



June 2022

//EO Message

It is with great enthusiasm I am writing my first newsletter update.

I would like to begin with a huge thank you to Kate Roach, the outgoing EO. Kate has done an unbelievable job building this organisation over her time at the helm. She is leaving some very big shoes to fill. Rachel, Rob and myself wish Kate all the best for her new role at Leadership Great South Coast, we know she will do amazing things there.

While the last few months at BTB have been a whirlwind of information and meeting, I am excited about the opportunities we have to make a difference to the opportunities for children and young people across south west Victoria.

I am very happy to announce BTB has received funding for the *Future Me* initiative. This program will support students at risk of disengagement at secondary school to continue with their education or explore pathway opportunities to employment.

The *Youth Conversations* and *Teach the Teacher* are continuing to provide young people with the opportunity to continue a conversation about their education and visions for community. It is amazing to be providing them with the opportunity to have their voices heard.

If you would like to discuss an initiative that aligns to our vision and purpose, please contact us on info@btb.org.au.

Davina Forth
Executive Officer



//Future Me

BTB was extremely happy to receive funding from the Federal Government, through the Safer Communities Fund, to commence the "Future Me" program.

Designed to support 12 to 19 year old students at risk of disengaging with education. The program works in conjunction with secondary schools and agencies to build capacity in students to continue with their education or training in order to pursue employment and career pathways.

Future Me will to promote connection and engagement with education and learning, in line with Beyond the Bell's vision.

Students in this initiative are divided into two cohorts:

12 to 14 years: This cohort investigates how their current schooling will connect to future pathways to employment or further education, with the goal to enhance the meaningfulness of education and training.

15 to 19 years: This cohort focuses more comprehensively on individual career pathways post school, including the education and training pathways to chosen careers.

Intended Outcomes:

1. Increase student self-efficacy in learning,
2. Increase student motivation to attend school,
3. Build student knowledge of career pathways, including required education and/or training,
4. Increase student self-efficacy in employment (15 to 19 year old cohort).

//Youth Conversations update

The first meeting of the Youth Conversation Reference Group was held on March 28, with nine passionate young people living across the Great South Coast.

Working with project officer Rachel Wilks and former BTB executive officer Kate Roach, the group:

- Spent time getting to know each other through a series of icebreaker and introduction activities
- Examined the nine recommendations from the Youth Conversation Research Report
- And shared their thoughts on the recommendations they were drawn to, and why these were the most important to them.

A second meeting on May 2 explored the specific recommendations selected by the reference group members to consider how implementation may look.

They also heard from guest speaker Karen Walsh, from YACVIC, regarding their personal strengths and how to highlight them, and options for future training to help in the delivery of this Youth Conversations project.

//Engagement in Learning - 'Teach the Teacher'

The Engagement in Learning-Glenelg Phase 2 'Teach the Teacher' Project successfully conducted the first workshop on the February 23. Hosted by Heywood Consolidated School, the program had 40 year 4-6 students representing eight primary schools from across the Glenelg Shire participating and sharing their experience.

Schools involved include:

- Bolwarra Primary School
- Bundarra Primary School
- Casterton Primary School
- Dartmoor Primary Schools
- Heywood Consolidated School
- Merino Consolidated School
- Portland North Primary School
- Narrawong Primary School

The 'Teach the Teacher' program will consist of 5 workshops across the year, supported by Victorian Student Representative Council (VicSRC). The aim of the program is to embed student voice in developing school practices resulting in long term cultural change. The program allows students to drive change at school by collecting thoughts and opinions of their peers and leading collaborative conversations with teachers, school leadership and staff.

In a coup for the region, this is only the second time that multiple schools across a shire have participated together in the ten years Teach the Teacher has operated. Usually, schools participate individually in the program.

We look forward to the next workshop in May.

This project is an initiative of the BtB Glenelg Local Action Group.





//School Readiness Campaign

It is always important to give children the best start possible to their education, and this begins in a great kindergarten.

All kindergartens across south west Victoria are now accepting applications for their 2023 programs. Applications for council-run programs can be made via appropriate local government website - just search for 'kindergarten enrolment'.

Applications can also be made now for the local state-run primary school, approach your local school to find out more information.



//Membership

Become a member of Beyond the Bell. Membership entitles invitation to special events and voting rights the AGM. Most importantly, membership assists in the delivery of Beyond the Bell activities and programs which are all aimed at supporting children and young people to succeed in education.

\$10 – Yearly Individual Membership

\$50 – Yearly Organisation Membership

\$2 – Concession

(NB: Membership is for financial year 1 July 2021-30 June 2022)

Beyond the Bell
Great South Coast Ltd

MEMBERSHIP

\$50

Yearly
organisational
membership

\$10

Yearly
individual
membership

\$2

Yearly
concession
membership

Membership year runs from
1 July – 30 June annually
Membership entitles invitation to
special events and voting rights
at the AGM.

find out more
www.btb.org.au / info@btb.org.au



*Our children and young people;
every choice; every chance*

PURPOSE

To actively work with communities to enable children and young people in South West Victoria to engage in education and successfully transition through key stages of their learning.

VISION

All children and young people are connected to education and engaged in their learning.

visit btb.org.au

Want to get involved with Beyond the Bell?

Please email info@btb.org.au to discuss the possibilities.



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