



# Birregurra Primary School Newsletter

*'Living & Learning Together'*

Term 4, Week 11 – 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023

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



making it to States, amazing achievement!

The last full week of school has arrived! How quickly this year has passed and what a lot we have achieved. We have lots to look forward to this week, with our graduation, school concert and end of year excursions. This week also sees Beau head to the State final for golf. On behalf of the school community, we wish Beau all the very best on Wednesday and know that he will represent both himself and our school well. Congratulations on

## Step Up Day

'Step Up Day' last Thursday was a great success. We were fortunate to have some of our new staff onsite to support our students during the morning. I would like to officially welcome Miss Airlie Birch (3/4A), Mrs Michaela Sultmann (Grade 1 support), Mrs Gemma Welsh (Prep specialist) and Mr Jack Simpson (music) to our team. A special welcome back also to Mrs Mac! I was lucky enough to get around to our classes on Thursday morning and it was wonderful to see the students engaging positively with their 2024 class. We are all very much looking forward to a wonderful 2024.

## Farewell

I would also like to farewell Ms Katrina. Ms Katrina has been supporting our Grade One students throughout the majority of this year and has demonstrated great compassion, patience and understanding. Ms Katrina finished with us on Friday. We wish her all the very best for the future and thank her for her contributions to our school throughout the year!

## Canteen

Massive thanks to Emily McDonald, Emma Mezzatesta and the team of helpers that have volunteered their time to run our Term Four canteen day today. Our students and staff are looking forward to enjoying a delicious BBQ and ice-cream. We greatly appreciate your time and effort today and throughout the year!

## Secondary School Transition

Last week our Grade 6's had the opportunity to attend their chosen secondary school for a day. While this can be a daunting experience it was an invaluable one in allowing them to get a glimpse into the exciting transition that awaits them. Grade 6's will have a second day at secondary school this **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December**.

## Grade 6 Graduation & School Concert

Our final stomp sessions will be this Tuesday. These sessions will be held at the hall to support students' familiarity with the stage and the running of concert night.

Our Grade 6 graduation and school concert will take place this **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> of December**, beginning at 5:15pm with a picnic in the 'Yardz' next to the Birregurra Hall. Students and their families are invited to bring along a picnic rug and/or chairs and enjoy a picnic together. We ask that students then make their way around to the Strachan Street side entrance to the hall at 5:45pm. Families are to then enter through the front entrance of the hall.

School Councillors – Rob Lidgerwood (President) Luke Fitzpatrick, Claire Leeson, Abbey Gannon, Kelly Dodds, Emma Mezzatesta, Emily McDonald, Alistair Burrell, Brendan King.

The school concert will begin at 6:00pm sharp and is anticipated to run for approximately 40 minutes. Grade 6 graduation will follow the concert. Please note that space is limited and the hall will be at capacity. We ask that any younger children please remain with their parents/families and not with the primary students. This will support a smooth running of class concert items.

### End of Year Excursions

This **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> of December**, staff and students will be attending our highly anticipated end of year excursions. The junior team are visiting the Marine Discovery Centre and beach in Queenscliff, where they will participate in beachcombing and visit the aquarium. Our senior students and staff will be heading to the Lorne Foreshore to participate in a session with Go Ride a Wave. As well as an opportunity to surf we will also be engaging in beach activities, visiting the playground and taking a stroll. There may even be a sand castle competition. Students will leave at 9:00am and return in time for normal dismissal. Please check XUNO for a list of what to bring and ensure approval has been completed.

To celebrate the end of their primary schooling, the Grade 6 students will also participate in an excursion to Bounce this **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December** with Mr Burrell and Ms Bree. Details including payment and approval are available on XUNO. Please ensure these are completed ASAP! Thanks for your support with this.

### Lunch Orders

Please note this week is the final week for lunch orders through the Birregurra General Store. Huge thanks to Mrs Leigh for her organisation of lunch orders throughout the year and thanks to the Birregurra General Store for providing this service for our school community.

### Community Colour Run

We are really looking forward to bringing our community together on the final day of the school year for our students, **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> of December** to participate in a Community Colour Run. This event is open to the whole community, with kinder children, secondary school students and other community members welcome to attend. The cost is \$2 per person participant. Community members are required to RSVP to the office via phone 5236 2222 or email [birregurra.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:birregurra.ps@education.vic.gov.au) by this **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> of December**. The event will kick off at 2:00pm. It's highly recommended that participants wear clothing that they don't mind getting dirty. This could be old clothes that you have in your closet or something that you plan on using solely for the Colour Run. Wearing white clothing can make the colour really pop! As well as powder colour, students may be sprayed with water so please ensure your child brings along a towel to sit on, leaving minimal colour transfer from their clothes when they're on the bus or in the car.

If any parents would like to get involved, please let us know, but even if you can't help, we'd love to see you down there on the day cheering the kids on!

### Breakfast Club 2024

Next year we will be hosting Breakfast Club on Thursday mornings from 8.15am. Art will in 2024 will be in Tuesday for our Prep to Grade 4 students and Mrs K-C will need the mornings to set up for the day ahead, hence the change in days.

Breakfast Club will commence on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

### Lost Property

We have a stack of unnamed uniform items in our lost property basket located in the foyer. Please feel free to come in and sift through the items to claim any lost uniform. Please note any unclaimed items will be put into our second-hand uniform supplies at the end of the week and used as spares.



## Reminders-

- Our final school assembly for the year will be held on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December** at 2:45pm with a presentation from Neighbourhood Watch.
- Please log on to XUNO and approve permissions for our end of year excursions ASAP.
- If you are able to help with the Community Colour Run please let us know!

Have a wonderful week all.

Jess Kattwinkel & team

## Dates for the diary ...

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	- Semester Two reports available on XUNO
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	- Breakfast Club 8.15am - Stomp dance lessons - CSC & Trinity Orientation Day - School Concert & Grade 6 Graduation
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	- P-2 excursion to Marine Discovery Centre in Queenscliff - 3-6 excursion to Lorne foreshore - Go Ride a Wave
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	- Gr 6 EOY excursion to Bounce
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	- Final Assembly 2.45pm
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	- Colour Run, \$2 per participant - ALL WELCOME - Last day of school for students - normal dismissal
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	- Curriculum Day
2024	
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	- Term 1, 2024 commences for Staff - No Students
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	- Curriculum Day - No Students
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	- Term 1, 2024 commences for all students
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	- Prep-Gr 2 Information Session, 6pm-7pm
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	- No Preps at school - Welcome BBQ 5pm
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	- Assembly 2.45pm
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	- Gr 3-6 Information Session, 6pm-7pm
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	- No Preps at school
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	- No Preps at school
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	- Assembly 2.45pm
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	- No Preps at school
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> February	- Polwarth Sports
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	- PFA Barefoot Bowls, 6pm-9pm

# Students of the Week

Prep	Val C	For your enthusiasm towards all of our writing tasks, showing confidence when writing independently. Keep up the great work Val!
	Isabelle S	For your brilliant work growing your addition strategies, using the 'counting on' strategy to find the total! Well done Isabelle.
Gr 1	Imogen D	For your fantastic effort during TLI sessions with Ms Hannah! Your enthusiasm, focus and completed work has not gone unnoticed. What a great way to end the year, well done Immy!
	Van F	You worked so hard to trace and copy the writing in your handwriting book. You have grown so much over the school year, awesome work Van!
Gr 2/3	Soraya M	Fabulous effort in Inquiry Soraya! Your collaboration and research into Deforestation has been superb!
	Ava R	You've worked really hard on your persuasive writing and should be proud of your efforts! Well done!
Gr 3/4	Augie C	For your effort in our STOMP dancing sessions. You have been trying so hard to perfect your dance moves.
	Xavier K	For your kindness and positive attitude towards school. You have tried your best and have worked really hard to achieve difficult challenges.
	Angus B	For your dedication to all of your school work. You have been working so hard to improve your skills. You have also shown great pride in our classroom and resources.
Gr 5/6	Hugh F	For your resilience and courage when rapping during the Talent Quest. You were amazing and did so well to remember the rap. Well done Hugh!
	Mia S	For continuing to be such a great leader and ensuring that you have a positive finish to your time at primary school. Well done Mia!
Art	Stevie G	Thank you for learning with me this year! It is obvious that you love your art lessons as much as I do.
	Mina L	What a pleasure it has been to be your art teacher this year. I have thoroughly enjoyed watching your creativity bloom!
Italian	Jack K	For his eagerness to share his wealth of Italian language & cultural knowledge to assist his classmates!
	Dane L	For his beautiful reading of our poem; especially remembering the 'h' is always silent in Italiano!

## Principal's Award

**Hugh F**

For your consistent effort, thoughtfulness and upholding of our school values.

You are a true positive role model Hugh!

WISHING THE FOLLOWING  
STUDENTS

A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY

December

12<sup>th</sup> Eve H

17<sup>th</sup> Bodhi G

Fletcher L





# HEALTH & WELLBEING

Across the holiday period, please keep an extra close eye on your children while using online devices. This period can often be a time when families relax boundaries and expectations. It is imperative that parents remain vigilant across the break while children have increased opportunity to access ICT – Mr King

## Helping your family stay safe online

**Children can learn, explore, play and make friends online. But there can be risks.**

Your child might accidentally see upsetting content, be contacted by strangers or experience bullying. They might also miss out on important things like spending time outside.

Here are some easy things you can do to help keep children safe online.

### Talk about online safety as a family

Let your child know they can always come to you if something happens online that makes them feel scared or upset.

You can ask your child to show you the games and apps they use. Use eSafety's [conversation starters](#) to help you get started.

### Set up family rules together

As a family, you can choose some easy rules to help keep everyone safe online. You can include things like where devices can be used, what games and apps your children can use, and how much time can be spent online. Most devices and apps have features to set limits on how they are used. Watch [this video](#) to learn more about parental controls and settings.

### Know where to get help

If you need help with an online issue and you are not sure what to do, talk about it with someone you trust, like a friend or a teacher at your child's school. You can also speak to someone at [Parentline](#) for help with parenting challenges. The eSafety Commissioner (eSafety) helps to keep all Australian families safe online. The [eSafety website](#) has more information about [reporting online abuse](#) and staying safe online.



For more information about how to keep your family safe online, search for [eSafety Parents](#) on our website.



 eSafety Commissioner

[esafety.gov.au](https://esafety.gov.au)

BIRREGURRA PRIMARY  
SCHOOL

# END OF YEAR CONCERT & *Graduation*



Tuesday  
12 December



5.15pm Picnic  
6pm Concert



Birregurra  
Hall





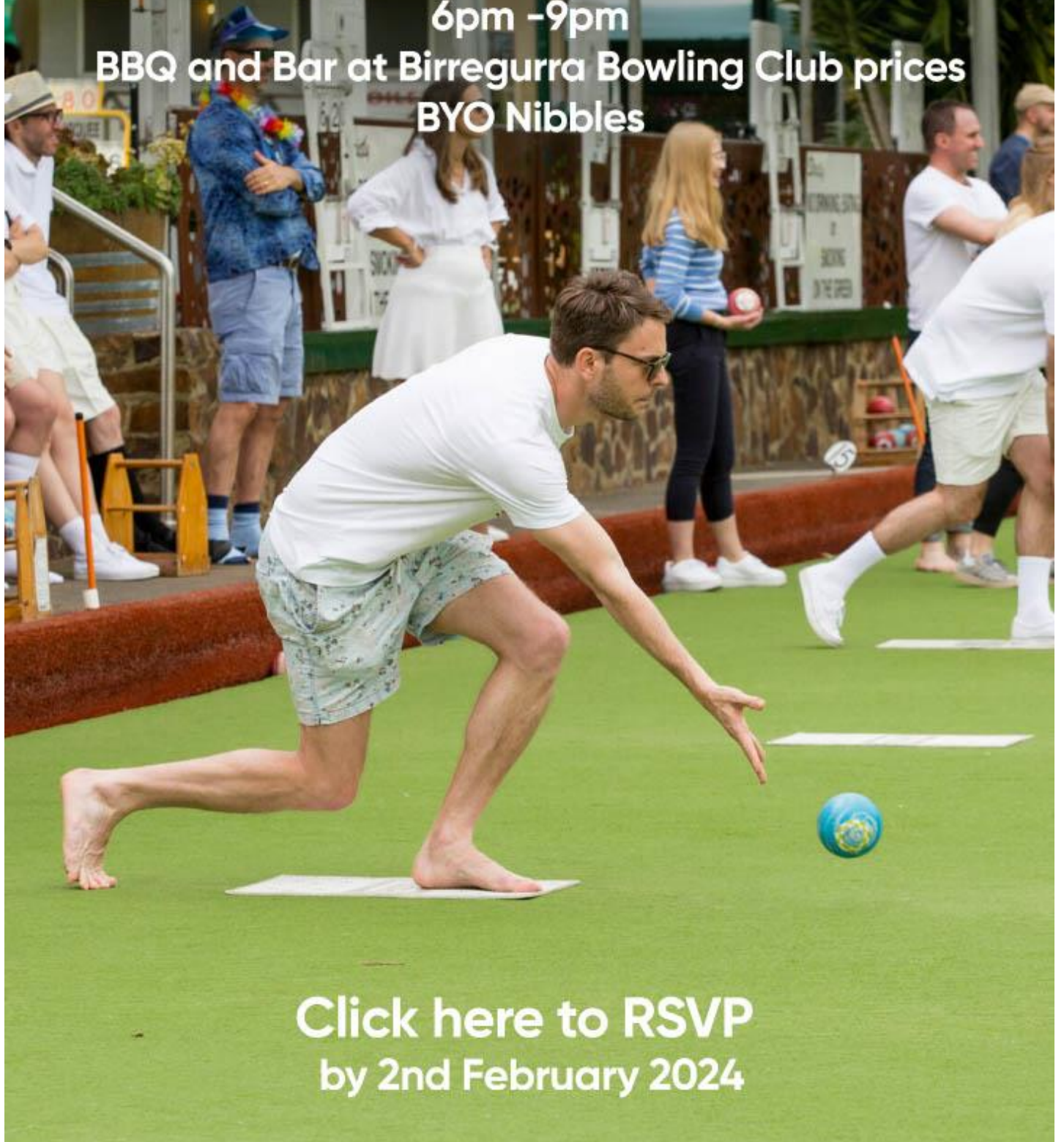
# Birregurra Primary School Barefoot Bowls

Friday 1st March 2024

Birregurra Bowling Club, 58 Roadknight St.

6pm - 9pm

BBQ and Bar at Birregurra Bowling Club prices  
BYO Nibbles



[Click here to RSVP](#)  
by 2nd February 2024