

Benalla P-12 College

Executive Principal - Tony Clark



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

COLLEGE VISION

BENALLA P-12 COLLEGE ENSURES THAT EVERY CHILD LEARNS AND IS PREPARED FOR THE FUTURE THROUGH A COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING, HIGH EXPECTATIONS AND POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS IN A SAFE AND INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of the Benalla P-12 College Community,

Remote Learning

As we enter another week of remote and online learning, there is still some uncertainty about how long this situation will last. The discussions in the media do not provide us with any clarity, so at the moment we are continuing to plan for this to last until the end of term.

I understand that this is a difficult time for many parents and students and that learning from home creates extra pressure for many families. I also need to assure you that you are doing a great job with this and that you do not need to be an expert in any subject area or a teacher. Just keep doing your best to provide a suitable learning environment for your children and ensure that they engage with some learning tasks each and every day. Please also look after your own health and wellbeing as well as those in your family.

Online Learning

Up until now, Year 11 and 12 students have been mainly learning online through Google Classroom and Webex and all other students have been collecting hardcopy work packs each Friday from school. Now that we have almost all Year 9 and 10 students online, there will no longer be workpacks produced for them. Instead, Year 9 and 10 students will be expected to be online and to follow the suggested timetable that will be sent home through Compass.

This will allow Year 9 and 10 students to communicate more directly with teachers, receive feedback, submit work and complete assessment tasks. It will also allow us to monitor attendance more accurately.

Students in Year 7 and 8 will continue to collect and work pack this Friday, however this will be the last one. A notice will go out via Compass in the next 24 hours advising parents to contact the Faithfull office to make an appointment to collect a laptop from school if one is required at home.

Grade 5 and 6 parents will have been advised that they are moving to online learning through Google Classroom as of next week. Please let your child's teacher know if you require a hard copy work pack and one will be available to collect at the Faithfull Campus.

All P-4 students will continue to collect work packs each Friday. Class Dojo has been working extremely well for P-2 students and I thank all the parents and students who have been engaging with their teachers and sending in photos of some amazing completed work.

If any family requires support to access the internet at home, please call the Faithfull office and we will be able to help you.

Once again, thank you for your support through this time and keep up the great work. We will manage this together.

Tony Clark

Executive Principal

Our College Values

Respect

Responsibility

High Expectations

Integrity



TERM 2 DATES, TUES 14TH APRIL- FRI 26TH JUNE

THE WELLBEING TEAM SUPPORTING OUR FAMILIES

The Wellbeing Team would like you to know that we are here to support you in any way we can, even more so in this time of isolation with staying at home. If you are struggling and need food to help feed your family, please do not hesitate to contact your Wellbeing Support worker on your campus either by phone or by email.

Craig Carley -Senior Faithful Campus 5761 2777
carley.craig.c@edumail.vic.gov.au

Lou McCloskey- Faithful Campus 5761 2777
mccloskey.louise.h@edumail.vic.gov.au

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Bron Greig -Waller Campus 5762 2600
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Audible Books

For as long as School is closed Audible are providing **Free** Audio Books for Kids. These stories are free to stream on your desktop, laptop, phone or tablet. Listen to the Tales of Beatrix Potter, Fun Songs or learn the Alphabet. Explore Literary Classics or Folk & Fairy Tales. You may be interested in listening to books like Anne of Green Gables or Harry Potter.

To access google
[stories.audible.com](https://www.audible.com/stories)

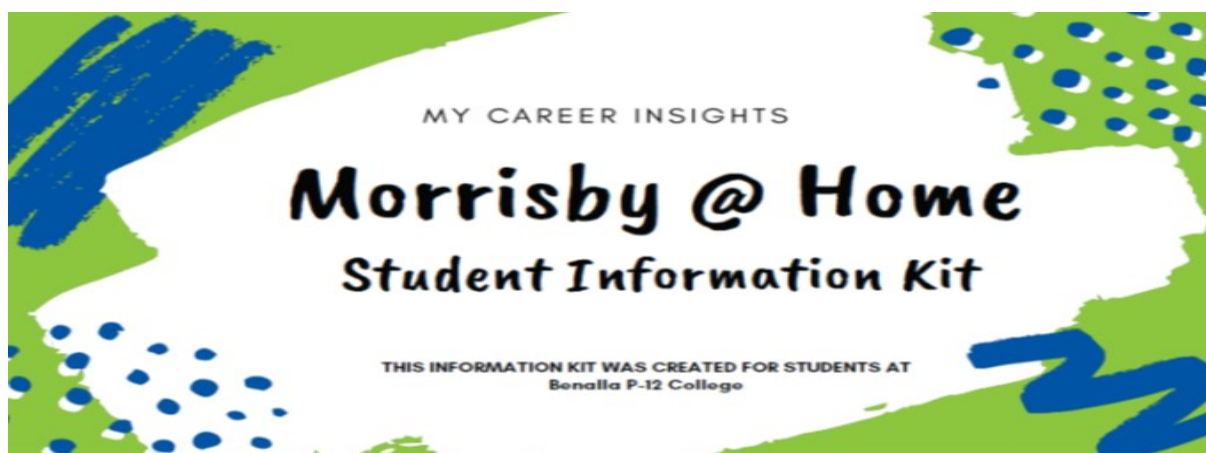
YEAR 9 MORRISBY@HOME ONLINE ASSESSMENT-REMINDER!

Parents and Carers are reminded to return the **consent form** (found inside each student's Achievement Portfolio) to General Office as soon as possible. You may also give your consent by email to Year 9 Homegroup teachers, Humanities teachers or Mrs Oakley. Another alternative is to ring the office staff on the Faithfull campus on 57612777.

It is best that students complete this activity in a quiet area at home where they are not disturbed by others. They may have a break after each set of questions but it is recommended that they complete the assessment over 2 one-hour sessions. This should be done **before Friday 8 May**

More information? This is all contained in the Morrisby@ Home Student Information Kit. Please read carefully, **watch the YouTube clip** and **do some practice questions** before you start. There is a copy of this booklet inside each student's Achievement Portfolio and also in their Humanities Google classroom.

Please email me if you have any questions oakley.susan.e@edumail.vic.gov.au
Sue Oakley (Pathways to Retention Coordinator)



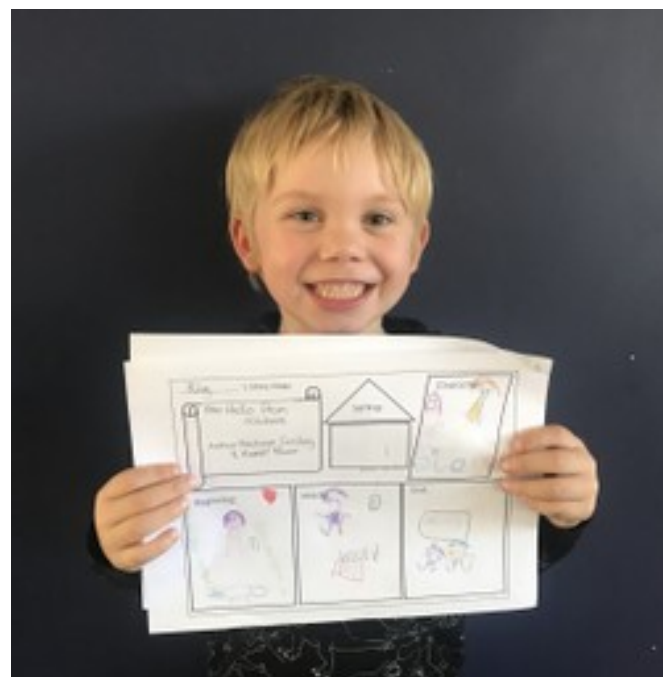
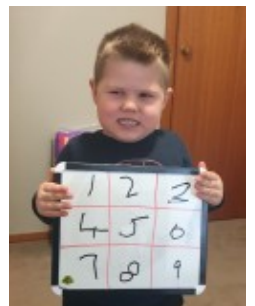
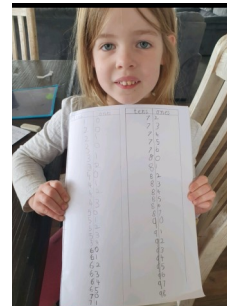
AVON STREET REMOTE LEARNING

The Avon Preps have been hard at work with their remote learning tasks. They have been completing their tasks each day including creating groups of items and practicing their numbers for maths and writing stories and practicing their sounds for literacy. They have also been exploring their backyards looking for living things, creating masterpieces with their art tasks from Mrs Gregg and staying active with their cool activities from Mrs Neilson. We love the pictures and videos that they are sharing with us.

We are so proud of all of the preps for their effort they have put in to their learning tasks and we cannot wait to see what else they will achieve.

Keep up the great work!

Mrs Higgins and Miss Smith

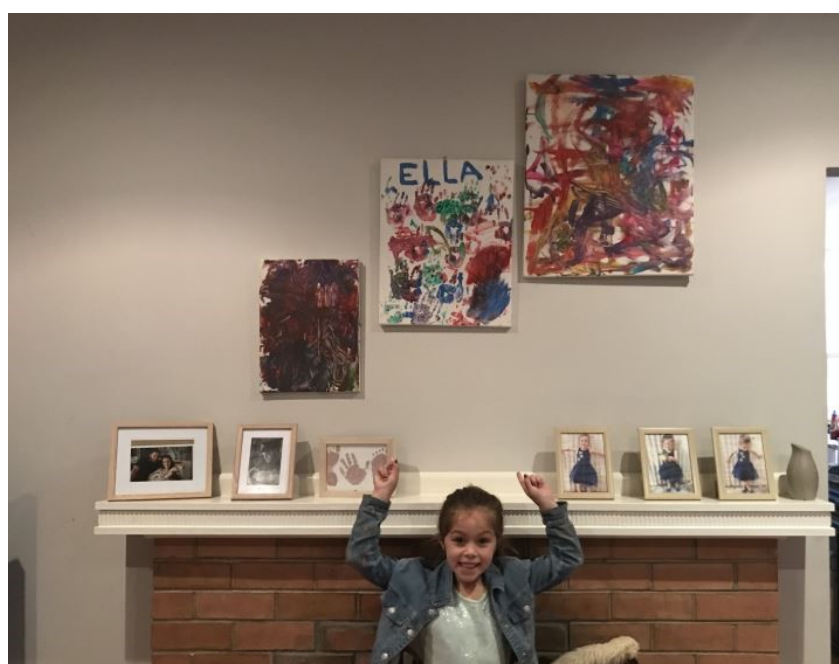
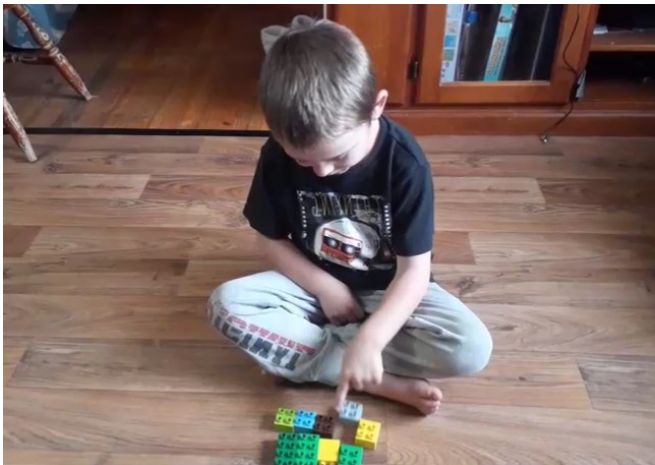
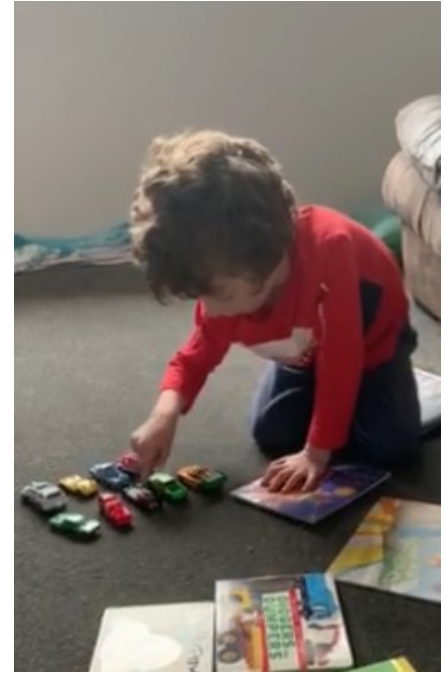


Prep Students have been working super hard at home!
This week, one of their Maths tasks was to go on a scavenger hunt around the house to find and make groups of 9.
Here is some of the things they collected!

Keep up the awesome learning at home kids (and parents!)

Miss Challis, Miss Clark, Miss Annikan

Keep Up the Great Work!



INSIGHTS

Helping siblings resolve their fights



With family members living in close proximity during the current COVID-19 pandemic, parents may find an increase in sibling squabbles. This is understandable as any relationship is tested to its limits by excess time and lack of space. Sibling squabbles usually arise over low level issues such as space (“He’s sitting in my seat.”), possessions (“That’s my book!”) and fairness (“It’s not fair. I was here first!”). It’s enough to send most parents around the twist.

While it seems that kids in families are programmed to fight with each other, the good news is that parents have the power to facilitate learning.

According to a recent study, sibling fights teach kids important conflict resolution skills. In fact, parents who stop their children from arguing may well be depriving them of important learning opportunities. Researcher Laurie Kramer from the University of Illinois in the US found that kids who learned how to argue with their siblings had more advanced emotional development.

Many parents also worry that their children who fight with each other will not get along as adults. The evidence doesn’t support this view. The test for strong families is more about the willingness for kids to pull together when the chips are down, rather than the frequency of the squabbling.

Healthy families know how to fight well. When parents take an active approach to helping their children resolve their fights, they are teaching them a valuable life skill as well as reducing the incidence of fighting over the long term. Here are some practical strategies to use:

Model good conflict resolution skills

Kids learn by example when it comes to solving disputes. Some kids will yell, get abusive or even get physical when they are settling disputes. Show them better ways of sorting out problems by talking things through with your partner, compromising and apologising when you’ve said something upsetting to your partner or your children.

Help kids manage their emotions

“Yep, it would make me mad too if someone said that to me.” Usually someone’s feelings get hurt when siblings argue so make sure you recognise their emotions without taking sides. This focus on feelings helps kids develop emotional literacy and promotes empathy in siblings as well.

Monitor sibling relationships

Keep your antenna up for the signs of discord within sibling relationships. Some disputes kids can sort out themselves, but you need to be ready to intervene and assist kids in the peace-brokering, or at least to act as a safety net when one child continually appears on the wrong end of a power imbalance.

Mentor them to sort out disputes

Kids need the chance to sort their conflict out themselves, but sometimes they need a little coaching. They often invite their parents to take sides, which is usually counter-productive. Rather than trying to sort out who started an argument, focus on possible solutions, provide suggestions such as taking turns, giving way, bargaining, swapping or even walking away.

Encourage them to make up

Kids often get over disputes far quicker than adults. They can be squabbling one minute and cuddling up the next, so it gets tricky intervening sometimes. However there are times when you need to encourage a child to mend bridges with an aggrieved sibling. This can mean kids have to swallow their pride, admit that they may be wrong, make an apology or make some sort of restitution such as doing a special favour. This type of restoration means kids must take responsibility for their behaviours and is a sign of growing maturity.

Conflict and siblings tend to go together. While sibling squabbles can be annoying, they also offer parents great opportunities to help kids to handle conflict effectively, which is a great life skill.

Related webinar

Our school has a membership with Parenting Ideas. As part of this membership, you can access the below webinar recording 'Sibling Fighting' at no cost.

Spend an hour with renowned parenting educator Michael Grose as he explores the weird and wonderful world of sibling relationships. He'll help you develop an active approach to resolving sibling disputes so they learn valuable life skills.

To redeem:

1. Click this link: <https://www.parentingideas.com.au/parent-resources/parent-webinars/sibling-fighting-what-to-do>
2. Click 'Add to cart'
3. Click 'View cart'
4. Enter the voucher code HARMONY and click 'Apply.' The \$37 discount will then be applied
5. Click 'Proceed to checkout'
6. Fill in your account details including our school's name to verify your eligibility. These are the details you will use to login to your account and access your webinar and resources
7. Click 'Place Order'

This voucher is valid until 5 May 2020.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's an award-winning speaker and the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation*, and the bestselling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. Michael is a former teacher with 15 years experience, and has 30 years experience in parenting education. He also holds a Master of Educational Studies from Monash University specialising in parenting education.