



# Bungaree Primary School

## Newsletter



Term 1, Week 6  
6th March, 2026

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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,

As we move through an important fortnight in our school calendar, I want to extend my very best wishes to our Year 3 and Year 5 students who will soon be sitting their NAPLAN assessments. These assessments provide a valuable snapshot of learning at a moment in time, and we are incredibly proud of the effort, curiosity and resilience our students bring to their learning every day. We know they will approach NAPLAN with confidence and a positive mindset, supported by their teachers and families.

I'm also pleased to share that bookings will open soon for our Parent-Teacher Interviews, which will be held on the afternoon of Wednesday, 25th March. These conversations are an important opportunity to strengthen the partnership between home and school, celebrate progress, and set clear learning goals for the term ahead. Please note the 1:00pm dismissal on this day. To support families, BungaBuddies will open early, ensuring students have a safe and familiar place to be throughout the afternoon if families need to book in this service.

It is a pleasure to celebrate some wonderful student achievement as well. Congratulations to Annie, who has been selected for the Victorian High Ability Program in Mathematics. This is a terrific accomplishment and a reflection of her strong knowledge, skills and deep understanding of mathematical concepts. The program will give her the opportunity to learn in an enrichment environment alongside like-minded students from across Victoria, and we are excited to see her continue to thrive.

Around the school, our building works are nearing completion, and the progress this week has been especially exciting. The heritage colonial windows in the Main Building—well and truly at the end of their life—have now been carefully removed and replaced with beautiful new colonial-style windows. The transformation is impressive, and it has been wonderful to watch these spaces come back to life. This, and the Art Room upgrades will make a real difference to the comfort and functionality of our learning environments for many years to come.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Tyson and Gary, two of the key tradies who have been with us throughout the entire project. Their craftsmanship, patience and commitment to our school have been outstanding. Today, our students and teachers shared their appreciation in the Yarning Circle, and the gratitude was warmly received.

Finally, a reminder that the school will be **closed** on Monday for the Labour Day public holiday. I hope everyone enjoys a lovely long weekend and returns refreshed for the busy and exciting weeks ahead.

Please keep an eye on Facebook and Compass for school updates. 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**

## Calendar

### March

Monday 9th	Labour Day public holiday—SCHOOL CLOSED
Wednesday 11th- Monday 23rd	NAPLAN assessment window
Friday 13th	MARC Van at school
Saturday 14th	Bulldogs v GWS AFL game at Marvel Stadium—Bulldogs Read students.
Friday 20th	Wathaurung Cross Country events. Details to follow.
Wednesday 25th	Parent-Teacher Interviews. 1:00pm dismissal. BungaBuddies open for bookings from 1:00pm.
Friday 27th	MARC Van at school

### April

Thursday 2nd	Student Showcase, 9:00am. Last day of Term 1, 2:30pm dismissal.
Monday 20th	Curriculum Day—SCHOOL CLOSED
Tuesday 21st	Term 2 commences.

## Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

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

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or- support an out of home care student you may be eligible for CSEF.

If you applied for CSEF at 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.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments:** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances:** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Please check with me if you are unsure. CSEF has increased to \$400 for 2026.

Ange

## School Mowing

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!



## Happy birthday in March

14th—Sinead's birthday  
27th—Lindsay's birthday  
29th—Tabby's birthday



## Curriculum Day—please diarise

**Monday, 20th April**

*School will be closed on this day as approved by School Council, for staff professional learning in our small school cluster.*



**Bungabuddies**  
Bungaree Primary School OSHC

## 2026 BUNGAREE AUSKICK & NETTA PROGRAM

The Bungaree Football Netball Club is running "Auskick" and "Netta" program for girls and boys, aged 5-10. Netta will be run by Sophie Boyd and Piper Drew. Auskick will be run by Josh Quinlan.

Both programs create opportunities for children to learn basics skills, get some exercise, and make new friends!

The sessions will take place at the Bungaree Community Centre on Friday nights from 5-6pm.

It will be a 10 week program running from April 24th until June 26th. The cost to participate for Netta is \$50 and Auskick is \$85.



Netta Registration:



Auskick Registration:



# STEAM and Art Update

## STEAM

Over the last 4 weeks in STEAM, students have completed an E-Safety unit with a focus on the 4 Cs. These stand for Contact (who we connect with and how), Conduct (how we behave online), Compulsion (how we choose to spend our time) and Content (what we watch, post or share).

This week, Jess from the Discovery Centre came to Bungaree to run a STEM incursion with us! Years 1-3 explored Bee Bots and used basic directional coding to navigate it from one location to another (See photos.)

Years 4-6 solved mystery messages on Micro:bits and then programmed their own mystery message into a Micro:bit!

Jess also told us about the LEGO exhibition at the Bendigo Discovery Centre, where they have a huge LEGO rocket and a life size Mars rover.

## Visual Art

Art sessions have been a hive of activity over the last few weeks. While exploring printmaking and process art, students have let their creative ideas flow. Students have investigated monoprints using washable markers on foil, used cardboard scrapers to scrape paint across paper (similar to screen printing), and sponged/brushed paint through stencils to explore patterns and imagery that they might like to use in the next few weeks to create a larger artwork.

Students also spent time during our Visual Art lessons to add to our Wombat painting for the Begonia Festival which is on this weekend! If you are visiting the festival, don't forget to vote for our gorgeous wombat so that we are in the running to win a visit to the Ballarat Wildlife Park or a nursery voucher to purchase some plants for our school!

*Mrs Ower*



# Wellbeing Wisdom

## How to support children after a scary event:

Sometimes things happen that are out of our control, that can cause children to feel scared or unsafe. It is important to know how you can support your children during these times. Below are some ways to best support your child:

- **Make them feel safe.** Often this can be done with physical touch. A pat on the back, or a hug, gives them a feeling of security, which is highly important after a frightening event. This can change depending on the child's age and what physical touch they are more comfortable with at their age.
- **Act calm.** When something scary happens, children look towards adults for reassurance. It is important to filter what you are saying in front of your children, specifically with your own worries. When your children are around, be mindful of your tone as children are very tuned into any change in an adult's voice.
- **Maintain routine.** Children thrive off routine and structure, and if this can be provided as much as possible, this will support your children to trust that everything will be 'okay'. This includes upholding household rules, as this is predictable.
- **Help the children enjoy their time.** Distractions can be positive for them and give them a sense of joy and normality.
- **Share information about what happened but keep it brief and honest.** It is good for the children to know what happened and be able to ask questions.
- Acknowledge how the child is feeling. This can help them feel heard and validated and shows them that their feelings are safe with you.

With these strategies, you can provide nurture and support no matter what comes your way!

Sinead

# Annual Privacy Reminder for Our School Community

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#) and the [Schools' Privacy Collection Notice](#).

Our Photographing, Filming and Recording Students Policy describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn.

We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use [Google Workspace for Education](#) safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using Google Workspace for Education, please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy – information for parents](#).

# 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.



# 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.

# Student Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received awards this week:

GEM Award: Faith, for demonstrating exceptional emotional literacy during wellbeing and creating some fantastic emojis using modelling clay.

Numeracy Award: Jake, for demonstrating positivity and determination when learning to play Yahtzee in numeracy, then taking this new knowledge and teaching a senior group.

