Since 2004 the Bendigo Regional Institute of TAFE students have worked with the students of ENPS conducting classes in the bush area. They have taught the children about the natural environment surrounding the school. The bush area contains multiple species both flora and fauna, some are locally rare that the school is eager to preserve. In 2005 students worked with a few parents to plant the hill and the areas in the front bush. In 2006/07 an application was submitted to the Biodiversity group at the Bendigo Department of Sustainability and Environment. The grant was successful and work began in 2007/08 to erect a fence to protect the rare species within the bush. We had many parents involved with this project and two signs have been created which are on the gate and the lower part of the fenced area.

**Our Outdoor Classroom will be an ongoing project.** We are in the process of creating gardens within the Outdoor Classroom which include some of the species found within the fenced bush area. The plants will be signed so the children can learn what the plants are. There will be a pathway created through a small section of the bush where plants will also be signed so the students can learn the plants as they go through.

Since the Outdoor Classroom has been established it has been used by various teachers and their students as a different environment for learning general educational subjects. This gives the children a change of scenery and a new aspect of education for the school.