



Birregurra Primary School Newsletter

'Living & Learning Together'

Term 3, Week 6 – 17th August 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

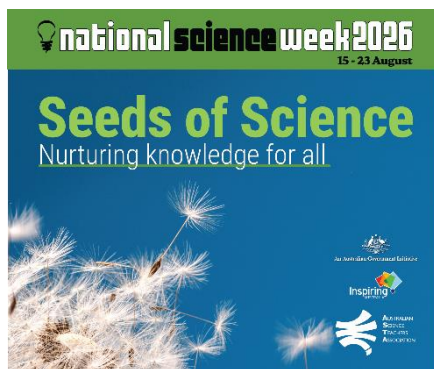
Community - growing positive partnerships between school, home and the broader community

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 6 and National Science Week. Throughout the week, students will be exploring the science that surrounds us every day through a range of hands-on learning experiences and activities that encourage curiosity, observation and questioning.

A huge thank you to all the families who participated in our Family Nature Photo Challenge. We loved receiving your photos of flowers, birds, fungi, weather, plants and other fascinating features of the natural world, along with your thoughtful explanations of the science

behind them.

Your contributions have helped us create a whole-school Nature Photo Display that students will explore throughout the week. The display will inspire discussion, scientific thinking and curiosity as students observe the incredible science that exists in our environment, ask questions and share their wonderings with one another.

As we celebrate curiosity and learning through National Science Week, we will also be recognising Bullying No Way Week. While these events have different focuses, they both remind us of the importance of creating a school community where every student feels safe to explore, ask questions, take risks and belong.

Throughout the week, students will participate in classroom activities that promote kindness, inclusion, empathy and respectful relationships. This year's Bullying No Way Week theme, Small Acts, Big Impact, highlights how everyday actions, such as including others, speaking kindly and standing up for what is right, help build a positive and supportive school culture. By nurturing both curious minds and caring hearts, we continue to strengthen our school as a place where every child can learn, grow and thrive.



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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 18th September 2026**.

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

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.

Regional Director Visit

On Wednesday, we look forward to welcoming the South Western Victoria Region Regional Director to Birregurra Primary School. During the visit, Mr Thomson will spend time in our junior classrooms observing our explicit phonics instruction and the high-quality teaching practices that support our students in developing strong early reading skills. It is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the excellent work of our staff and students, and to highlight our school's ongoing commitment to evidence-based teaching that gives every child the best possible start to their learning journey.

Book Week - next week!

Book Week is just around the corner, and we are excited to celebrate the joy of books, reading and storytelling with our students and families. The theme for Book Week 2026 is "*Symphony of Stories*". To help celebrate, we are inviting students and staff to dress up next **Monday 24th August**. Costumes can be linked to the theme or represent a favourite book character. Costumes do not need to be new or elaborate. We encourage students to be creative and use items they already have at home. Simple costumes made with imagination are often the most memorable!

We will begin our celebrations with our Book Week Parade at 9:00am on **Monday 24th August**, where students and staff will have the opportunity to showcase their wonderful costumes. Families are welcome to join us for this special celebration of reading.



Giant Book Swap

As part of our Book Week celebrations, we will once again be running our Giant Book Swap. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to share the joy of reading, give pre-loved books a new home and discover some new favourites.

Students can bring along second-hand books from now until **Monday 24th August**. For each book they bring (up to a maximum of 5 books), they will receive a token. These tokens can then be exchanged for other second-hand books during our Giant Book Swap on **Tuesday 25th August**.

Teachers will keep a record of the number of books each student contributes. Books should be in good condition and suitable for primary-aged students. Start checking your bookshelves now and see if you have any much-loved books ready to be passed on to another reader!

We look forward to a wonderful week celebrating books, stories and the joy of reading together.

3/4 Sovereign Hill Camp

Camp to Sovereign Hill is fast approaching, with our Grade 3 & 4 students heading off from **26-28 August**. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to step back in time and experience life on the Victorian goldfields while taking part in a range of hands-on activities and experiences.

As we prepare for camp, could families please log in to XUNO to complete all required forms and finalise payment as soon as possible. Thank you for helping us ensure everything is organised and ready for a fantastic camp experience.

Parking

We have noticed some cars parking on the opposite side of Beal Street. We understand that parking is limited, particularly during wet weather when the grass is soft. If you do park on the opposite side of the road, we ask that you please cross the road and meet your child, rather than having them walk across to you. We have observed some students walking in front of or behind the bus to reach parked cars, which creates a safety risk. Thank you for your support in helping us keep all students safe at pick-up and drop off times.

Father's Day Breakfast

On **Friday the 4th 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 **31st August**



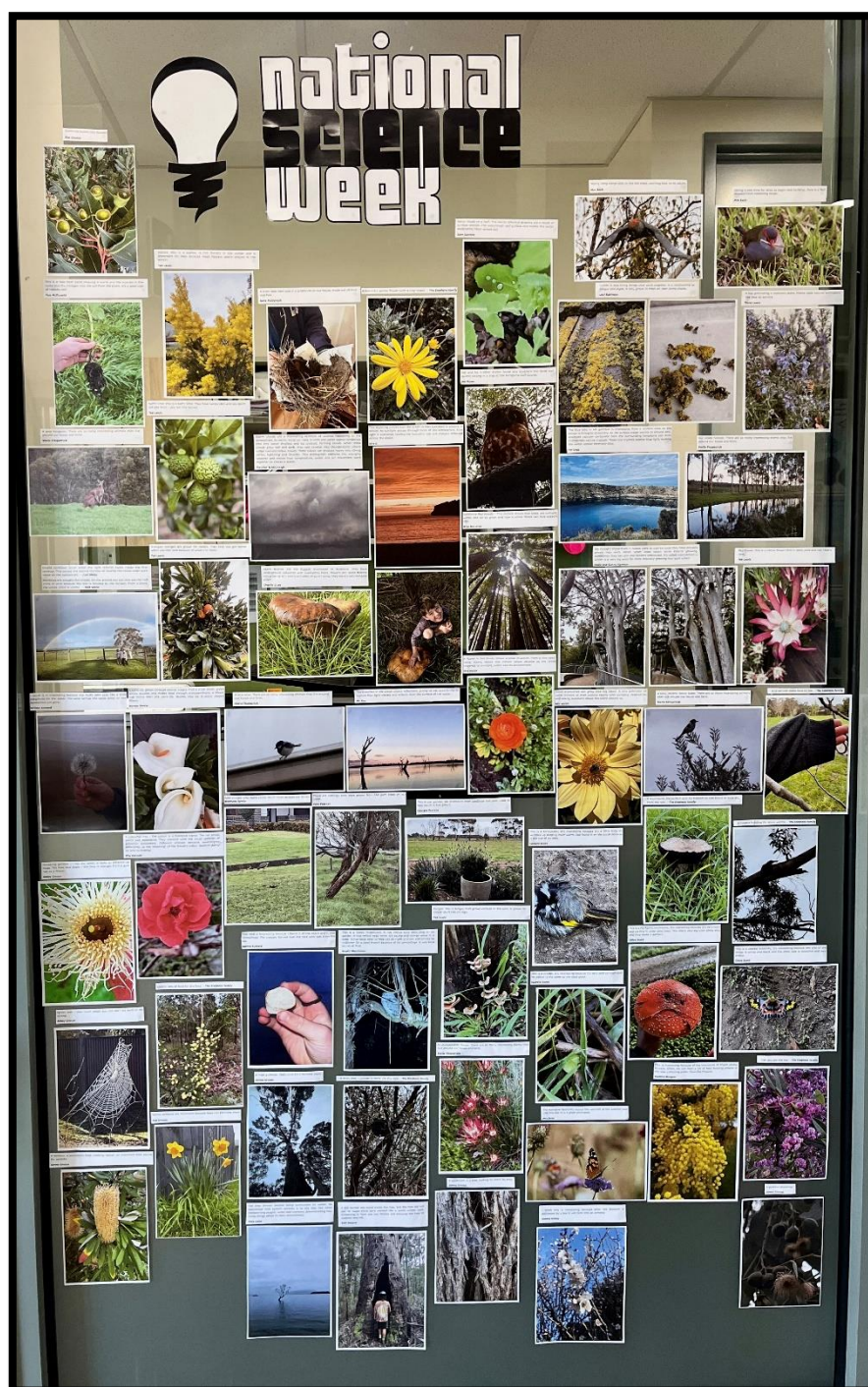
along with any dietary requirements. We look forward to acknowledging the father figures that support our students and their education!

Reminders

- Milo Monday (\$1 Milos available at lunchtime)
- Toasty Tuesday (\$2 cheese toasties available at lunchtime)
- Lunch Orders due by 9:00am Wednesday morning for Friday lunch!
- Breakfast Club runs each Thursday morning from 8:15am – all welcome, come along and join your friends for a healthy breakfast!
- The 3/4 camp balance is due by 25th August.

Have a wonderful week and please don't hesitate to reach out if we can assist.

Jess Kattwinkel & team



Dates for the Diary...

Mon 17 th Aug – Fri 21 st Aug	- National Science Week
Monday 17 th August	- Milo Monday
Tuesday 18 th August	- Toastie Tuesday
Wednesday 19 th August	- Lunch Orders due by 9am
Thursday 20 th August	- Breakfast Club
Friday 21 st August	- Assembly 2.45pm, Grade 6 Class Presentation
Sat 22 nd Aug to Fri 28 th Aug	- CBCA Children's Book Week
Monday 24 th August	- Book Week Parade 9:00am - Milo Monday - School Council 6.30pm
Tuesday 25 th August	- Toastie Tuesday
Wed 26 th Aug – Fri 28 th Aug	- Grade 3/4 Camp - Sovereign Hill
Wednesday 26 th August	- Lunch Orders due by 9am
Thursday 28 th August	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Monday 31 st August	- Clubs 12.30pm
Wednesday 2 nd September	- Lunch Orders due by 9am
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
Monday 7 th September	- School Council 6.30pm
Wednesday 9 th September	- JSC RUOK Day?
Thursday 10 th September	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 11 th September	- JSC Disco



Mental Health in Primary Schools Initiative

Last week, I attended refresher training alongside Mental Health and Wellbeing Leaders from across Victoria. The training provided an opportunity to reflect on our current approach to mental health and wellbeing at Birregurra Primary, consider our existing practices and share ideas and experiences with colleagues from across the state.

The MHWL role supports a whole-school approach to mental health and wellbeing. This includes:

- Building the capacity and confidence of school staff
- Supporting the development of clear and consistent referral pathways
- Coordinating targeted mental health and wellbeing support for students
- Supporting the implementation of whole-school wellbeing and learning initiatives
- Ensuring the use of evidence informed strategies to meet the wellbeing needs of students.

The MHWL role is not a clinical or allied health role.

MHWLs draw on their understanding of classroom practice and the experiences of teachers to support the integration of evidence-informed mental health and wellbeing curriculum content and teaching practices across the school.

Brendan King



Help Us Build Our

NEW PLAYGROUND!

A PLACE TO PLAY, LEARN & GROW TOGETHER

BIRREGURRA



PRIMARY
SCHOOL

*Every
donation*

helps create an
exciting new
play space for
our students!



TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD A PLAYGROUND OUR STUDENTS
WILL ENJOY FOR YEARS TO COME!

SCAN TO DONATE



Thank you for
your support! 



Your support will help us
create a safe, inclusive and
inspiring place for our
students to play, connect
and thrive.

Thank you! 

Your generosity makes a lasting
difference to the children of
Birregurra Primary School.

★ STRONGER TOGETHER. BRIGHTER FUTURES. ★

COMMUNITY – ASPIRE – RESPECT – EXCELLENCE

FUNDRAISER FOR BIRREGURRA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Tickets Are On Sale *Now!*

Join us for Otways Women's Day
and help raise funds for
new play equipment at
Birregurra Primary School.



INSPIRATIONAL
GUEST SPEAKERS



LOCAL DRINKS
& CANAPÉS



LIVE
AUCTION



A WONDERFUL
AFTERNOON FOR
A GREAT CAUSE



SATURDAY 31 OCTOBER 2026
12.00–5.00PM
BIRREGURRA MECHANICS HALL

Book now
TO AVOID
DISAPPOINTMENT!



EVERY TICKET HELPS BUILD SOMETHING
SPECIAL FOR THE CHILDREN OF BIRREGURRA.



Purchase your tickets [here](#)

For more information –

please see our Instagram Page - @otwayswd or Facebook – Otway Women's Day

Welcome to August!

Our program has been full of fun, creativity and learning this term! Children have enjoyed taking part in a variety of themed activities, including celebrating NAIDOC week, where they explored and learned about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, a magical Winter Wonderland filled with seasonal crafts and games and Origami week where they developed patience, creativity and fine motor skills through the art of paper folding. It's been wonderful to see our children engaged, making new friendships and enjoying a range of exciting experiences in a safe and welcoming environment.



Monday 24 - Friday 28 August is
BOOK WEEK!!

SYMPHONY OF STORIES

We've got a FUN week of engaging games and craft activities planned based on our favourite books.

BOOK IN NOW!!

TheirCare.com.au



Get ready to enter the
ALL-STAR ARENA!



Holiday Program bookings open soon!
Keep an eye on your emails...

CONTACT SERVICE:

 0484 062 363

 Birregurra@theircare.com.au

TC HEAD OFFICE:

 1300 072 410

 info@theircare.com.au

www.theircare.com.au





LORNE SLSC Junior Programs: Nippers, SRC & GapYear **Confidence • Community • Skills • Lifesaving**

Nippers (Fri 5pm, Sun 10am) & Summer Intensive (27/12 - 2/1)
Surf Rescue Certificate (SRC):
GapYear (Grow Act Patrol)
Bronze Adult and Youth
Volunteers

u6s-u13, inc Starfish All Abilities
u14/15s
u15/16s
New or returning members
Adult & Youth welcome

Weekly Nippers program is a fun, inclusive and active beach community where children build confidence, water safety and surf lifesaving skills.

Summer Intensive is the flagship Nippers program, delivering an exciting week of activities. Some highlights include guest presenters, educational sessions, specialist skills, Nippers Art Show & Karaoke.

Gap Year participants enjoy their own engaging daily program during Summer Intensive while playing a vital role in supporting the Nippers program.

SRC Program provides young members with a dedicated daily training program focused on surf rescue skills, emergency response and leadership. Participants achieve their Surf Rescue Certificate (SRC) and join an active surf lifesaving patrol.

REGISTRATION FOR Nippers, SRC and GapYear

1 Sep 26 – Early Registration for Volunteer families

5 Sep 26 – Registration opens for all.

- * In order to register for **NIPPERS, SRC** and **GapYear** Lorne SLSC **Club Membership** must be paid and approved before registration. [Click here to renew your family membership.](#)
- * In order to register for **NIPPERS** and **SRC** a [Preliminary Swim Assessment form](#) must be signed by Swim Teacher or Coach. Complete form before 1/9/26. [See attached form.](#)
- * In order to register for **Gap Year**, [Skills Maintenance](#) must be completed prior to 31/12/26.

Lorne Surf Life Saving Club is a registered Get Active Kids Activity Provider .

Please contact Kirilee youth@lornesurfclub.com.au, Alice admin@lornesurfclub.com.au or Paul & Jo nippers@lornesurfclub.com.au if you would like further information or need assistance with payments.

Colac Basketball Association

2026/27 Summer Domestic Basketball Season

Sign Up to Play!

Register Now: <https://www.playhq.com/basketball-victoria/register/e7eeec>

Registration closes on 28 August, with teams to be released by 18 September.

