BEAUMARIS NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

EXTENSION, ENRICHMENT & TALENT PROGRAM

The Beaumaris North Primary School Extension, Enrichment and Talent Program is known as the 'BEET' program. The BEET program runs a variety of extension programs from Foundation to Year 6, across a wide variety of subjects which vary according to the needs of our talented students.

Junior BEET Program

The Foundation to Year 2 BEET program is run by Ms Karen Watts, an expert teacher with years of experience within the field of Gifted Education. Current programs in Foundation to Year 2 BEET program include;

Extension Mathematics: Students in the Maths Extension explore areas of mathematics beyond the Year Level curriculum. The course offers opportunities to stretch their knowledge across the breadth of Mathematics, as well as aspects above their year level. The focus is on the strategies used to solve a problem, and develop their thought process.

Extension Literacy: Students attending this program are reading well beyond the standard Year Level expectation. These groups are learning a range of specific skills to further their understanding of what they are reading, and develop deeper understandings of texts presented.

Senior BEET Program

The Year 3 to Year 6 BEET program is run by Miss Shennae Searle who holds a Masters of Education specialising in Gifted Education. Shennae is also an active member of the Gifted Education community.

Current programs in the Year 3 – 6 BEET Program include;

Extension Mathematics (3, 4, 5 & 6): Students are grouped across ability levels and engage in a variety of extension mathematics. As all students participate in differentiated Mathematics programs across their year level, extension programs tend to focus on developing thinking and metacognition skills, higher order thinking problems and strategies, and advanced mathematics (relevant to each cohort). Extension Mathematics students have the opportunity to participate in Maths Olympiad* and other inter-school based Maths challenges throughout the year.

Extension Writing (3, 4, 5 & 6): Each group has the opportunity to develop specific, targeted and in depth writing skills across several genres as specified in each child's IEP (Individual Education Plan). The IEP states the goals of the Unit such as the development of personification, audience and structure. Students are strongly encouraged to participate in writing workshops and competitions throughout the year, and have their writing published in local community publications. The senior students are working towards having their Children's Story books published, and the beautiful descriptive writing undertaken by our Year 3 and 4 students can be viewed in our school newsletters.

Thinking skills (Years 3 & 4): Our thinkers are thoroughly enjoying learning explicit thinking skills, and applying them to a range of challenges. Who taught you how to think? It is a skill we assume people acquire, however at BNPS we teach our BEET Thinkers a variety of thinking skills and strategies such as De Bono's 6 Thinking Hats, Bloom's Taxonomy and Gardner's Multiple Intelligences. The students get to explore different situations to apply these thinking strategies in individual and group settings. Students work on logic problems and dissect real life mystery scenarios.

Science, Technology & Engineering (Years 5 & 6): The current Engineering Unit has seen our Year 5 and 6 engineers take their knowledge of the 6 Simple Machines and apply them to real world situations. They constructed catapults to demonstrate their knowledge of levers. The school needed a new ramp at the entrance of the school, so our engineers learnt all about ramps, calculating gradient and the Australian Standards for constructing ramps. After their initial measurements came the design and testing process and the completed ramps (with safe gradients) have been submitted to the Principal for consideration. Their work is on display in the Office, and the BEET room. The students have used technology to bring their designs to life, using the Sketch Up program. Coding workshops are also offered in our Lunchtime Programs. Science units offered are fluid, variable and based on students' real life interests and community and school based projects. The science units offered are standalone units and do not overlap the Science taught in each year level.

Reading, Thinking & Comprehension (Years 5 & 6): Our talented readers prompted an extension program for students working well above their indicative level in reading and comprehension. A combination of thinking and inferential strategies are explicitly taught, and then put into practice in a variety of texts. An exposure to a wide variety of quality literature, poetry and philosophy help extend our student's depth of understanding, as well as equipping them with exceptional transferable reading comprehension skills and strategies.