



Beverford District Primary School

INFORMATION BOOKLET



Term dates 2020	Term dates 2021
Term 1 Jan 28 to March 27	Term 1 Jan 28 to April 1
Term 2 April 14 to June 26	Term 2 April 19 to June 25
Term 3 July 13 to September 18	Term 3 July 12 to September 17
Term 4 October 5 to Dec 18	Term 4 October 4 to Dec 17



Beverford District Primary School

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School Overview

Beverford District Primary School is a well-equipped school of 30 students. Predominantly students are drawn from the Swan Hill, Vinifera, Woorinen North, Tyntynder, Murraydale, Speewa and Beverford areas, the majority of which are bussed in each day.

The school buildings have undergone extensive refurbishment and renovation. Notable additions to the main building are an outdoor learning areas in the form of decking. A double classroom, from a nearby closed school, has been relocated adjacent to the main school building, giving the school community access to a multi-purpose room with a commercial kitchen. The students are able to store their lunches in the commercial refrigerator.

The 2.5 hectare grounds provide an attractive and appealing environment, complete with ample shade areas, full-sized covered hard court, adventure playground equipment, car park and garden beds.

Our School believes that students learn best when actively engaged in learning tasks within a happy, safe, positive and supportive environment, where every effort is made to provide individual assistance. Within this environment, students are expected to develop decision-making skills, a sense of responsibility, self-discipline, the ability to work co-operatively with others, to take pride in their school and their work, to value achievement, and to respect staff and other students.

The success of each child is dependent upon a successful partnership between students, staff and parents, and as such, parental involvement in all aspects of the school's operation is encouraged.

School Structure

As enrolment numbers vary from year to year, composite grades operate according to numbers in each grade. A typical year would see three classrooms with grades of around 10 to 15 students.



Curriculum

The programs we deliver are guided by the Victorian Curriculum which includes the learning areas of English, Mathematics, The Arts, Physical, Personal and Social Learning, The Humanities, Science, Language Other Than English (Indonesian) and Personal Capabilities. Students receive a well rounded education.

School Bus

The school is serviced by a bus run which starts from Swan Hill and goes to Vinifera and cuts through the Woorinen, Murraydale, Tyntynder, and Speewa districts. Approximately 85% of our students travel to school by bus.



Visiting Performers

The school schedules a visiting performance to school once a term usually in the performing arts or music areas. These are usually held in with other neighbouring schools.



Swimming Program

In Term 4 a swimming program is conducted for students in all grades at the heated pool at the Swan Hill Leisure Centre.

School Uniform

The 'Education Act' provides School Councils with the power to make uniform compulsory. Our School Council has decided to exercise this option. As such, students are expected to attend school in full uniform and parents asked to send along an explanatory note if this is not the case.

The school uniform is:

Summer: Royal Blue Polo Shirt, Black Shorts, Blue & White Check Dress, Royal Blue Hat.

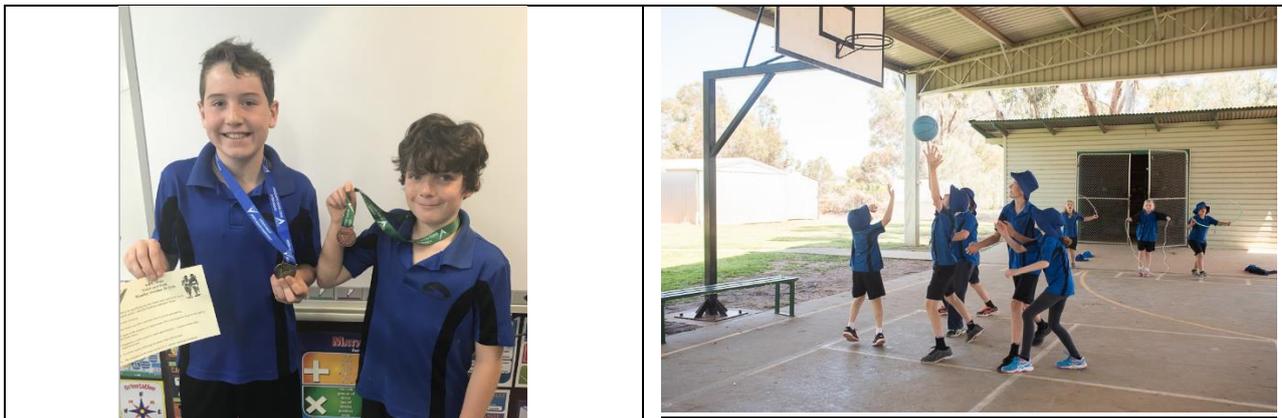
Winter: Royal Blue Round-Neck Windcheater or a School Jacket, Royal Blue Skivvy or Royal Blue Polo Shirt, Black Pants Black Skirt/Culottes.

Bomber Jackets

Jackets and polo shirts (long and short sleeve) are available from the school



Interschool Sport



We have used sport as a means of establishing a sense of pride in our school. Our efforts have resulted in more than our share of success in the regular schedule of interschool sporting carnivals. We compete in the Swan Hill District Primary School Sports Association along with Lake Boga, Son Centre, Woorinen District, Nyah District and Ultima primary schools. Successful individual competitors (in athletics or cross country) or teams go on to represent our district at Zone level and if successful again have the opportunity to go on to compete at Regional and then State level. Our regular round of sporting carnivals includes:

Summer Sports (Term 1, Grades 3-6)

Cross Country / Ball Games (Term 2, Grades P-6) - cross country run followed by traditional ball games such as tunnel ball, bob ball, corner spry, potato race and under & over

Winter Sports (Term 2, Grades 3-6)

Athletics (Term 3, all grades) - usual athletics events

Parents are most welcome to get involved with any of the above activities, whether it be to assist with practise, help organise students on sports days or just come along to watch and support our teams.

Group Days

Usually P to 2 group/activity days are held in conjunction with Interschool Sport days.

MARC Library

The MARC van visits school one day a week (Tuesday in 2018) and has library lessons and borrowing sessions for one hour with each class.



Library Bags

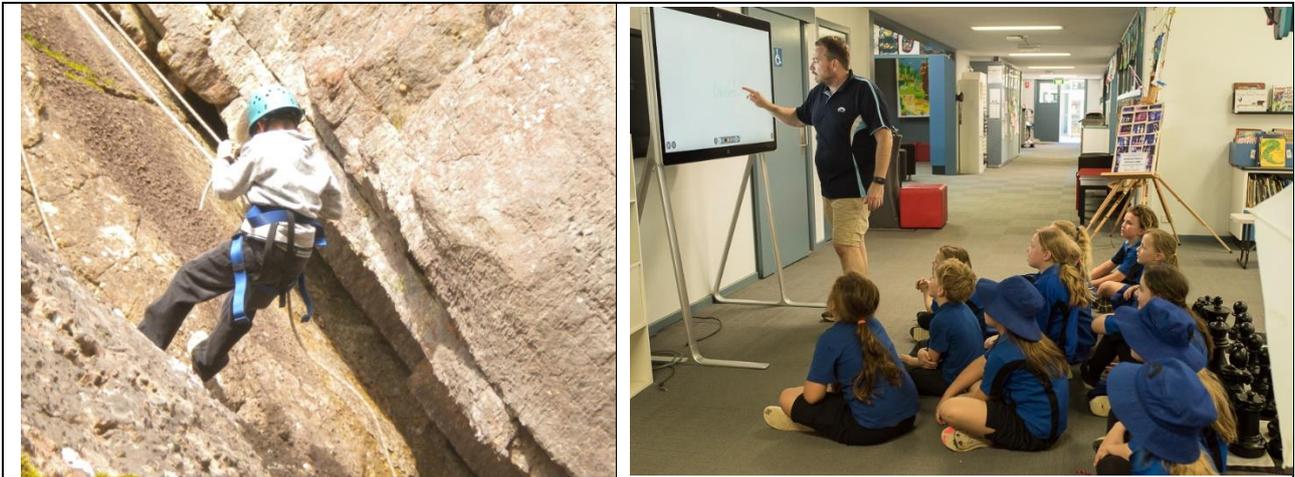
In an attempt to help students keep library and work books in good condition library bags are provided for prep students.

[Newsletters](#)

The weekly newsletter is our means of communicating regularly with the general school community. Please read carefully, especially since these will often have attached Permission Notices, etc., to be completed and returned to school. The school also has a facebook page, which is used for communication.

[Camping Program](#)

This will be reviewed annually. All students attend a two night, three day excursion every second year.



[Orientation](#)

Each year in early December there is a 2 day orientation programme for Year 6 students at the respective secondary schools, and for pre-schoolers who are to commence school the following year.

[End of Year Concert](#)

In the fine old tradition of the rural school, we have a concert in the last weeks of Term 4 where parents and other community members are entertained by student performances. The concert is usually held at the school (weather permitting) and is followed by a visit from Santa and some supper.

[Timetable](#)

School commences at 9 a.m. and concludes at 3.20 p.m. Morning recess runs from 11 - 11.30 a.m. and lunch from 1 – 1.50 p.m. To avoid interruptions to classes, it would be appreciated if all phone calls to classroom teachers (unless urgent) could be made in break times. It's very important that all students arrive each morning with time to get themselves organised.



Bookmobile / Library Van

The van parks outside the school from 9.00 – 10.00am. every second Wednesday (not during the holidays). Dates are advised on the Newsletter. Each class visits the van in turn and students are encouraged to borrow books according to their personal interests or current classroom themes. There is no charge to borrow library materials. On enrolment, students may join by parents completing a "Membership Application Form", available from School, and signing as their Guarantor. Materials are loaned for 14 days and overdue items attract a fine. Each new member is provided with a personalised membership/borrowing card, which must be produced each time the member wishes to borrow. This same card may also be used at the Central Library in Swan Hill.

Extravaganza

Each year in August the school performs in the State School's Extravaganza at the Swan Hill Town Hall. The Extravaganza is a celebration of dance, music and drama.



Student Reporting

We have high expectations for your children and will always keep you in touch with their progress. Teachers will endeavour to report accurately and honestly to enable staff and parents to work together to obtain the best possible results.

School reporting schedule - is as follows –

Term 1 Parent/ Teacher Interview – Middle of Term 1

Term 2 Written Report - Issued last week of term.

Term 3 Parent/ Teacher Interview - Late Term 3.

Term 4 Written Report - Issued in late December.

Beyond this program, formal and informal meetings may be arranged at any time according to need.

Parental Involvement

We encourage parents to get involved with the school for some very good reasons, such as,

- there's no doubt that a strong home / school relationship promotes learning
- particular parents have the knowledge and skills that can greatly benefit the school
- parent involvement helps develop a sense of community

Join School Council - School Council meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month and is charged with the responsibility of overseeing the running of the school. Terms are for 2 years, with half of the positions becoming vacant each year. There is also the possibility of being co-opted for a one-year term. This is the place to be for anyone who would like to shape the direction our school takes.

Join the Fundraising Committee - The fundraising committee is a subcommittee of school council with the object to raise funds, which are necessary for us to provide the sort of education we strive to deliver, and they provide an avenue for parents to meet .

Join the Buildings and Grounds Committee - This committee meets regularly as required to monitor the state of our buildings and grounds and makes recommendations to School Council on what works are required, the estimated cost of these works and how they can be achieved.

Attending Working Bees - On average we have 2 or 3 working bees per year. They are usually organised affairs where families come along with the tools required for a particular job. The tasks undertaken are a mix of general maintenance and improvement projects.

Attending Sports Carnivals - As part of our inter-school sports program, we attend a range of carnivals each year (summer sports, winter sports, cross country and athletics). We are not able to participate in any of these carnivals without parent help in supervising small groups of children, scoring, umpiring, and running specific events.

Become a Classroom Helper – Contact your classroom teacher and arrange a suitable time to help with activities like listening to reading, assisting with Art and Mathematics etc.

Medical Information

Accident / Illness - In the event of a serious accident or illness, an ambulance will be called and the parents contacted immediately via information supplied on the Student Information Form. It is essential we have the current telephone number of both parents and an emergency contact person to be used when parents cannot be contacted. Teachers are not trained medical staff and when doubt arises concerning the severity or acuteness of an illness or injury, we contact the parents and let them make the decision whether to seek treatment or not.

School is a place for healthy children. If your child is unwell please keep him/her home until they are well enough to take part in the school program - but on the other hand, children should not be kept home when it is not warranted. Students who miss too much school find it very hard to keep up with their classmates. If a child becomes ill while at School a parent or nominee will be contacted and asked to collect them.

Disability / Medical Condition - It is of utmost importance that the school knows about any condition that might affect your child's participation in school activities, e.g. epilepsy, allergies, etc. It is essential you notify the school, providing any emergency treatment your child may require or any emergency action which may need to be taken. All children are expected to participate in all curriculum activities unless we are notified in writing of a reason for exemption.

Infectious Diseases - Exclusion from School - There are certain situations which arise where students have to be excluded from school. These all involve contagious diseases or complaints, and exclusion is compulsory for the well-being of the student and the protection of others.

The Principal is required to exclude children according to the table at the back of this booklet, under the Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1990. Note the regulations require the parent or guardian to inform the Principal, as soon as practicable, if the child is infected with any of the diseases listed in the table or has been in contact with an infected person. It should be noted that in cases of diphtheria, typhoid and paratyphoid fever, exclusion and determination of recovery will be matters for the Shire Medical Officer of Health.

'Contact' means child of school age or pre-school age living in the same house as the patient, 'Patient' includes carrier and 'School' includes any pre-school centre, kindergarten, primary or secondary school. A patient or contact shall be prevented from attending school unless conditions prescribed on the tables are adhered to.

Medication - If it is a necessary for your child to receive medication during school hours, a signed note stating the dosage required is necessary. Please ensure that your child hands the medicine and/or tablets to their classroom teacher at the start of the day.

School Medical Examinations - In the past school nursing staff have conducted tests for vision and hearing problems for all children in their first year at school. The test, along with a questionnaire filled in by parents, constituted a health assessment offered to each child.

Finance

The Department of Education provides a global budget, paid quarterly, to the School Council. This money is used to administer the school, purchase library books, maintain the buildings and grounds, cover utility costs (eg, gas, electricity, water) and to purchase and maintain equipment. Government provided finance of recent years has not been sufficient to cover the cost of providing the quality education that parents expect and School Council would like to provide. The shortfall has been made up by annual levies and fundraising activities. Arrangements can be made for this to be paid in quarterly instalments or deducted from the Education Maintenance Allowance (see below).

Special excursions may require children to pay for the cost of bus travel, admissions, etc., and these will be notified via the Newsletter.

Absences

Schools are required to keep a daily attendance roll of each class. If you find it necessary to keep your child away from school, it is a requirement that parents send an explanatory note to the classroom teacher on the day of return to school. A phone call to the school is also fine.

Book Club

Our School participates in a Book Club. Worthwhile books are available at a low cost. You will receive an order form which is returned to the office collections box should you choose to purchase any books.

Car parking on School Road

Parents are asked to keep well clear of the bus parking space adjacent to the school gate. Parents are also reminded to park on the school side of the road when picking up or dropping off their children.



Casual Dress Days

These are held regularly. Dates will be advertised in the Newsletter. Every student who comes to school in casual gear gives a gold coin donation which contributes to funding the School's Camps Program or other worthwhile charities e.g Jeans for Genes

Change of Address / Phone Numbers

Please notify the School with regard to ANY change of address, telephone number and particularly EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS in case of student illness or accident.

Footwear

To prevent injury and spread of disease, bare feet and thongs, scuffs and similar-type footwear are not permitted. On wet days students remove footwear before entering the main school building.



School Lunches

Lunches can be ordered through Parent Helpers on Fridays. A current price list will be forwarded early in the year. Parents are asked to make sure the lunch orders are clearly written (child's name and food ordered) on the outside of a brown paper lunch bag and the correct money enclosed with the top folded over to avoid money being lost. Lunch orders should be taken to the office and placed in the marked container first thing in the morning. All children sit and eat their lunch together under teacher supervision. Be sure the lunch box, bag or drink container is clearly labelled. No glass containers or drinking vessels are permitted.

Sending Money to School

Please ensure that any money that is sent to School is in a securely-sealed envelope. You need to send envelopes with your child's name and grade clearly written on, amount enclosed and the purpose for the money. If a Permission Note is required, please staple/attach this to the outside of the envelope.

Notes

Notes, forms, etc., which are returned to School should be clearly labelled and given directly to the classroom teacher or lodged in the Office "Collection Box" first thing in the morning.

Photocopier

Parents and the community are welcome to use the copier with a small charge for each sheet.

Student Supervision

All recess periods are supervised by staff. No students are permitted to leave the school grounds between arrival time at school and 3.20 p.m., unless special permission has been granted. Parents are reminded to not have their children at School before 8.30 a.m., as teachers are busy preparing for the day, and are unable to supervise the playground.



Student Photos

Each year individual, class, family and whole-school photos will be taken.

Bicycles

Bike racks are provided at School. For the safety of cyclists and others, children are not to ride their bikes inside the school grounds.



Information for Parents of new Preps

Attendance During February - It's a tiring time for 5 year olds when they first hit school and some schools organise for preps to attend 4 days a week or only attend in the mornings during February. We leave it up to parents to decide how their child is coping and are happy to run a program for preps which operates all day from Monday through to Friday.

What to Bring on the First Day -

- an art smock
- a change of clothing (if you believe it may be needed)
- a fruit snack, some play lunch, and lunch in some form of lunch box
- a library bag (may be purchased from the 1st day of school)
- if not already done, a completed enrolment form, birth certificate extract and immunisation details. Note: this does not mean immunisation is compulsory. Children who cannot be immunised for medical reasons will have a certificate indicating they are not fully immunised. Parents who conscientiously object to their child being immunised may make a Statutory Declaration to that effect. These children will be excluded from school in event of outbreaks of polio, measles or diphtheria.)

Note: It's a good idea to be prepared to leave on the first day as soon as the children are settled in with the teacher. Naturally some children will become anxious with the new situation and such feelings may only be prolonged if parents stay.

Labelling Possessions/Clothing - Every year a large amount of unclaimed equipment builds up because items aren't named. Please make sure all of your child's possessions are clearly labelled - a good habit to carry through in the many years of schooling to come.

Preparing Your Child for School - All students have the potential to learn an enormous amount in their first year. As parents, there is much you can do to make your child's early primary school days more productive and less traumatic (for both your child and their teacher)

You can make sure your child –

- can dress and undress themselves
- can tie their own shoe laces
- manage themselves in the toilet
- is capable of packing up after themselves
- is familiar with the appearance of their own name to help identify clothing, lunch boxes, etc.
- has an idea of school eating times, i.e. play lunch & lunch
- is comfortable with the idea of staying at school on their own
- has been introduced to numbers (1 - 10) and all letters of the alphabet
- gets a good night's sleep (this is vital at all levels of schooling).
- knows their address and phone number