BENALLA P-12 STUDENTS ENJOY THE OUTDOOR EDUCATION SCHOOL AT 15 MILE CREEK

A large group of students in Year Eight attended an Outdoors Camp at 15 Mile Creek for the week. The theme of the camp was ‘Challenge and Grow’ and the curriculum was designed to foster resilience and develop an understanding of a sustainable environment.

The students were split into 4 groups and worked with one teacher from the 15 Mile Creek School (as well as a Benalla P-12 College teacher) for the whole week. They worked through a number of different activities including bushwalking, night walks, orienteering, mountain biking, canoeing, rock climbing, abseiling, team building activities and raft building.

All groups that attend 15 Mile Creek participate in ‘community give back’. This is a scheme where students have the opportunity to give back to the camp community. This includes working in the vegetable garden, building furniture out of natural resources, eg. split logs and branches and also maintaining equipment.

The daily routine consisted of individual groups setting up for meals and cleaning up afterwards each day, with all students eating together in table groups and being responsible for clearing the table of their dishes. Also included each day was a pair of students from each group giving the daily weather report (to remind students to be prepared for the climate), and also at the end of the day giving the power rangers report, this included how much energy was used by the camp and how much energy the solar panels generated.

The students dined on locally resourced and camp grown food, student Brie said ‘There was a good variety of healthy food to teach students that healthy food was yummy.

Students in each group were given the chance to work as a team and to help each other through some of the new challenges offered. Challenges were readily accepted and all students were able to participate in at least some part of each activity.