



Birregurra Primary School Newsletter

'Living & Learning Together'

Term 3, Week 9 – 15th September 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



The final week of Term Three is here! It has been a busy and action-packed term, full of valuable learning experiences for both students and staff. The end of the term provides a great opportunity to reflect on our achievements, opportunities, and extra-curricular activities. Throughout the term, our school community has been involved in:

- Year 3/4 & 5/6 Puberty Health Promotion sessions
- Wheelie Wednesdays
- Prep 100 Days of School Dress-Up
- Three-Day School Review
- STEAM Incursion (Years 3–6)
- Visit from Trinity VET Sport & Recreation students, who ran PE sessions
- Year 3–6 Camp at YMCA Anglesea
- Book Week Parade and Giant Book Swap
- PJ Day
- Read with Rotary (Preps)
- Father's Day Breakfast
- Sporting Schools – Basketball
- AFL Virtual Classroom
- Bike Education
- Year 5 "A Day in the Life of a High School Student" at Colac Secondary College
- R U OK? Day
- Clubs
- JSC Disco
- Footy Colours Day (This Friday!)

Our staff have participated in a range of professional learning opportunities this term, including participation in network Maths and Literacy Communities of Practice, first aid and CPR refreshers, as well as cluster meetings focused on Respectful Relationships and Mental Health in Primary Schools. These opportunities help us stay up to date with the latest educational developments and continually reflect on and refine our practices to ensure the best outcomes for our students.

Massive thanks to staff, students, parents and the local community for your contribution towards our school throughout this term. Each of you help ensure the programs and opportunities we provide at Birregurra are many and varied and we are grateful for your ongoing support.

School Review

Last Monday was the culmination of our school review. I would like to once again thank the panel for their valuable contributions throughout the three days: Rob Lidgerwood (School Council President), Alistair Burrell (Learning Specialist), Brendan King (Mental Health & Wellbeing Leader), Brendan Bush (Senior Education Improvement Leader), Melissa Macoora (Principal, Moriac Primary School), Karla Gilbert (Assistant Principal, Herne Hill Primary School), and our reviewer, Di Matheson.

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

During the day, the review panel set goals and targets to guide our focus over the next four years. The final report, along with these goals and targets, will be carefully written, quality assured, and then returned to our school. We look forward to sharing our priorities and plans for the next four years with the whole school community next term.

School Council

Last Monday night we held our September School Council meeting. Reports presented and accepted included the Principal's Report, Junior School Council, Parents & Friends, and Buildings and Grounds.

Key items discussed were:

- Book Week celebrations
- Year 3–6 Camp – a successful and enjoyable experience with positive feedback from the camp staff
- School Review update from Rob Lidgerwood – The review provided valuable insight into what happens behind the scenes. We celebrated many strengths, including strong leadership, dedicated staff, and consistency across the school. While there are always small areas to refine, it is an exciting time for our school.
- 2026 enrolment projections
- Accountability surveys – the Staff Opinion Survey has been completed, and the Parent Opinion Survey is currently open. Results will be analysed once received.
- Emergency Management Plan – completed for 2025–2026
- Staff professional learning – current and upcoming opportunities outlined
- Curriculum Reports from classroom teachers presented

We also ratified finance reports for August.

Our next school council meeting will be held on **Monday 10th November**. If you wish to know more about any of the above items, please feel free to chat to one of our school council members.

A day in the life of a High School Student...

Last Thursday our Grade 5 students had the opportunity to attend a 'Come and Try Day!' at Colac Secondary College. The day was designed to provide students with insights into how a secondary school operates. Students engaged in subjects such as Cooking and PE in buildings specifically designed for these specialist subjects. It was a wonderful opportunity for our students to experience a day in the life of a high school student. Thanks to CSC for providing this opportunity for our students and supporting the beginning of a positive transition to secondary school.

Bike Education

We have now concluded our two-week Bike Education program. A big thank you to Mr King, our teachers, education support staff, Josh Goonan and our parents for their efforts in making the program such a success. It was wonderful to see students confidently showcasing their skills on the road last Friday. The program not only built knowledge and practical road skills but also promoted safety, resilience, and independence. Well done to students for embracing the challenge and growing in confidence throughout the two weeks.



JSC Disco

What a wonderful night we had on Friday night at the JSC Disco. Massive thanks to the staff that came along to support the event and well done to the JSC for organising a fun filled night. It was wonderful to see everyone embracing the 80s theme.



Parent/Teacher Conversations

Parent/Teacher conversations continue this week, this afternoon and Wednesday afternoon, via phone. If you haven't booked a time yet, there are still some slots available on XUNO. Teachers will call parents at the allocated time. Thank you to those who have already connected with teachers.

Footy Colours Day – Last Day of Term

This Friday is the final day of Term Three and Footy Colours Day. Students and staff are invited to dress up in their footy gear, and when we say footy, we mean AFL, Junior footy teams, soccer as well as basketball, netball, baseball, or just get colourful!

A reminder that assembly will be at 1:45pm, our finish time on Friday is 2:15pm. Our Footy raffle will be drawn at assembly so make sure you've got your tickets! School buses will run an hour early on this day to reflect the early finishing time.

Trivia Night

Tickets are now available for our Trivia Night on **Friday October 17th**! You can book your tickets at [Birregurra Primary School Trivia Night 2025 Tickets](#). The holidays are a perfect time to gather your crew and secure your spot. When booking, feel free to choose any table, seating arrangements can be sorted on the night.

Thanks Heather Ellis



I'd like to take the opportunity to thank Heather Ellis for her contributions to our school community over the past month. During her time with us, Heather has brought energy, commitment, and care to her role, supporting both staff and students in a variety of ways. Her willingness to step in, share her expertise, and build positive connections has been greatly appreciated. We are grateful for the time and effort she has dedicated to our school and wish

her all the very best in her future endeavours.

Wishing the whole school community, a happy holiday period. We look forward to welcoming you all back to school on **Monday 6th October**.

Jess Kattwinkel & team

Dates for the Diary

TERM 3	
Monday 15 th September	- Parent Teacher Conversations 3.30pm-4.30pm
Wednesday 17 th September	- Wheelie Wednesday Gr 3-6 - Parent Teacher Conversations 3.30pm-4.30pm
Thursday 18 th September	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 19 th September	- Last Day of Term 3, 2.15pm finish - Footy Colours Day - Assembly 1.45pm - Gr 3 Class Presentation
TERM 4	
Monday 6 th October	- Term 4 Commences
Wednesday 8 th October	- Gr 3-6 Ecolinc Incursion
Thursday 9 th October	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Thursday 16 th October	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 17 th October	- Assembly 2.45pm - Gr 1/2L Class Presentation - Trivia Night
Thursday 23 rd October	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 31 st October	- World Teachers Day - Assembly 2.45pm - Gr 1/2M Class Presentation
Tuesday 4 th November	- Melbourne Cup Public Holiday
Thursday 6 th November	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Monday 10 th November	- School Council 6.30pm
Thursday 13 th November	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 14 th November	- STOMP Session - Assembly 2.45pm - Prep Class Presentation
Thursday 20 th November	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 21 st November	- 2026 Prep Transition Session 1 - 9am - 11am - STOMP Session
Monday 24 th November	- Common Professional Planning Day - Student Free Day
Thursday 27 th November	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 28 th November	- 2026 Prep Transition Session 2 - 9am - 11.30am - STOMP Session - Assembly 2.45pm - Gr 5/6 Class Presentation

Wishing the following students
a very
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

September

23rd

Hattie K & Bobby L

27th

Liam P

October

3rd

Sam G

5th

Hunter S

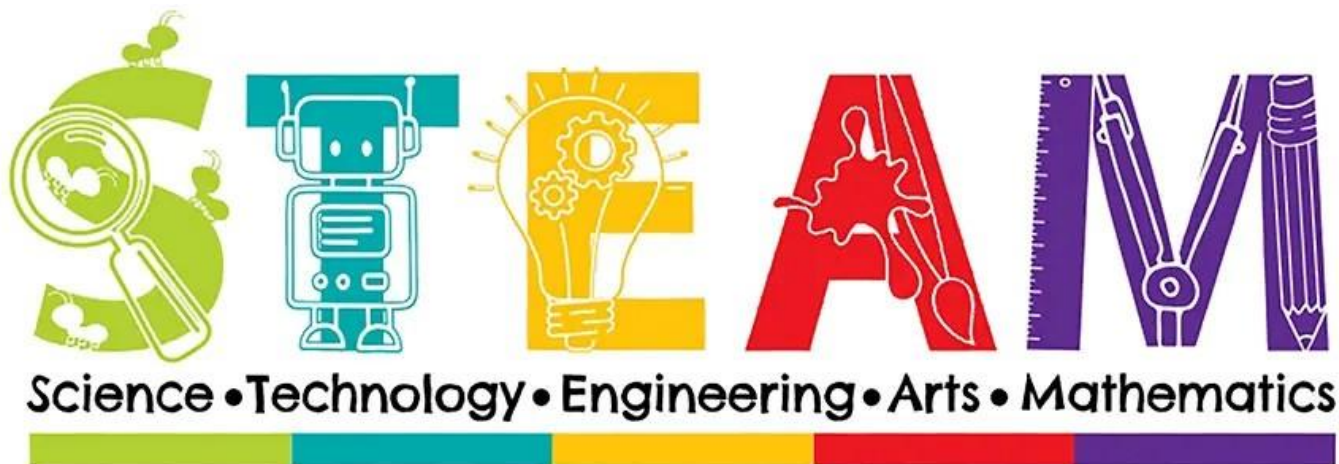


Term 3 Sporting Schools

Through Sporting Schools funding, students in Grades 3–6 have enjoyed a four-week basketball program with Geelong United player Aleks Connolly. The sessions were fun and engaging, helping students develop their shooting, passing and dribbling skills while building confidence, teamwork and a love for the game. This has come at a perfect time,

with our School Basketball Lightning Premiership taking place early in Term 4.





During STEAM this term, students in Grades 4, 5 and 6 were given a small wooden frame as a starting point. Their challenge was to plan and design how it could be transformed into something useful for Father's Day—or for another special person in their lives.

Could it become a key box? A remote holder? Something else entirely? Students were asked to think creatively about the purpose of their frame and to plan the steps needed to complete it. They also had to consider the materials and tools required, as well as the timeframe available to bring their ideas to life.

- Mrs Williams



Community Arts Group Project

This term, Year 5/6 students were invited by the Community Arts Group to contribute to a shared artwork for display at the Birre Men's Shed.

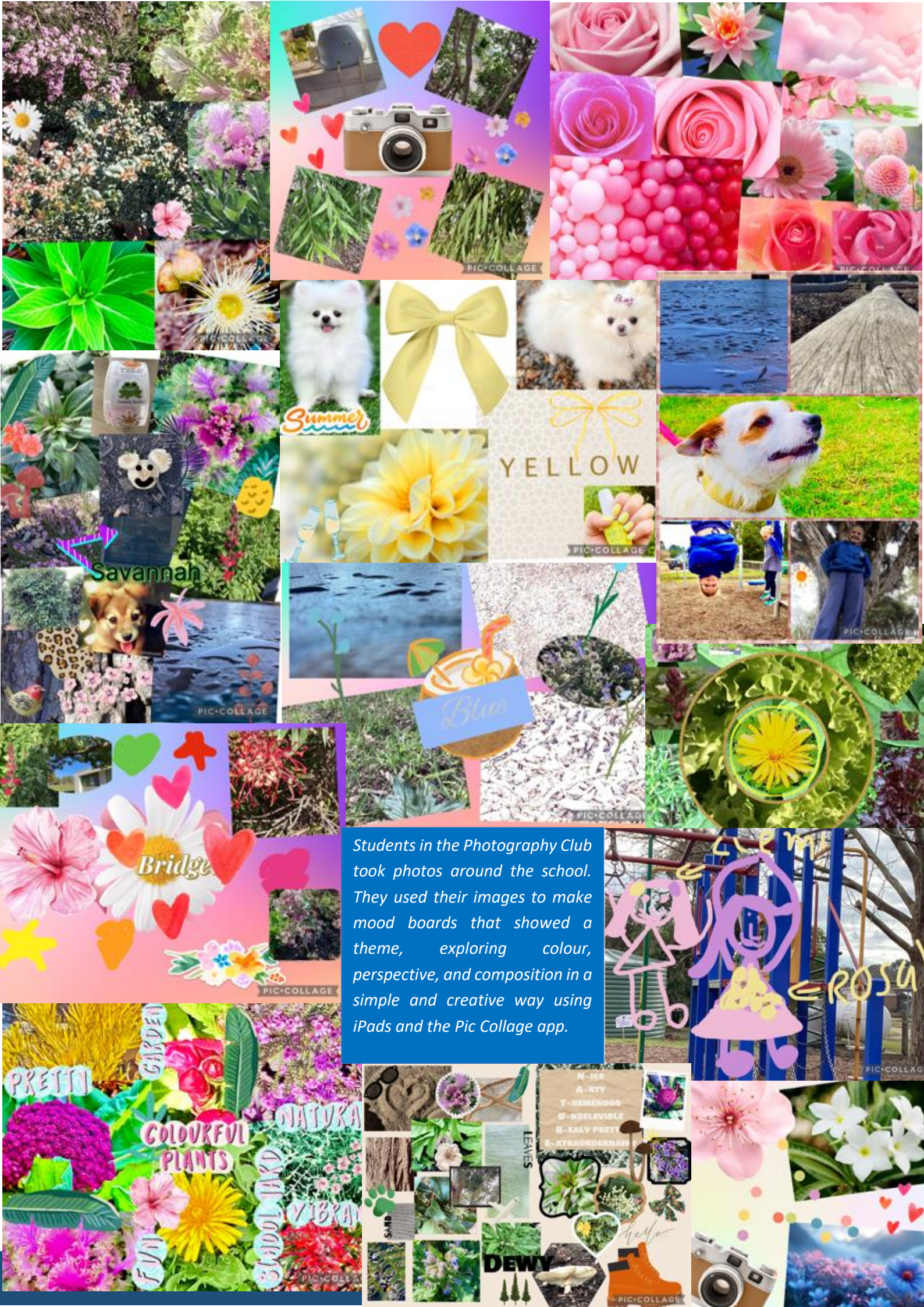
To begin, students explored how other community groups have worked together to create large collaborative artworks. Our focus was an aerial view of the Birregurra Football and Netball ground, which students reimagined using abstraction techniques to transform photographs into bold and colourful designs.

After sharing their ideas, students combined their individual sketches into one striking collaborative piece. The finished artwork showcases the creativity of every student and highlights the power of teamwork.

We are so proud of the students' efforts, and the artwork will be proudly displayed for the whole community to enjoy. A special thank you goes to Sheryl Biddle for her inspiring ideas and encouragement, and to Colin Risbey for providing and delivering the prepared base board.

- Mrs Williams





Students in the Photography Club took photos around the school. They used their images to make mood boards that showed a theme, exploring colour, perspective, and composition in a simple and creative way using iPads and the Pic Collage app.

FOR SALE

ITALIANO DICTIONARIES

VISUAL ITALIAN TO
ENGLISH
DICTIONARIES
@\$10 EACH

THE PERFECT WAY TO
LEARN!

ALL PROCEEDS WILL BE
GOING TOWARDS THE
PURCHASE OF A CPR
'LITTLE ANNIE' DOLL.

'LITTLE ANNIE' IS
BEING TAKEN OVER TO
TIMOR LESTE IN
OCTOBER TO HELP
TRAIN A NUMBER OF
VILLAGES IN CPR. IT
WILL THEN BE
DONATED TO THE
AINARO HOSPITAL.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE
TO PURCHASE A
DICTIONARY, PLEASE
LET THE OFFICE
KNOW.

GRAZIE MILLE,
SIGNORA



**Birregurra
Primary School**

TRIVIA NIGHT

JOIN US ON
FRIDAY 17TH OCTOBER
BIRREGURRA MECHANICS HALL
DOORS OPEN 7PM FOR 7.30PM START

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT
WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/DFONI

Birregurra Primary School

FOOTY RAFFLE

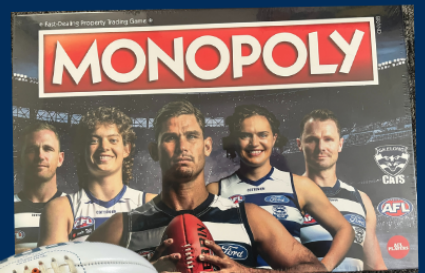
Tickets \$5 each or 3 for \$10



1st Prize – Signed 2024 Cats jumper with Certificate of Authenticity, Geelong Cats Sherrin Football



2nd Prize – Geelong Cats Monopoly Game, Geelong Cats Sherrin Football



3rd Prize – Geelong Cats Throw Rug, Geelong Cats cap, Geelong Cats Sherrin football



4th Prize – Geelong Cats 960ml drink bottle, Geelong Cats Sherrin football



5th Prize – Geelong Cats Sherrin Football



RAFFLE DRAWN FRIDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2025

Purchase your tickets at
<https://forms.gle/DpkBnEny3IYitLsd7>
or from the School Office








Sensory quiet time

at Bluewater Leisure Centre

Sensory quiet time aims to improve accessibility by creating a low-stimulating environment with changes based on community feedback.

 **Time:** Every Saturday 1pm – 3pm

-  Reduced music and PA announcements
-  Water features turned off
-  Reduced lighting
-  Phones turned down
-  Hand dryers turned off



Join our local Rotary clubs and
'Walk for Respect' to help put an
end to domestic violence.



Rotary

says **NO** to
**DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE**

Saturday October 18th
Memorial Square
from 10:30am - 12pm

Everyone is welcome!

Rotary

Colac West and Colac



COMMUNITY – ASPIRE – RESPECT – EXCELLENCE



Polwarth & District Tennis Association

POLWARTH TENNIS SEASON DATES.

**NEW PLAYERS + TEAMS
WELCOME IN ALL PENNANTS.**

Saturday Junior + Senior Pennant

STARTS 11/10/25

Wednesday Social 4s

Senior + Div 1 pennant 29/10/25

Friday Junior Aggregate

Singles + Doubles @ Elliminyt T.C. 31/10/25

12-15 y.o 4pm | 15-18 y.o 5pm

**Free Coaching Clinic for beginners
Grades P-6 @ Elliminyt T.C**

September 10th, 17th, 24th 5-5:45PM

Hosted by Polwarth A Grade tennis players

TENNIS OPEN DAY ALL WELCOME

@ Elliminyt T.C – 10am - 2pm 5/10/25


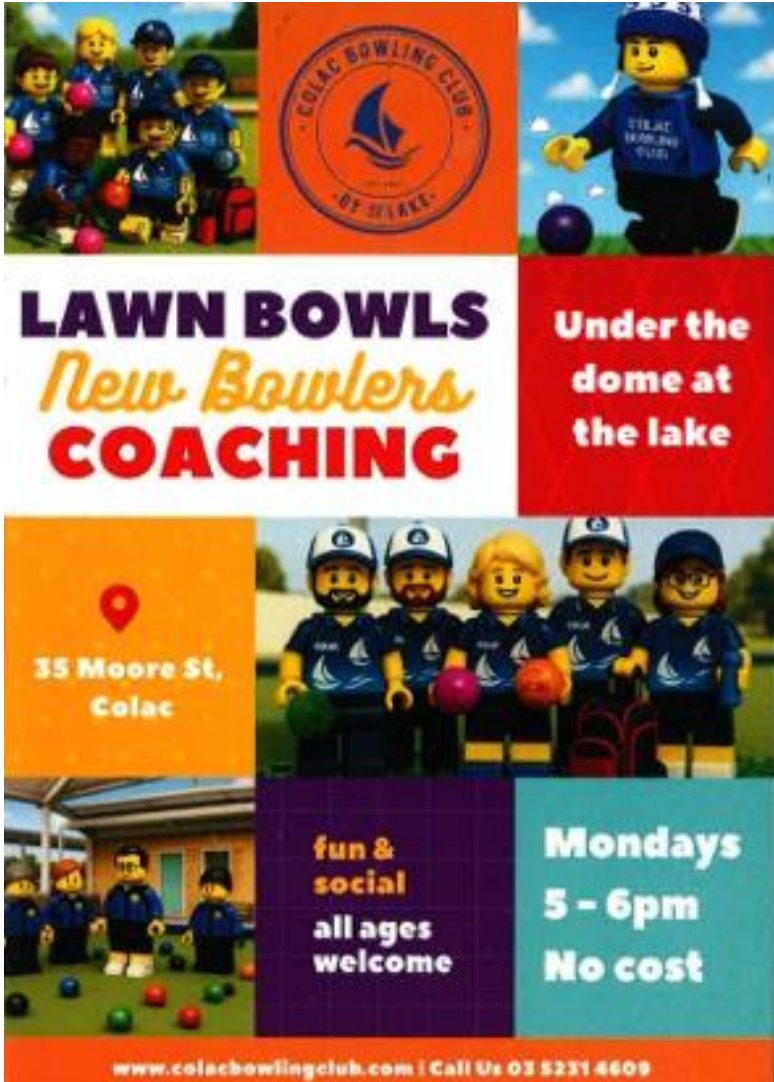
- Free tennis clinics
- Stalls
- Australian Open Trophy

CONTACT US

Facebook: Polwarth & District Tennis Association

Instagram: Polwarth_tennis

Email: polwarthtennisinfo@gmail.com

LAWN BOWLS
New Bowlers
COACHING

Under the dome at the lake

35 Moore St, Colac

fun & social
all ages welcome

Mondays
5 - 6pm
No cost

www.colacbowlingclub.com | Call Us 03 5231 4609



Colac Otway Shire Barwon Water

Free mulch giveaway!

Barwon Water is teaming up with Colac Otway Shire to provide Birregurra residents with free mulch this spring.

Council has been busy clearing trees and making mulch which will be available for pick up in October.

It's a perfect time to get in the garden and do some spring gardening.

Why use Mulch?
Keeping your garden mulched is essential for creating healthy soil and maintaining a water efficient garden!

- Mulch keeps your soil cool, suppresses weeds, adds nutrients and reduces run off and soil movement.
- Mulch can reduce evaporation from soil by up to 70%.
- Any mulch is better than no mulch

Free mulch giveaway
When Sunday 5 October 2025, pick up anytime between 9am-12pm
Where Birregurra Recreation Reserve – follow the signs at the entrance of the Football ground which will direct you to the site.

Bring your gloves, mulch fork, shovel, trailer, bags or buckets and come and grab some local mulch.

For more information, please email sustainablewater@barwonwater.vic.gov.au

To find out more about Birregurra Sustainable Communities – Water, please visit <https://www.yoursay.barwonwater.vic.gov.au/birregurra>

Birregurra Sustainable Communities – Water

1300 656 007 | sustainablewater@barwonwater.vic.gov.au
www.barwonwater.vic.gov.au | f i t y

Keep an eye out for more giveaways on the day!



SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN
NATURE CRAFT

MAKING AND CREATING USING NATURAL RESOURCES

OPEN TIMES
10AM TO 12:00PM FOR 6 TO 11 YEARS
1:00 TO 3:00PM FOR 11 TO 16 YEARS
ENTRY \$5 PER CHILD (FREE ENTRY FOR PARENTS SUPERVISING).

THURSDAY 2ND OCTOBER
COLAC LOG CABIN SCOUT HALL

FUNDS RAISED SUPPORT 2ND COLAC SEA SCOUT GROUP AND THE COLAC LOG CABIN SCOUT HALL RESTORATION PROJECT.

2nd Colac Sea Scouts

Scouts Australia



SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN
RETRO GAME DAY

ENJOY A SOCIAL SESSION OF RETRO MULTIPLAYER GAMES ON A VARIETY OF CONSOLES PLUS BOARD GAMES

GAME ON!

FRIDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2025
COLAC LOG CABIN SCOUT HALL

OPEN TIMES
10am to 12:00pm for 6 to 11 year olds
1:00 to 3:00pm for 11 to 16 year olds
Entry \$5 per child (free entry for parents supervising).

Drinks and lollies available to purchase.
Consoles and board games provided - no BYO.

Funds raised support 2nd Colac Sea Scout Group and the Colac Log Cabin Scout Hall restoration project.

2nd Colac Sea Scouts

Scouts Australia