



Bungaree Primary School

Newsletter

Term 1, Week 2
5th February, 2021

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Respect

Positivity

Determination

Creativity

From the Principal

Hello everyone

A bright new year has commenced, with a whole bunch of enthusiastic students ready to be their best at Bungaree Primary School in 2021. With our school enrolment almost doubling since last year, there is a lot of excitement in the classroom and playground. Welcome back to all of our continuing families. We extend a warm welcome to two new families to Bungaree Primary School –the McLindon family and Van Den Heuvel family.

With a new announcement this week with regard to the mandatory wearing of face masks, it is a good reminder that our school has a COVID Safety Plan in place, and we are subject to government instructions around education and keeping everyone safe—at times, at short notice. Please see an article in this newsletter about the conditions currently in place. As always, I will keep you updated with changes as they arise.

Our updated Parent Information Handbook was distributed to families during Start Up 2021 and can be found on our school website. It provides a great overview of our school life here at Bunga—I encourage you to become familiar with it, and happy to chat if you need any clarification.

In 2021, there is one, differentiated class operating at school— with Ms Marnie Kentish (Monday-Thursday classroom and tutoring) and myself (all week classroom and administration), supported by returning MARC Van teacher Ms Kari O’Gorman (Friday fortnightly). Education support staff this year are Anne (Monday-Tuesday) and Michelle (Wednesday-Friday). In the office, we have Angela, who will be in each Tuesday and Wednesday 10:00am-3:00pm in the Business Manager role. I’m also pleased to announce that our new school chaplain, Michael, will commence with us in March—each Wednesday, and Tuesday fortnightly.

I’m excited that we will receive the MARC Van fortnightly this year, which will broaden and build our student access to another teacher and access the wider range of library and art resources available in the truck. Kari will join us every other Friday.

The Story Dogs program will continue this year (how lucky are we?) Robyn and Manilla the Labrador will join the Juniors on Wednesday mornings.

Tim Nelson, our private music tutor, will be offering piano, keyboard and guitar lessons again at Bungaree this year. Tim is an experienced, patient and qualified

instrumental music teacher, and has been teaching for more than 20 years! To discuss music opportunities for your child and the costs involved, please contact Tim on 0450 904 464.

For your information, I have attached a copy of the school timetable and our Positive Learning Model which should help you prepare your child/children for learning each day.

This week, our Home Reading Program commenced. This is a wonderful opportunity to read with your child each day to practise, consolidate, learn and enjoy this very important skill together. Keep an eye out for your *The Resilience Project* Student Diary in your Home Reader Bag—a great way to maintain communication between home and the classroom, and to share achievements and celebrations with regard to reading! In addition to this and in support of *The Resilience Project*, a daily practice of gratitude, empathy and mindfulness will also be requested for every student, every day.

Can all families please provide two boxes of tissues per child for use in the classrooms, to get us through the year? These can be delivered directly to myself and we will have them at hands reach for everyone. Happy and hygienic is how we roll!

Based on parent feedback, our School Breakfast Club will shift to Thursday and Friday each week in 2021. Breaky Club opens at 8:30am, and is a great opportunity for students and staff to catch up over a shared meal. It also provides some wonderful life skills for students, preparing for and cleaning up after a meal. Hopefully these skills can also transfer to home!

The Scholastic Book Club is back this year too, and catalogues for the first order have been sent home this week. We are excited that we will be holding a Book Fair this year (in April), so in the meantime please make the most out of our Book Club twice each term—just remember, we receive awards with Scholastic which are converted to new books in our classrooms for our children.

Hot lunches from the Bungaree Store will run every Friday this year. Lunch orders and payment can be made at the shop before school, and will be delivered to our students. Many thanks to Lisa for continuing this lovely service in 2021.

... continued over

I had a very positive meeting with Stacey with regard to the PFA this year. We are calling for some help and seeking a few more parents to help out for PFA lunch day and other PFA activities throughout the year. Just remember, you may be able to help here and there and not every time, but all help will be appreciated. Please see Stacey for more information.

The PFA will also be working actively on the fundraising and activities calendar, which, like 2020, will again be considerate of the COVID climate with which we now live.

Individual Learning Plan meetings with parents/carers of all students will take place in Week 5, personalising teaching and learning for everyone. Parent-Teacher Interviews will be held in the last week of term to update on progress, celebrate achievement and discuss your child's learning. Please don't forget that you can arrange a time to meet with Ms Kentish or myself to catch up if required during the term, however please note the formal interviews on the 30th and 31st March after school.

I'd like to invite all families to our School Twilight Picnic at Kirk's Reservoir next Friday, 12th February, from 5:30-7:00pm. Mark your family calendars now!

I'd like to extend a big thank you to the families who were able to help with the grounds maintenance of the school over the holiday period – the Cox, Lee and Matheson families, and their help from weeding to hedge trimming and mowing. In addition, I'd also like to thank the Lee's for caring for Dusty, our last school chook over the holidays. We look forward to welcoming four new girls soon, with many thanks to Gran and Pa Belfrage.

Finally, newsletters will again be fortnightly this year, on (or about) every other Friday—check your eldest child's Home Reader Bag. This has been a lengthy update for the start of the year, but I know how important it is for everyone to stay in the loop—students, staff, families and our wider Bungaree community.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for snippets and updates in between newsletters. Have a wonderful week, and always stay grateful, kind and mindful.

Miss Catherine Barnes, Principal

Official School Photos

Forms have been sent home this week for our Official School Photos with MSP Photography. Payment can be made online; or cash on the day. School Photo Day is Tuesday, 9th March—full school uniform is required.

Ange



Calendar

February

Tuesday 1st	All students return—let the learning begin!
Wednesday 3rd	Foundation Free Day (no Prep students at school)
Tuesday 9th	2021 Official School Photos
Wednesday 10th	Foundation Free Day (no Prep students at school)
Friday 12th	School Twilight Picnic at Kirk's Reservoir
Wednesday 17th	Foundation Free Day (no Prep students at school)
Wednesday 24th	Foundation Free Day (no Prep students at school)



Our Service Road to school has a 10km/h speed limit. For everyone's safety—students, families and staff, please abide by this speed limit when arriving and departing from school at all times. Thank you.

School Twilight Picnic

Bring a picnic basket along and celebrate the start of learning for this year. Come along and enjoy some time together outside of school—school families and staff are all invited.



When: 5:30-7:00pm, Friday 12th February

Where: Kirks Reservoir Park,
Daylesford Road, Brown Hill

What to bring: Chairs, picnic blankets, drinks and a picnic tea for your family—there is a free electric BBQ available in the park if this takes your fancy. Toilets are also in the park.

If you have some games that we could play together – like bocce, croquet, petanque, lawn bowls, totem tennis and the like, we would love you to bring them along to share!

Victorian Chief Health Officer message

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back the Victorian school community in 2021.

Following an incredible effort by students, staff, teachers, parents and carers last year, Victorian schools are well placed to safely commence the new school year. Schools will return to a largely normal program of activities, including welcoming parents and other vital members of the school community back into their grounds.

Throughout the pandemic, Victorian schools have rapidly adapted and successfully implemented measures to reduce the risk of coronavirus (COVID-19) transmission in school environments. By embedding COVIDSafe principles in all its operations and reinforcing good behaviours throughout 2020, schools have created safe spaces, and are in a strong position to quickly respond to any coronavirus (COVID-19) risks that may emerge.

Given the current very low risk of coronavirus (COVID-19) transmission in the community, continued high rates of testing, wastewater monitoring, and continued observance of health and safety measures in schools; those with medical vulnerabilities or their carers can feel reassured that they can safely return to working and learning on site.

While we have seen outbreaks emerge over the summer break, we have also witnessed our capacity to respond quickly to limit the impact of these outbreaks. Should community cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) increase again, I am confident that with COVIDSafe plans in place, alongside our ability to quickly identify and respond to cases - schools remain safe places for all staff and students. I also continue to be reassured by evidence that children are less impacted by the virus and are less likely to develop severe illness.

It is crucial, however, for everyone to remain vigilant - to stay home when unwell, get tested, perform regular hand hygiene, wear a mask when required and maintain physical distancing from others when practical. Schools should consider how they can continue to pursue strategies that contribute to reduced transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19).

Schools and parents continue to have an important role to promote and ensure testing when a child or staff member has any symptoms, no matter how mild, and then stay home. Getting tested and staying home until results are known, remains critical to limiting community transmission.

Adj Clin Prof Brett Sutton
Victorian Chief Health Officer

Respectful Relationships

Our school has been a 'partner school' in the DET Respectful Relationships Program for a number of years, and we are pleased to say that we continue 'lead school' status in 2021 with School Council support. Bungaree Primary School, through its experience as a partner and lead school, has encouraged other small schools in the local area to apply to be a part of the Respectful Relationships program - to build a wider understanding, knowledge and application of this program, specifically in a small rural school setting.

We will be leading a small school cluster to encourage the following aspects of the program:

1. A whole school approach to school-based, primary prevention of gender-based violence.
2. Development of the school culture and environment.
3. Professional learning to support school leaders, teachers and other school-based staff.
4. Providing support and resources for staff and students.
5. Building relationships with the community, including response services, community groups and families.
6. Participating in a cluster of schools to support implementation of the initiative.

Although with a small enrolment, Bungaree Primary School can see the need to develop a network of people and bank of knowledge in the Respectful Relationships field, with a specific focus on small school delivery (considering rurality; and multi-age classrooms and curriculum implementation), delivered through a prosocial lens and positive interactions with students, staff and the wider school community.

Respectful Relationships represents a proactive and positive opportunity to promote and model respectful and constructive attitudes and behaviours within our local community.

Respectful Relationships will enhance existing programs in health and inquiry units and will provide an avenue for explicit teaching and assessment of the personal and social capabilities, as outlined in the Victorian Curriculum.

I'll be sharing more information and valuable resources for families over the coming year—in addition to the regular Positive Parenting advice from Michael Grose and news from The Resilience Project.

Miss Barnes

Bungaree PS is online

Find Bungaree Primary School on our website

www.bungareeps.vic.edu.au

and on Facebook

[@bungareeps](https://www.facebook.com/bungareeps)



Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund applications

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you have a valid means-tested concession card, such as a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible. There is also a special consideration category for asylum seeker and refugee families.

Payment amounts this year are \$125 for eligible primary school students. Payments are made direct to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions and sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

If you applied for CSEF through our school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year, unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

If you would like to apply for the first time, please contact the school office on 5334 0253 and ask for an application form.

You can also download the form, and find out more about the program and eligibility, on the Department of Education and Training's Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund web page.

Check with the school office if you are unsure, and please return completed forms to the school office as soon as possible.

Ange

Art Smocks

All new students will need to bring an Art Smock to school—these stay in the Art Room each week.

An old shirt, or an art smock purchased from any retailer is perfect.

Ms K

Privacy Reminder

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Victorian Government Schools' Privacy Policy, available from

www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/schoolsprivacypolicy.aspx

Please take time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our website

www.bungareeps.vic.edu.au/uploaded_files/media/privacy_information_for_parents_and_carers.docx

For more information about privacy, see

www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/Schools-Privacy-Policy-information-for-parents.aspx

This information also available in nine community languages.

COVID Safe—updated conditions

Stay away if unwell

If your child/children are unwell or experiencing compatible symptoms with coronavirus (COVID-19), such as fever, cough or sore throat, they should not attend school. The school must be notified of all absences as soon as practicable, and you will be contacted if an absence is not reported.

Hygiene in school

Hand sanitising, personal hygiene, physical distancing and personal safety measures for all staff, students and visitors continues.

NEW: Face masks in schools

Following the Government's announcements regarding new statewide restrictions that came into effect at 11:59pm on Wednesday 3 February, there is new guidance for schools regarding the wearing of masks. People aged 12 and over must wear a fitted face mask when in public indoor spaces unless there is a lawful reason not to.

Students aged 12 or older must wear a face mask indoors when at school, unless they are attending a primary school, an Outside school hours care (OHSC) program or an exception applies.

Children under 12 years of age and students at primary school or attending an OHSC program are not required to wear face masks.

School staff are not required to wear face masks while teaching or caring, but those who wish to do so, can. Staff must wear face masks in indoor areas of the school when not teaching or caring.

Visitors to school sites must also wear masks when indoors.

A face mask must cover the nose and mouth. Face shields, scarves or bandanas do not meet these requirements.

NEW: Visitors to school

Parents and visitors can come onto the school site, but must physically distance as appropriate. If physical distancing is not possible, all those 12 years and older MUST wear a mask indoors.

ALL visitors must sign in and record name, contact details, date and time of attendance at school (including contractors and parents if inside for more than 15 mins) to support contact tracing.

Further advice regarding these measures will be provided when available, and I appreciate everyone's commitment to these safety measures at all times.

Miss Barnes



Learning times

The times for learning in class remain the same for 2020.

9:00am	School starts; formal class learning
11:00am	Recess
11:30am	Formal class learning
1:00pm	Lunch
2:00pm	Formal class learning
3:30pm	Dismissal

If you require to collect a child early or drop off a little later due to (for example) a medical appointment, please visit the Office and sign him/her in the Sign In/Out booklet.



Drop Off & Pick Up Times

Families are reminded that our school policy states that formal school supervision begins each day at 8:45am and concludes at 3:45pm. Before and after these times, teachers plan and prepare learning programs and meet together to discuss school matters.

Please respect this as important time for teachers in their professional practice; and ensure that you drop off your child/children between 8:45-9:00am each morning and collect them before 3:45pm.

Sun Smart in Term 1

We have reminded students that during Term 1 all schools follow the principles of being Sun Smart. Everyone, students and staff alike, are required to wear a broad rim hat during outside play or learning activities. Children who do not have a hat will be required to play in designated shady areas. If you need to purchase a new hat, please contact the office for details.



Scholastic Book Club



Orders for the current catalogue are due on:
Friday 19th February

Welcome to Book Club for 2021! The catalogues for issue 1 were handed out on Tuesday, and hopefully they made it home. There are instructions on how to order on the inside of the back page, you can order online yourself through LOOP (make sure you have Bungaree listed as the school) or with the paper form and cash/direct debit straight to the school. If you have any questions, just ask Anne on a Monday or a Tuesday. Orders for this issue are due back by Friday the 19th of February.

The book club catalogues were delivered before the number of students was updated, so only one catalogue went out per family. If you need more copies (or other family members would like to have a look) you can view a digital copy of the catalogue here:

<https://www.scholastic.com.au/media/5791/bc121.pdf>

Every order earns the school rewards for us to buy fun new reading resources, so please support if you are able.

Anne

Enrolments in 2021 and beyond

Reminder: Enrolments are now being encouraged and welcomed for students starting in any year level in 2021 and beyond. If you know of a local family with children who need to experience our fantastic neighbourhood school, please let me know.

Miss Barnes



Mowing in Summer



Is your family able to help in the mowing of the school grounds sometime this year? Every little bit helps, and everyone values the contributions of family volunteers in this task to keep our grounds beautiful.

Please see Miss Barnes if you can help!

Weekend commencing ...	Family
Saturday 5th December	Matheson family
Saturday 19th December	Lee family
Saturday 2nd January	Cox family
Saturday 16th January	Matheson family
Saturday 30th January	School arranged
Saturday 13th February	Lee family
Saturday 27th February	Cox family



In and around our school

See what's been happening this week—from Breakfast Club to meditations, the first day for our new Preps and cooking with produce from our vegie garden!



Together we can grow

Timetable

Bungaree PS F-6

2021

	9:00	11:00	11:30	1:00	2:00	3:30
M O N	Whole School Assembly	Literacy & Boost Camp	Spelling Mastery	Numeracy		Physical Education/Sport
T U E		Literacy & Boost Camp	Spelling Mastery	Numeracy		Investigations
W E D		Literacy & Tutoring	Spelling Mastery	Numeracy & Tutoring	Auslan	The Resilience Project/ Respectful Relationships
T H U		Literacy & Tutoring	Spelling Mastery	Numeracy		Art
F R I		Literacy & Speech Support		Numeracy		MARC Van Literacy & Language Art/ STEAM (fortnightly)

