



Birregurra Primary School Newsletter

'Living & Learning Together'

Term 1, Week 3 – 12th February 2024

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 Week Three! I trust everyone relished the delightful sunshine over the weekend, and our students are geared up for another week of learning here at BPS. It's been wonderful to step into classrooms and observe the high level of engagement from our students so early in the school year. Well done to everyone!



Welcome BBQ- Thanks

Thanks to those that were able to attend our Welcome BBQ last Wednesday. We were fortunate to have a lovely sunny evening to get together and welcome in the school year. It was wonderful to mingle amongst new and familiar faces and catch up in an informal setting. Special thanks to our dedicated teachers for taking charge of the barbecue and cooking up those delicious sausages!

Parent Information Sessions



Last Monday we hosted our Parent Information session for P-2. Thanks to the families who were able to attend, we trust that you gained valuable insights from the session. The Junior Learning Community Information Booklet has been distributed to all Prep-2 families through XUNO. If you have any queries regarding the content, feel free to reach out to our junior team.

Tonight, from 6:00 to 7:00 pm, we will be conducting the Parent Information Session for Grades 3-6 in the Multi-Purpose Room. We hope to see you there!

2024 Student Leadership Roles

This morning, our senior students (5/6) presented their leadership speeches in the Multi-Purpose Room to the school community. As I listened to them addressing their peers, teachers, and parents, it was evident that they had dedicated time and effort to their speeches. Speaking in front of a large audience can be intimidating for many, but our students expressed themselves with confidence and composure. A huge thanks to the parents that came along to support our students, I know they certainly appreciated your support and encouragement!

Our Year 3 & 4 students will deliver their JSC speeches to their individual classes this week. Leadership positions will then be announced to students early next week and badges will be presented at our next assembly.

Parent Teacher Conversations

Parent/teacher conversations are scheduled to take place over the phone after school this **Tuesday 13th, and Wednesday 14th February** as well as next **Tuesday 20th, and Wednesday 21st February** from 3:30- 4:30pm.

“A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way.”

John C. Maxwell

School Councillors – Rob Lidgerwood (President) Luke Fitzpatrick, Claire Leeson,

Abbey Gannon, Kelly Dodds, Emma Mezzatesta, Emily McDonald, Alistair Burrell, Brendan King.

Teachers will call parents at the designated time. To secure your preferred time, please make a booking through the XUNO platform.

Parent/teacher conversations provide an excellent opportunity to engage in discussions regarding your child's adjustment to their new class and gather insights into their aspirations for the 2024 school year. We look forward to connecting with families.

Parents & Friends / Parent Helpers 2024

We love having parents support our programs and are seeking parents/carers that may wish to join our Parents & Friends group in 2024. The P & F group operates as support for our school. The aim is to encourage parents and the wider community to be involved in the school, raise necessary funds, and develop links with the children and staff. If you wish to be included in the group for 2024, please fill in the short google form **TODAY** by clicking on the following link - [Parents & Friends Expression of Interest 2024](#). This will help us determine a suitable time to meet. Our goal is to schedule meetings this year with lots of notice so that people can put dates on their calendar.



Clubs

This week, we kick off our 'Clubs' program. Following a successful implementation in 2023, we are thrilled to once again offer students a diverse range of engaging and enriching club activities. Clubs serve as dynamic platforms for students to explore their interests, develop new skills, and foster meaningful connections across the school.

Our multi-age clubs will run fortnightly on Friday afternoons, starting this week from 2:15 pm. Students will have the opportunity to learn more about the clubs early this week and rank them in order of preference. Rest assured that every student is guaranteed to secure one of their top 3 choices!

School Council Nominations

The role of school council is to strengthen community confidence in the school and helps to build and secure the school's reputation. Understanding the distinction in roles and responsibilities between school council and the principal supports the effective and efficient operations of the council and the school. The objectives of a school council are to:

- assist in the efficient governance of the school
- ensure that its decisions affecting students at the school are made having regard, as a primary consideration, to the best interest of **all** students
- enhance the educational opportunities of students at the school
- ensure the school and the council complies with any requirements from the Education Department and associated policies, orders and procedures.

There are 6 parent representatives, 2 staff representatives (school employee category), 2 optional community representatives, plus the Principal, on our current School Council. School Council members do a two-year term. At the end of their term, they can renominate if they would like to do so. Each year, three parent positions and one school employee position becomes vacant. Parent representatives with two-year term completed are:

- Luke Fitzpatrick
- Rob Lidgerwood
- Kelly Dodds

School Council Employee with two-year term completed:

- Brendan King

Community representative with two year term completed:

- Claire Leeson

If you are interested in nominating yourself for school council, please complete a nomination form, which will be available at the office from **Monday 19th February** and attached to next week's newsletter. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you require further information.

Polwarth & House Sports Dates



The annual Polwarth Interschool Sports is set for **Thursday 29th of February**. To prepare students for the athletics, they will practice in their PE/Sports sessions with Mr King and be supported by our House leaders once elected.

Please note, the Polwarth Sports Day requires parents to transport their children to and from this event. This is due to the fact that all staff arrive bright and early in

Alvie to help with the setup. All our staff including education support staff are allocated a role on the day, either running an event, age group official, scorer or first aid officer. Families are welcome to stay and enjoy the day, and we encourage you to bring along a picnic lunch. Please stay tuned for specific times including arrival and dismissal. Our House Sports will take place on **Wednesday 27th March**.

Annual Privacy Reminder for our school community

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#) and the [Schools' Privacy Collection Notice](#).

Our [Photographing, Filming and Recording Students](#) Policy, describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn.

We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use [Google Workspace for Education](#) safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using Google Workspace for Education, please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents](#).

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. The annual CSEF amount per student is \$150 for primary school students. Please contact Mrs Leigh in the office with any queries.

How to Apply

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form. If you applied for CSEF last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

Condolences

On behalf of the Birregurra Primary School community, we extend our heartfelt condolences to the Stewart family on the passing of Kara. As former members of our school family and active members of the Birregurra community, we are deeply saddened by the loss of Kara. Our thoughts and condolences go out to all those affected by this loss. If your child requires any support, please reach out to the school.

Reminders

- PREP students do not come to school on Wednesdays throughout February.
- Please complete all start of year consent forms via XUNO **ASAP**. This includes media consent, local excursions, internet access agreement, viewing consent and school rules. Thanks to those that have already done this!
- Uniform orders are due to the office by this **Friday 16th February**.
- If you, or your child, are riding scooters or bikes to school, it is a requirement that you all wear helmets. It is important that we model the expected road safety laws and behaviours to our students.

- Please note that the school yard is not supervised until 8.40am each morning. We ask that students arrive after this time. If a student needs to arrive before this time for some reason please contact us to let us know. Before school care is available in the Multi-Purpose room with TheirCare. Bookings available at <https://theircare.com.au>

If you have any questions, thoughts or concerns please don't hesitate to contact either myself, the office or your child's teacher. Positive home school partnerships and relationships ensure the best possible outcomes for your children. We value your input and are committed to making our school the best it can be – *safe, fair and friendly for everyone*.

Jess Kattwinkel & team

Dates for the diary ...

2024	
Monday 12 th February	- Gr 3-6 Information Session, 6pm-7pm
Tuesday 13 th February	- Book Club Orders due - Parent /Teacher conversations 3:30pm-4:30pm via phone
Wednesday 14 th February	- No Preps at school - Parent /Teacher conversations 3:30pm-4:30pm via phone
Thursday 15 th February	- Breakfast Club 8.15am - Lunch Orders to be submitted via QuickCliq by 9am
Friday 16 th February	- Uniform Orders due back
Tuesday 20 th February	- Parent / Teacher conversations 3:30pm-4:30pm via phone
Wednesday 21 st February	- No Preps at school - Parent / Teacher conversations 3:30pm-4:30pm via phone
Thursday 22 nd February	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 23 rd February	- Assembly 2.45pm
Monday 26 th February	- School Council 6.30pm
Wednesday 28 th February	- No Preps at school
Thursday 29 th February	- Polwarth Sports @ Alvie Primary School
Friday 1 st March	- PFA Barefoot Bowls, 6pm-9pm
Monday 4 th March	- Clean Up Australia Day
Thursday 7 th March	- Breakfast Club 8.15am - Colac Division Athletics ~ selected students
Friday 8 th March	- Assembly 2.45pm
Monday 11 th March	- Labour Day Public Holiday
Thursday 14 th March	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Monday 25 th March	- School Council 6.00pm
Wednesday 27 th March	- House Sports
Thursday 28 th March	- Breakfast Club - Last Day of Term 1, 2.15pm finish

Students of the Week

Prep	Wyatt M	Well done on a positive start to school. You're enthusiastic, caring and a wonderful classroom helper. Keep up the fabulous work.
	Bobby L	Well done on a fabulous start to Prep Bobby. You are a super listener. Keep up the great work.
Gr 1	Dane L	For your amazing effort building sentences during our word work activity. You have had a wonderful start to Grade One, keep it up!
	Bella C	For your terrific start to Grade One! You have shown such a positive attitude towards school and all your learning tasks. Keep up the great work Bella!
Gr 2	Van B-F	Amazing first week of school Van. You've done a great job sharing your knowledge of recycling.
	Seb R	Great start to Grade 2, Seb. You've shown that you can collaborate with your peers to create informative posters!
Gr 3/4A	Byron S	Well done on a smooth transition into 3/4 A - we are so excited to have you as part of our team!
	Freddie L	Well done for being such a supportive and caring friend to our new class member!
Gr 3/4M	Logan S	What a fantastic start to the school year, you have made a brilliant transition to 3/4M and Birregurra PS.
	Jaxson D	Well done Jaxson for your positive attitude this week and all of the hard work you have put into each of your learning tasks.
Gr 5/6	Angus B	Well done on your fantastic start to the year in the 5% room. Your attitude has been great!
	Hugh F	You have stepped up and been a fantastic role model and leader. Thank you for helping make the prep's settle into school so well.
Italian	Hunter S	For being a very positive class role model in labelling all his worksheets & handouts. Eccellente, Hunter!
	Parker L	For his willingness, with the aid of a dictionary, 'to have a go' at creating sentences in Italiano. Eccellente, Parker!



Principal's Award

Georgia K

For her positive outlook, thoughtful contributions and beautiful greetings every day.

Wishing the following
students
a very Happy Birthday

February

13th

Kate P

16th

Georgia P



Art this week....

How wonderful to be able to get our creative back on at Birre this year ☺, so many ideas!

We have begun the year with recognising our Birregurra Primary community with a variety of ways to create a self-portrait.

The Grade 3/4 were inspired by some Andy Warhol pop art and have embarked on their reverse acetate self-portraits.



The Grade 1 and 2's fine motor skills got a good workout as they began the process of 'squishing' and manipulating modelling clay for their self-portraits.



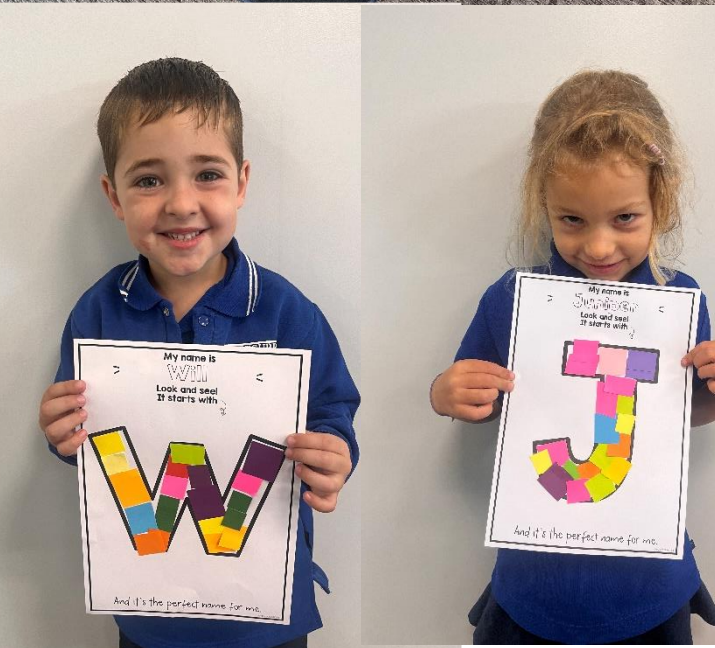
The Prep's thought about line and shape as they added detail to their fine liner self-portraits.



I wonder if you will be able to tell who is who, when they are finished. Looking forward to seeing you all again next week. Mrs KC ☺



Our first few days of Prep...





2024 Welcome BBQ



Birregurra Primary School Barefoot Bowls

Friday 1st March 2024

Birregurra Bowling Club, 58 Roadknight St.

6pm -9pm

BBQ and Bar at Birregurra Bowling Club prices

BYO Nibbles

This is an adults only event!



[Click here to RSVP](#)
by 2nd February 2024

Birregurra Primary School

Uniform Order

Student Name: _____

Parent Name: _____

Contact Number: _____

Item	Sizes Available	Price	Size	Qty	Total
Short Sleeve Polo	4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14	\$23.00			
	16	\$25.00			
Long Sleeve Polo	4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14	\$25.00			
	16	\$27.00			
Hoodie	4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14	\$40.00			
	16	\$45.00			
Windcheater	4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14	\$27.00			
	16	\$32.00			
Bomber Jacket	4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14	\$37.00			
	16	\$40.00			
Rugby Shorts	4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14	\$19.00			
	16	\$21.00			
Microfibre Shorts	4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14	\$19.00			
	16	\$21.00			
Soft Shell Jackets	4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14	\$60.00			
	16	\$70.00			
Double Knee Track Pants with zip pockets	4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14	\$27.00			
	16	\$32.00			
Wide Brim Hat	S, M, L, XL	\$12.00			
Bucket Hat	S, M, L, XL	\$9.00			
School Bag	-	\$55.00	-		
Beanies	One Size	\$20.00	-		
TOTAL					

Orders due back by Friday 16th February 2024

Payment to be made at time of order via Cash, EFTPOS or Direct Deposit.

Direct Deposit details – BSB: 063 510 ACC: 1002 1678 Birregurra Primary School Council

Please contact Mrs Kate Leigh in the office on 5236 2222 if you have any questions.

HELP DAPH BE A SUPERSWIM HERO

FOR SICK KIDS



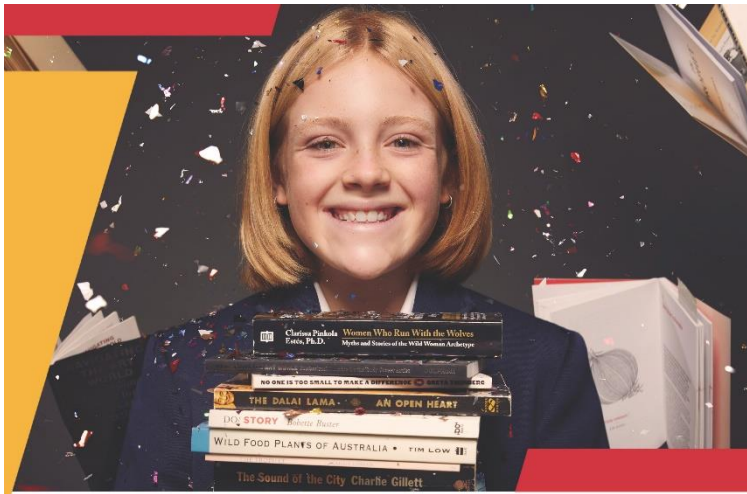
Donate here



This February my sisters and I are raising money for the **Starlight Foundation** by swimming laps. My goal is 1.50 km, I have swum 550m so far. We first knew about this foundation when one of our cousins started working for it as an actress to help kids in hospital feel happy! So please donate to me or my team so we can reach our goal of \$750.

1-29 February

<https://superswim.org.au/d-gazzard>



Year 7 Enrolment Information Evening
Tuesday 5 March, 2024 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm

Open Day Tours

Wednesday 6 March, 2024: 9:30am to 10:30am

**Selected Entry Advanced Learning
Program Information Evening**

Tuesday 26 March, 2024: 6:30pm to 7:30pm

For further information, contact our office on
(03) 4243 0500 or
matthew.flinders.girls.sc@education.vic.gov.au



MFG
Matthew Flinders
Girls Secondary
College



Colac Kana Festival

Saturday 16th of March

Memorial Square Colac

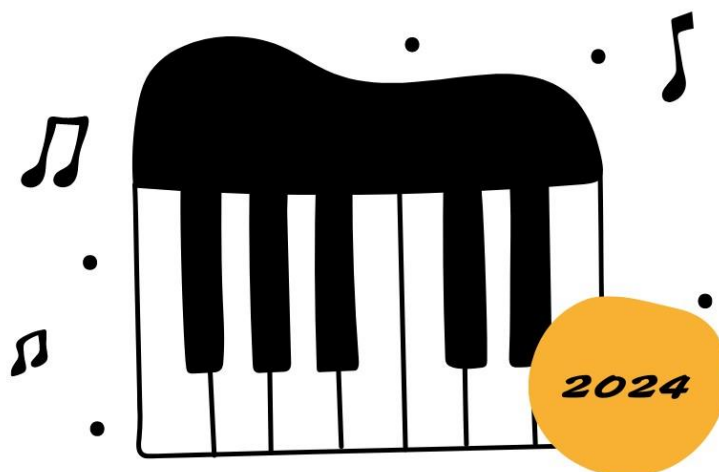
Fair in the Square 10am to 5pm

Street Parade 1pm

For more information email
kanafestivalcolac@hotmail.com or
phone Nicole 0447 715 093



PIANO
Lessons



PAM RADCLIFFE WILL BE CONTINUING TO TAKE PIANO LESSONS THIS YEAR
AND HAS COUPLE OF SPOTS AVAILABLE FOR ANY INTERESTED PEOPLE WHO
MAY WISH THEIR CHILD TO BEGIN LESSONS.

PLEASE CONTACT PAM ON 0427350078 FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO
BOOK A SPOT!

PIANO LESSONS WILL BE ON A MONDAY & TUESDAY IN 2024.