School Overview

Our goals are to improve student achievement in all the key learning areas, to promote and maintain a positive, caring, and safe environment that encourages self-esteem, a mutual respect for others and engenders active community participation; and to improve student transition and learning opportunities from home/ kindergarten to primary school and from primary to secondary school. We have set ourselves the following targets to be achieved in the term of our strategic plan:-

- 100% of students in Year 2 will maintain or exceed levels in Literacy achieved in 2008.
- At least 85% of students will achieve at or above their expected levels in reading and writing.
- NAPLAN- school means in number & mathematics will exceed like school and state and national benchmarks.
- Improved student engagement in other curriculum areas over the term of the Charter.
- To reduce the number and frequency of playground accidents.
- Days absent to be no greater than the state mean at each year level by 2009
- Parent opinion to be above the state benchmark.
- The proportion of parents reporting satisfaction with the kindergarten to school transition and orientation program to be 95% or above by 2009.

In 2008 we set out to:-

i. Enhance teaching and learning across the curriculum by developing school-wide principles of learning and teaching which included:-
   - conducting POLT component mapping and develop school action plan.
   - developing unit plans consistent with POLT and Effective Teaching and Learning methodologies.
   - auditing current units against VELS; retaining what is valuable and removing what is not.
   - Develop whole school numeracy plan.
   - increasing the emphasis placed upon writing across the school.
   - all children at or above year 3 to have efficient keyboarding skills.
   - Installing Interactive Whiteboards into each classroom, including digital cameras in each room.
   - Pass and become an accredited performance and development school.

ii. Develop a culture of student involvement and participation in decision making through programs such as:-
   - ‘You Can Do It’ and Healthy Relationships to be a focus at all year levels.
   - Implement the ‘Go For Your Life’ Program.
   - A whole school approach to social skills using such programs as ‘Friendly Kids Friendly Classrooms’ and the ‘Games Factory’
   - Employing a welfare officer to gain greater insights into student voice and concerns.
   - Student Representative Council (SRC).

iii. Have Year 6 students involved in ‘Buddy programs’, which included:-
   - a buddy system between Year 6 and Prep students.
   - holding an annual Year 6 & Year 9 Buddy Day to establish relationships.
   - participating in a buddy based activity in December.
   - a range of activities in which Year 6 students are exposed to secondary teaching staff and procedures.
Student enrolments –

In 2008, the year commenced with a census enrolment of 121 students. During the year our numbers went to 127 and this is where we finished at the end of term 4 2008. Over all our numbers are increasing. We are expecting 131 students in 2009 and 138 students in 2010.

Parent Satisfaction –

Parental satisfaction with our school remains high. This reflects the commitment the community has to the school and the partnership that enables the school to participate in many innovative and exciting programs. Close liaison between the class teachers and the parents enables us to ensure that the student progress and achievement remain a high priority. In 2008 we had an increase in parent satisfaction. We are confident that the school structures and behavioural management strategies that we have put in place will see the parent satisfaction continue to increase in 2009.
Commonwealth Requirements

**Teacher Satisfaction**
The average score for teacher satisfaction (morale) at this school was 96.5%, against a state median score of 80.2%. The response rate 96.5% was a significant increase from 2008. In 2009 we will be endeavouring to maintain our high standards.

**Teacher Absence**
In 2008 the average number of days in absent per teacher was 6.01 days. These absentees do not take into account long service leave, leave without pay and work cover leave.

**Teacher Retention**
Of the 10 teaching staff at Mount Beauty Primary School at June 2007 (including those on leave without pay), 8 or 80% were still at the school at June 2008. This figure across Government schools was 84%.

**Teacher participation in professional learning**
All teaching staff have participated in professional learning throughout the year, such as the Innovations and Excellence programs, the Induction / Mentoring program for Beginning Teachers and in house PD on literacy, numeracy and behavioural management.

**Teacher Qualifications**
Principal’s Report

We commenced the year with 121 students and increased this number to 127 by the end of term 4. The 2009 census has us with 136 students, an increase of 14 from 2007. We expect this to increase to 140+ in 2010.

Achievements which distinguish our school from others include:-
- high achievement rates of students in literacy and numeracy.
- students who consistently perform well in regional/state/national sporting events such as skiing, swimming and athletics.
- a highly supportive and hard working community who support the school, its teachers and students in all endeavours.
- a committed team of teachers who provide a caring and outstanding education for their students.
- a commitment from our school community towards a school that supports a sustainable future in activities like Planet Savers, Go for Your Life and rubbish free lunches everyday.

Some of the highlights of 2008 included:-
- The installation of 8 Interactive Whiteboards.
- The purchase of 8 digital cameras, one for each classroom.
- We received $40,000 to train staff in Easiteach software that is used on the IWB's.
- New tear shape tables for the year 6 classroom.
- The interior painting of years 3,4,5,6 and Library rooms.
- Improving the fall surfaces in the playground.
- The installation of new soccer goals for the year 5 and 6 soccer oval.
- Swimming and athletics carnival with UKV schools making combined teams for the third year running.
- An open evening was held in recognition of Education Week. This was very well attended and children took great pleasure in demonstrating their learning and showing their parents what they did at school.
- Our parent club and canteen were recognised by several awards. In particular we won the State award for canteen volunteer of the year.
- Parents Club continued to raise funds, culminating in a very successful ski sale in June. Funds were used to support our camps(excursion program).
- Our Student, staff and parent data all increased from 2007.
School Council President's Report

The 2008 School year was a very busy and successful year for every one involved at the school. To cover everything that has happened in the school over the last 12 months would require far more words than I care to write. I would like to take this opportunity to mention a few highlights.

The introduction of the Interactive Whiteboards into each classroom is of major significance. Teachers and Students now have the ability to bring the world into the classroom and use this technology to enhance the learning experience of our children. I would like to commend Tony for having the drive and foresight to bring this expensive project to school council. I would also like to commend my fellow councillors for getting behind the principal and approving the expenditure. It was a bold and risky decision but one that, I believe, will have a long lasting payback for the future education of the Students at the school. I also want to congratulate the staff for embracing this new and innovative technology; undertaking the necessary training and lesson development that was needed to ensure that the introduction of the Whiteboards was a success.

There have also been some new faces about the school with 3 new staff members, Emily, Dave and Stacey joining the teaching staff in 2008. In 2007 we had 3 new staff members and a new principal. This has meant a significant change in staff over a two-year period, which could have been quite disruptive. What has impressed me the most is the way all the staff have worked through this transitional phase and at the same time achieved some excellent results. The staff has worked very hard to achieve the Performance and Development Culture Accreditation required by the Department. This is a significant achievement. It means that the school now has a structure and culture focussed on ongoing and continuous improvement. The Numeracy Assessment and Planning module developed by the staff, has been adopted by the regional head office as a model to be implemented in other schools. We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated and professional group of teachers at our school.

Academically the students are achieving excellent results as measured against national benchmarks. Survey data taken during the year indicates that the students, staff and parents are on the whole happy at the school and the trending is all in the positive direction. I know from my informal discussions with Tony that he and the staff are not resting on their laurels and are looking to achieve even better results in 2009.

The Schools approach to Environmental Awareness and Health and Wellbeing have been outstanding. These are such important factors in a holistic approach to the education of our children. The community water grant and the energy audit have yielded significant savings in water and electricity consumption saving money and giving invaluable awareness of these issues for the students. This has been so successful; the school has been invited to participate in a solar schools pilot project by the Victorian Government in 2009. The school was awarded a “healthy bones” award and has been accredited as a “go for your life school”. Many students participated in zone and state sports carnivals across a variety of sports, performing very well and representing the school with distinction. Well done to Heather Rookes who won the Voluntary Canteen Manager of the year award for the healthy and nutritious food provided by the Parent Club in the school canteen. While on the Parent Club, I would like to thank them for all their voluntary work in raising much needed funds for special projects and school trips.

Looking forward into 2009 there is a lot to be excited about with the commencement of a consultative process on the future outlook of education in the Kiewa Valley Cluster. The start of an OSHC service provided to all 3 Primary Schools in the valley being run by Mount Beauty Primary School.

I would like to congratulate the Staff and Students for all that they have achieved in 2008. Well Done!!

Iain Moore
School Council President
Mount Beauty Primary School
Student Progress & Achievements

Student Learning

Percentage of Year 3 students achieving at or above the National Minimum Standards.
- In reading, 90% of students in Year 3 were at or above the expected standards.
- In Writing, 100% of students in Year 3 were at or above the expected standards.
- In Spelling, 100% of students in Year 3 were at or above the expected standards.
- In Numeracy, 100% of students in Year 3 were at or above the expected standards.
- In Grammar and Punctuation, 100% of students in Year 3 were at or above the expected standards.

![Year 3 Data Chart]

Percentage of Year 5 students achieving at or above the National Minimum Standards.
- In reading, 92.3% of students in Year 5 were at or above the expected standards.
- In Writing, 100% of students in Year 5 were at or above the expected standards.
- In Spelling, 92.9% of students in Year 5 were at or above the expected standards.
- In Numeracy, 100% of students in Year 5 were at or above the expected standards.
- In Grammar and Punctuation, 100% of students in Year 5 were at or above the expected standards.

![Year 5 Data Chart]
Student Engagement and Wellbeing

Our goal was to improve student transition and learning opportunities from home/kindergarten to primary school and from primary to secondary school. 100% of our Year 6 exiting students went to Mount Beauty Secondary College. Through the Innovations and Excellence initiative a number of transition programs have established a strong bond between the schools, the students and teachers within both schools.

“The Enhanced Transition Program comprises a number of separate activities:-

- Teacher Shadowing - Year 7 staff are encouraged to visit the year 5/6 classroom in term 4.
- Setting up student and teacher resource centres in general secondary classrooms.
- Transition Days - During term 2, year 5 and year 6 students from each of the feeder primary schools mix as they spend a day attending a special program of lessons at the Secondary College.
- Year 6 and Year 9 Buddy Day: In October, each year 6 student was paired with a year 9 student (of similar interests/backgrounds where possible) for a day of outdoor activities at Bogong Outdoor Education Centre.
- Orientation Day at the Secondary College for year 6 students and their parents in December. (Pre-existing program).
- Transition days run in semester one for years 5 and 6.
- Kindergarten to School transition programs have been well received by the community. School familiarity visits have become a feature of our bond with the kindergarten. The ‘buddy system’ has been highly praised by parents as an excellent way of easing Prep children into school.

Average number of absent days per student –

Our annual implementation plan set out to reduce the average number of absent days per student. Regular articles in the newsletter emphasising the importance of regular attendance and the direct contact with parents who had children with higher absenteeism impacted slightly upon student absence. Average number of absent days per student has slightly risen in 2008. In 2007 “It’s not OK to be Away” home notes went home to parents, this program continued in 2008. Accompanying these included an explanation regarding absenteeism.

Even with the best of intentions, and the fact Mount Beauty is a tourist town where parents who have a local business take their holidays outside of school holidays, our school absenteeism remains very high when matched with the other schools in Victoria. We are in the bottom 20th percentile in the state.
Student's attitude to school

The Students Attitudes to School Survey is used to gauge the level of student connectedness to school. Students were asked to identify the extent they agreed with each of five statements (I feel good about being a student at this school, I like school this year, I am happy to be at this school, I feel I belong at this school, I look forward to going to school) on a scale where 1= strongly disagree and 5= strongly agree.

Overall the data showed that students had a relatively strong connectedness to school at Mount Beauty. There were aspects of classroom behaviour that were low in the 2008 survey that were addressed in terms three and four of 2008. Furthermore we have changed our school structure in the year 5 and 6 area to encourage and improve student classroom behaviour. We believe that these changes have certainly worked so far in 2008.

It is worth noting that the questions in the student attitudes to school survey include many double negative questions that unfortunately trip up many students. In note of this, we spend considerable time with the students trying to explain each question. On a whole you can see in the table below that student school connectedness has improved in 2008. We are working very hard to ensure this trend continues in 2009.
Future Directions

In 2009 we have set our targets at and above those achieved in 2008. The following is a summary of these targets from the 2009 Annual Implementation Plan:

- At least 85% of all students will achieve at or above their expected levels in reading and writing.
- NAPLAN school means in number and mathematics will exceed national benchmarks.
- 20% improvement in student engagement in music and performing arts as a result specialist programs.
- 5% reduction in playground accidents from 2008.
- Days absent to be 5% less than 2008.
- The proportion of parents reporting satisfaction with the kindergarten to school transition and orientation program to be 90% or above.
- 95% of Prep Students reading at level 1 with 90 to 99% accuracy.
- 95% of Prep Students reading at level 5 with 90 to 99% accuracy.
- 100% of students in year 3 and 5 to be above the 25th percentile in spelling in the National Assessment Program.
- Maintain our high standards in curriculum co-ordination, appraisal and recognition, professional growth and goal congruence in the staff opinion survey.
- A cluster plan developed with Falls Creek PS, Mount Beauty SC, Tawonga PS, BOEC and Dederang PS that looks at the sharing of resources.
- Development of Yackapaca for student ePortfolios.

Ground Improvements

In 2009 we will be improving our grounds via:
- Installation of a 5.9 kilowatt solar system directly linked with the grid.
- Developing the outside area for the year 3 and 4 class.
- Painting the exterior of the year 5, year 6 and Library buildings.
- New play equipment, replacing the older style treated pine.

Classroom Improvements

In 2009 we will:
- Look at designing a whole school plan in readiness for the Federal Governments promise for funding to Primary Schools for infrastructure developments.
- Looking at the purchase of new furniture for all classrooms.

Cultural Improvements

In 2009 we will be introducing the concept that the school is a National Park. That is the students look after the school grounds like we would look after a National Park.

Provision

There is no doubt that the school community needs to take a serious look at provision. The Region is keen for Cluster groups to become the new voices and to pool resources together. In 2009 the Upper Kiewa Valley Schools will be holding several meetings in order to look at and develop an educational provisional document to be presented to Region. We are hoping that this document will put us in a situation where when funding opportunities arrive we have the ability to apply and the support of Region.
## Financial Performance and Position

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Performance – Operating Statement Summary</th>
<th>for the year ending 31st December, 2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>2008 Actual</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>DE&amp;T Grants</td>
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<td>Commonwealth Government Grants</td>
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<td>State Government Grants</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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<td>Locally Raised Funds</td>
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<td><strong>Total Operating Revenue</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Expenditure</strong></td>
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<td>Salaries and Allowances</td>
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<td>Consumables</td>
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<td>Health and Personal Development</td>
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<td>Trading and Fundraising</td>
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<td>Support/Service</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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<td><strong>Total Operating Expenditure</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Net Operating Surplus/-Deficit</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Capital Expenditure</strong></td>
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Please note that the above amounts do not include any credit revenue or expenditure allocated or spent by the school through its Student Resource Package.
## Financial Position as at 31st December, 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funds Available</th>
<th>2008 Actual</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High Yield Investment Account</td>
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<td>Official Account</td>
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<td>Other Bank Accounts (listed individually)</td>
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<td><strong>Total Funds Available</strong></td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Financial Commitments</th>
<th>2008 Actual</th>
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<td>School Operating Reserve</td>
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<td>Co-operative Bank Account</td>
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<td>Assets or Equipment Replacement &lt; 12 months</td>
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<td>Revenue Received in Advance</td>
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<td>Building/Grounds including SMS &lt; 12 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Region/Clusters Funds/School Based Programs &lt; 12 months</td>
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<td>Provision Accounts &lt; 12 months</td>
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<td>Repayable to DEECD</td>
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<td>Other Recurrent Expenditure (Accounts Payable)</td>
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<td>Assets or Equipment Replacement &gt; 12 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building/Grounds including SMS &gt; 12 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Region/Clusters Funds/School Based Programs &gt; 12 months</td>
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<td>Provision Accounts &gt; 12 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-operative loan &gt; 12 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beneficiary/Memorial Accounts</td>
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<td><strong>Total Financial Commitments</strong></td>
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## School Contact Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Address:</strong></th>
<th>PO Box 34, Mount Beauty, 3699.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Principal:</strong></td>
<td>Tony Keeble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>School Council President:</strong></td>
<td>Iain Moore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Telephone:</strong></td>
<td>03 57544354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Email:</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:keeble.anthony.j@edumail.vic.gov.au">keeble.anthony.j@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Web site:</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.mountbeautyps.vic.gov.au">www.mountbeautyps.vic.gov.au</a></td>
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