



Bungaree Primary School Newsletter

Term 1, Week 4
19th February, 2020

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Respect

Positivity

Determination

Creativity

From the Principal

Hello everyone

Last week our PFA and School Council met and have committed to our biggest fundraiser for the year—the Bungaree Primary School Trivia Night in Term 4. Please lock in the evening of Friday 23rd October, for what will be a hoot of a social night for our families and friends, staff and our wider Bungaree district. Our last Trivia Night was held in 2018 and it was so much fun. More details will follow—but we ask that you let the PFA or myself know if you have any contacts that we might be able to approach for goods and services on the night to be used for raffles, silent auctions and prizes.

Ms Kentish and I hope to catch up with all families next week with regard to formalising an Individual Learning Plan for all students. Previously, this written document was only formally completed for students with special or other needs—however, as discussed in School Council and as teaching staff, we are committed to providing our best and ensuring we continue to have a great partnership between home and school for EVERY student. We know that this is additional to the personalisation in our formal planners as a part of our teaching responsibilities, but we also know how important every child's individual learning journey at Bungaree Primary School is. Ms K will be meeting with the Juniors; and I will meet with the Seniors.

It's that time of year again for School Councillor nominations and we do have a couple of positions available for parents to join in—a wonderful way to be involved in the governance of our school. Please see me or David Lee if you are interested. I have placed some information in this newsletter that I hope you will find helpful, including some FAQs about School Council.

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

Miss Catherine Barnes, **Principal**

Curriculum Day

Tuesday 10th March

There will be no school on this day as staff will be attending professional learning with the Moorabool Collegiate Group.

Bungaree PS is online

Find Bungaree Primary School on our website

www.bungareeps.vic.edu.au

and on Facebook

@bungareeps



Calendar

February

Wednesday 19th	Foundation Free Day
Friday 21st	School Tour for Prospective Families 9:30am; School Twilight Picnic at Kirks Reservoir 5:30-7:00pm
Wednesday 26th	Foundation Free Day; PFA Lunch

March

Thursday 5th	Responsible Pet Education visit
Friday 6th	Wathaurung Cross Country Event at Russell Square (Years 3-6); Lal Lal Cross Country event at Lal Lal PS (F-2)
Monday 9th	Labour Day public holiday—SCHOOL CLOSED
Tuesday 10th	Curriculum Day—SCHOOL CLOSED
Wednesday 11th	PFA Lunch
Sunday 15th	School Working Bee 10:00am-12:00pm
Tuesday 17th	School Council AGM and Meeting 5:00pm
Thursday 19th	GRIP Student Leadership Conference (JSC)
Monday 23rd	Parent-Teacher Interviews after school
Tuesday 24th	Parent-Teacher Interviews after school
Wednesday 25th	PFA Lunch
Thursday 26th	Student Showcase 9:00am; Life Education Van visit
Friday 27th	Last day of Term 1—2:30pm dismissal

Mowing roster



If your family is able to help in the mowing of the school grounds sometime in 2020, can you please let me know so that we can further share the load with this mowing roster (including if you are able to mow the oval? A ride on is required for this area.) 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.

Thank you to the Matheson, Lee and Cox families for putting up their hands so far!

Mowing in Autumn



NEW!

Weekend commencing ...	Family
Saturday 7th March	Lee family
Saturday 28th March	Cox family
Saturday 18th April	Matheson family
Saturday 9th May	Lee family

Thank you!

Bunning's BBQ PFA thanks

The Bunning's BBQ fundraiser for our school was on Saturday 8th February at Bunning's Ballarat. We had fine weather and sausages galore to cook and sell. Thank you to the staff and families who were able to volunteer a shift or two (or all day!) to make sure the day was a success for us:

David, Lorelie, Marnie, Anne, Wendy, Maree, Michelle, Kari, Elizabeth, Andrew, Stacey and Miss Barnes all pitched in, and we pass on our thanks to everyone.

Thank you also to our families and friends who popped down for a snag to support our fundraiser. We are pleased to announce that we raised close to \$1,600 on the day, which will subsidise each family for the Swim and Gym Program in Term 3 and School Camp in Term 4.

Remember, these fundraisers are for all of our children and can only happen when we have volunteers to help—please look out for more opportunities to help later this term with the Easter raffle; our big Trivia Night in Term 4 and Springfest in November, where we will need everyone to contribute. Thanks again!

Stacey, PFA



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.

Enrolments in 2020 and beyond

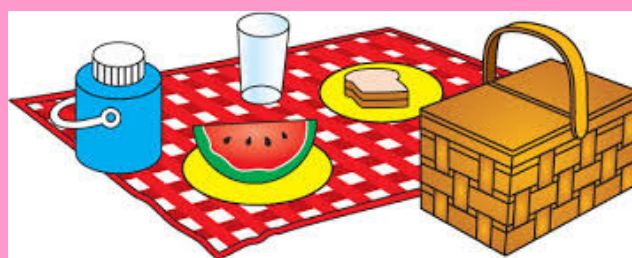
Reminder: Enrolments are now being encouraged and welcomed for students starting in any year level in 2020 and beyond. If you know of a local family with children who need to experience our fantastic neighbourhood school, please let me know.

Miss Barnes



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 21st 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!

Student Awards

Congratulations to the following students for receiving awards at our assembly this week.



Numeracy Award

Zac, for showing determination in calculating place value across larger and more complex numbers.

Specialist Award

James, for demonstrating positivity during Investigations and having a go at answering questions.

Bungaree Award

Isabelle, for showing positivity during all learning last week and managing herself well.

Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the school council of Bungaree Primary School.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00pm on 28/2/20. The ballot will close at 4.00pm on 16/3/20.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

Membership category	Term of office	Number of positions
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2020 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2022.	3

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Miss Barnes

Farewell, Spiv

Bungaree Primary School was saddened on the weekend to learn of the death of our very dear friend, Bungaree legend and 'unofficial mayor,' Dennis Spielvogel.

On behalf our past and present students, staff and families, I wish to pass on our heartfelt condolences to Veronica, their children and their families on the passing of Spiv.

Spiv gave so much of himself to our school and the Bungaree community and we are ever so honoured to have walked with him, if only for a while. We will miss him dropping by for a cuppa and a chat, our wonderful local excursions and his ability to inspire staff and students to love where we live, learn and play.



Please remember Spiv with the pure joy that he showed and shared with our children. Our flags will be flown at half mast on Monday and Friday this week for Spiv.

There will be a service this Friday at 10:30am at the Bungaree Recreation Centre to celebrate his life.

Miss Barnes

School council elections - Information for parents

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the broad directions of a school in accordance with their constituting Order and the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

For most primary school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent member category - more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. DET employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school
- A mandated elected DET employee member category - members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members
- An optional Community member category - members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

For all schools with a year 7 and above cohort, there is a fourth category of membership:

- A mandated elected Student member category, 2 positions.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help inform and shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

Each member brings their own valuable life skills and knowledge to the role. However, councillors may need to develop skills and acquire knowledge in areas that are unfamiliar to them. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

Code of conduct for school councillors

School councils in Victoria are public entities as defined by the *Public Administration Act 2004*. School councillors must abide by the *Code of Conduct - Employees* issued by the Victorian Public Sector Commission. The Code of Conduct is based on the Victorian public sector values and requires councillors to:

- **act with honesty and integrity** (be truthful, open and clear about their motives and declare any real, potential or perceived conflict of interest and duty)
- **act in good faith** in the best interests of the school (work cooperatively with other councillors and the school community, be reasonable, and make all decisions with the best interests of students foremost in their minds)
- **act fairly and impartially** (consider all relevant facts of an issue before making a decision, seek to have a balanced view, never give special treatment to a person or group and never act from self interest)
- **use information appropriately** (respect confidentiality and use information for the purpose for which it was made available)
- **exercise due care, diligence and skill** (accept responsibility for decisions and do what is best for the school)
- **use the position appropriately** (not use the position as a councillor to gain an advantage)
- **act in a financially responsible manner** (observe all the above principles when making financial decisions)
- **comply with relevant legislation and policies** (know what legislation and policies are relevant for which decisions and obey the law)
- **demonstrate leadership and stewardship** (set a good example, encourage a culture of accountability, manage risks effectively, exercise care and responsibility to keep the school strong and sustainable).

Indemnity for school council members

School councillors are indemnified against any liability in respect of any loss or damage suffered by the council or any other person in respect of anything necessarily or reasonably done, or omitted to be done by the councillor in good faith in:

- the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a councillor, or
- the reasonable belief that the act or omission was in the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a council.

In other words, school councillors are not legally liable for any loss or damage suffered by council or others as a result of reasonable actions taken in good faith.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the school council elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider:

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.

School Council Elections

... from previous page

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent member category.

DET employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work, are eligible to nominate for Parent membership of the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt via post, email or by hand following the receipt of your completed nomination.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

- Consider standing for election to school council this year.
- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do.
- Be sure to vote in the elections.
- Contact the principal for further information.



Meet our Junior School Council 2020



Our annual JSC election was held last Monday at Assembly. Our candidates, James, Zac, Riley and Claire all gave their election speeches with confidence and pride with the hope to win those important votes in the ballot box from the audience.

We are so pleased to announce that ALL candidates were elected and will form our leadership team this year. JSC meets every Monday with Miss Barnes and will be coming up with exciting projects, events and fundraisers throughout the school week and for special days.

Our JSC will also be representing Bungaree Primary School at the GRIP Student Leadership Conference in late March at Federation University.

Congratulations to our new Junior School Council!

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;

Department of Education & Training Coronavirus Update

There are no changes to the existing advice regarding anyone who has returned from mainland China - that parents/guardians/carers should ensure that any child returning from mainland China (not including Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan) on or after 1st February 2020 is isolated at home and should not attend school until 14 days after they were last in mainland China. This same advice applies to any impacted staff.

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund - payment arrangements for 2020

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students

The application form for CSEF funding in 2020 is available at the Office. Enquiries can be made with Ange or Catherine.

Ange

Family Payments Due

A number of families have school accounts outstanding. Just a reminder to all families that statements have been sent home with regard to outstanding payments to date for 2020.

Could families please make payment as soon as possible, or alternatively, contact the office about setting up a regular payment plan.

Thank you.

Miss Barnes

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.



School Working Bee



A list of jobs as long as your arm is developing for our first School Working Bee in 2020—this list is an ultimate wish list and we know not all jobs may be tackled. But we're allowed to dream ...

As a small school, we do not own plant and equipment and rely on the goodwill of staff and families to supply most tools on the day. So, if you could take a look at this list, think about how you might be able to help/support/supply materials and bring them along on the day, it would be very much appreciated.

- Chook shed fixing/repairing weatherboards and painting
- Weeding, pruning and preparing for planting—spud boxes and garden beds around Main Building
- Spreading mulch around garden beds
- Chook shed straw clean out and update
- Pressure wash or air blow the gym floor.

If you have some expertise in some area and would like to offer some time, please let the school know. Thanks so much.

Miss Barnes

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

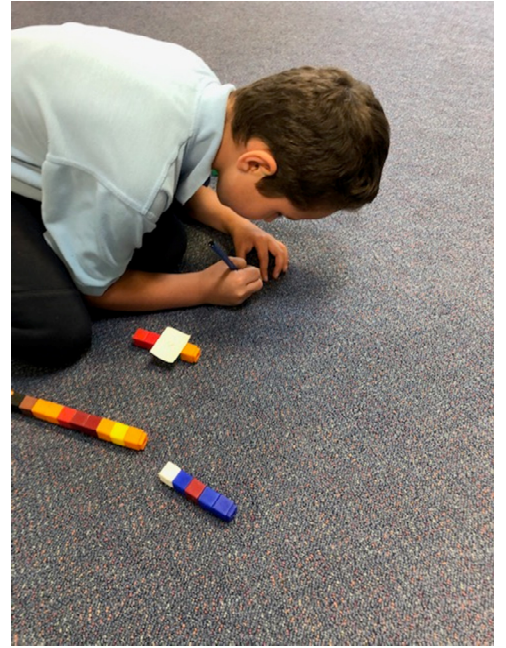
www.bungareeps.vic.edu.au/uploaded_files/media/privacy_information_for_parents_and_carers.docx

For more information about privacy, see

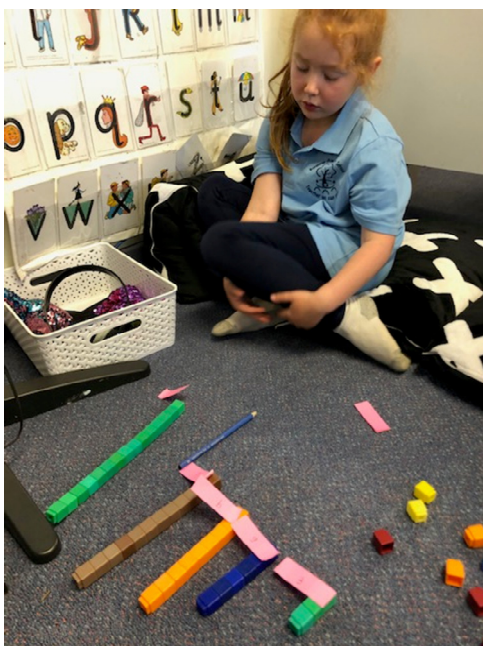
www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/Schools-Privacy-Policy-information-for-parents.aspx

This information also available in nine community languages.

Junior numeracy in action



Counting, counting, counting and
patterns, patterns, patterns everywhere



New Mobile Phone Policy

You may have seen in the mainstream media the Victorian Government's new policy on mobile phone use in schools—and that all schools must implement their own school policy from the first day of Term 1, 2020. Our School Council ratified the Bungaree PS Mobile Phone Policy at the December, 2019 meeting. Please refer to the policy detail as follows:

This policy applies to:

- All students at Bungaree Primary School and,
- Students' personal mobile phones and other personal mobile devices brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.

A mobile phone is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network. For the purpose of this policy, "mobile phone" refers to mobile phones and any device that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone such as smart watches.

Bungaree Primary School understands that students may bring a personal mobile phone to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school.

At Bungaree Primary School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours
- Exceptions to this policy may be applied if certain conditions are met (see below for further information)
- When emergencies occur, parents or carers should reach their child by calling the school's office.

Personal mobile phone use

In accordance with the Department's *Mobile Phones Policy* issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones must not be used at Bungaree Primary School during school hours, including lunchtime and recess, unless an exception has been granted.

Where a student has been granted an exception, the student must use their mobile phone for the purpose for which the exception was granted, and in a safe, ethical and responsible manner.

Secure storage

Mobile phones owned by students at Bungaree Primary School are considered valuable items and are brought to school at the owner's (student's or parent/carer's) risk. Students are encouraged not to bring a mobile phone to school unless there is a compelling reason to do so. Please note that Bungaree Primary School does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage or theft. Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items. Refer to the Department's *Personal Goods Policy*.

Where students bring a mobile phone to school, Bungaree Primary School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Bungaree Primary School students are required to hand their phones or devices to the Principal or teacher on duty to be placed in a lockable cupboard or the school safe.

Enforcement

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Bungaree Primary School may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing *Internet Acceptable Use Agreement*; *Student Engagement and Wellbeing Policy*; and *Behaviour Management Policy*.

At Bungaree Primary School inappropriate use of mobile phones is **any use during school hours**, unless an exception has been granted, and particularly use of a mobile phone:

- in any way that disrupts the learning of others
- to send inappropriate, harassing or threatening messages or phone calls
- to engage in inappropriate social media use including cyber bullying
- to capture video or images of people, including students, teachers and members of the school community without their permission
- to capture video or images in the school toilets, changing rooms, swimming pools and gyms
- during exams and assessments.

Exceptions

Exceptions to the policy:

- may be applied during school hours if certain conditions are met, specifically,
 - Health and wellbeing-related exceptions; and
 - Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite.
- can be granted by the principal, or by the teacher for that class, in accordance with the Department's *Mobile Phones Policy*.

The three categories of exceptions allowed under the Department's *Mobile Phones Policy* are:

1. Learning-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
For specific learning activities (class-based exception)	Unit of work, learning sequence
For students for whom a reasonable adjustment to a learning program is needed because of a disability or learning difficulty	Individual Learning Plan

2. Health and wellbeing-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
Students with a health condition	Student Health Support Plan
Students who are Young Carers	A localised student record

3. Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite

Specific exception	Documentation
Travelling to and from excursions	Risk assessment planning documentation
Students on excursions and camps	Risk assessment planning documentation

Where an exception is granted, the student can only use the mobile phone for the purpose for which it was granted.

Camps, excursions and extracurricular activities

Bungaree Primary School will provide students and their parents and carers with information about items that can or cannot be brought to camps, excursions, special activities and events, including personal mobile phones.

SCHOOL WORKING

BEE



SUNDAY

15 MARCH

10AM-12PM

