



Birregurra Primary School Newsletter

'Living & Learning Together'

Term 2, Week 6 – 25th May 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

**WEEK
6**

Welcome to Week 6! We are now halfway through Term Two and it has been a busy and productive first half of year. There is still lots to come, including key learning assessments and a range of extra-curricular opportunities. We encourage all students to continue striving for their personal best, maintaining consistent effort, and staying engaged in their learning as we move into the second half of the term.

We continue to uphold high expectations for learning and behaviour. This includes students showing respect, taking responsibility for their learning, and contributing positively to their classroom and school environment. These shared expectations support every student to succeed and help ensure our classrooms remain calm, purposeful and focused learning spaces. We look forward to the weeks ahead and the continued learning and growth across the school community.

School Council

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

- Current enrolment of 118, capacity is 125. Enrolment applications for 2027 are open.
- Mother's Day celebrations, great turnout for our annual breakfast
- ANZAC Day Service, wonderfully led by our Grade 6 students
- Preliminary NAPLAN data released, positive results
- Victorian State Principal Conference, Thursday 28th and Friday 29th May
- Swimming
- High Ability Program, 4 students involved in English this term supported by Mr Burrell
- Education Week, showcasing our school
- Parent/Teacher conversations & learning showcase coming up – check out dates on the calendar
- AEU industrial action, impacting report comments
- Staff Professional Learning outlined
- Curriculum Reports from classroom teachers
- Mental Health & Wellbeing Leader report – Brendan King

We also ratified finance reports for March and April. The Asthma & Homework policies were presented for noting and the Mobile Phone & Bullying Prevention 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.

Prep Information Session

On Monday last week, it was wonderful to have prospective families through the school as part of our 2027 Prep Information Session. Mrs Gray and I felt very privileged to accompany student leaders, Logan & Stevie and parents around the school, sharing all the wonderful learning experiences BPS has to offer. Applications are now open for 2027; forms are available at the office.

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

Biggest Morning Tea Fundraiser – THANK YOU

A huge thank you to our amazing Junior School Council team for their fantastic efforts on Tuesday in preparing and serving our Biggest Morning Tea. We're also grateful to everyone who joined us to enjoy the delicious spread and to all those who generously donated to support the Cancer Council. We're proud to share that we raised a total of \$563 for this very worthy cause, thank you for your support!



Year 5/6 Camp

Last Wednesday to Friday, our Grade 5/6 students travelled to Melbourne for their much-anticipated city camp experience. Over the three days, students enjoyed a wide range of exciting activities and experiences including visits to the Old Melbourne Gaol, the Aquarium, the MCG and the Eureka Skydeck. One of the highlights was an evening visit to the zoo, where students explored the exhibits after dark and experienced the animals in a completely different setting.

Students also enjoyed ice skating and finished off one evening with dinner at Universal Restaurant. It was certainly a busy few days, but an amazing experience for everyone involved. The camp provided students with opportunities to build independence, strengthen connections and create lasting memories together.

A huge thank you to the staff who attended camp and supported the students throughout the three days. Camps such as these require a great deal of organisation, preparation and planning to ensure everything runs smoothly and students are safe, engaged and well supported throughout the experience.

Special Lunch Order Day – New date Monday 1st June

Our next Special Lunch Order Day was originally scheduled for today, however it has now been postponed by one week and will take place on **Monday 1st June**. The menu for the day will be delicious nachos. We are seeking parent helpers to assist on the day. If you are available to help, please let the school know as soon as possible.

Orders open today and must be placed by 9:00am on Wednesday.

We are also excited to announce the introduction of a new online lunch ordering system called Spriggy Schools, starting today.

Spriggy Schools will make ordering lunches more convenient for families and will also help streamline our canteen processes, saving Mrs Leigh valuable time each week.

Getting started is easy:

1. Visit www.spriggyschools.com.au and register an account or download the app.
2. Add a profile for each child, ensuring you select Birregurra Primary School and your child's class.
3. Start placing lunch orders. Orders can be made up to one week in advance.

If you have any questions or require assistance, please contact Spriggy Schools through the webchat feature on their website or within the app.



National Simultaneous Storytime

This *Wednesday 27th May 2026* millions of children, parents, teachers, and library lovers across Australia and beyond will come together to read 'Luna Roo' at the same time, celebrating the joy of reading, storytelling and connection. Published by Little Book Press the story follows the spirited kangaroo Luna and her friends as they chase their football dreams across the outback, blending action, teamwork and fun to inspire young readers.

Greater Western Region Cross Country

This **Tuesday 26th of May**, we have seven students travelling to Warrnambool to compete in the Greater Western Region Cross Country. Huge thanks to the parents for transporting and supporting their children to participate at this level. This is a wonderful achievement, and we congratulate Roy, Hettie, Alby, Mack, Indi, Jack and Hunter for progressing to this level. Go Birre!

National Reconciliation Week 2026

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. The dates for NRW remain the same each year; 27th May to 3rd June. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the

reconciliation journey – the successful [1967 referendum](#), and the [High Court Mabo decision](#) respectively. The National Reconciliation Week (NRW) 2026 theme, 'All in', is a call for all Australians to commit fully to reconciliation every day. It reminds us that reconciliation is not passive or something to observe from the sidelines. It requires active participation, shared responsibility, and meaningful action from everyone.



State Principal Conference

This *Thursday and Friday*, Mr Burrell, Mrs Gray and I will be attending the State Principal Conference in Melbourne. The conference provides an excellent opportunity to hear from leading voices in education, explore new perspectives on leadership excellence, and engage in professional learning and reflection alongside colleagues from across the state. We are also proud to have been selected to present a workshop for school leaders titled *Strengthening Literacy: Practical Tools and Approaches*. Our workshop will focus on:

- Leadership in Early Literacy: Understanding the implementation of F–2 focused strategies, such as the Reading Position, and how these support strong foundational reading skills.
- Whole-School Text Selection: Exploring approaches to selecting and evaluating texts across P–6 to strengthen engagement, comprehension, and curriculum alignment.
- Building a Reading Culture: Promoting a whole-school approach to literacy that supports student motivation, reading fluency, and lifelong reading habits.

While I am away, Mr King will be Officer in Charge on Thursday, and Miss Lowe will take on the role on Friday. If you require any assistance during this time, please do not hesitate to contact either of them. Alternatively, you are welcome to email me directly at Jessica.Kattwinkel@education.vic.gov.au if needed.

Football/Netball Day

This *Friday 29th May*, some of our senior students will be heading to Colac to take part in the AFL 9s and the Netball Lightning Premiership. A big thank you to Mr King and Josh Goonan for coaching our boys and leading training sessions, and to Miss Dillon and Miss Liv for coaching and training our girls' netball team.

We wish all participants the very best of luck as they proudly represent our school and uphold our values.

Positive Classroom Management Strategies – Whole School Attention Signal

This week we are highlighting our whole-school attention signal, 'Focus 5, 4, 3, 2, 1', which is an important part of our Positive Classroom Management approach.

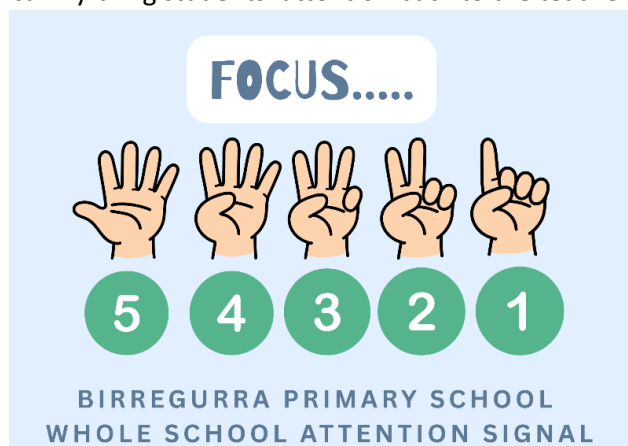
This consistent signal is used across all classrooms to quickly and calmly bring students' attention back to the teacher.

As the countdown is delivered, students are expected to pause their work, stop talking, face the teacher, and be ready to listen and follow instructions. Because it is used consistently across the school, students develop a clear understanding of what is expected and respond quickly and confidently.

The use of a shared attention signal supports:

- Smooth and efficient transitions during learning time
- Reduced interruptions so teaching time is maximised
- Calm, predictable classroom environments.

Focus 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 is one of the simple but powerful routines that helps ensure high expectations for learning and behaviour are consistently upheld across the school. These posters are on display across the school.



Reminders

- Breakfast Club runs each Thursday morning from 8:15am – all welcome, come along and join your friends for a healthy breakfast!
- Swimming continues Friday! Don't forget bathers, towel and goggles.

Thanks for your ongoing support. Have a wonderful week 😊

Jess Kattwinkel & team

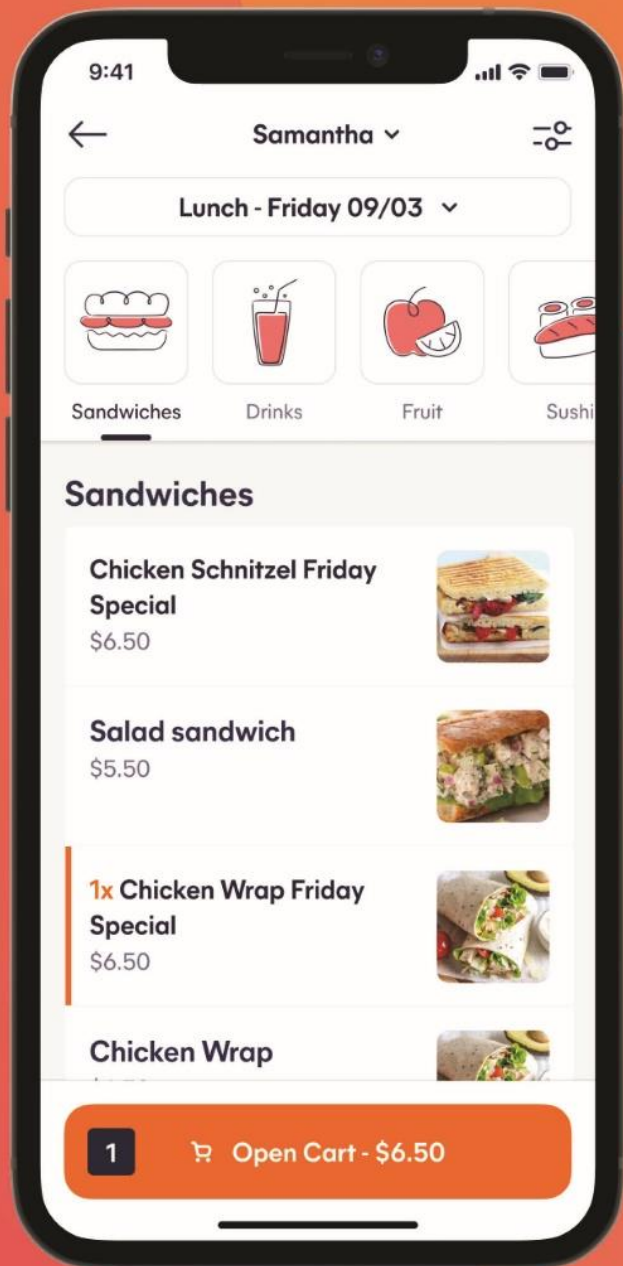
Dates for the Diary...

TERM 2	
Tuesday 26 th May	- Greater Western Cross Country - selected students
Thursday 28 th May	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 29 th May	- Swimming - Assembly 2.45pm, Grade 4/5 Class Presentation
Tuesday 2 nd June	- School Photos
Thursday 4 th June	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 5 th June	- Swimming
Monday 8 th June	- King's Birthday Public Holiday
Tuesday 9th June	- Curriculum Day - NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL
Thursday 11 th June	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 12 th June	- Swimming - Assembly 2.45pm, Grade 3/4 Class Presentation
Monday 15 th June	- Special Lunch Order Day - School Council 6.30pm
Wednesday 17 th June	- Learning Showcase 3.15pm - 5.15pm
Thursday 18 th June	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 19 th June	- Final Day of Swimming
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

Spriggy Schools

Pay for lunch online!

The canteen has partnered with Spriggy Schools to make online ordering easy.



Easy

View the full menu with all options and dietary labeling

Simple

Quickly place orders from any device in minutes

Convenient

Set and forget by ordering in advance



Download the app now!



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NACHOS

MONDAY 1ST JUNE



**Orders must be placed via Spriggy Schools by
9am Wednesday 27th May.**

**Please see the Newsletter or XUNO for more
information on Spriggy Schools**



Wellbeing Action Tool

We understand that everyone is unique. That's why finding what works for you is the key to maintaining your mental wellbeing.

We created the wellbeing tool to empower you to identify and take action on the things that work in three easy steps:

- 1 Identify what works** for your mental wellbeing.
- 2 Reflect on why** those actions work for you.
- 3 Plan to do them** regularly to strengthen your mental wellbeing.



Cheatsheet

These suggestions are backed by research, and a good place to get inspiration to add to the things that work for you.

1 What works for you - tips

Pause

Reflect on my week	Have a shower or bath
Meditate	Stretch
Journal	Practice self-compassion
Have a rest day	Speak to myself positively
Say no to something	Check my thinking is helpful
Challenge unhelpful thoughts	Make space for unpleasant feelings

Act

Eat a healthy meal	Dance at home
Drink enough water	Get enough sleep
Go for a walk	Celebrate an achievement
Clean my space	Cook a meal from scratch
Do some Yoga	Complete a small task
Wake at the same time each day	Take a break from alcohol

Ready to set your PACE?

Take action across these four areas to strengthen your mental wellbeing.

Pause



In a world that can feel overwhelming, sometimes taking moments to pause is essential. Take the time you need to rest and reflect. To practice self-care. To engage in positive self-talk.

Act



Taking action is about doing the things that help you feel good and thrive. This might come from caring for your body or taking positive steps towards a goal. These actions could be small, big, or somewhere in the middle.

Connect



Having a sense of connection can help you feel safe, grounded and valued. Think about how you invest in your relationship with others or with your community. With nature or spirituality. Or with something else.

Enjoy



Think about the things that you know help spark joy in your day, whether big or small. Embrace them by making time for them. Or try something new.

No access to a printer? No worries!

This simple tool can be used in many ways:

- ✓ type into the template and save to your computer
- ✓ to help you draw up your own Wellbeing Action Tool
- ✓ to prompt reminders to add to your diary / calendar

2 Why this works - tips

Here's a list of prompts that can help jog your memory and ignite the spark of motivation. Simply think about something you've listed that works for you, then complete one of these phrases:

Positive memories of taking this action

Remember when... Remember how it sounds...

Remember how it feels... Remember how it smells...

E.g. Remember how good it felt after the hike

How it impacts your actions

It is good for me because... It makes me...

It feels good because... It helps me to...

What personal effect it has

I am at my best when... I get excited when...

I do this and it will... I love it when...

3 Plan to do them - tips

When planning your actions, it's useful to think about realistic patterns or routines that will work for you. Try not to stress about definitive goals like 'every day' or being hard on yourself when you fall short. In the end the most important part is making a commitment to your mental wellbeing.

Have You Ordered Your School Photos?

Your photo day is: **2/06/2026**



LEADING
IMAGE School Photos

leadingimage.com.au

Birregurra Primary School **DON'T MISS OUT!**

To order your school photos:

1. Go to www.leadingimage.com.au
2. Click on Order Your School Photos
3. Enter your Access Key

! Individual & family photos can be ordered with the same access key. Family photographs must be ordered **before 4:30pm the night before photo day**. Please ensure your orders are placed before this time.

Access key: **TUC6TZRT**



Scan to order!



LEADING
IMAGE School Photos

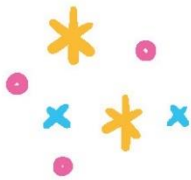


TheirCare

PUPIL FREE DAY

Date: 9th June 2026

Opening Times: 7am - 6pm



MORNING

Air dry clay creations, lego, craft, colouring, melty beads, loom bands, cars and trucks,

AFTERNOON

STEAM activities
DIY Catapult and the straw challenge



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