



Birregurra Primary School Newsletter

'Living & Learning Together'

Term 2, Week 7 – 1st June 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 Week 7! The cooler weather is certainly starting to settle in, although we have been fortunate to enjoy some lovely days along the way. Many of us are also hoping for some much-needed rain. As winter officially begins this week, it is also the time of year when winter chills, colds, and flus become more common.

I would like to take this opportunity to gently remind everyone of the importance of prioritising sunlight exposure, regular exercise, and social connection during the colder months. Simple activities such as going for outdoor walks, spending time with loved ones, or engaging in hobbies can make a significant difference to mood and overall wellbeing. It is also important to keep children home when they are unwell. This not only supports their recovery but also helps reduce the spread of illness throughout our school community.

Greater Western Region Cross Country

Congratulations to the seven students who proudly represented our school at the Greater Western Cross Country in Warrnambool last Tuesday. From all accounts, each of them performed exceptionally well and demonstrated great determination and sportsmanship. We are incredibly proud of their efforts and the way they represented our school community.



A big thank you to the parents who supported the students on the day and for sending through the pics!

National Simultaneous Storytime

Last Wednesday, our school participated in National Simultaneous Storytime alongside many other schools and libraries across Australia. Our Grade 6 students did a wonderful job reading *Luna Roo* to every class across the school. It was a fantastic opportunity to share in a national celebration of reading and to see our senior students take on a leadership role in promoting a love of books across the school community.



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



State Principal Conference

Last Thursday and Friday, Mr Burrell, Mrs Gray and I attended the Statewide Annual Victorian Government Principals Conference. We heard from a number of inspirational guest speakers, Department of Education leaders, and the Minister for Education. We also took part in several workshops that focused on topics such as multi-tiered supports, mathematics and literacy. Our workshop was well attended and the feedback we received was very positive. It was a valuable two days of learning and connection.

Football/Netball Day

Last Friday, a group of our Grade 5/6 students travelled to Colac to represent our school in the Netball Lightning Premiership and AFL 9s. A huge thank you to Mr King and Josh Goonan for their dedication in training, coaching, and supporting the football team. Thank you also to Miss Dillon and Miss Liv for guiding and supporting the netball team. A big thanks also to the parents who came along to cheer on our teams, your support means so much to our students! Well done to all involved!

Special Lunch Day

Thanks to everyone helping with today's special lunch order day, especially Mrs Leigh, Sarah, Kristy and Abbey! Your support is greatly appreciated. I know many of our students and staff are very excited for their nachos lunch today!

School Photos - This Tuesday!

School photos are on Tuesday this week. Please see the flyer in today's newsletter for more information. Please note family photographs must be ordered before 4:30pm the night before photo day.

Tree Planting with Fernando

This Thursday 4th of June, Fernando from Barwon Water will be visiting and supporting our Grade 6 students to plant some shrubs and bushes kindly donated by Barwon Water. These will be placed in some of our existing garden beds as well as along the fence line. Thanks to Barwon Water for their continued support of our school.



Public Holiday & Curriculum Day Reminder

Please note Monday 8th June is a public holiday for the King's Birthday. We also have a pupil free day on **Tuesday 9th June** where staff will be finalising assessments for reporting mid-year achievement. TheirCare is available should your child need care that day.

Parent-Teacher Conversations / Learning Showcase

Our Term Two parent-teacher conversations are planned for **Thursday 11th June** between 12:00-6:00pm. Please note this is a normal school day for our students. This term we are holding face to face conversations between parents and teachers. Conversations will run for 15 minutes maximum. A schedule of where to meet your child's teacher will be made available closer to the date. If you wish to have a phone conversation instead of face to face, this is also possible, just let us know. Bookings can now be made via the XUNO platform.

We also know that our students enjoy the opportunity to show their families their classrooms and the work they have been engaging in. Therefore, we will also be holding a Student Learning Showcase on **Wednesday 17th June** from 3:15- 5:15. Families are welcome to come into the school with their child/ren anytime between 3:15-5:15 and stay for as little or as long as they like.



Farewell Miss Liv

Miss Liv will finish with us this Friday as she begins an exciting new adventure. She will be taking part in Camp America, which is a fantastic opportunity, and we wish her every success. We sincerely thank Liv for her wonderful support throughout the first half of the year. She has built strong and positive connections with staff, students and families, and she will be greatly missed. Miss Kirsty will be supporting our students on several days throughout the remaining weeks of this term and is already a familiar face within our school community. We appreciate her support and look forward to her continued work with our students and staff.

Reminders

- Assembly will take place **this afternoon** at 2:45pm in the Multi-Purpose room. Grade 4/5 will be presenting.
- Breakfast Club runs each Thursday morning from 8:15am – all welcome, come along and join your friends for a healthy breakfast!
- Swimming continues this Friday – don't forget bathers, towel and goggles!
- School Photos are on **Tuesday 2nd June**.

Have a wonderful week everyone!

Jess Kattwinkel & team

Dates for the Diary...

TERM 2	
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 9 th 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
TERM 3	
Monday 13 th July	- Term 3 Commences
Thursday 16 th July	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
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

Students of the Week

Respect	Angus C	For always respectfully participating in our classroom discussions. You ensure everyone has a chance to share and wait your turn patiently. Go Angus!
	Bridget S	For showing respect to your teachers and classmates by listening attentively during our turn and talks and confidently sharing your ideas with the class. Go Bridget!
	Levi R	For being organised every Sounds Write lesson and always having everything ready to learn. Your preparation and positive attitude help you get the most out of every session. Keep up the amazing work!
	Madi D	For always showing kindness and respect to your classmates. You are always willing to offer help and support and consistently put others before yourself. You're a star, Mads! ★
	Lottie K	On Urban Camp, you showed kindness and consideration towards your peers, listened carefully to instructions, and represented our school values proudly. Well done Lottie!
	Logan S	For your positive attitude to learning and class discussions. Keep up the great work Logan!
Excellence	Mia B	For your wonderful attitude towards writing this week. You have worked hard to share your ideas and apply your spelling skills! Keep up the great work Mia.
	Arlo S	For your amazing problem-solving in Maths this week, adding and subtracting two-digit numbers using the jump strategy. Go Arlo!
	Benji D	For having a go at set tasks even when they feel tricky! You ask for help politely and show great resilience when learning new things. Keep up the fantastic effort!
	Evander B	For approaching your work with a positive attitude and completing tasks with increased focus and effort. Your persistence and determination towards your learning have been fantastic to see. Keep up the great work, Evander!
	Eliza C	On Urban Camp, you approached every activity with enthusiasm, perseverance, and a willingness to challenge yourself. Well done Eliza!
	Sam G	For demonstrating honesty, a willingness to learn and grow from challenges, and contributing well in class. Keep up the great work, Sam!
Art	Pippa D	For always working in a focused and creative manner in Art. You always add your own individual flair to your amazing designs, well done Pippa!
Indonesian	Aliya N	For using your prior knowledge of vocabulary and Bahasa Indonesia to write more detailed sentences about activities you do on each day of the week. Bagus, Aliya!
PE	Imogen M	Your willingness to give every sport and challenge your best effort during Phys Ed is amazing. This makes you a wonderful role model for your peers. Excellent effort Imogen!
STEAM	Zoe G	Well done Zoe for always bringing enthusiasm and positivity to STEAM with you. You are always ready for a challenge and embrace every new topic we explore.

PRINCIPAL'S AWARD



Abbey G

For embracing all of the opportunities available on camp and displaying fabulous independence.



**DON'T FORGET TO PLACE
YOUR ORDER!**



School photos are fast approaching...

DON'T MISS OUT!



Wishing the following
students a very

Happy Birthday

May

27th Grace C

29th Banjo M

June

2nd Charles H
Roy C

Jaxson D



On Friday, our talented netballers proudly represented the school at the Netball Lightning Premiership Tournament held at Eastern Reserve. Throughout the day, the girls demonstrated excellent teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship as they competed against a range of strong opposition teams.

Mahalia, Stella, Kate, Emme, Indie, Rosie, Stevie, Imogen, Eliza and Hettie worked hard in every match, showing great skill and resilience on the court. Their communication, encouragement of one another, and positive attitudes were outstanding, reflecting the values of our school both on and off the court.

The team should be congratulated for their efforts and the way they represented our school community. It was fantastic to see the girls challenge themselves, celebrate each other's successes, and enjoy the opportunity to compete in such a well-run event. We are incredibly proud of their commitment and sportsmanship throughout the tournament.

- Madi Dillon



On Friday, our school football team travelled to Colac for the annual Primary School Lightning Premiership. All students represented the school with great sportsmanship, teamwork and determination throughout the day.

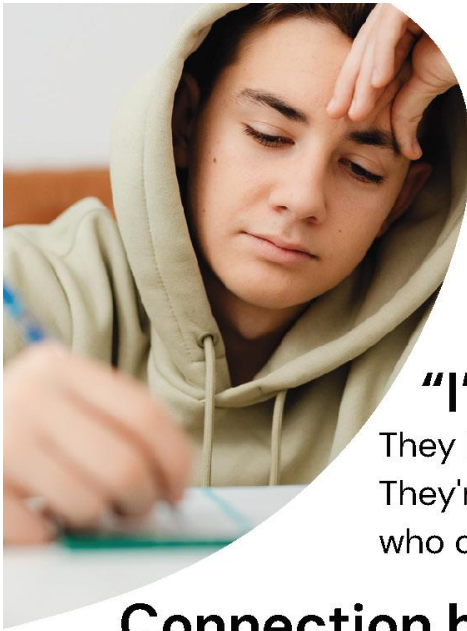
Flynn and Jack were strong in front of goal, kicking ten and six goals respectively, while Logan and Jaxson worked tirelessly through the midfield to win the ball and create opportunities. Sam, Augie and Alby provided plenty of drive and skill, while Hudson and Byron applied strong pressure around the contest. Roy, Thomas, Freddie and James all played important roles, showing courage and commitment in every match.

The team improved with each game, supporting one another and never giving up. Their positive attitude and excellent behaviour made the school proud, and they should be congratulated on a fantastic day of football.

Finally, a big thank you to Josh Goonan for helping coach the team and attending training sessions in the weeks leading up to the event. His knowledge, experience and genuine passion for the game shone through in every session, providing valuable guidance, encouragement and support to the players. His contribution played an important role in the team's preparation and success.



- Brendan King



5 THINGS WE'RE LEARNING ABOUT BOYS AND CONNECTION

"I'm fine" is rarely a full sentence

They have realised emotional language costs them socially. They're not refusing to talk, they're managing risk. The boys who open up need to trust who they are sharing with.

Connection happens side by side

Boys tend to bond through shared activity, not direct conversation. Walking side by side, the kick of a footy, packing up or doing jobs, these are important moments. Sit-down talks often shut things down. Side-by-side activity opens them up.

Friends become the mirror

A boy's sense of who he is starts shifting from "what my family thinks of me" to "what my mates think of me." This isn't a loss of values, it's a developmental milestone. Schools that name this transition for parents see less panic and more curiosity.

One adult changes everything

Decades of research on boys' resilience keep landing on the same finding: a single trusted non-parent adult (a teacher, coach, uncle, mentor) is one of the strongest protective factors we know of.

Not words. Behaviour!

A boy who's struggling rarely says, "I'm struggling." He withdraws, gets louder, picks fights, loses interest, or disappears into a screen. The behaviour is the communication. The question worth asking is "what's he trying to tell us?"

Joel Hines is a former school principal, mental health clinician, and author working with schools and parents on raising boys well.

www.joelhines.au



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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TheirCare
Where Kids love to be!

Welcome to Term 2!

OHSC has had a busy and exciting term so far! We have been making the most of the sunny weather by spending lots of time playing outside and enjoying active games together. A new Hot Wheels track has quickly become a favourite activity with children loving the chance to build, race and play creatively with friends.

Our creative experiences have included watercolour painting and recycled craft activities, encouraging imagination and sustainability.

Throughout the term, we have also enjoyed a range of weekly themes including Mother's Day, ANZAC Day, building, easter, space and colour explosion. To top it all off, nachos have been the children's favourite afternoon tea choice!



Look what's coming in Term Two!

Book into after school care on these dates to enjoy these special activities, at no extra cost to families.

BASKET WEAVING

DAMPER FUN: MIX IT, MAKE IT, TAKE IT!

YARN CIRCLES

JOIN US FROM 27-29TH MAY FOR
RECONCILIATION WEEK

TheirCare Where Kids love to be!

WeCare! Community connection

Kindness Rocks DISCO!

FRIDAY 12 JUNE

White as Snow

WINTER 2026 HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Winter Holiday Program is coming!

With a packed program this is one holiday season you won't want to miss! Disney on Ice, Toy Story 5, marine life incursions, a talking dinosaur activity, karaoke, ice skating – these are just some of the amazing things planned!!! *Bookings open soon!*

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