



Birregurra Primary School Newsletter

'Living & Learning Together'

Term 2, Week 10 – 22nd June 2026

From the Principal's Desk

WEEK 10

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.

Welcome to Week 10 and the final week of Term 2. It has been another busy and rewarding term, rich with learning, fun and meaningful opportunities to connect with our community and beyond.

In Week 1, our Grade 6 students led a respectful ANZAC Day Service for the community. We also enjoyed a successful

Mother's Day Breakfast and recently welcomed prospective families to our 2027 Prep Information Sessions and school tours. It was a pleasure to visit classrooms and showcase learning in action.

Our Biggest Morning Tea was another wonderful success, raising valuable funds for the Cancer Council. We also recognised Hoodie Up Day, raising awareness and celebrating neurodiversity within our school community. Our Year 5/6 students enjoyed three fantastic days at Urban Camp in Melbourne, exploring many of the city's iconic landmarks and attractions.

Many students have also participated in a range of extracurricular and interschool events, including the Polwarth, Colac and Greater Western Region Cross Country competitions, the Netball Lightning Premiership, AFL 9s and swimming events.

It has been a fantastic first half of the year. We are incredibly proud of all that has been achieved and grateful for the support of our families and community. We look forward to an exciting Semester 2 and the many opportunities it will bring.

FightMND Fundraiser

A sincere thank you to everyone who was involved in last Monday's student-led Ice Bucket Challenge. The event was a tremendous success, raising an incredible \$3,047.60 for FightMND. The day was filled with fun and community spirit, and it was wonderful to see so much support through donations, attendance at the event and participation from those who accepted nominations. This outstanding result would not have been possible without the generosity and enthusiasm of our school community. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making the event such a memorable and successful fundraiser for a very worthwhile cause.



School Council – June Meeting

Last Monday night we held our June School Council meeting where Principal, Finance, Buildings & Grounds, Junior School Council and P & F reports were presented and accepted. The main items discussed included:

- Extra-curricular activities
- Amazing response to the student led Ice Bucket challenge raising money for FightMND - \$3047.60!!!

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

- Assessment & reporting, reports going out TODAY!
- Attitudes to School survey completed, results to be looked at next term
- Curriculum Day passed – **Tuesday 21st of July (Week 2 Term 3)**
- Staffing updates
- School improvement & External recognition – more information below!
- Victorian Education Excellence Awards nomination in the Outstanding School Improvement category
- Staff Professional Learning outlined
- Curriculum Reports from classroom teachers

We also ratified finance reports for May. The Child Safety and Wellbeing, Child Abuse (Including Grooming) – Identification and Response Policy & Procedure and Student Wellbeing and Engagement policies were endorsed by school council. If you wish to find out more about any of the items discussed, please chat to one of our school council members.

Learning Showcase

Thank you to all the families who visited classrooms last Wednesday afternoon to view our learning spaces and see some of the work our students have been completing during the first semester. It was wonderful to see such strong attendance and engagement across the school community.

It was also great to have the Art Room open for families to visit, and to showcase some of the wonderful work from our specialist team, highlighting the breadth of learning taking place across the school.

Swimming Celebration

Congratulations to all students on their fantastic efforts at Friday's Swimming Celebration. It was fantastic to see so many students participating, challenging themselves and demonstrating positive sportsmanship throughout the day. A special thank you to our House Captains for their leadership, encouragement and support in helping marshal students to their events. We would also like to thank the staff at Bluewater for their organisation and support in delivering a successful and enjoyable program.

Congratulations to Sladen House, our overall winners for the day. It was particularly pleasing to see students applying their water safety knowledge and swimming skills with confidence throughout the celebration. Well done to everyone for contributing to such a positive and successful event.



NAPLAN Writing

Last week we received the NAPLAN writing results, and I'm incredibly proud of our Year 3 and Year 5 students and their achievements. We saw some fantastic results, and I look forward to sharing individual reports with families once they arrive next term. No matter how your child performed in the NAPLAN tests, please take the time to celebrate their efforts. Remind them that their strengths go far beyond a single test, skills in Sport, Music, The Arts, and contributions to our community are also important and worth celebrating too.

Buildings Improvements

Over the past couple of weeks, works have been completed under the breezeway between the toilet block and the Art Room. The existing lining beneath the roof had become warped over time and was showing signs of wear. This area has now been relined with corrugated iron, providing a more durable and low-maintenance finish. The upgrade has improved both the appearance and longevity of the space while helping to keep our facilities safe and well-maintained for students, staff and visitors. Thank you to Birregurra Plumbing for your expertise in completing these works.



Region Feedback

On Thursday 11th June, we welcomed members of the Barwon Area Reading Action Group to the school. This group included an Education Improvement Leader, Senior Education Improvement Leader, Early Years Leader, and Student Support Services staff, including speech pathologists and psychologists. The group visits schools that are considered exemplar settings in literacy. Visitors spent time in every classroom during our literacy block, observing teaching and learning in action. We received the following feedback from the group:

Classrooms were calm, orderly, and purposeful, with students happy, comfortable, and keen to learn. The warmth and personality of teachers shine through in every room, and the positive relationships built with students are clearly reflected in their engagement and enthusiasm. Seating in rows was a consistent and deliberate choice that supported attention and strengthened the impact of explicit instruction. The students at round tables worked too.

Explicit teaching was strong across the school, with clear modelling and consistent application of the Gradual Release of Responsibility framework evident throughout. Differentiation was seamlessly embedded, adjustments for students needing support were so naturally integrated that they were difficult to identify at first glance, which is the mark of truly inclusive, responsive teaching.

The Glow and Grow feedback script was a standout - clever, affirming, and growth-focused. The "tick it and fix it" approach gives students a clear process for acting on feedback and taking ownership of their learning. Both reflect a purposeful and consistent feedback culture.

The use of fidelity checklists for phonics implementation has clearly paid off, with phonics delivered consistently and confidently across classrooms. Fluency reading was well embedded in the higher classrooms, and slide presentations across all year levels were clear, explicit, and easy to follow.

Birre is a school with warm staff, happy students, and strong instructional foundations. It was a pleasure to visit. We are very grateful.

Early dismissal

A friendly reminder that students finish at 2:15pm this Friday for the end of term. Assembly will be at 1:45pm with Grade 2/3 presenting.

Thanks

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support. Positive home school partnerships and relationships ensure the best possible outcomes for your child/ren. We value all constructive feedback. It is a way of improving our practice to ensure that every child in our school feels respected and valued. It is also lovely to receive positive feedback, affirming the work staff do to ensure each student experiences positive learning, social and emotional wellbeing as a member of our school community.

Wishing the whole school community, a happy holiday period. We look forward to welcoming you all back to school on **Monday 13th July**.

Jess Kattwinkel & team

Dates for the Diary...

TERM 2	
Monday 22 nd June	- Semester 2 Reports distributed
Thursday 25 th June	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 26 th June	- Assembly 1.45pm, Grade 2/3 Class Presentation - Last Day of Term 2, 2.15pm finish
TERM 3	
Monday 13 th July	- Term 3 Commences
Thursday 16 th July	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Monday 20 th July	- Clubs 12.30pm
Tuesday 21st July	- Curriculum Day - NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL
Thursday 23 rd July	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 24 th July	- Assembly 2.45pm, Grade 1/2 Class Presentation
Monday 27 th July	- School Council 6.30pm
Thursday 30 th July	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Monday 3 rd August	- Clubs 12.30pm
Thursday 6 th August	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 7 th August	- Assembly 2.45pm, Prep/1 Class Presentation
Thursday 13 th August	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Monday 17 th August - Friday 21 st August	- National Science Week
Thursday 20 th August	- Breakfast Club
Friday 21 st August	- Assembly 2.45pm, Grade 6 Class Presentation
Monday 24 th August	- School Council 6.30pm
Wednesday 26 th August - Friday 28 th August	- Grade 3/4 Camp - Sovereign Hill
Thursday 28 th August	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Monday 31 st August	- Clubs 12.30pm
Thursday 3 rd September	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 4 th September	- Father's Day Breakfast 8am - Assembly 2.45pm, Grade 4/5 Class Presentation

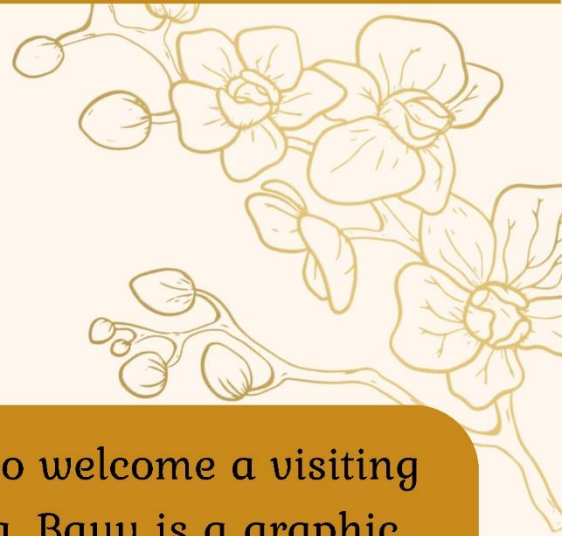


In Physical Education this term, Prep/1 students have been developing their fundamental movement skills with a particular focus on catching and throwing. Through a range of fun and engaging games and activities, students have practised using two hands to catch a ball, tracking objects with their eyes, and throwing with increasing control and accuracy. They are building confidence in their ability to work independently and with partners while improving their hand-eye coordination, balance, and spatial awareness. It has been wonderful to see students demonstrate enthusiasm, persistence, and growing skill as they participate in each lesson.

Brendan King



Indonesian Visitor



In Term 3, Week 8, we're excited to welcome a visiting artist from Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Bayu is a graphic designer, educator and cultural advocate with extensive experience in arts and education around the world.

Students will enjoy hands-on Indonesian language lessons, wayang (shadow puppet) making, and maybe even some traditional dance - a fun, authentic way to explore Indonesian culture and build global awareness. We can't wait to share this special experience with our school community!




Ibu Ritchie



BIRREGURRA PRIMARY SCHOOL

PIE DRIVE FUNDRAISER

TERM 3

IN TERM 3, BIRREGURRA PRIMARY SCHOOL IS OFFERING DELICIOUS CLARKES PIES AS A FUNDRAISER. THERE'S A WIDE RANGE TO CHOOSE FROM, SO EVERYONE CAN ENJOY A FAVOURITE.

STAY TUNED FOR THE NEWSLETTER DURING WEEK 1 OF TERM 3
TO ORDER YOURS IN TIME FOR FOOTY FINALS!