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ITEM ID: 1169874297



10 SEP, 2019

## Daisy the cow helping students with tactile, creative learning

Dairy Australia Your Levy at Work

Border Mail, Albury-Wodonga

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## Daisy the cow helping students with tactile, creative learning

BELVOIR Special School students are channeling their inner Picasso with their new friend Daisy.

The students are painting and decorating a fibreglass cow, voted by the students to be named Daisy, as part of the Dairy Australia Picasso Cows program.

Art teacher Naomi Middleton said the school "jumped" at the opportunity to be involved.

"I have been involved with the Picasso Cows project for a while but it just hasn't been available in our area before now so we jumped at the opportunity to be involved," she said.

"It is a program they run to encourage healthy eating and learn about the dairy industry.

"We had kids learn how to use dairy in their cooking and for some groups it is just about trying different textures, so it is a great opportunity for our students to try different sensory things like taste and touch."

It started with a design process, as well as voting on a name, and Ms Middleton said the students "had to have a black and white cow".

"We discussed how the cows

have been decorated in the past and came up with our own design," she said.

"We had other groups doing the other stuff in the

doing the other stuff in the classroom learning about nutrition but also experimenting with milk and creating artworks with milk.

"They love it, it is so exciting.

"We have one student who comes in and milks her every week and the kids talk to her and feed her and play

with her. She really comes to life in their mind so it is really great for them to use that imagination as well during class."

Daisy will eventually be "yarn-bombed" and "go to live" out the front of the school.

- VIVIENNE JONES



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MISS DAISY: Belvoir Special School junior students Christian Wallace, Jackson Hodgkin and Jasper Voll with Daisy. Picture: JAMES WILTSHIRE