



Birregurra Primary School Newsletter

'Living & Learning Together'

Term 4, Week 6 – 10th November 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 6. I hope you enjoyed the extra day of rest last Tuesday and the beautiful sunshine we had on Thursday, great timing for our senior students' cricket day. As we look ahead to the end of the year, we're excited to see our learners continue to make huge steps in these final weeks of 2025.

Lorne Band

Last Wednesday, we were delighted to host students from Lorne P-12 College and their music teacher, John Waller, a Birregurra local. The visiting bands performed a lively mix of contemporary, pop, and rock pieces, showcasing their impressive talent and enthusiasm. We thank John and his students for sharing their music with us. Events like this strengthen connections between schools and celebrate the value of the Arts in our community.

Interschool Cricket

Last Thursday, a group of senior students headed to Central Reserve in Colac to participate in Interschool Cricket. From all accounts, our students displayed great enthusiasm, teamwork, and sportsmanship throughout the day. They represented our school proudly and showed excellent effort. Well done to all students involved, and thank you to Mr Burrell, Miss Kirsty, and the families who supported the teams.



Talent Quest & Market Day

Last Friday's Talent Quest and Market Day was another wonderful celebration of our students' creativity and confidence. Each year, I'm amazed by the range of talents on display, and this year was no exception. Performances featured singing, dancing, music, comedy, and even some cow showing, providing plenty of entertainment and laughter. Congratulations to all who took to the stage, you made us very proud!

Following the performances, families joined us for morning tea before enjoying the Market Day stalls. Our student stallholders did a terrific job planning and running their stalls, which offered an mix of food, drinks and activities. Thank you to everyone who supported the day. The event was a great success, with funds raised going towards Junior School Council initiatives and subsidising our end of year excursions.

Scholastic Book Fair

Our Book Fair is now open providing a chance to explore a wonderful range of books, from magical stories to thrilling adventures, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

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

The Book Fair is open each day this week from 8:40–9:00am and again from 3:15–3:45pm. If you're available to lend a hand, please let the office know. Thanks to the parents that have already offered their support.

Remembrance Day – November 11

Remembrance Day is held each year on **November 11th – tomorrow!** It's a day when we acknowledge those who died while serving in wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations. Our school community will pay its respects by observing a minute of silence at 11:00 am.



Deakin Vision Screening for Prep to 2 students

We are pleased to host Deakin University Children's Vision Screening at our school on Tuesday 11 November and Tuesday 18 November for students in Prep to Year 2. Senior students completing their Master of Optometry or final trimester of their Bachelor's degree will conduct the screenings under the supervision of registered optometrists and Deakin University School of Medicine staff experienced in children's vision assessments.

The screening helps identify existing or potential vision problems, which, if undetected, can impact learning, behaviour, and development. Early detection ensures children receive the best possible care. Consent forms can be returned up until the last day, though we encourage families to return them promptly to take full advantage of this valuable opportunity.

STOMP Dance Company

We're delighted to welcome back STOMP Dance Company to our school! STOMP dance lessons will commence this **Friday 14th November**. Each class will take part in lively and engaging sessions that develop fundamental movement and coordination skills while building respect, teamwork, confidence, and self-expression.

As part of the Victorian Curriculum, Dance plays an important role in the Arts, allowing students to explore creativity through movement, performance, and collaboration. The STOMP program provides a fun and meaningful way for students to meet these curriculum outcomes while building confidence on stage. The program will culminate in a fantastic showcase of our students' talents at the end-of-year concert taking place on **Friday 12th December!**



Gingerbread House P & F Fundraiser

Our P&F are excited to be selling gingerbread houses this year, just in time for the festive season. Please see the flyer in today's newsletter for more details. Please note, orders are due back to school by this **Friday 14th November**. Thanks in advance for your support.

End of Year Excursions

To celebrate the end of the 2025 school year, all students will head to Village Cinemas to enjoy a movie together. Following the movie, our Year 3 to Year 6 students will continue the fun with laser tag and arcade games, while our Prep to Year 2 students will head to the Geelong waterfront to enjoy the carousel and outdoor play spaces. It promises to be a fantastic day for everyone as we wrap up a wonderful year of learning and achievements. Details are available on XUNO, please log on and provide consent and payment for this event.

We understand the importance of keeping activities affordable for families. To help reduce costs, the school will be subsidising the cost of the buses for the movie day, using funds raised from Market Day.

Our Grade 6 students will also enjoy a special day in Melbourne to celebrate the end of their primary school journey and experience city life. They will catch an early train from Birregurra Station and return at approximately 7.00pm. Mr King has worked closely with the students to plan the day and select activities that reflect their interests. Details are currently being finalised, and we hope to have this on XUNO very soon. Stay tuned!

Lunch Orders

Just a reminder that order forms are due back by 9:00am on **Wednesday mornings**. Payments can be made by sending cash to the office, through EFTPOS or direct deposit into the school bank account.

Please see the volunteer roster below.

DATE	VOLUNTEERS (12:00-2:30ish)
Friday 14 th November	Kristy Stagg

Friday 21 st November	Sarah Scott
Friday 28 th November	Kristy Stagg

Reminders

- School Council is tonight @ 6:30pm in the conference room.
- Breakfast Club is on Thursday morning from 8:15am.
- The Book Fair is open daily from 8:40-8:45 and 3:15-3:45 this week.
- Lunch Orders are due back to the office by 9am Wednesday morning.
- Next **Monday 24th of November** is a common Professional Practice Day where the teachers will be working on report development. **This is a student free day.**

Have a wonderful week everyone! Please make contact should you have any questions or queries.

Jess Kattwinkel & team



Dates for the Diary

TERM 4	
Monday 10 th November – Friday 14 th November	- Scholastic Book Fair
Monday 10 th November	- School Council 6.30pm
Tuesday 11 th November	- Deakin Vision Screening Prep – Gr 2
Thursday 13 th November	- Breakfast Club 8.15am
Friday 14 th November	- STOMP Session - Assembly 2.45pm – Prep Class Presentation
Tuesday 18 th November	- Deakin Vision Screening Prep – Gr 2
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 - Grade 6 Excursion – TBC
Friday 28 th November	- 2026 Prep Transition Session 2 – 9am – 11.30am - STOMP Session - Assembly 2.45pm – Gr 5/6 Class Presentation
Tuesday 2 nd December	- Small Schools Transition Day CSC & Trinity College
Thursday 4 th December	- End of Year Excursions
Friday 5 th December	- STOMP session
Tuesday 9 th December	- Statewide Transition Day for Grade 6's attending CSC & Trinity - 2026 Prep Transition Session 3 – 9am – 2.15pm
Wednesday 10 th December	- Semester Two reports distributed to parents
Friday 12 th December	- STOMP session - School Concert & Grade 6 Graduation
Monday 15 th December	- Final assembly @ 2:45pm
Tuesday 16 th December	- Instrumental Music concert @ 2.15pm
Thursday 18 th December	- Last Day of the school year for students - Colour Run
Friday 19 th December	- Curriculum Day – no school for students



GINGERBREAD HOUSE SALES DRIVE

We are excited to be running a Gingerbread House Decorating Drive! Get your family together to create your very own masterpiece. All from the comfort of home! Delicious and premium quality Gingerbread House Kits from Gingerbread Folk include gingerbread parts, baseboard, quick drying royal icing (in powdered form to use at your leisure), instructions – Presented in one neat carry box!



Gingerbread House Kit: \$45.00

Gluten Free Gingerbread House Kit: \$45.00

Order by Friday 14th November 2025

Kits will be delivered by Friday 5th December, ready for you to build and decorate.

**** All kits are DAIRY, NUT and EGG Free ****





Join in the gingerbread house making fun!

ORDER FORM

GINGERBREAD HOUSE MAKING JOY!

Build and decorate your very own gingerbread house creation at our special event and bring the magic of Christmas to life!

Everything required to build your gingerbread creation including gingerbread parts, baseboard + piping bag and royal icing + cello + ribbon for wrapping. Just add lollies!

- delicious gingerbread made with the finest pure ingredients
- all natural and free from added colours, flavours and preservatives
- all products are dairy, egg-free & nut free
- gluten free option same price!
- Gingerbread Folk products are made in Sydney's Blue Mountains

For more information about our supplier and product nutritional details, please view product info at www.gingerbreadfolk.com.au






To order a gingerbread house, please **complete the information below** and return to the school office with payment.

Please ensure your order is placed by **Friday 14th November** – late orders cannot be accepted.

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Phone: _____

	Qty	Price Each	Total Price
TRADITIONAL GINGERBREAD HOUSE KIT			
		\$45.00	\$
GLUTEN FREE GINGERBREAD HOUSE KIT			
		\$45.00	\$
CHOCOLATE GINGERBREAD HOUSE KIT			
		\$45.00	\$
		TOTAL	\$

Join us for a fun and festive Christmas fundraiser.



2025/26 Junior Blasters



Commencing 20th Nov 2025
at 5pm

Thursday nights at 5pm
Birre cricket ground

Recommended for
girls and boys aged 4-11
years



Register via the link

<https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/0bc5eb>



You're invited:

Twilight Social bowls/Barefoot bowls

When: Wednesdays from 5pm Oct 8-Dec 3

Where: Birregurra Bowling Club. 60 Roadknight St

Cost: \$2pp Nibbles provided and drinks available.

No equipment or experience necessary.

Bring a partner or get paired up on arrival.

(Kids activities available on back grass area)

No serious stuff! However grudge matches will be allowed and occasionally encouraged.

Weekly prizes for highest score and lucky scorecard.

Pre-prep is coming to Colac Otway

So what does that mean for your child?

Part of the State Government's *Best Start. Best Life* reforms, Four-Year-Old Kindergarten is changing to **Pre-Prep**. The reform is rolling out in stages, with changes coming in to affect in Colac Otway Shire in 2026 and 2027.

What you need to know:

All Colac Otway kindergarten providers will be offering additional kindergarten hours to eligible children.

In 2026, the following can access 16 - 25 hours of kinder per week:

- children who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
- children from a refugee or asylum seeker background
- children who have had contact with Child Protection or are in out of home care
- children who were supported by Early Start Kindergarten or the Access to Early Learning program for Three-Year-Old Kindergarten.

In 2027:

- All children will be eligible for 16-20 hours of kindergarten per week
- and the above eligibility will continue to apply

For more information on Pre-Prep and the kindergarten reforms speak to your local kindergarten provider or visit www.vic.gov.au/preprep



MELI

Colac Otway
SHIRE

little
tikes
EARLY LEARNING

nido
EARLY LEARNING

one | tree
community services
the place to be

APeX
PRESCHOOL CENTRE

Colac East
Kindergarten

CREATIVE
MINDS
EARLY YEARS
A SAFE ENVIRONMENT TO PLAY AND LEARN

FORREST
LEARNING FOR LIFE

MILLVILLE CHILDRENS
CENTRE

LAVERS
HILL

Wyndin
Kindergarten

BIRREGURRA PRESCHOOL CENTRE
Play, learn grow together.

Coragulac and District Kindergarten

BUILD A FARM IN A DAY COLAC

COLAC SECONDARY COLLEGE

SATURDAY 22nd NOVEMBER to SUNDAY 23rd NOVEMBER



*Imagine a school that can feed its community
A farm, built within a school*

*Be part of a meaningful project leading change
Fostering sustainability, connection and education*

Register Here



Everyone welcome zero-waste event

Frogwood Arboretum

OPEN DAY

Sunday 23rd November 2025

Open 10am - 4pm

- Explore up to 10km of grassy pathways winding through 40 hectares of some of the world's most remarkable tree species
- Have a quiet sit in the "Neolithic" rock Henge
- Enjoy avenues of trees and vistas stretching the full width of the fledgling Arboretum
- Bring a picnic blanket and refreshments ready to laze away a couple of hours in your favorite grove of trees
- Explore an undulating access track along a rehabilitated section of the Deans Marsh creek



12 Deans Marsh - Lorne Road, Deans Marsh

Entry opposite former Martians Cafe
(parking in the cafe carpark)

Map of planted tree species available at the entrance gate. dogs on a leash at all times.

Informational talk by the Arboretum Designer at 11.30am at the Henge

Guided creek walk at 2pm from north gate.

Gold coin donation entry
www.frogwood.com.au



Help shape our long-term strategies

**Complete
the survey**

for your chance to win a
\$100 gift card!

Survey now open, have your say on our future

Barwon Water services a region that is an amazing place to live, work and play. We're proud to play our part in making our region great.

Long-term planning is critical to deliver sustainable, affordable and innovative services that support thriving communities.

We need your help to shape our exciting next period of growth and transition.

We want to hear your ideas and priorities, as we plan our next long-term strategies – Strategy 2040, Urban Water Strategy 2027 and Price Submission 2028-2033.

The survey is easy to undertake and should take no longer than 14 minutes to complete.

The survey is open until 5pm, Monday 24 November 2025.

Hard copies are available on request.

As a token of our gratitude for your participation, you'll have the option to go in the draw to win one of ten \$100 gift cards.

To learn more and have your say, please visit:
www.yoursay.barwonwater.vic.gov.au/strategies



☎ 1300 656 007 | ✉ info@barwonwater.vic.gov.au | www.barwonwater.vic.gov.au |    