

BEACON PRIMARY SCHOOL



ANNUAL REPORT

2020



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From the Principal

2020 was definitely a tumultuous year around the world, and, although we are relatively sheltered in our region, the effects were felt at Beacon Primary School. In an unusual year in which students were asked to stay at home to end Term 1, parents were provided the option of sending their children back to school or utilising remote learning for the first three weeks of Term 2, there were restrictions on visitors onto school sites, and an increased cleaning regime, these unprecedented times didn't have a huge impact on students thank to the flexibility and resilience of the school community.

The School Council continued to be productive with the endorsement of the School Budget, the Strategic Plan and the Staff Dress Code. The P&C, while unable to undertake major fundraising activities, still provided invaluable support to the school. The P&C stepped up to cover in the absence of a cleaner, to support the school in hosting the DISA Athletics, through a busy bee to construct the new shed, and in providing funding towards the cost of additional shade for an outdoor learning space for the Junior Room.

Looking ahead to 2021, it's exciting to see 2 new Kindy students enrolled, however it is likely that we will see a drop in numbers due to families relocating to Perth. It is also likely that we will see some staff turnover which, although sad to be losing some of our dedicated team, also provides an exciting opportunity for our school with the input of new ideas and ways of teaching.

We will continue our focus on the School Agreements of Mutual Respect, Attentive Listening, Appreciations – no put downs, and Personal Best; the common language that will enable us to continue to build a safe and supportive learning environment.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the Beacon Primary School staff for their flexibility and resilience throughout what was a challenging year. Throughout this all their dedication, passion and commitment to our students never wavered. I would also like to acknowledge our students and the school community for their understanding, support, flexibility and compassion throughout the year. It is years like this that remind me how privileged and extremely proud I am to be the Principal of such a wonderful school.

Craig Lewington

Principal 2020



From the School Council Chair

During the course of the 2020 school year the School Council, in conjunction with the school, strived to make informed and strategic decisions to ensure that all students continue to develop their skills and knowledge for the future. This was done under pandemic conditions for the first time with Covid-19 affecting all walks of life.

During the school year the Council's other roles and responsibilities included:

- Regular review of the school finances;
- Approval of the School Budget;
- Review the annual survey
- Reviewed and Updated policies.
- Training in Current Governance Procedures in relationship to School Councils

The makeup of the School Council changed slightly this year. We farewelled the teacher representative Kristy Cope and sincerely thank her for her contribution and commitment to the school during her tenure on the Council. We welcomed her replacement, Genevieve Stewart onto the Council and we look forward to new perspectives and her ongoing commitment to the School Council.

Mr Lewington and Mrs Munns undertook the Education department training in effective school Councils. It was quite informative, and a number of recommendations from the training were implemented straight away.

On behalf of the School Council, I would like to pay tribute to all the staff of Beacon Primary led by Principal Craig Lewington. It was a year in which everyone had to be adaptable and resilient in the face of the pandemic. Hopefully 2021 will not be as eventful.

Vanessa Munns
School Council Chair



Our Vision

To provide a safe and committed learning environment where students are guided to achieve their optimal potential through innovative and responsive practices.

Our Moral Purpose

To provide the students with the opportunity to attain their optimal educational, emotional and social potential through our knowledge, expertise, commitment and professionalism in a safe, relaxed and enjoyable environment in partnership with all stakeholders.



Our School

Established in 1932, Beacon Primary School has offered continuous primary school education for generations of students in our isolated farming community that comprises of vast cropping land and sheep. The majority of our students live on farms and travel to and from school by bus.

We have developed strong partnerships with parents and the wider community. We value the strength of these partnerships and the important role they play in growing our children and supporting our school. We work collaboratively with the Shire of Mt Marshall, neighbouring schools and their respective towns to provide opportunities for our students that promote diverse experiences in a wider social context that would otherwise be limited due to our size and remoteness of location.

Our educational program focuses on literacy and numeracy development with an increasing focus on STEM. Small class sizes allow us to focus on the learning needs of each child with differentiated learning programs. Staff strive to develop engaging environments and learning programs that are designed to challenge students to achieve their best.

It is important to us that each child feels happy, valued and academically challenged when they are at school. Through our school agreements, we encourage students to be respectful, attentive listeners who share appreciations and always strive for their personal best. A priority for us at Beacon Primary School is to prepare our students for their future – both academically and socially.

At Beacon Primary School you can expect to:

See our students learning enthusiastically in a broad range of activities. They will be demonstrating a strong work ethic and showing pride in their achievements. This will be happening in different settings across the school.

Hear children in the playground who are enjoying games. There will be confident and expressive children and encouragement from friends. Hear the tones of laughter and celebration and praise from teachers.

Feel valued and welcomed into our school. Our family friendly culture ensures a safe and secure environment for all where we hope you will become involved in our vibrant Beacon community.

Have our friendly office staff attend to your needs. Our committed, progressive, enthusiastic teachers and support staff will work with you and your child to achieve personal excellence. Our staff has high expectations and adopts a wide range of effective teaching methods and strategies.

School Enrolment

Student numbers decreased for the commencement of 2021 with several families relocating to Perth. Our school numbers remain fairly consistent due to the stable population of the wider community. Projected student numbers maintain our student population at or around 15 for the coming years with perhaps a slight increase in 2022.

Year	2018 February Census	2018 August Census	2019 February Census	2019 August Census	2020 February Census	2020 August Census
Kindergarten	4	4	1	2	2	2
Pre-primary	2	2	4	4	4	4
Year 1-6	17	17	13	12	15	14
Total:	23	23	18	18	21	20



A Year in Review

2020 was a year of great uncertainty which impacted on the activities and events involving Beacon Primary School.

There were 21 students enrolled to start the year, 13 in the Junior Room and 8 in the Senior Room.

Some of the highlights from the year include:

Term 1

The term started full of promise with the excitement of 6 new Kindy students. The whole school engaged with a unit of Bees which saw bee friendly gardens established and 'bee hotels' pop up to support these vital elements of the ecosystem.

The 2020 DISA Swimming Carnival, hosted by Trayning PS, followed the new format aimed at catering for participation as well as competition. The day was hugely successful.

Our Student Leaders, Jasmine Faulkner and Marcus Slater, attended the National Young Leaders Day in Perth and came away inspired by other young people who achieved or are leaders in their field.



The Fremantle Literacy Centre visited for a two day exploration of picture books and sessions on how to write and illustrate a book.

Students were visited by Mr Germ and school nurse Sue Copeland to learn about the importance of hand hygiene.

The second half of Term 1 was greatly impacted by restrictions, and effectively became an 8 week term with parents being asked to keep their students home for the final two weeks to allow for the development of remote learning programs to start Term 2.



Term 2

Term 2 started with the parents being afforded the option to have their children attend school or to participate in remote learning for the first three weeks. This meant we were running dual learning programs – face to face for 75% of students with the other 25% accessing remote learning – a huge accomplishment for all staff and well supported by those families off-site.

Some major works around the school occurred including:

- the construction of a shade structure over the Tree of Life
- the painting of the entire school as part of the State Government's high priority maintenance and minor works program.
- The installation of phase 2 of the junior play space thanks to the Federal Government's Locla Schools Community Fund



The entire school participated in the National Simultaneous Storytime and joined schools students from across the country to read 'Whitney and Britney Chicken Divas', written and illustrated by Lucinda Gifford.





Mrs Lumsden and the Junior Room students explored the Past and Present which included a visit to the Beacon Museum at the CRC and an opportunity to dress up in clothes from a bygone era to culminate the learning program.

Term 3

After being postponed, the DISA Cross Country went ahead in Week 3 of Term 4. All students acquitted themselves to the challenge and there were some outstanding personal bests achieved on the day which saw us finish in 2nd place. Two of our students also performed extremely well to finish in the top three for their age groups – Jack de San Miguel and Patrick Murray-de San Miguel



Senior Room students participated in several social skills sessions with Mrs Kaye Bell aimed at the concept that we're stronger as a group because of our differences, not in spite of them. Year 5 and 6 students also participated in the Growth and Development sessions with Mrs Copeland.



Beacon hosted a highly successful DISA Athletics, managing to include more events than ever before and still manage to run ahead of schedule. A fantastic effort by all involved and one that received much positive feedback from around the region. Congratulations also to all students for making the most of the opportunities across the day and for receiving the points-adjusted shield. Special mention must go to Jack de San Miguel, Patrick Murray-de San Miguel and Marcus Slater on their individual achievements.

In what proved to be a busy last few weeks of term for the Senior Room, our Year 3-6 students joined with the other Ninghan schools for the Winter Sport Development Day. The day, which was postponed from earlier in the year, included skill development and modified games of hockey, netball and football. Senior Room students also visited the solar and wind farms at Merredin as part of their Circuit Breakers program in what was an extremely insightful day exploring the energy assets of our region. Senior Room students hosted their parents to an International Day. Miss Piller and Mrs Beagley, guided the students to research, write and present information on a country of choice. Preparation for the International Day included each student cooking a dish from their chosen country to share with the parents following the presentations.

Junior Room students hosted their assembly with the highlight being their presentation of 'Give me a Home Among the Gum Trees' and a range of facts on native animals. An enlightening and entertaining assembly.



To round off the term, our students headed over to Bencubbin PS for the annual Cultural Day. This year the focus was on indigenous art, dance, language and cooking and again proved to be one of the most thoroughly enjoyed events of the year.



Term 4



Our Year 5/6 students joined those from Bencubbin, Koorda, Nungarin and Trayning for camp at the Swan Valley Adventure Centre. It was a fantastic opportunity to develop independence and build relationships with students from across the district and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Junior Room students engaged with Indigenous culture for NAIDOC 2020, guided by Mrs Olsson, as they explored the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags, created aboriginal style cave paintings.

Our Year 4 and 5 student leadership nominees were coached by Jasmine Faulkner, the outgoing School Captain, to assist them with their decision to nominate and what being a leader at Beacon PS entails.

The Junior Room welcomed the pre-kindergarten students for 2 days of transition. Mrs Stewart did an outstanding job of coordinating the orientation days and ensured that our 2 newest students were prepared for Kindergarten in 2021.

Miss Piller was acknowledged for her commitment to our school at the ILN Awards Night.

Students from Pre-primary to Year 6 completed two weeks of Interm Swimming at Mukinbudin Aquatic Centre. Once again, it was fantastic to see students striving to improve their swimming technique with new strokes and increase their stamina to swim the required distance, all with the aim of achieving their goal.

The annual School Concert was hosted on site for the first time in many years in response to restrictions on the numbers attending gatherings. The stage was perfect given the last minute change of venue, as were the conditions on the night. The school community were treated to a performance of 'Great Cosmic Rescue Mission'. The performance was extremely entertaining. Congratulations to all staff and students on such a wonderful event to round out the year, acknowledge the progress and achievement of some of our students, and wish our graduates well as they embark on the next part of their educational journey.



Once again, the last day of school was a celebration of the school year with a hamburger lunch prepared and cooked by the Graduates. Following this, was the Whole School Reward water fun afternoon including water fights and a serious soaking by the Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade truck.



Staff Appointments and Characteristics:

All teaching staff meet the professional requirements to teach in Western Australian public schools and can be found on the public register of teachers of the Teacher Registration Board of Western Australia.

Beacon Primary School consists of a full time level 3 Principal; 1 full time teacher and 3 part time teachers; 1 part time Education Assistant; Manager, Corporate Services; part time School/Library Officer; Cleaner and a contract Gardener. Each staff member possesses a range of experience, interests, knowledge and expertise that enables them to contribute to enhancing the educational outcomes of the students through a variety of roles.

School Partnerships

School Council

The Beacon Primary School – School Council comprises two parent representatives, a community representative, staff representative and the Principal. The School Council is formed with the fundamental purpose of enabling parents and members of the community to engage in activities that are in the best interests of students and that will enhance the education provided by the school. School Council meetings were conducted at least once per term.

2020 achievements:

- Endorsed Beacon Primary School - 2019 Annual School Report
- Endorsed Beacon Primary School – Budget 2020
- Contributed to and endorsed Beacon Primary School Staff Dress Code
- Reviewed Beacon Primary School Council Terms of Reference
- Endorsed Contributions and Charges for 2021

Parents and Citizens Association

Beacon Primary School has a dedicated group of parents at the core of the P&C who actively ensure the school is well resourced. The P&C provide funding for resources and experiences which supports the school in continuing to offer outstanding teaching and learning programs. In 2020, despite not being able to undertake major fundraising activities, the P&C still had a strong presence around the school. P&C members supported with the cleaning of the school in the absence of a cleaner, organised and attended busy bees to prepare for DISA Athletics, construct a shed and repair the Tree of Life. The P&C has also agreed to contribute financially towards extending the shelter to create an outdoors learning space for the Junior Room.

Once again, the engagement of our parent body is testament to their commitment to our school and we look forward to this continuing in 2021.



Student Council 2020

The Beacon Primary School student leadership team coordinated assemblies and special events, including a Remembrance Day observance, and hosted awards assemblies and the end of year concert/graduation. They also welcomed special guests, assisted staff with preparing for activities and events, and representing the school at special ceremonies and occasions.

Destination of 2020 Year 6 Graduates for 2021

Merredin College; St Mary's Anglican Girls School.

2020 Priority Areas

- Priority 1 – Raise standards in English for every student.
Move from high progress, low achievement to high progress, high achievement.
- Priority 2 – Raise standards in Mathematics for every student.
Move from high progress, low achievement to high progress, high achievement.
- Priority 3 - To build resilience and social skills, and to promote positive behaviours.

Minor Priority Areas will be:

Reading Comprehension across the school

Problem Solving in Mathematics across the school

HASS skills

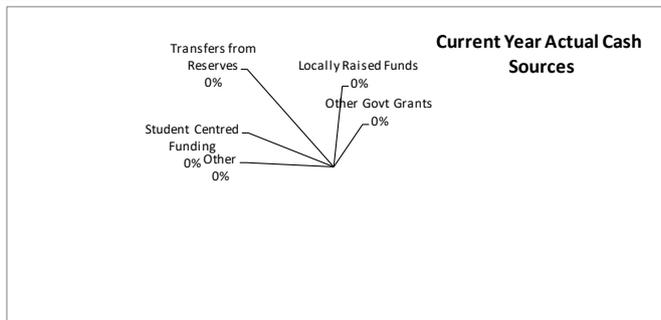
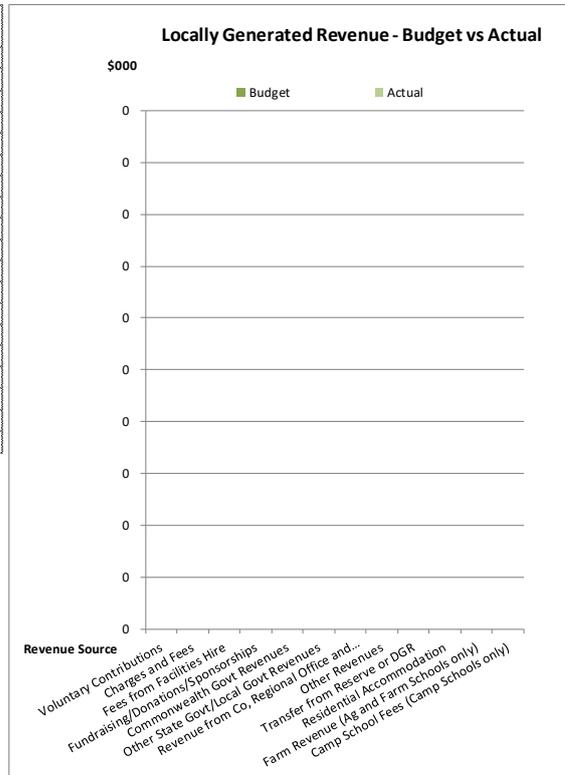


School Financial Summary

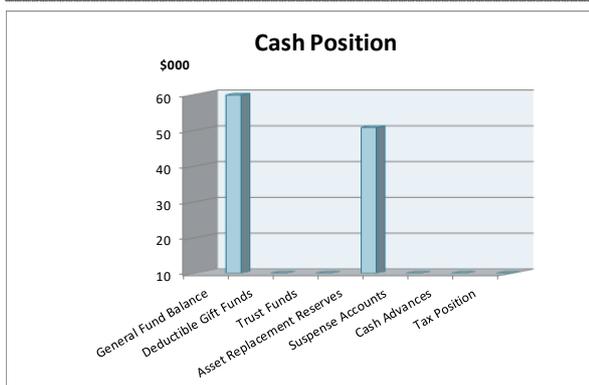
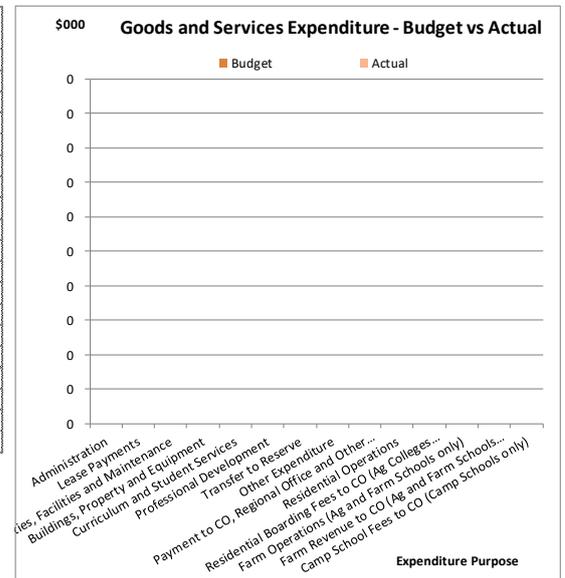


Beacon PS Financial Summary as at 31 December 2020

	Revenue - Cash & Salary Allocation	Budget	Actual
1	Voluntary Contributions	\$ -	\$ -
2	Charges and Fees	\$ -	\$ -
3	Fees from Facilities Hire	\$ -	\$ -
4	Fundraising/Donations/Sponsorships	\$ -	\$ -
5	Commonwealth Govt Revenues	\$ -	\$ -
6	Other State Govt/Local Govt Revenues	\$ -	\$ -
7	Revenue from Co, Regional Office and Other Schools	\$ -	\$ -
8	Other Revenues	\$ -	\$ -
9	Transfer from Reserve or DGR	\$ -	\$ -
10	Residential Accommodation	\$ -	\$ -
11	Farm Revenue (Ag and Farm Schools only)	\$ -	\$ -
12	Camp School Fees (Camp Schools only)	\$ -	\$ -
	Total Locally Raised Funds	\$ -	\$ -
	Opening Balance	\$ -	\$ 59,784.33
	Student Centred Funding	\$ -	\$ -
	Total Cash Funds Available	\$ -	\$ 59,784.33
	Total Salary Allocation	\$ -	\$ -
	Total Funds Available	\$ -	\$ 59,784.33



	Expenditure - Cash and Salary	Budget	Actual
1	Administration	\$ -	\$ -
2	Lease Payments	\$ -	\$ -
3	Utilities, Facilities and Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -
4	Buildings, Property and Equipment	\$ -	\$ -
5	Curriculum and Student Services	\$ -	\$ -
6	Professional Development	\$ -	\$ -
7	Transfer to Reserve	\$ -	\$ -
8	Other Expenditure	\$ -	\$ -
9	Payment to CO, Regional Office and Other Schools	\$ -	\$ -
10	Residential Operations	\$ -	\$ -
11	Residential Boarding Fees to CO (Ag Colleges only)	\$ -	\$ -
12	Farm Operations (Ag and Farm Schools only)	\$ -	\$ -
13	Farm Revenue to CO (Ag and Farm Schools only)	\$ -	\$ -
14	Camp School Fees to CO (Camp Schools only)	\$ -	\$ -
	Total Goods and Services Expenditure	\$ -	\$ -
	Total Forecast Salary Expenditure	\$ -	\$ -
	Total Expenditure	\$ -	\$ -
	Cash Budget Variance	\$ -	\$ -



Cash Position as at:	
Bank Balance	\$ 110,119.38
Made up of:	\$ -
1 General Fund Balance	\$ 59,784.33
2 Deductible Gift Funds	\$ -
3 Trust Funds	\$ -
4 Asset Replacement Reserves	\$ 50,727.05
5 Suspense Accounts	\$ -
6 Cash Advances	\$ -
7 Tax Position	\$ (392.00)
Total Bank Balance	\$ 110,119.38

School Council Endorsement

This Annual Report for 2020 is endorsed by the Beacon Primary School Council;



Mr Craig Lewington – Principal



Mrs Vanessa Munns – Parent, School Council Chair

