



# Birregurra Primary School Newsletter

*'Living & Learning Together'*

Term 3, Week 4 – 11<sup>th</sup> August 2025

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 4

Welcome to Week 4! We have a jam-packed week ahead as we acknowledge Science Week, farewell Miss Riseley on her last day before maternity leave, and wave off our Year 3–6 students as they head off to camp. It's a week of learning, farewells and adventure with plenty to look forward to!

## School Council – August Meeting

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

- School Review – Days 1 & 2 complete. Day 3 scheduled for 8th September
- Camp – excitement building for an action-packed three days
- National Science Week
- Children's Book Week
- NAPLAN results
- Enrolments & our updated enrolment management plan
- Professional Learning
- Curriculum Reports from classroom teachers

We also ratified finance reports for June and July. If you wish to find out more about any of the items discussed, please chat to one of our school council members.

## STEAM Incursion

Last Wednesday we welcomed Leon and Lorraine, Children's and Youth Services Librarians, to our school to run engaging STEAM activities with our Grade 3–6 students. Our students were thoroughly engaged as they rotated through a range of hands-on activities. We've included some photos from the day in today's newsletter. A big thanks to Mrs Williams for her support in coordinating the day.

## Life Education Sessions

Last Friday, students in Grades 3 to 6 participated in the 'Talk About It' Program, facilitated by Allison from Life Education. This important program is a key part of our curriculum, designed to support students' understanding of body safety, personal boundaries, and puberty. Our students were highly engaged throughout the sessions and asked thoughtful questions, demonstrating their interest and understanding of these important topics.

We encourage families to take the opportunity to chat with their children about what they learnt, to help reinforce these valuable lessons and support open, ongoing conversations about wellbeing and personal development.

## National Science Week

This week, we acknowledge and celebrate National Science Week, with the school theme 'Decoding the Universe – Exploring the Unknown with Nature's Hidden Language'. We take this opportunity to recognise the wonderful world of science and the curiosity, creativity, and discovery it inspires in our students.

School Councillors – Rob Lidgerwood, Luke Fitzpatrick, Kelly Dodds, Emily McDonald, Cassie Stephens, Sarah Green, Alistair Burrell, Jaymie Lowe.

The theme aligns beautifully with our science-focused inquiry units this term. Our junior classes are exploring *Machine Makers*, learning how simple machines work and how they make everyday tasks easier. Meanwhile, our senior students are diving into *It's Electrifying*, investigating the fascinating world of electricity and circuits. It has been a pleasure to see how engaged and enthusiastic our students are during their inquiry lessons.

## Farewell Miss Riseley

We'd like to take this opportunity to farewell Miss Chloe Riseley, who will be finishing up with us on Tuesday as she prepares for the arrival of her first little one. We wish Chloe and her partner Josh all the very best and look forward to hearing their exciting news soon.

Mrs Welsh and Mrs Ritchie are looking forward to supporting our Grade 3s for the remainder of the year and continuing the great work already underway.

## Camp

This Wednesday, our Year 3–6 students will head off to YMCA Anglesea for an action-packed three-day camp. The itinerary is filled with a variety of engaging activities, including team-building challenges and outdoor adventures that will encourage students to step outside their comfort zones in a safe and supportive environment.

Throughout the camp, students will have the chance to develop important life skills such as leadership, cooperation, and resilience. We're excited to watch them grow, learn, and create lasting memories.

Accompanying our students on camp are myself, Mr Burrell, Miss Dillon, Mrs Welsh, Miss Kirsty and Miss Bree. We sincerely appreciate the time and energy these staff members are giving, especially as it means time away from their own families, to ensure our students have this valuable and memorable experience.

Please note we will be departing at 9:30am on Wednesday morning, students are able to catch the school bus to school as normal if required.

We look forward to sharing highlights from our adventure in next week's newsletter!

## Clubs

There are no clubs this week due to camp however clubs will return next Thursday. Originally clubs were scheduled for 2:15pm, however due to timetable changes, clubs will now run at 10:00am next Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August.

## CBCA Children's Book Week 2025

Book week is next week. To help celebrate, we are inviting students and staff to dress up on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> August**. Costumes may be linked to the theme or a favourite book character. We will kick off the celebrations with a Book Week Parade at 9:00am on Monday morning the 18<sup>th</sup> of August, where students and staff will have the chance to show off their amazing costumes.

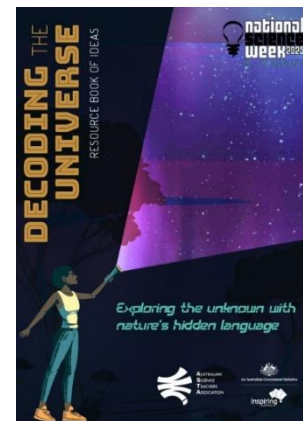
Following last year's success, we will also run the BPS Giant Book Swap on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> August**. Children can bring along second-hand books, and for each book they bring (up to a maximum of 5), they will receive a token. These tokens can then be exchanged for other second-hand books, a fantastic way to refresh their home library with some new reading material! To assist with setting up, students are encouraged to bring in their books on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> August**. Teachers will keep a record of how many books each student brings in, so if a token is lost, we can easily issue a replacement.

We look forward to a fun and book-filled week of celebrations



## Lunch Order Roster

Date	Helpers
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> August</b>	No lunch orders due to camp
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> August</b>	Cara Lidgerwood



<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August</b>	Kelly Dodds
<b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Jess Buchanan

## Father's Day Breakfast

On **Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> of September** we warmly invite father's, father figures or another special person in our students lives to join us for breakfast. Please come along with your child/ren from 8:00am to enjoy breakfast. To assist with preparation, we would appreciate if you could please RSVP by phone 52362222 or email [birregurra.ps@education.vic.edu.au](mailto:birregurra.ps@education.vic.edu.au) to the office by **1<sup>st</sup> September**. We look forward to acknowledging the father figures that support our students and their education!



## Reminders

- Breakfast Club in on Thursday from 8:15am, all welcome!
- A friendly reminder that supervision in the playground begins at 8.40am. PLEASE use TheirCare if needed and do not drop children off early in the morning. Staff are busily preparing for the day ahead and are not on supervision duties.
- A friendly reminder that there are no lunch orders this week. They will be back as normal in Week 5.

Thanks for your ongoing support. Positive home school partnerships and relationships ensure the best possible outcomes for your child/ren. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Have a wonderful week.

Jess Kattwinkel & team



## Dates for the Diary

TERM 3	
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> August	- Wheelie Wednesday Prep-2
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> August	- Gr 3-6 YMCA Camp, Anglesea
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> August	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> August	- Book Week Parade 9am - Parents & Friends Meeting 2.30pm
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> August	- Giant Book Swap - Wheelie Wednesday Gr 3-6
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> August	- Breakfast Club 8.15am - Clubs 10.00am
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> August	- Assembly 2.45pm - Gr 5/6 Class Presentation
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> August	- Wheelie Wednesday Prep-2
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> August	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> August	- Clubs 2.15pm
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	- Wheelie Wednesday Gr 3-6
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	- Assembly 2.45pm - Gr 4/5 Class Presentation
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> September	- School Council 6.30pm
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> September	- Wheelie Wednesday Prep-2
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> September	- R U OK? Day - Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> September	- Clubs 2.15pm
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	- Wheelie Wednesday Gr 3-6
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> September	- Last Day of Term 3, 2.15pm finish - Assembly 1.45pm - Gr 3 Class Presentation



# Students of the Week

Respect	Ivy L	For the kind and respectful way you interact with your peers and teachers. You take turns, share happily, and play fairly with friends. Keep it up Ivy!
	Liam P	For your superstar efforts in Sounds Write this week, listening carefully to instructions and following directions quickly and safely. Keep up the great work, Liam!
	Bella C	For consistently putting her hand up, waiting patiently for her turn when speaking, and showing thoughtfulness during group activities. Thank you Bella for being a respectful and considerate class member!
	Bodhi G	For always being respectful and using your manners while at school. We appreciate your humour and like the way you treat everyone fairly. Keep it up Bodhi!
	Daisy F	For always actively listening in class and willing to contribute your thoughtful answers and ideas. You are a superstar! Great work Daisy!
	Indie H	You consistently demonstrate respect in the classroom by listening to others thoughtfully and contributing positively to table talk and class discussions. Keep up the awesome attitude, Indie!
Excellence	Finley R	For continually challenging yourself and working to the best of your ability during our numeracy sessions. I love the way you kept working to complete the whole worksheet!
	Pippa D	For showing excellence in her learning by stretching your brain while exploring grouping in multiplication and tackled each activity with enthusiasm and creativity. Keep aiming high and enjoying your learning journey!
	Juniper W	For showing excellence in her learning by stretching your brain while exploring grouping in multiplication and tackled each activity with enthusiasm and creativity. Keep aiming high and enjoying your learning journey!
	Blake S	Great work Blake! You've shown fantastic persistence in multiplication lessons, especially when using arrays to solve times tables. Keep up the effort—you're making excellent progress!
	Flynn L	For demonstrating such great leadership qualities in helping set up the fishing rods for others in clubs. Everyone was very grateful for your expertise! Well done Flynn!
	Imogen M	I love the way you think deeply about the learning tasks at hand. You have a great ability to make inferences and think outside the box to find solutions. Well done and keep it up, Immy!
STEAM	Kate M	Well done Kate for a wonderful start on your STEAM Engineering Project and also your engagement during our Library outreach STEAM incursion.
Art	Benji D	Well done Benji on your fabulous recall of our weekly learning goals! You always work hard at developing new art skills and it shows!
PE	Thomas M	For demonstrating the three pillars of PE - Sportsmanship, Teamwork & Fun. Keep up the super work Thomas!
Indonesian	Liam P	For your excellent focus when learning new vocabulary for instructions. Amazing effort, Liam!



# Principal's Award

Mahalia M

For showing generosity and care for others!



## Parent and Family Engagement

Last week I attended a meeting around how to support parent and family engagement in schools. During the meeting we discussed the variety of experiences, mediums and activities available parents and families. Furthermore, I was directed to the [Raising Children Network](https://raisingchildren.net.au) website that, among other things, has a range of podcasts worth listening to about supporting and raising learners. In particular, I was drawn towards an episode around being active in your school community. I have attached the link for those interested in listening to it.

- Brendan King

[Raising Learners Podcast Series | Raising Children Network](https://raisingchildren.net.au/podcasts/raising-learners)

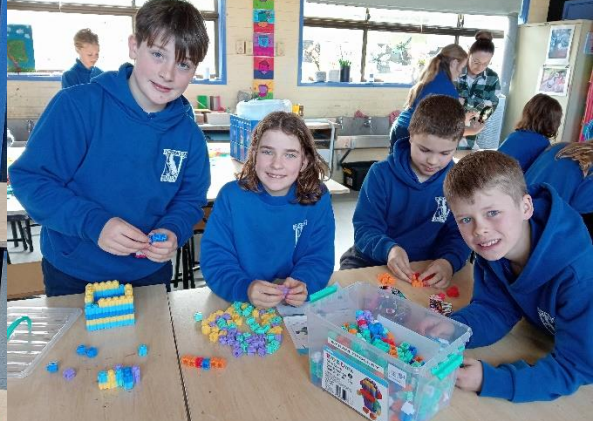


### [Raising Learners podcast](https://raisingchildren.net.au/podcasts/raising-learners)

Help your child learn and thrive at school with Raising Learners. This podcast series has tips for supporting kids in all areas of school life and learning.

[raisingchildren.net.au](https://raisingchildren.net.au)





Geelong Library STEAM  
Outreach Program  
Incursion  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> August









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### [Raising Learners podcast series | Raising Children Network](#)



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[raisingchildren.net.au](http://raisingchildren.net.au)

# DIGITAL DANGERZONES

WHAT EVERY PARENT MUST KNOW  
BEFORE THEIR CHILD GOES ONLINE.

Is your child:

- starting high school?
- already using devices, social media or gaming?

Then this **free session (18+!)** is a must!



[Register here](#)



- knowledgeable guest speakers
- step by step setup for parental controls
- where to turn to for help & support

**WEDNESDAY | 3 SEPTEMBER | 6PM**  
**AT COPACC | 95-97 GELLIBRAND STREET**  
**COLAC**



**proudly funded by**  
**Colac Otway Shire Council in partnership with VicHealth**