



Birregurra Primary School Newsletter

'Living & Learning Together'

Term 1, Week 4 – 19th 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 Four! I hope everyone enjoyed a restful weekend after some warmer weather last week.

Parent Information Sessions

Thank you to all parents who attended our information sessions over the past couple of weeks. We recognise the demands on family schedules and appreciate your valuable time and dedication. Our aim was for the information shared by our teachers to bring clarity to the methods of teaching, learning, and support at Birregurra Primary School.

It's crucial to emphasise that we view our collaboration as a partnership, and we want you to understand that we consider our roles as privileged positions. We value the trust you place in us each day your children are under our care. Throughout the information sessions, teachers provided insights into essential aspects such as literacy and numeracy instruction, timetables, science and inquiry focuses, community-specific opportunities, health and wellbeing supports, specialist subjects, and homework expectations.

Learning Community Information Booklets have been distributed via XUNO. If you have questions relating to any of the information from either the P-2 or 3-6 information sessions, please don't hesitate to reach out to teachers.

Parent Teacher Conversations

Parent/teacher conversations continue this week on **Tuesday** and **Wednesday** afternoon. If you are yet to book a time, it's not too late! Please book your preferred time via XUNO and teachers will phone you at the scheduled time.

School Council Nominations

School Council nominations open **today**. Please find attached to today's newsletter a school council nomination form for interested parents/carers. We have three parent representative vacancies and one school employee vacancy. Nomination forms can also be obtained from the school office.



School Council plays a vital role in the running of a school and is a great way to support your child's education. Please consider nominating. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. School council nominations close on **Monday 26th February 2024 @ 4:00pm**.

Student Leadership Positions

After meticulous vote counts, classroom teachers will today announce the 2024 student leadership positions to our students. Badge presentations will be made at assembly this Friday at 2:45pm and be presented by Senior Constable Josh Goonan.

Polwarth Sports

The Polwarth Sports event at Alvie Primary School is rapidly approaching. We recognise the challenges this day may pose for some families.

School Councillors – Rob Lidgerwood (President) Luke Fitzpatrick, Claire Leeson, Abbey Gannon, Kelly Dodds, Emma Mezzatesta, Emily McDonald, Alistair Burrell, Brendan King.

We acknowledge the substantial commitment required from both our families responsible for transporting children and our dedicated staff arriving early in Alvie to assist with set-up, first aid, tents, etc.

I encourage you to engage in conversations with each other regarding the possibility of carpooling. If you happen to have a spare seat in your car and are willing to assist with transportation, please let us know.

Program details and schedules are currently in the finalisation stage and will be communicated to families through XUNO shortly.



Parents & Friends Meeting

Thanks to the parents that have expressed interest in joining the Parent and Friends Group in 2024. Our first Parents & Friends meeting is scheduled for **Friday 1st March at 9:00am** in the main building. All are welcome to attend. Items for discussion include the upcoming House Sports and Easter raffle. We hope to see you there.

2024 NAPLAN testing

NAPLAN testing is taking place in March, beginning on the 13th for students in Grade 3 and 5. NAPLAN is a national literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students have the opportunity to undertake. As students' progress through their school years, it's important to check how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy. NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum and allows parents/carers to see how their child is progressing against national standards and over time. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It doesn't replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance, but it can provide teachers with additional information about students' educational progress. Our teachers have begun to prepare students for the tests and will continue to support them to familiarise themselves with the format of the tests and the platform.

If you have any questions or queries about your child completing NAPLAN assessments, please make contact with either Mr Burrell or I.

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.

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!
- As per our Student Dress Code policy, students are not permitted to wear decorative jewellery to school as this type of jewellery can cause a safety concern.
- A friendly reminder that we would appreciate parent payments by the end of this term. Please contact the office if you would like to arrange a payment plan or require further information or visit the [BPS Parent payment policy](#) on our website.

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	
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



Congratulations to Tom, Kate and Daphne who participated in the Lorne Cluster Swimming Carnival at Apollo Bay with Apollo Bay P-12, Lorne P-12 & Lavers Hill. From all reports they did their very bests, enjoyed the opportunity, and even managed to bring home some ribbons!

Well done!!!

Wishing the following
students
a very Happy Birthday

February

21st Theo F

24th Stella F



HEALTH & WELLBEING

Setting Family Screen Time Agreements

Setting ground rules around the use of screens and devices from an early age supports children to develop healthy screen time habits. Engaging children in discussion about healthy screen time habits empowers children and provides them with a sense of ownership over the decision.

A family screen time agreement is a set of boundaries around the use of devices in the home. It incorporates not only the volume of time spent on screens but also when and where screens are used. It can also include when certain devices are used and for what purpose [social media, gaming etc.]

Children begin to understand boundaries around the age of three, so those of you with younger children this is the perfect time to start.

Attached below is a link to the e-safety Commissioner site that will lead you to further information including templates for setting up family agreements.

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-01/Family%20tech%20agreement%205-8%20Yrs%20-%20Parents.pdf>

- Brendan King

eSafetyparents

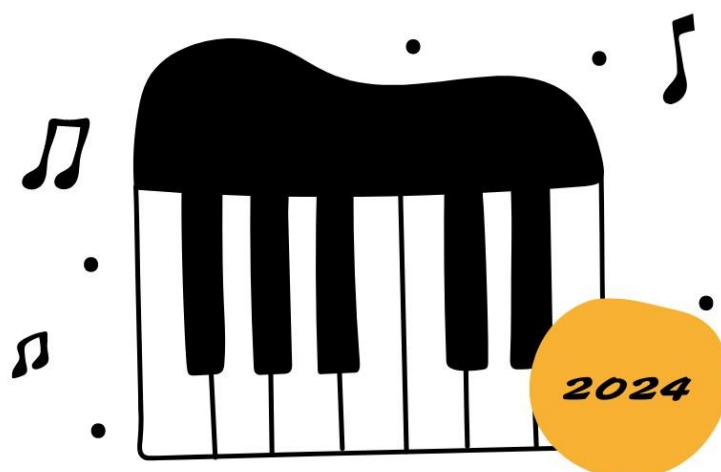




Old Empty Photo Frames Wanted

If you have any old photo frames (without glass) at home, please bring them in and leave in box at the office. Thank you, Mrs K-C

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.

School council election process and timetable

Name of the school: Birregurra Primary School

Letter	Event	DATE
a)	Notice of election and call for nominations	Monday 19 th February 2024
b)	Closing date for nominations	Monday 26 th February 2024
c)	Date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be posted	Wednesday 28 th February 2024
d)	Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed	On or before Tuesday 5 th March 2024
e)	Close of ballot	Tuesday 12 th March 2024
f)	Vote count	Wednesday 13 th March 2024
g)	Declaration of poll	Thursday 14 th March 2024
h)	Special council meeting to co-opt community members (the principal will preside)	Monday 25 th March 2024
i)	First council meeting to elect office bearers (the principal will preside)	Monday 25 th March 2024

PARENTS & FRIENDS MEETING

Join us to discuss upcoming events and share your ideas.

• New faces, new stories, endless possibilities

FRIDAY MARCH 1ST 2024

9:00AM

IN THE MAIN BUILDING



Who Gives A Crap®

Birregurra Primary School Parents & Friends Fundraiser



Order Here

Orders due by Friday 1st March.

There is a slight increase in cost per box this year
but there will be NO postage and Handling fee anymore!

HELP DAPH BE A SUPERSWIM HERO

FOR SICK KIDS



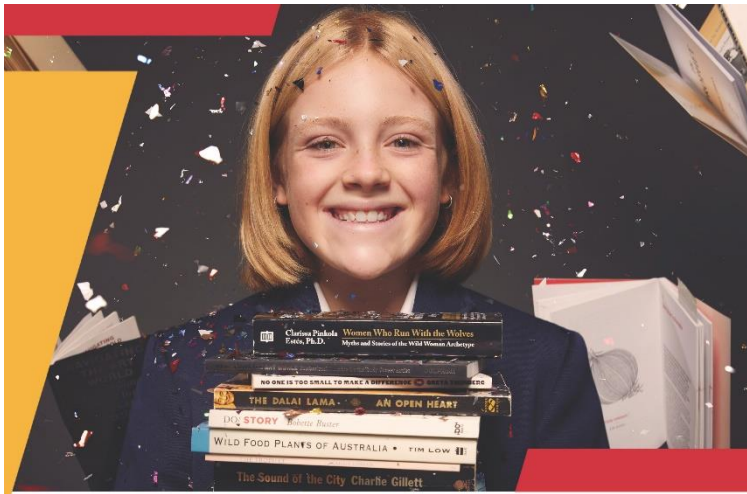
Donate here



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



Be Amazed
#BEASCOUT

**Join Scouts
Today!**

2nd Colac Sea Scouts

Scouting actively engages and supports young people aged 5-25 in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

gl.2ndcolac@scoutsvictoria.com.au

Scouts
VICTORIA

1800 SCOUTS
scoutsvictoria.com.au