Benarkin State School hosts a playgroup every Wednesday morning, from 9-11.30am, for all parents and children from 0-5 years. Trudy, our qualified staff member from Bush Kids, structures lessons around books, giving children of all ages an opportunity for academic growth through play.

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

With exhausted students, it is often easy at the end of the term to allow your child to have days off. We really need to push on, getting every last bit of work out of our students. As you can see by our calendar, next term is filling up quickly.

**Regional Expectation** - Every Student Succeeding

**Benarkin State School Priorities** - Reading, Numeracy, Spelling, Attendance, Behaviour

**Required Attendance** 92.2% - Our Attendance 93.9%

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**Next Meeting:**
Monday 18th April 3.15 pm

Easter Raffle tickets have been sent home on Tuesday. Please return any unsold tickets to the school.

Drawn 24th March

Winners will be notified

Next term we will have a Mothers Day raffle & activities.

**FREE PARENT WORKSHOP**

**TO BE HELD AT:** NABAWOO HLS, 66 Grafton Street

**ON:** Monday 19th March 2018, 9:00am

**WORKSHOP:**

BUILDING STRONG PARENTS

Stronger Parents = Stronger Families

**ABOUT: Building Strong Parents**

This free workshop focuses on parents and caring professionals developing the resilience - learning the ability to bounce back when times are hard.

The workshop sessions will look at topics such as:
- Positive Emotions
- Living Gratitude
- Exploring Thinking Patterns
- Building Better Habits for Wellbeing

**What’s On at Blackbutt Library**

It’s never too early to talk, read and tell stories.

Join us for stories at Blackbutt Library.

**Story Time**

Wednesday 6 April 2016 at 11:00am “In the Garden”

Wednesday 13 April 2016 at 11:00am “Australian Animals”

**Furniture Upgrade**

Our application to have our furniture upgraded has been successful. We will be receiving 40 new student desks and 40 new student chairs in the near future. The bright blue and orange décor will make a huge difference to how our classrooms look, but also provide more ergonomic furniture to help our students to do their best work.

**Benarkin State School**

**Learning and Growing Together**
Social and Emotional Learning

KidsMatter emphasises teaching social and emotional learning as a way of promoting children’s mental health. Social and emotional learning provides practical skills that all children can learn and apply to everyday situations. Learning skills such as self-awareness, effective communication and conflict resolution can also help to prevent the development of mental health difficulties in children who might otherwise be vulnerable. In this way teaching children social and emotional skills helps to promote resilience – the capacity to cope and stay healthy in spite of the negative things that happen through life.

At Benarkin State School, we implement learning opportunities for social and emotional learning within our PBL lessons. It helps us ensure that from year to year children can build social and emotional skills that are

Get Microsoft Office 2016 free of charge

Did you know your child can get Microsoft Office 2016 free of charge, just for being a student at Benarkin State School? All you need is your child’s school email address to sign in.

To help prepare your child for success this academic year, the Department of Education and Training has teamed up with Microsoft to provide free Office 2016 to every Queensland state school student. With Office 2016, your child will have access to the latest version of Word for writing, Excel for spreadsheets, PowerPoint for presentations, OneNote for organisation and notetaking, and much more.

You can install a complete version of the latest Microsoft Office on up to five compatible PCs and Macs, five tablets and five smartphones. Your Office subscription lasts for as long as your child is a state school student.

Ask at the office for instructions on how to download !!!

Working Bee!

On Friday 8th and Saturday 9th April, Benarkin State School will be holding a Working Bee.

We have several projects that we need our wonderful family and community to help with. Some of these are:

- A roof over our chicken house to stop the nasty crows stealing our eggs
- Development of our special ANZAC commemorative garden so we can plant our Lone Pine
- Cementing a small section of garden bed near the classroom

Lunch will be provided for anyone that can come and help us in our adventures. (Children are welcome, but must be supervised by parents.)

Please contact Kim or Christine to put your name down for catering purposes.

Cheesy Fish Cakes

1 large can of Tuna or Salmon
3 large Potatoes
¼ cup of frozen peas
⅛ cup frozen or fresh corn
¼ cup of grated cheese
1 egg

Directions

Peel, chop and boil potatoes until soft.
Drain and mash set aside till cool a little.
Add peas, corn and cheese combine well.
Add drained fish combine and form into patties.
Shallow fry 3 minutes on each side in a little oil.

Why not try?

Lunch for your superhero!

When sending your learning superhero to school with meats, dairy or cooked food remind them to use the students fridge for their lunch boxes below is advice from www.healthier.qld.gov.au/foodsafety

The bacteria that causes food poisoning thrives at temperatures between five and sixty degrees Celsius. It’s called the temperature danger zone. So hot food should be kept at 60 degrees or hotter. And cold food should be kept at 5 degrees or colder. Now if food sits within this zone for longer than four hours, it becomes unsafe and should be thrown out. So make sure you put left overs in the fridge right after they’ve finished steaming.

And make sure your fridge is operating properly at five degrees or colder. And as a chilly rule of thumb, food in your freezer should be frozen solid. Playing it safe with food only takes a few seconds and it’s always worth it.