



Beenleigh Special School

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Upcoming Events

- ◆ P&C Meeting
Tues 3 November
- ◆ Presentation Night
Mon 23 November
- ◆ P&C Meeting
Tues 1 December
- ◆ Carols Undercover
Thurs 10 December
- ◆ Last Day Term 4
Fri 11 December
- ◆

Friday 30 November 2015

Newsletter

2015 Graduation Ceremony

On Wednesday night we celebrated the graduation of 11 of our Senior Secondary students. It was a wonderful night attended by 150 parents, friends and staff at the Beenleigh Sports Club. The photo booth was kept busy all night as everyone had their photo taken in a range of costumes. Thank you to the Graduation Committee for their organisation of this very successful night. We wish all of our graduates a very successful and happy future.



Congratulations Class of 2015

Happy Teacher's Day

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our very dedicated and hardworking teachers who are committed to ensuring that each of our students' have a well-balanced educational program focused on their intellectual, social, emotional and physical development.

Nicole Finch
Acting Principal.



Every day counts



Great state. Great opportunity.



Graduation Dinner



Action
STUDIO
BOOTH



Graduation Dinner





Early Years One



We are learning to measure, count and manipulate objects in Maths.



In Active Learning Processes we look at things through a different lens—it makes learning much more interesting!



We had to go through l-o-n-g grass to find that bear!



The 'new' library has the best seats in the school...



Junior Secondary 2

This week students in Junior Secondary continued with their literacy and numeracy skills. Students participated in a cooking program that will be run every Thursday for the remainder of the term. They are developing their shopping skills as well. Whilst some students are staying back at the school cooking, another group will be heading down to the Coles supermarket down the road to get ingredients to cook the following week.



These great hands-on real-life skills that they are learning, are preparing them for the Senior program. For example, students have to create a list of ingredients to purchase, and learn to budget, looking for the cheapest ingredients, and not go over budget. It also fits in with the new ASDAN program which students receive a certificate for completing that has value out in the wider community.



In the Junior Secondary classroom we have also been focusing a lot on different types of numeracy. This includes warming up with addition and subtraction and trying to learn out timetables, but also learning about fractions and collections of things.



Upper Primary 1

In Upper Primary 1 we've had a great start to Term Four. From the first day back, everyone has been working well and learning lots of new and interesting things.

In English we're focusing on asking and answering questions, sharing information and ideas, and listening to and understanding what others are learning. A focus on Sight Words supports their reading and writing. Apart from making sure our letters are written correctly in words and sentences, we're also focusing on how we write to and communicate with other people.

In Maths we are focusing on measurement, looking at size, length, weight, capacity and temperature. The core skills of number and counting also factor into our everyday numeracy activities.

In both English and Maths, we've been using focused explicit lessons followed by rotations to provide both targeted learning as well as independent learning opportunities. The students in UP1 are responding well to these.

In Science the semester will focus on our interactions with the environment, and how we alter and act upon aspects of the world around us. Our HPE unit will extend upon the Science unit, and look at the role of the environment, movement and food in ensuring our good health.

This Term UP1 are using the Arts area of Dance to support the overall theme of movement as an important component of good health practices. Please encourage your students to show you some of their excellent dance moves!

It promises to be a very exciting time for us all!

Aleasha



Jase



Justin W



Rachel



Brodie



Justin J



Curriculum News

Assessment and Moderation Time:

Our teachers are currently in the process of collecting evidence for student assessment in Semester Two. The process of collecting evidence for assessment is important in determining final scores in each learning area for the end of Semester reports. It is imperative then, that unless unwell, students attend school to allow teachers to finalise these assessment tasks. As part of the assessment process, teachers shortly will be involved in moderation meetings. The purpose of these moderation meetings is for all teachers to review and sort relevant student evidence, to make professional judgements of student work to ensure that decisions are fair and reliable across the school and to develop future assessment processes aligned to curriculum expectations.



Balanced Literacy in the classroom:

During our Student Free Day, our staff participated in a whole day professional development program with Master teacher, Bex Nikotemo. Bex presented an engaging and 'hands on' day providing a wealth of strategies for all staff to develop Literacy and communication practices within the classroom. Developing daily reading, writing, working with words and communication practices for both emergent and conventional learners is the focus on how we can deliver a balanced literacy framework. Staff came away from the Student Free day feeling energised and excited to start implementing some of the strategies shared by Bex on this day.

In 2016, we are excited to have booked in two days with Jane Farrell, a well known and highly sort after Literacy and communication consultant in the field of Special Education. We look forward to learning from and further developing our journey in balanced Literacy with Jane next year.

Day for Daniel:



Today, students and staff will recognise the 11th annual Day for Daniel. We will recognise the day by wearing our favourite red clothes and over the last few weeks, staff have been delivering safety messages of recognise, react and report based on the Daniel Morcombe Curriculum.

World Teachers Day:

Today also marks World Teachers Day– a day where we recognise the wonderful contributions that teachers make. On behalf of the leadership team, I would sincerely like to acknowledge and thank the teaching staff for the massive contributions they make to empower and educate the students at Beenleigh Special School.

Joanne Rogers

Pedagogical Coach

Employment Options

Employment brings with it a sense of identity, belonging, purpose and structure. While employment may not suit every student, there are students who want to work. Adjustments such as reduced hours of work, support, routine tasks, or physical modifications, can make employment achievable and sustainable.

Employment can be one, or any combination of the following:

- Open Employment (Part time, or full time hours in the workforce)
- Supported Employment (e.g. Australian Disability Enterprises such as Endeavour at Wacol, MailpaQ with Wesley Mission, or Monte-Lupo under the umbrella of Multicap)
- Volunteer work (e.g. Lighthouse, Meals on Wheels, SubStation 33)
- Community participation (e.g. Community Gardens, Logan West Art Alliance)
- 'Employment' with family or neighbours (e.g. working in the family business, feeding the pets, collecting the mail, sweeping the driveway, watering the gardens, taking out the rubbish)
- Self – employed in a small business (e.g. dog walking, delivering brochures, growing / selling herbs, or eggs)

Where a student with a disability, has the capacity to work in open employment, it is recommended the student links with a Disability Employment Service (DES). The DES providers receive government funding to help people with a permanent disability find and keep employment. They can assist with job interviews, work experience, travel training, selecting and finding a suitable job and employer, workplace modifications, support and training to ensure success and continuity in the workplace. There are many Disability Employment Services, to find out more, go to the website: <https://jobsearch.gov.au/ServiceProviders/Search>

MY FUTURE: MY LIFE FUNDING (MF: ML)

Small business ventures for students with disability, are often envisaged by the family and supported by the family. My Future: My Life (MF:ML) funding is designed to fund students to achieve and transition into a long term goal – and a small business is a very good long term goal!

MF: ML will allocate \$1000 to students in year 11, and \$2000 to students in Year 12. Students can apply for up to \$3000 in total, and may apply in increments. The application process requires proof of citizenship, disability, school endorsement (in the Senior Education Training Plan) plus a personalised quote for the requested equipment or services. To learn more, go to the website www.myfuturemylife.com.au.

If, and when, you are clear about what you might apply for, the school and School Transition Officer can assist with the application process. Exclusions do apply. This process is managed within set guidelines. To be successful, the application must show genuine intent and a clear and viable goal.

Mary Shepherd
AVT School Transition Officer.

From the Nurse

How to promote a good sleep routine

Now that you have a clearer understanding of the normal sleep pattern, we can look at ways of promoting a good sleep pattern. Having a healthy day/night routine will support a regular sleep pattern.

During the day

- Establish regular daily routines for meals, taking medication, performing chores and participating in activities.
- Spend time outdoors in the morning particularly if you tend to be a late riser. Regular exposure to bright light helps to synchronise our body clock.
- Avoid daytime naps (unless naps are brief). Without long daytime naps you will feel more sleepy at bedtime.
- Daily exercise up to early evening tends to make sleep deeper and reduce anxiety.

During the evening

- Avoid caffeine for at least five hours before bedtime (eg coffee, tea, cola or cocoa) as it interferes with getting to sleep and staying asleep. If you regularly drink more than two cups of coffee a day, reduce your caffeine intake. Start by eliminating your last caffeine drink of the day.
- Avoid a heavy meal too close to bedtime. (If you are hungry a light snack may help you sleep).
- Relax and prepare for sleep.
- Put the day to rest. If necessary write a list of what is on your mind and decide to think about it tomorrow.
- If you have trouble 'switching off' at night, learn a relaxation routine. Practice the routine before you use it as a sleep aid.
- Wind down before bedtime, with an hour of quiet activity (eg watching TV, reading or listening to music) in dim light conditions.
- Avoid smoking near bedtime and if you wake up during the night.
- Avoid alcohol near bedtime – it can cause awakenings later in the night.
 - Make sure your bed and bedroom are comfortable – not too cold or warm and reduce light.
- Where possible, reduce noises that are likely to keep you awake. If it is not possible to control the noise (eg barking dog) try to maintain a calm attitude and use a relaxation technique.

At bedtime

- Develop a bedtime routine (warm bath, light bedtime snack, brushing hair). Your body will recognise that you are preparing for sleep. Carry out this routine each night.
- Go to bed only when you feel sleepy or drowsy and not before.

In the morning

- Get up at the same time every morning.
- Sleep inertia will tend to make you feel drowsy and lethargic for a while after getting up. This is normal. Don't judge the quality of your sleep at this time, judge it at the end of the day.

Lisa Henderson
School Nurse.

Beenleigh

Marketplace

Sensory Santa

Sensory Santa was created for families with special needs children that had sensory disorders and couldn't have a photo with Santa because of the sensory barriers.

Sensory Santa offers No Background Music, No Lines/queues, 5min bookings, No spotlights, Chair next to Santa, an understanding Santa & Photographer, before Shopping Centre opens (Quieter time)

8am-10am Sunday 6th December
8am-10am Sunday 20th December



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 Dr Scott McIvab BDSc (Qld), MDSc (Ortho) (Qld), Dento-maxillofacial Radiography (Qld)

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