



Birregurra Primary School Newsletter

'Living & Learning Together'

Term 3, Week 5 – 18th 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 LGBTQ+ 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 5 and to CBCA Book Week! The theme this year is "Book an Adventure." In light of Book Week, I encourage families to spend some dedicated reading moments with their children every night this week.

To help celebrate this special week, students and staff have dressed up today, showcasing many well-known book characters. It's always wonderful to see the creativity, excitement, and love of stories come to life in our school community. Thanks to those that were able to join us for our book week parade.

We will also be running the **BPS Giant Book Swap** this **Wednesday 20th 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 tomorrow (Tuesday 19th 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 celebration.

Book Week Family Challenge

This week's newsletter includes our Family Book Week Challenge! Work together to solve 20 famous children's book titles as a family. The first three families to return all correct answers to the office will each win a \$25 Scholastic Book Voucher!

Camp

We had an amazing three-day camp at YMCA Anglesea last week. It was fantastic to see our students encouraging each other to take on personal challenges and working together as a team to tackle a range of activities. The giant swing and Radio Rogaine were clear favourites for our 3/4 students, while the vertical challenge and canoe survivor were standouts for our 5/6's. Watching the way our students supported one another was a real highlight. It was a full and exciting three days, and I'm sure everyone enjoyed the chance to rest over the weekend. A big thank you to our parents for trusting us with your children, and to our dedicated staff, Miss Dillon, Mr Burrell, Mrs Welsh, Ms Kirsty, and Ms Bree for giving up time with their families to make this experience possible. Be sure to check out the photos in today's newsletter.

Welcome Kelly Rogers

Today we welcome Mrs Kelly Rogers to Birregurra Primary School. Mrs Rogers will be teaching STEAM to our Prep - Grade 3 students every Monday. She may already be a familiar face to some, having worked as a casual relief teacher this year. We are delighted to have her join our team, and she is looking forward to being part of our school community.

Parents & Friends Meeting

Our next Parents & Friends meeting will be held today at 2:30pm in the main building! We encourage all available parents and carers to come along, share their ideas, and be part of the conversation. It's a great opportunity to get involved, help shape upcoming events and initiatives and connect with other members of our school community. Everyone is welcome! We hope to see you there 😊

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

Clubs

A reminder that Clubs will take place this Thursday morning at 10:00am. We will also run Clubs next Friday @ 2:15pm. We're looking forward to seeing everyone join in and enjoy the activities.

Sporting Schools

This term we have been fortunate to receive Sporting Schools funding to support a 4-week basketball program at our school for students in Grades 3-6.

A member of the Geelong United Women's NBL1 team will deliver the program during their scheduled PE times each Thursday, commencing this Thursday. This is a great opportunity for our students, thanks to Mr King for his organisation with this.

Lunch Order Roster

Lunch orders are back this week! Order forms are due at the office by 9:00 am on Wednesday morning. Please see the roster below for the next few weeks and let us know if you need to make a change or arrange a swap with someone.

Date	Helpers
Friday 22nd August	Cara Lidgerwood
Friday 29th August	Kelly Dodds
Friday 5th September	Jess Buchanan

Parents / Caregivers / Guardians Opinion Survey

Our school is conducting the annual Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey offered by the Department of Education and is seeking your feedback. The survey is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behaviour, and student engagement. The survey is optional, but we encourage and appreciate your participation.

Our school will use the survey results to assist in identifying areas for improvement and professional development needs in the school, to target school planning and improvement strategies.

The Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey opens online today and will remain open until **Friday 19 September 2025**.

The survey will be conducted online, only takes 20 minutes to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones. An invitation to participate will be sent out via XUNO today.

PJ Day- JSC fundraiser

On **Monday 1st of September**, our Junior School Council are running a pyjama day to raise funds to support children in foster care. Students and staff are invited to dress in their favourite pyjamas. This fun event is a great way for everyone to relax and show off their most comfortable and creative sleepwear while also raising funds for a worthy cause.

Father's Day Breakfast

On **Friday the 5th 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 to the office by **1st September**. We look forward to acknowledging the father figures that support our students and their education!

Reminders

- Parents & Friends Meeting today @ 2:30pm, all welcome
- Assembly will be this Friday @ 2:15pm in the multi-purpose room. Grade 5/6 students will be presenting

Have a fabulous week everyone and please reach out with any wonderings.

Jess Kattwinkel & team



Dates for the Diary

TERM 3	
Monday 18 th August	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Book Week Parade 9am- Parents & Friends Meeting 2.30pm
Wednesday 20 th August	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Giant Book Swap- Wheelie Wednesday Gr 3-6
Thursday 21 st August	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Breakfast Club 8.15am- Clubs 10.00am
Friday 22 nd August	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Assembly 2.45pm - Gr 5/6 Class Presentation
Wednesday 27 th August	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Wheelie Wednesday Prep-2
Thursday 28 th August	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 29 th August	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Clubs 2.15pm
Monday 1 st September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- RSVP for Father's Day Breakfast due- JSC Pyjama Day
Wednesday 3 rd September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Wheelie Wednesday Gr 3-6
Thursday 4 th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 5 th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Father's Day Breakfast 8am- Assembly 2.45pm - Gr 4/5 Class Presentation
Monday 8 th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- School Council 6.30pm
Wednesday 10 th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Wheelie Wednesday Prep-2
Thursday 11 th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- R U OK? Day- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 12 th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Clubs 2.15pm
Wednesday 17 th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Wheelie Wednesday Gr 3-6
Thursday 18 th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 19 th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Last Day of Term 3, 2.15pm finish- Assembly 1.45pm - Gr 3 Class Presentation

Wishing the following students
a very
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

August

24th

Bella C



BUILDING SELF CONFIDENCE THROUGH PRAISE



Using praise is a simple way to build children's self-confidence. It can be used anywhere, any time and in a multitude of settings.

Praise: what it is and how it works

Praise boosts your child's confidence and self-esteem. By praising them, you help them think positively about themselves and recognise their own achievements.

Praise can be given at any age — from a young child sharing a toy to a teenager starting homework without being asked.

Descriptive praise works best. Be specific, like "I like how you organised your room", rather than vague comments like "Good boy."

This makes praise more genuine and encourages positive behaviour in the future.

I have also provided a link to a [cheesy!] video demonstrating praise. <https://raisingchildren.net.au/school-age/connecting-communicating/connecting/praise>

- Brendan King





Our Gr 1/2 students had a blast last week, building volcanoes with Mrs Welsh in STEAM!





3-6 Camp Happy snaps!





3-6 Camp Happy snaps!



A group of approximately 15 children and one adult woman are posing for a photo outdoors. The children are dressed in various costumes, including a Grinch, a knight, a princess, and a clown. They are holding books and a sign that reads "BUT MY CAT LIKES TO HIDE IN BOXES." The background is a white wooden fence.

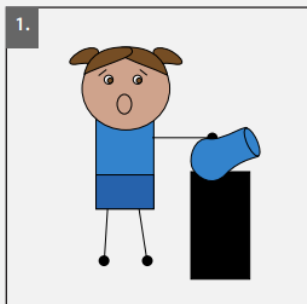


Truth and Honesty...

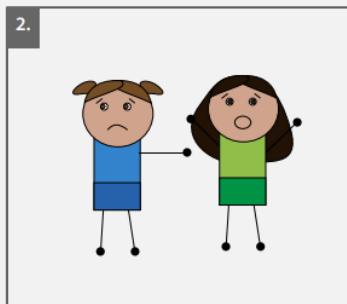
This week in Preps we took a look at telling the truth with Bluey (Family Meeting). Truth/Honesty are character strengths which belong in the social category of strengths. Honesty is being truthful in what you say and in what you do. When you are honest, you say what really happened and you do things in a truthful way, so you don't do things that trick or cheat people.

Below are some illustrations which you might like to further talk about at home. Remember when discussing keep the questions open, explore everybody's possible feelings and most importantly...no judgement.

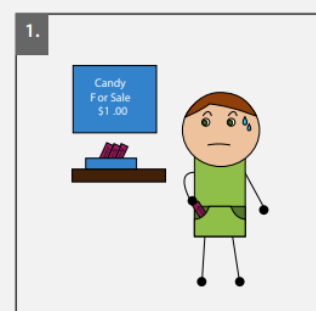
- Sue Bath (Chaplain)



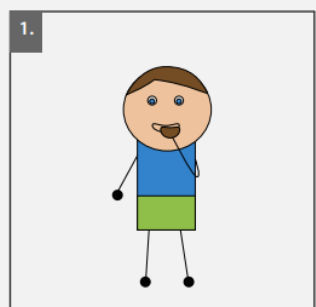
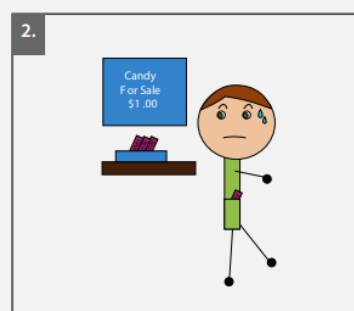
Being honest means you say what really happened.



Being honest means you are truthful in your actions. Hiding your actions when you know they are wrong is dishonest (not honest).



Being honest means you don't try to trick or cheat people. Taking things without paying for them is called stealing, and that is not honest.



Being honest means you tell the whole truth. If you hide the truth, you are not being honest.



AND...some real-life examples from our Preps.

Please note that all names have been withheld to protect the identity of the children.

"Mum said I wasn't allowed on her phone. Then I stole it from her to play on it. Then mum asked me if I played on it then I told the truth. When I was lying, I felt a bit mad and sad at myself. After I told the truth I felt better. I think mum felt a bit mad when I wasn't telling the truth."

"My mum said not to play video games on the phone, and I did but I said that I didn't. I told mum the truth because I was getting a bit cross with myself for telling a lie."

"I wanted to use my mums iPad, but she said no. So when she was working, I snuck in and used it. When mum asked if I was using it, I said no. I was then worried that I would get in trouble."

"So my sister had a birthday of turning 8. She had a painting from her birthday and she put some purple on it and I smushed the purple all over the painting and I blamed it on the cat."

Can you work out the titles of these 20 famous children's books?

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
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6. 
7. 
8. 
9. 
10. 

11. 
12. 
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16. 
17. 
18. 
19. 
20. 

Can you work out the titles of these 20 famous children's books?

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 12. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 13. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 14. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 15. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 16. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 17. _____ |
| 8. _____ | 18. _____ |
| 9. _____ | 19. _____ |
| 10. _____ | 20. _____ |

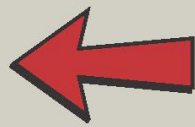
DIGITAL DANGERZONES

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



COLAC CARER EXPO

Tuesday, October 14th, 10 am - 2 pm
St John's Hall
crn Pollack St & Hesse St, Colac

Come along to explore a diverse range of local services and organisations that support carers.

Scan the QR code to book into one of the free workshops on the day.
Limited spots, so get in quick!



Whether you support someone with a disability, mental health condition, chronic illness, eating disorder, or someone who is elderly or neurodivergent, you're invited!



For further information contact Jayne 0428 116 610

