



Bungaree Primary School

Newsletter

Term 1, Week 4
23rd February, 2024

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Principal: Catherine Barnes

Respect

Positivity

Determination

Creativity

We would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the lands on which we all live and learn, and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community. We acknowledge the Wadawurrung people of the Kulin Nation, where we share a place of belonging. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and thank them for taking care of this country over countless generations.

Koling wada-ngal (Let us walk together)

From the Principal

Hello everyone

We managed to escape COVID during the pandemic at school, however, now have a high number of cases at present resulting in significant student absences. A reminder that all absences must be logged on our school Compass portal. Can I reiterate that if your child/ren show any symptoms of COVID - sneezing, coughing, runny nose, headache, tiredness, congestion - please consider the health, safety and wellbeing of other students and staff in the school, by keeping them home until symptoms subside. Our collective efforts will hopefully see this wave of illness pass more quickly with minimal families (and our school) affected. Thank you for your cooperation.

I'd like to pass on our school's thanks to all of our local CFA brigades and first responders with the recent extreme weather events and bushfires in the region. We are so very grateful for your work to keep our families, friends and neighbours and their properties safe. At school, we have had to enact our 'Shelter in Place' emergency plan more than once over the past fortnight with the wild weather and prevailing conditions outside. With extreme conditions continuing into next week, we ask that every family review their personal fire plans and share this with your children.

It's that time of year again for School Councillor nominations and we do have a three positions available for parents to join in—a wonderful way to be involved in the governance of our school. This will be for a two-year term. Please see me or Andrew Matheson, our School Council President, 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.

We look forward to welcoming Miss Murphy to our teaching staff next week. Please welcome her to our wonderful school community and introduce yourself if you haven't already!

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for snippets and updates in between newsletters, and school families, remember to always view Compass notifications as they pop up. As always, keep safe and look after yourself, your family, friends and neighbours. Stay grateful, kind and mindful, as we say and do in school.

Miss Catherine Barnes, Principal

Curriculum Day

Tuesday 12th March

There will be no school on this day as staff will be undertaking professional learning in mathematics and technologies. Please note this Curriculum Day in your family calendars.

Calendar

February

Each Wednesday	Foundation Free Day (enjoy a well earned rest, Lindsay!)
Thursday 29th	Senior Camp: Boomerang Ranch. Details/ Family Consent on Compass and hardcopy notes sent home.
Feb–Friday 1st March	

March

Friday 1st March	Senior Camp: Boomerang Ranch. Details/ Family Consent on Compass and hardcopy notes sent home.
	Junior excursion: Boomerang Ranch. Details/ Family Consent on Compass.
Wednesday 6th	Early dismissal at 12:00pm. Parent-Teacher Interviews from 1:00-6:00pm. Bookings on Compass soon.
Monday 11th	Labour Day holiday. SCHOOL CLOSED.
Tuesday 12th	Curriculum Day. SCHOOL CLOSED.
Tuesday 13th–Friday 15th	NAPLAN assessments for Years 3 and 5 students.
Friday 15th	(After NAPLAN) JSC fundraising event—get excited! Details soon.
Tuesday 19th	The Resilience Project “Digital Wellbeing for Families” webinar, 6:30pm. Details will be posted on Compass.
Tuesday 19th–Friday 22nd	Senior Cluster Camp: Queenscliff with Lal Lal Primary School. Details to follow.
Tuesday 26th	School Council AGM and Meeting, 6:00pm.
Thursday 28th	Student Showcase. Last day of Term 1, 2:30pm dismissal. Term 2 resumes Monday, 15th April.

Art in Action

Works have started on our canvas for the Ballarat Begonia Festival. The competition is run by Central Highlands Water, and the theme is 'Native animals and water', encouraging us to depict a specific animal interacting with water in some way. We have been allocated the echidna, and were thrilled to find out that they swim! Who knew?!

We hope lots of Bunga families can head to the Begonia Festival (9th-11th March), to check it out on display and vote for us using the QR code.

Mrs Ower



School Working Bee

Get our your family calendars and note down Sunday, 17th March. A list of jobs as long as your arm is developing for our first School Working Bee in 2024—this list is an ultimate wish list and we know not all jobs may be tackled. Our primary focus will be to spruce up the Shelter Shed (Chook Shed) - affixing weatherboards; replacing lattice; repainting.

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.

- Minor handyman/fix-it jobs—Art Room, Spiv's Cottage
- Weeding, mulching, pruning garden beds and preparing for planting in the spud bins
- Chook run whipper snipping
- Problem solving/fixing the soccer nets
- Pressure wash or air blow the gym floor

If you have some expertise/experience/enthusiasm in any area and would like to offer some time, please let the school know.

There'll be a sausage sizzle for helpers at the end—thank you so much in advance!

Miss Barnes

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 1/3/24. The ballot will close at 4.00pm on 15/3/24.

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 2024 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2026.	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

School council elections - Information for families

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.

Senior Room News

The Bunga teachers are currently working in a Professional Learning Community with Lal Lal Primary School to improve teacher capacity and student achievement.

Our current focus in the Senior Room is improving writing, using learning from *The Writing Revolution* by Judith Hochman and Natalie Wexler.

One example of this has been taking a 'kernel' and expanding it into an interesting and more detailed sentence. Check out some of our fabulous 'popped' kernels! Our first kernel: "They ate."

Mrs Ower's example: Starved, the thin, scruffy old horses gobbled the shiny sweet apples out of the young girl's hand.

Happy and loved, mum and dad sat snacking on crisp salty chips, while watching the news on the couch. - Jess

One frosty morning at the dusty old chook shed, fifteen black and brown chickens ran to greet their breakfast and devoured the mouldy old kitchen scraps as though they had never had a meal in their lives. - Isabelle

Jumping on the table, the crazy cheeky cats ate the leftover Christmas ham, while we all relaxed after a big Christmas dinner. - Johanna

My three hungry, hot dogs inhaled the refreshing watery ice cubes on the cool kitchen tiles. - Mitch

The three crazy but cute kittens jumped on the table at dinnertime and gobbled my fresh steamed vegies. - Nora

My two hairy, muddy dogs ate the yummy cold leftover pizza, while I was going to get a drink! - Tabby

Mrs Ower

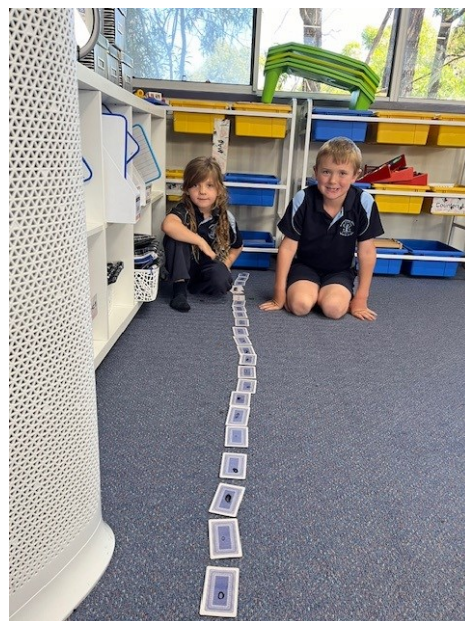
Junior Room News

We love maths in the Junior Room!

We have been exploring different types of maths games that we can play using a deck of cards. Spirals cards was a hit, looking for numbers before and after the card we turned. Some people were practising friends of 10. Jake and Buzz decided to try a line of cards as making a spiral can be very tricky!

Maybe you could try playing a game at home?

Ms K



SCHOOL WORKING BEE



SUNDAY 17TH MARCH 9AM-12PM

Together we can grow

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

Learn music notation, music theory and rhythm
Supports reading and classroom learning
One-on-one sessions

All grades welcome
\$40 per half hour
Trial lessons available

For inquiries contact
Quilby Nelson
0490523705



PIANO LESSONS

School Uniform: Rufcut Clothing Update

Rufcut Clothing have advised us that they are now CASH ONLY for school uniform supplies.

Remember, our school polo tops are only available here—let's continue to *support local* with all of our school uniform needs.

Miss Barnes



OSHClub

Bookings Now Open!

Enrolling in OSHClub is FREE

Enrolments and Bookings at:
www.oshclub.com.au

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.

On Breakfast Club days (Wednesday–Friday) students can be dropped off to the Art Room/Kids Kitchen from 8:30am.



Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

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!



THANK
YOU!

Weekend commencing ...	Family
Saturday 3rd December	Cox family
Saturday 16th December	Hayes-Beulke family
Saturday 30th December	Matheson family
Saturday 13th January	Testro family
Saturday 27th January	School arranged
Saturday 10th February	Cox family
Saturday 24th February	Hayes-Beulke family

Upcoming birthdays

24th February	Isabelle
1st March	Jessica



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.



Prospective Family School Tours

I encourage our district families—new to the area or new to primary education, to come along and see our beautiful school. Personal tours for prospective families are available by appointment, and can be made by calling the school on 5334 0253.

Miss Barnes

Student Awards



Congratulations to the following students who received awards this week:



Literacy Award: Buzz, for demonstrating outstanding determination to help Ms K teach everyone how to log into Epic in the Junior Room.

Numeracy Award: Chloe M (absent), for having a positive can-do attitude towards her learning, reading numerals up to tens of thousands, and skip counting from different starting points.

GEM Award: Tabby, for demonstrating maturity and self awareness by asking for a movement break between tasks and coming back to her work more focused.

Specialist Award: Lila, for demonstrating positivity and enthusiasm in cooking with produce from our Kitchen Garden.

Specialist Award: William (absent), for showing positivity and sharing his knowledge in Wellbeing when learning about the brain.



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.

Up, down and all around—learning and wellbeing at Bunga

Junior School Council election; School Twilight Picnic at Kirk's Reservoir; Bulldogs Read Family Information Night and Welcome Event.



Together we can grow



Together we can grow

Bungaree

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February 2024

OSHClub 



What's been happening...

Hello to all families! I hope everyone has had a good start to the school term and has adjusted well to returning or starting at school!

As we go on with the term, I have been very busy planning activities and making sure everything is up to date during the new school year and as I've been so busy I would like to apologise for missing the school picnic. I hope everyone had a wonderful time last Friday.

Over the next fortnight, we have an exciting program planned with lots of outside play given the great weather as well as some relaxing mindful activities, arts and crafts, STEM activities and some nature activities. In addition to educator planned activities we love to take inspiration and ideas from the children in our weekly children's meetings. This allows the kids to gain confidence in their own voices and request activities and food they would like to make. We would also love to hear from the families of the kids, if there's something you would like to put forward as an activity or food to try in session with your kids, perhaps something that's a bit messy for home or needs more time to complete feel free to mention it to me either as you pick up your child or email me via bungaree@oshclub.com.au.

Continuing into the term, I would like to mention it is never too late to enrol your child into the OSH Club program. It's great opportunity for children to socialise and try new things. You can do this through permanent bookings which are recurring or a casual booking for when you only need it occasionally. The easiest way to book a new child into the service is via the OSH Club website, which is oshclub.com.au, and follow the "book now" links to select Bungaree OSH Club. In case you are unaware, the childcare subsidy can cover up to 90% of fees, which leaves parents out of pocket significantly less (this varies based on your situation).

Centre Open From

3.30pm - 6:00pm

We look forward to welcoming more new faces to our OSHClub team.

[To enrol go to oshclub.com.au](http://oshclub.com.au)

If at any stage, you need to get in touch with the service coordinator Bee, please call or message the service phone, 0401 067 325 or via email bungaree@oshclub.com.au

Mon-Fri 15:30-18:00
0401067325
Bungaree@oshclub.com.au

oshclub.com.au
1300 395 735



Together we can grow

Bungaree

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OSHClub 

This Week Beginning 19/2 At OSH Club



LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE

NEXT WEEK AT OSHCLUB

MONDAY

Dodgeball

TUESDAY

Creating Travel Tic Tac Toe Games

WEDNESDAY

Science Club: Grow a Rainbow with Paper Towel

THURSDAY

Flavour Fest: Lemon Slice

FRIDAY

Fun Fridays: Creating Sculptures with Air Dry Clay

STAY AND PLAY
After School Care

Enrol or Book Now

SCAN ME / SCAN ME / SCAN ME / SCAN ME / SCAN ME / SCAN ME / SCAN ME / SCAN ME / SCAN ME / SCAN ME

Child Care Subsidy

SCAN ME / SCAN ME / SCAN ME / SCAN ME / SCAN ME / SCAN ME / SCAN ME / SCAN ME / SCAN ME / SCAN ME

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Together we can grow