experience success.

I would also like to welcome everyone to our first ever edition of Beenews! This is not a traditional style newsletter - as we are using Connect as the main communication platform to keep our families up to date with what is happening in their child's classroom, Beenews is a celebration of what is happening in and around our amazing Beenyup Primary School. Each edition will showcase the learning happening in two classrooms and there will be two Beenews per term. Our first two classes are Room 9, Year 2 and Room 14, Year 4-6.

Congratulations to all of our families who have become part of the Beenyup Primary School's community in its foundation year. My team and I are looking forward to working in partnership with you to build brighter futures together for our children.

Rebecca Instance
Principal

Official School opening Friday, 21 February 2020



Beenyup team of staff are active learners too!

"Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today." Malcolm X

The staff of Beenyup Primary are committed to building the brighter futures our children deserve, so much so that on the recent School Development Day in March, their excitement, passion and dedication to implementing Beenyup's whole school approach of Talk for Writing was clearly evident. As educators, we are constantly learning not only for ourselves but to ensure we make the greatest impact for our students' learning and progress. So with this in mind, our team engaged in a range of rich learning experiences and deepened their understanding of the theory behind this authentic approach to developing our students' success as strong writers





Ready, set, go! Building bright futures through collaboration and cooking - Room 9 Year 2

What a fantastic start to the year! Building relationships is so important and the staff, students and families have spent the first few weeks of term getting to know each other in Room 9 so they are ready to embrace the amazing learning opportunities ahead of them this year.

In the lead up to Pancake Tuesday, a day to eat delicious pancakes, we had such a great time learning how to make pancakes together. It was so wonderful to see our students learning new skills, working as a team and enjoying each other's company while getting honey and jam all over our faces!

We have also been working hard during our numeracy block on mastering place value understandings. The students in Room 9 have demonstrated maturity and collaboration skills to solve problems and come up with creative solutions. We have particularly enjoyed making catapults to fire along a number line and make the number out of base 10 blocks.



Finally, we have been developing our love of reading by studying a selection of Julia Donaldson's beautiful picture books. Our favourite has been the Gruffalo because of the enchanting characters that we have noticed appear in her other books. We tried to bring the Gruffalo to life in our artwork and they turned out pretty amazing (if we do say so ourselves!).





Marvellous and magnificent ninjas - Dare Adventures Camp Room 14 Year 5-6

On Wednesday, 26 February, a group of twenty one excited Year Five and Year Six students boarded the bus to Dare Adventures Camp (Dwellingup) where they would spend the next three days with our wonderful Physical Education Specialist – Mr Fry, their teacher, Mrs Tran, and our brave parent helper – Mrs Versaico. They waved goodbye to Mrs Instance, Mrs Wolfenden and their families as they were eager to embark on a three day adventure of not just getting to know one another but also getting to know themselves (and what they were capable of).

When they arrived at camp, they were shown to their dormitories (complete with a fireman's pole which was going to be used extensively whilst at camp). The campers claimed beds, unrolled sleeping bags and then made their way back to the dining room where they were told that there were no rules at camp. No rules? This was very different to what they were used to at school! The concept of "natural consequences" was explained to the students which they all decided was a great idea.

After morning tea, the campers were shown the Commando Course which consisted of high walls, swinging tyres and to their delight mud (lots of mud) awaiting them at the end. The ninjas scaled the high walls with ease and leapt across obstacles as if they had springs in their shoes and then helped their fellow campers. The camaraderie, words of encouragement and support and loud cheers (as each obstacle was completed) was heart-warming. The students celebrated their successes with a "mud bath" before being hosed off (and showering). Dinner that night was roast chicken and vegetables which was followed by a fashion parade (of outfits made of toilet paper – before Australia's toilet paper crisis had occurred) and some obstinate, durable balloons refusing to be popped in a "Minute to Win It" game. The girls' dormitory was reported to be very well behaved and quiet after lights out; however, it was reported that there might have been some "noisy elephants" who momentarily escaped the zoo after lights out in the boys' dormitory.

On the second day, the campers were split into two groups. Group One went mountain biking and then kayaking and Group Two went kayaking and then participated in archery tag. Mountain biking brought back traumatic memories for Mrs Tran of her Year Eleven Cycling Camp as they rode through bush and gravel/dirt paths. At kayaking, the campers were delighted when the camp organisers explained a game to them which consisted of them splashing their teachers with water. However, the smiles were soon wiped off their faces when they were told that their teachers would in turn be splashing them!





We returned to camp after our morning activities, had lunch (delicious hamburgers) and then set off for one of our camp highlights – Trees Adventures, which was a two and half hour session of exploring the treetops on a variety of aerial challenges between two and twenty five metres high. The treetop courses are built around the beautiful Pine and Jarrah trees of Nanga Mill Campground, with exhilarating views as we ziplined through treetops or walked over suspended bridges and ropes. Again, the students made Mr Fry and Mrs Tran extremely proud with the way they conquered their own fears and challenged themselves but also the way they helped and encouraged each other when the obstacles became difficult and testing.

Dinner that night was pasta, followed by dessert (which was a gigantic cake complete with candles for one of our students whose birthday it was). The icing on the cake was as thick as the cake itself and the students delighted in licking the copious amounts of icing off their fingers. Unfortunately, due to thunder and lightning, the organised night walk had to be cancelled so Mr Fry and Mrs Tran were quick to think on their feet and organised a quiz night. Just as well, for the next morning, when they went to survey the damage from the thunder and lightning there was a steel structure which had been crushed by fallen branches.

After the students had been mentally exhausted by the quiz night and physically exhausted by their activities from the day, they retired to their dormitories for the night. This time, it was reported that the noisy elephants were not so noisy and students slept well after lights out. The girls were lucky enough to be awoken the next morning by a rendition of “Let It Go” by their teacher (with an amazing voice).

After breakfast, the tired campers assembled back into their groups for their final activities. Group One had archery tag and Group Two were off mountain biking. Lunch followed which was hot dogs and these were “inhaled” as the students were ravenous after so much physical activity over the three days.

Throughout camp, the camp organisers repeatedly spoke about what a marvellous and magnificent group our Year Five and Six students were. We know that they had fun (from the smiles on their faces and the laughter that could be heard) and we hope that they made wonderful memories which will stay with them well after their “camp wounds” (small cuts and scrapes) have healed.



