

## Benalla Flexible Learning Centre

- Individual Learning Plans
- Flexible timetables
- Mentor Support
- Involvement in the community
- Catering for students needs

### WHAT'S ON

**MONDAYS (March) GYM 2pm**

**THURSDAYS Yoga 11 am**

### COMING EVENTS

**THURSDAY 27th FEB**

Paddling at Benalla lake

**TUESDAY 3rd MARCH**  
**STUDENT FREE DAY**

**MONDAY 9th MARCH**

**LABOUR DAY**

**FRIDAY 13th MARCH**

F1 Grand Prix Excursion

**FRIDAY 19th MARCH**

Music Performance

**FRIDAY 27th MARCH**

Last Day of Term Lake walk & BBQ

**Welcome to 2020.** It has been a difficult summer in the North East with fires affecting many areas surrounding us. In addition the smoky environment impacted many of us, making it more difficult to participate in many summer activities.

We feel for those that have lost lives, animals, homes and farms and we look forward to assisting with the recovery assistance this year. Already we have had Kylie from wildlife rescue visit our school and speak to the students about the need for wildlife have following such a disaster. Some things that we will be investigating is to assist with the recovery and building of nesting boxes, sewing wildlife pouches and possibly assistance with fencing construction. Hopefully we will be able to support those in need.

We welcome some new staff that are supporting our students on their educational journey.

Pip Rowe brings with her many years of experience in teaching with particular expertise in the area of VCAL, Mathematics and Science. Recently she has been coordinating the Hands on Learning at Benalla P12 and has also taught equine and VCE agriculture.

John Beddow and Josh Lovett visit us each Thursday. They are delivering the VET Certificate I I Music Industry and are creating some great opportunities for our students, with the first performance planned for Thursday 2nd last week of term.

Ben Linnett from Shepparton FLC will be delivering the Certificate II in Business on Monday's.

There are some great things happening at the Benalla FLC and I take this opportunity to encourage students to step out of their comfort zone and become involved in the activities and learning options that are available to all.

## Awards for 2019

A wonderful end of year lunch where reports were handed out along with a number of students receiving awards for the years efforts.



# Huge Success at Violet Town Market

Benalla Flexible Learning Centre had a stall at the Violet Town Market in



December 2019. It was a success with nearly all items that were hand crafted by the students, sold.

Monies profited from the stall went to purchasing gifts for the Christmas Wishing tree. These gifts were personally picked by the students.

The students placed presents under both Wangaratta and Benalla Wishing Tree.



## COMMUNITY SKILL SHARING

Thank you to Joy and her helpers Susan and Chris for sharing their knitting skills with our students. Each week students, staff and our community helpers share laughs and



conversations whilst learning the art of knitting and crocheting. It will be exciting to see how their skills develop over time.

## School Wellbeing Nurse

The key role of the school nurse is to support health promotion and primary prevention in secondary schools.

Through identifying and building on existing school initiatives and providing appropriate preventative health care, the nurse assists the school to better support the health and wellbeing needs of our students. As part of the school nurse program BFLC has Cara attend our school one day a week, this term that day is Monday.

The role encompasses:

- health promotion and primary prevention
- school community development activities
- small group work focussing on health related discussion and information
- advice and referral to assist young people in making healthy life style choices

This year at Benalla Flexible Learning Centre we are focussing on health promotion activities in the form of small group work. Cara school nurse and Lynne youth worker will be running sessions every Monday from 10:30 to 12pm. The sessions will have a focus on mental health, physical health and other topics that may affect young people and with the aim to provide students with some skills to cope with everyday stressors.

**This is a timely reminder for all families to ensure Benalla FLC has an up-to-date Asthma and Anaphylactic plan for their child.**

*Please give plans to Jess*

## EXCURSIONS

*Please collect a permission form*

SWIMMING at YMCA POOL — Mondays — 2pm — 3pm

*Please remember to bring bathers.*

YOGA – Thursdays – 11:00 am – 11:45 am

*Please remember to wear comfortable clothing.*



## Hot Drinks for students

To cover the costs of Hot Milk Drinks, Benalla FLC is now proposing for students to pay \$5.00 per term to cover one hot drink per day.

*Please give your \$5.00 to Jess, so you can be added to the list of paid up students for this term.*

## NETWORK DAY

**TUESDAY 3RD MARCH**

**Student Free Day.**

Staff from all four centres will converge on BFLC to not only enhance their skills through Personal Development training, but also collaborating to ensure the programs set are innovative and progressive.

## Animal Rescue from bushfires

Students came together on Thursday to hear about the animals that have been impacted by the bushfires. Kylie, a local wildlife rescuer, spoke about the injuries that the animals have sustained and how they are being looked after. She explained that it is not only the large animals like the wombats and kangaroos but also the smaller bats and mice that have been rescued. She suggested that raising funds for fuel cards was one way that we could help as rescuers are often using their own cars to get to the animals and because the fire area is so large many kilometres are being travelled. She also suggested that we could look into making pouches from recycled clothing or building small mammal boxes to replace tree hollows. Students will meet again next week to plan their action and Kylie is hoping to bring in a rescued wombat!



## Students Using Mobile Phones

The Victorian Government takes the safe and responsible use of digital technologies, student safety and wellbeing, and the development of social skills and positive behaviour, very seriously. On this basis, the Hon. James Merlino MP, Minister for Education, announced that a new mobile phone policy would take effect from Term 1 2020.

Whilst the Victorian Government acknowledges that we live in a technology-rich world where mobile phones are an important communication tool, **research has found that mobile phones can be disruptive in classrooms and open to misuse at school.** The unregulated presence of mobile phones in classrooms can undermine students' capacity to think, learn, remember, pay attention and regulate emotion.

**At recess and lunchtime, opportunities for students to communicate with each other face-to-face or be involved in physical activity are also valued, rather than students being focused on a mobile phone, particularly when they are using it to engage with social media.**

This new policy acknowledges that technology is increasingly affecting how students learn and communicate. Therefore, when a student has been given explicit permission to access and use such devices to enhance learning by the classroom teacher, mobile phones will be permitted for that specific purpose. For a small number of students with particular health and wellbeing needs, an exception to the policy may also be granted.

This policy will remove a major distraction from our classrooms, so that teachers can teach, and students can learn in a more focused, positive and supported environment.

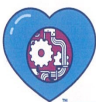

### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR BENALLA FLEXIBLE LEARNING CENTRE?

As we are a Government Secondary School, this policy applies to us. Consequently we ask that students switch off their phone while they are at school. Each teacher has a lockable draw at their desk that you can store your phone in if this is required.

If this is causing distress you can organise a meeting with Site Principal to discuss your concerns.



**Young People of Benalla are lucky to have these  
additional options available  
Thank You Tomorrow Today**



**Girl Powered**


**S\*TE\*A\*M**

**SCIENCE \* TECHNOLOGY \* ENGINEERING \* ARTS \* MATHEMATICS**

Calling all **STEAM**-loving girls in Benalla aged **11-16!**

Join us for:

- Robotics
- Technology
- Hands-on activities



**Date:** Wednesday 4th March  
**Time:** 4pm-6.30pm  
**Location:** Benalla Lakeside Community Centre  
**Register:** via Eventbrite on Tomorrow Today's Facebook page or website, or call: 03 5762 1211

**4pm-5.30pm: Benalla girls aged 11-16 years**  
Talk with women working in STEAM • Meet other girls who love STEAM • Get hands-on with robotics and technology

**5.30pm-6.30pm: Open to the Benalla community**  
Panel discussion featuring local women working in the STEAM fields, led by our own Alana Johnson, AM. Topics include: STEAM career pathways, why STEAM is a great option for girls, how to raise aspirations for girls in the Benalla community. Panelists include a mechanical engineer, robotics teacher, IT specialist and a financial literacy specialist.

**TOMORROW TODAY**

 Charles Sturt  
University

 Galen  
Catholic College

 NE TRACKS  
local learning and employment network

 BENALLA  
RURAL CITY



## **Come and Try Day**

**Why not give it a go!!**

**Who:** Young people 5-19 years

**When:** Sunday 22nd March 2020

**Where:** Churchill Reserve

Entry via Waller Street

**Time:** 10am — 1pm

Fun, enjoyable activities that are currently offered in Benalla.

Soccer, Archery, Badminton, Hockey, Tatong Anglers Club, Auskick, Cubs and Scouts are just a few

**FREE** sausage sizzle

Assistance to pay registration fees is available to families with pension and health care cards.

For more information call Corena 03 5762 1211.

**TOMORROW TODAY**

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