



Birregurra Primary School Newsletter

'Living & Learning Together'

Term 1, Week 10 – 30th March 2026

Birregurra Primary School is a child safe organisation which welcomes all children, young people and their families.

We are committed to providing environments where our students are safe and feel safe, where their participation is valued, their views respected, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. Our child safe policies, strategies and practices are inclusive of the needs of all children and students.

We have no tolerance for child abuse and take proactive steps to identify and manage any risks of harm to students in our school environments. Particular attention is given to the child safety needs of Aboriginal students, those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, international students, students with disabilities, those unable to live at home, children and young people who identify as LGBTIQ+ and other students experiencing risk or vulnerability. Child safety is a shared responsibility.

Our Vision

An inclusive community that supports and encourages a love of learning and the skills and mindset to thrive.

Our School Values

Community - growing positive partnerships between school, home and the broader community

Aspire - setting goals and purposefully working towards their achievement

Respect - for self, others, learning and our environment

Excellence - striving for the highest personal achievement in all aspects of schooling.

From the Principal's Desk



Welcome to the final week of Term One. It has been a highly productive term, with many successes across both teaching and learning. Classroom routines and structures are now well in place, and it is pleasing to see the growth each student has made, both academically and personally.

As the term draws to a close, it provides a valuable opportunity for reflection. Throughout the term, our school community has engaged in a wide range of learning experiences, extracurricular activities and enriching opportunities, including:

- ❖ Whole school community welcome BBQ
- ❖ Junior & Senior Learning Community Parent Information Sessions
- ❖ Parent/Teacher conversations
- ❖ Student Leadership nominations & elections including School Captains, House Captains & JSC representatives
- ❖ Breakfast Club, every Thursday morning
- ❖ Lunch Orders, every Friday
- ❖ Polwarth Athletics Day @ Alvie PS
- ❖ Colac Division Athletics @ Colac Reserve
- ❖ Clean Up Australia Day
- ❖ Parents & Friends meeting @ the Birre Grocer
- ❖ NAPLAN for our Grade 3s & 5s
- ❖ Somers Camp (selected senior students)
- ❖ School Council elections
- ❖ Cultural Week celebrations
- ❖ National Ride 2 School Day
- ❖ Greater Western Swimming (selected students)
- ❖ Birregurra PS House Athletics Day
- ❖ Birregurra PS Cross Country – this week for years 3-6!
- ❖ Easter Raffle, egg hunt and hat parade this week!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our staff, along with the many parents, volunteers and community members who have supported our school throughout the first term. Our staff have engaged in a range of professional learning opportunities, enabling us to reflect on and refine our practice, and to continue strengthening teaching and learning for our students. We are also grateful to our parents, friends and community members who have supported events and activities and contributed to meetings focused on enhancing the learning programs and environment at Birregurra Primary School. Your collective support helps ensure the opportunities we provide are rich and varied.

School Council – March meeting

At School Council on Monday 23rd March, office bearers for the 2026 school year were finalised. I am pleased to announce the following parents were elected to these leadership positions:

- **President** – Kelly Dodds
- **Vice President** – Sarah Green

School Councillors – Kelly Dodds, Emily McDonald, Cassie Stephens, Sarah Green, Katie Delahunty, Belinda Matheson, Alistair Burrell, Jaymie Lowe.

- **Treasurer** – Emily McDonald
- Kate Leigh will be minutes secretary

We also established this year's Sub Committees. Subcommittees are advisory bodies to the school council. They assist council with performing their duties and functions and are generally established to support school council in specific areas. Subcommittee membership is open to non-school council members providing the opportunity for the school community to be involved in school council matters. Subcommittees must consist of at least 1 member of the school council & 3 members overall. They meet as directed by the school council.

Our Sub Committees this year are:

- Building & Grounds
- Curriculum
- Finance
- Fundraising & Social

If you would like to get involved with any of these Sub Committees, please let either myself or one of our school council members know.

At our general meeting, Principal, Finance, Buildings & Grounds, Junior School Council and P & F reports were presented and accepted. The main items discussed included:

- Athletics Program
- NAPLAN
- Our upcoming swimming program
- Somers Camp
- Recovery Funding – mental health & wellbeing support
- Child Safety
- Staff Professional Learning outlined
- Curriculum Reports from classroom teachers

We also ratified finance reports for February. The Cash Handling, Child Safe Standards Risk Register, Electronic Funds Management and School Purchasing Card policies were approved and endorsed by school council.

Our next school council meeting is scheduled for **Monday 18th of May**.

[2025 Annual Report](#)

The 2025 Annual Report was also presented and approved by school council last Monday. Once this has been approved by the Department of Education it will be available on our school website for the school community to read. This report, mandatory for all schools annually, offers a comprehensive overview of the performance of each State Government School in Victoria relative to others, factoring in socio-economic demographics. Compiled by the Department of Education, the comparison encompasses various datasets which cover teacher assessments of academic progress, NAPLAN outcomes, student, staff, and parent perceptions, as well as student attendance. Our report indicates that we are rated in front of the State and similar schools in most categories. As a school community, we should take great pride in the quality of education provided to our students.

[House Sports](#)

What a fantastic day we had on Friday at our annual House Sports! Despite a drizzly start, the weather held off, allowing us to get through all of our events. It was wonderful to see our House Leaders step up during the team events, offering encouragement and guidance to their teammates.

Congratulations to all Houses for their incredible efforts, with a special mention to Skene House who were the overall winners of the day by only 4 points! Well done to the students who were named age champions, and a big thank you to the parents and students who helped out, both at events and as age group marshals.

A shoutout to Dave and the TheirCare team for organising and cooking the sausage sizzle. It was a fantastic day for all, made even better by the wonderful support from our community members who came along to cheer on our students!





Birregurra Cross Country

Our annual school cross country will take place this **Wednesday 1st of April**. Once again, we are lucky to have the use of the Birregurra Golf Course. Students will leave the school at 1.40pm and return at approximately 3:00pm. All students in the nine and above age group participate in this event. Children will walk to the event and are required to wear their sports uniform, hat, and bring a water bottle. If any

parents would like to join us as a marshal along the course, we would appreciate your support.

Term 1 Reports

Following feedback from our school review, Term 1 reports have been introduced this year. These reports provide a brief snapshot of student learning during the first term and are designed to support timely communication with families.

They include tick boxes that indicate students' skills, effort & behaviour, and task completion, offering a simple overview of progress and engagement in learning. This approach aims to give families an early insight into how their child is settling into the year and progressing against key expectations. Reports will be distributed this Wednesday. A XUNO notification will be sent once available.

Easter Celebrations

A friendly reminder that Easter raffle tickets are due back by this Wednesday and the raffle will be drawn at assembly on Thursday afternoon. A huge thanks to everyone that donated towards the raffle, your support is very much appreciated.

To celebrate the end of a successful term, our JSC will be hosting an Easter egg hunt and encouraging students to wear a splash of Easter on Friday. This could include bunny ears, an Easter T-shirt, or an Easter hat. No gold coin is required. We will also be holding our Easter Hat Parade on the netball/basketball court at 9.00am on Thursday. Students are encouraged to create and wear an Easter themed hat, and families are warmly invited to join us and enjoy the parade together.

Finally, our hot cross bun orders should arrive today. Keep an eye out on XUNO for an update!

Tea towel Fundraiser

We are pleased to share a preview of the final design of our tea towel with the school community. We think it looks fabulous and is a wonderful memento of the year, capturing a snapshot of our students' creativity. Orders are now open, with more information provided in the newsletter regarding how to place your order.



Farewell Mrs Rogers

Today is Mrs Rogers' last day before commencing leave to welcome her baby. We wish Kelly and her family all the very best during this exciting time.

We thank her for her wonderful work in STEAM throughout the second half of last year and this term and look forward to hearing the wonderful news soon. We appreciate her positive contribution to student learning and the engaging experiences she has provided for our students.

We welcome back Mr Simpson in Term 2, replacing Mrs Rogers teaching STEAM to our Prep/1, 1/2, 2/3 and 3/4 classes.



Last Day of Term

A reminder to parents and students that the last day of Term One is this **Thursday 2nd of April**. School will finish at 2.15pm and the school buses have been notified.

Term Two begins on **Monday 20th of April**.

Wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday period and Happy Easter. As always please reach out if you have any questions, queries or feedback.

Jess Kattwinkel & team 😊

Dates for the Diary...

Wednesday 1 st April	- Raffle tickets due back!
Thursday 2 nd April	- Breakfast Club 8.15am - Easter Hat parade 9:00am - Assembly, 1:45pm, 1/2 Class Presentations - Last day of Term 1, 2:15pm finish
TERM 2	
Monday 20 th April	- Term 2 commences
Thursday 23 rd April	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 24 th April	- Swimming Program commences
Tuesday 28 th April	- Polwarth Cross Country - selected students
Thursday 30 th April	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 1 st May	- Swimming - Assembly 2.45pm, Prep/1 Class Presentations



Wishing the following
students a very

Happy Birthday

April

1st Evie L

6th Tim S

10th Jack L

12th Freddie L

14th Zoe G

15th Charlie G

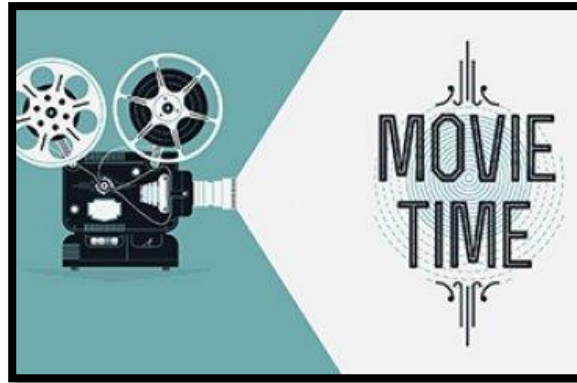


Free School Holiday Activities

Keeping the kids entertained during the school holidays without spending a stack of money can sometimes be difficult. This week I've attached information around a bunch of free activities on offer from Geelong Regional Libraries that will both entertain the kids and not break the bank account!

Book now to secure your child's place in one or more of the fabulous school holiday activities. There are a large range of free activities on offer with events suitable for young children through to activities tailored for young adults. Bookings: <http://www.grlc.vic.gov.au/whats-on>

- Brendan King



Birregurra Primary School Tours

Come and experience first hand why Birregurra Primary School is a great choice for your child.

Join us for an information session and school tour -

Tuesday 12th May 9.0am, or
Monday 18th May 11.30am

Bookings are essential. Please use the QR code or use the link below to register.



<https://forms.gle/JDgXmdj6QUhprdmKA>



For more information please visit our website www.birregurraps.vic.edu.au



BPS House Sports - Age Champions



BIRREGURRA PRIMARY ISC

EASTER HAT PARADE

9AM THURSDAY 2ND APRIL | SCHOOL NETBALL
COURT

PRIZES TO BE WON

MAKE A HAT THAT'S BRIGHT AND FUNNY
ADD SOME EGGS OR MAYBE A BUNNY
TALL OR TINY, WIDE OR FLAT
WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOUR HAT!



We are fundraising with tea towels and creating lasting memories!

Dear Parent/Caregiver,

Birregurra Primary School is running a Tea Towel Fundraiser. Our limited-edition Tea Towel design will be made up of self-portraits drawn by all our children and staff. Just like a yearbook on a tea towel. The pictures and names will be arranged all together as a commemorative design then screen printed onto certified organic 100% cotton 50x70cm tea towels.

As well as being great for lint free dish drying, the tea towels look fantastic and are a long-lasting memento of your children and their friends. They make great gifts that are easily mailed to relatives, so make sure you order a few extras for family members and your keepsake box.

The kids just love seeing their artwork in print. By purchasing our tea towels you are not only receiving a practical keepsake, you're also helping to achieve our fundraising goal, which would not be possible without your support!

The price per towel is \$20 each.

The Tea Towel print run is limited so make sure you, your family and friends don't miss out. There is an example tea towel on display at the office for you to see the quality and size.

Tea towels can be ordered by completing the form below or sending an email to the school email address at birregurra.ps@education.vic.gov.au. Payment can be made by cash, EFTPOS or direct deposit.

Final Orders are due: 2nd April.

If you have any questions, you can contact the school on 52362222.

TEA TOWEL ORDER FORM

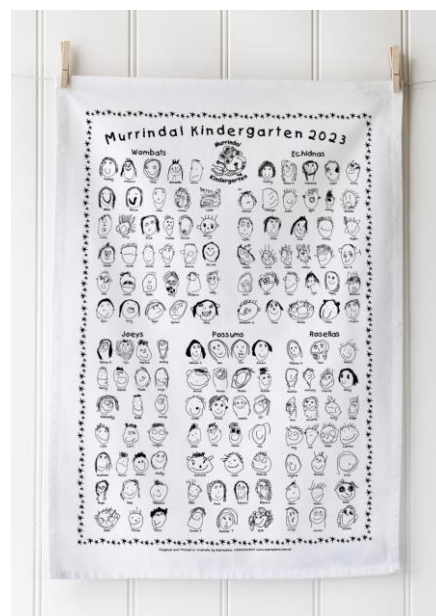
Caregiver Name: _____

Contact Number: _____

Student Name: _____

Class: _____

Order Quantity: _____ Total enclosed \$ _____



“ New location ”

Hop on over for our
Birregurra Preschool community

EASTER

Egg hunt

Join us on
Saturday 4th April at 10am
for some egg-citing fun!

Christ Church gardens

\$2 per child on the day,
thank you!

GOLF FOR WOMEN & GIRLS

WHEN

Sundays 1.30pm
Weekly clinics followed by
a social game on the course

WHERE

Birregurra Golf Club

Commences Sunday 3rd May 2026

Join us for a fun, weekly event.

Beginners and players at all levels
are welcome.

Each week we will learn and practise
one new golf skill; putting, chipping,
driving, fairway play, rules of golf,
and more.

This will be followed by a fun game on
the course, then champagne (or soft
drinks) and nibbles.

This is a social event aimed at
encouraging women and girls to give
golf a try by participating in a fun,
friendly & encouraging environment.

WOMEN & GIRLS OF ALL AGES

(GIRLS UNDER 15 TO BE
ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT)

NEW TO GOLF?
RETURNING TO
GOLF?
OR JUST CURIOUS

COST

\$10 per session
Girls under 15 - Free

Non members welcome
Golf Clubs can be provided

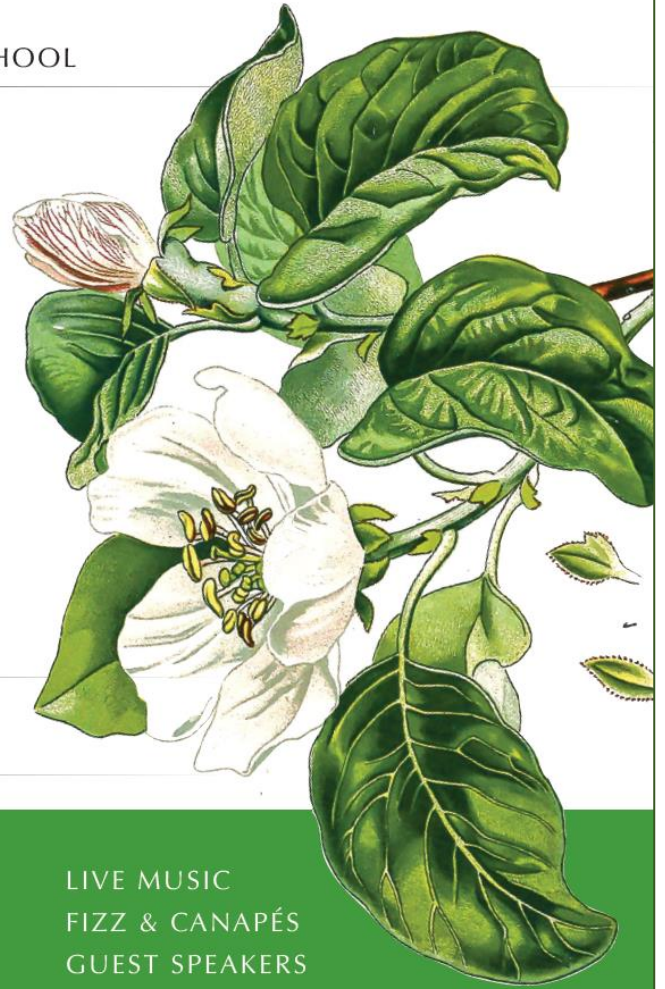
For more information and to book
in, call or text:

Marion 0400 373 011
Lil 0409 362 257
or
Jude 0425 773070

FUNDRAISER FOR BIRREGURRA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Otways Women's Day

Saturday 31 October 2026



Save the Date
Details to follow...

LIVE MUSIC
FIZZ & CANAPÉS
GUEST SPEAKERS
AUCTION & RAFFLES