



Bungaree Primary School

Newsletter



Term 2, Week 6
27th May, 2026

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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,

What a delight it is to be touching base with you a little earlier than usual this fortnight. Thank you for your understanding around the missed newsletter in Week 4—our staff and students were deeply involved in substantial commitments beyond the school grounds, and while it made for a very full week, it also highlighted just how vibrant and active our school community is. An early newsletter this time feels like a win-win for us all.

Across the term, it has been wonderful to see students embracing so many opportunities both inside and outside the classroom. Our focus on the government priorities of learning and wellbeing continues to shine through daily. Students are engaging strongly in literacy, numeracy and specialist subjects, and they are also building and consolidating their wellbeing strategies—strengthening peer relationships, stepping into leadership roles, and developing emotional literacy skills such as resilience, gratitude and thoughtful responses to new experiences. It has been especially pleasing to see students applying these skills in real-world contexts: supporting peers during group tasks, navigating challenges with increasing independence, and celebrating each other's successes. We should all feel confident that we are nurturing young people who are becoming considerate, capable and active members of their community.

Teachers are now turning their attention to Semester 1 reports, and I look forward to sharing your child's accomplishments and achievements with you in the final week of term. This will be complemented by our Student Showcase—a wonderful opportunity to celebrate learning and growth across the term and to see firsthand the pride students take in their work.

Congratulations to the students selected for the Wathaurung District teams: Chloe for soccer, Mitchy for AFL, and Faith and Rayne for the upcoming netball teams, with basketball selections scheduled for August. These students represented both the Wathaurung team and our school with determination and pride, inspiring younger students to follow in their footsteps in future years.

We have also enjoyed several major excursions and

incursions recently, and I'm pleased to share some photos in this edition. These experiences—whether sporting, cultural or curriculum-based—continue to broaden students' horizons and strengthen their sense of belonging. As principal, I felt especially proud following two pieces of unsolicited positive feedback about our students' conduct on the recent train trip to Whitten Oval. An elderly woman travelling with us praised the students' manners, behaviour and the care shown by staff—affectionately referring to everyone as “my little flock.” A retired primary school teacher also phoned the school to commend the staff and students for their exemplary behaviour on the journey. Our hard work is noticed, and it matters.

We were also delighted to welcome Millie into our BungaBuddies OSHC program during May. She has already brought a friendly, engaging and fun presence to the program, and we wish her all the very best as she heads into her upcoming pre-service teacher placement. Our BungaBuddies program continues to offer a warm, inclusive and enjoyable environment for all students who attend.

A reminder that The Resilience Project's *Parenting with ACE* webinar is on Tuesday evening next week. I strongly encourage all parents and carers to attend—every family can benefit from practical, strengths-based strategies that support positive parenting and emotionally healthy kids. Please check Compass for registration details.

We are also pleased to offer school tours for prospective families every Friday in June between 9-11am. These tours are a wonderful way for new families—and especially those with kindergarten children—to see our school in action, meet our dedicated staff, and experience the warm, inclusive culture that makes our community so special. We are now taking enrolments for the remainder of 2026 and for all year levels commencing in 2027.

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

May

Wednesday 27th STEEM incursion—Marble Run

June

Every Friday School tours for prospective families, 9:00-11:00am

Tuesday 2nd The Resilience Project “Parenting with ACE” webinar. See Compass for details.

Friday 5th MARC Van in/Cooking Day

Monday 8th King’s Birthday holiday—SCHOOL CLOSED

Tuesday 9th **Change of date: Sovereign District Wathaurung Netball (if selected); School Council meeting

Tues 9th-Wed 10th Wathaurung Year 5 Sovereign Hill Program

Friday 19th MARC Van in/Cooking Day

Thursday 25th Student Showcase; Semester 1 Reports published

Friday 26th Last day of Term 2, 2:30pm dismissal. Term 3 resumes on Monday, 13th July.

School Fundraiser: Bake & Grind Donut, Pie and Slice Drive

Would you like to place an order and support our school? Perfect pies. Scrumptious slices. Mmmmm, donuts.



The weather has certainly turned so it is a good time to stock the freezer full of pies. Child/ren will be sent home with a Bake & Grind Donut, Pie and Slice drive in Week 9 ... so start making room in your freezers again this year.

All money that we raise from this fundraiser will go towards helping to subsidise our new vegie patch and school garden.

Thank you for your support!

Ange

Bungaree PS is online



Student Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received awards this week:

Bungaree Award: Chloe, for demonstrating all of the school values and having such a positive and respectful attitude at the Bulldogs Read excursion. It is wonderful to see such gratitude!

Literacy Award: Archie, for showing determination during Book Club, making sure he has read the pages and successfully discussing questions about the text.

Numeracy Award: Annie, for demonstrating determination and positivity during VHAP, putting in the extra effort and persisting with a challenge.

Specialist Award: Mitchell, for showing determination when representing the Wathaurung District in football.



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.



BungaBuddies
Bungaree Primary School OSHC

Happy birthday in June

20th—Nicole Kidman

21st—Prince William

24th—Lionel Messi

(We don’t have any Bunga birthdays in June!)



Enrol now!

ENROLMENT OPEN FOR ALL YEAR LEVELS 2027

Discover the Bungaree way ... we love where we live, learn and play!

- Call us and come along for a personal tour
- Pick up an enrolment form at school or online
- Reserve your place for 2027 now

School tours for prospective families every Friday in June, 9-11am or by appointment

 03 5334 0253

 bungaree.ps@education.vic.gov.au

 www.bungareeps.vic.edu.au



FREE!

ALL-GIRLS

AFLW GIRLS SUPER CLINIC

04 JUNE

Clinic 4:30-5:30pm
Brown Hill Recreation Reserve, Ballarat
Suitable for ages 5-12

REGISTER NOW

AFLW Girls Super Clinic

Grab your footy boots or runners, bring your friends and come join the FUN at our Girls Auskick Special Event!

We're hosting a FREE girls footy session at Brown Hill Recreation Reserve – and some special visitors from the Western Bulldogs AFLW Team will be stopping by to say hello!

Thursday 4th June

4:30PM - 5:30PM

Brown Hill Recreation Reserve, Corner Reid Street & Reid Court, Brown Hill.

- Fun games
- Footy skills
- New friends
- Loads of laughs
- Special AFLW guests!

Whether you've never kicked a footy before or already LOVE the game, everyone is welcome

Girls aged 4 (turning 5 in 2026) to 12 years

BEST PART? It's completely FREE!

Spots are filling fast – don't miss out!

Register is FREE - register here:

<https://www.playhq.com/afl/register/283ad7>

It would be great to see as many young aspiring female footballers attend as possible, it should be great FUN!

Campbell Waring, Western Bulldogs (Ballarat)

Gumboots and Slippers

As we head into the wetter, muddier months of the year, we want to make sure our students can continue enjoying the outdoors—without soggy socks or muddy footprints trailing behind them. Our oval, cubby spaces and nature play areas are some of the most loved parts of our school, and winter shouldn't get in the way of that joy.

To help keep playtime fun (and dry!), we encourage all families to send gumboots to school for students to wear during outside play. Gumboots mean children can explore the oval, skirt around puddles, build in the cubbies and enjoy all the benefits of outdoor play—while keeping their feet warm and dry. They're perfect for the season and allow students to fully embrace the outdoors without hesitation.



Inside the classroom, we're also inviting students to bring along warm, snuggly slippers to slip into during the day. Not only do they keep little tootsies warm, but they also help us keep mud and moisture away from our carpets and learning spaces. It's a simple way to make classrooms feel cosy, calm and comfortable during winter.



Miss Barnes

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!



SCHOLASTIC

Book Club LOOP

for Parents

LOOP is the Scholastic Book Club **Linked Online Ordering & Payment** platform for parents.

To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit:

www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP

GET IT ON **Google play**

Download on the **App Store**

Wellbeing Wisdom

Circles of friends: an activity that helps children understand boundaries

Creating a circle of friends can support your child to notice their support network, understand how you interact with a friend compared to a complete stranger, and understand how others should talk and behave towards them.

For this activity you will need a large piece of paper and pencils/markers.

Step 1: ask your child to draw themselves in the middle of the page and draw a circle around them.

Step 2: draw a larger circle around the child's circle. In this circle you ask the child to add people they feel closest to.

Step 3: draw a larger circle around the first two circles. In this circle you ask your child to add people that are close to them but not as close as those in the second circle. These could be people like extended family members or best friends.

Step 4: draw another circle around the others and add acquaintances, which are people your child knows but are not close to.

Step 5: draw another circle around the others and label this one "professional". In this you would add the child's teachers, and other professionals involved in their lives. This can be useful for children to understand that the adults they see in specific environments are professionals and should act in specific ways.

Step 6: draw the final circle and label it strangers. These are people your child does not know.

This activity can be useful for facilitating many different conversations about safety, stranger danger, friendship difficulties, and help build a child's self-esteem. See below a photo example.

Sinead, Student Wellbeing



Classroom News

What a busy and exciting few weeks we have had at school!

We were very fortunate to welcome Matt, our pre-service teacher, for his first teaching placement. Matt did a wonderful job working with our students, and our class proudly showed him "The Bungaree Way" throughout his time with us.

Students have enjoyed several special events and excursions recently, including the Bulldogs Read literacy excursion and Athletics Day. These opportunities provided plenty of fun, teamwork, and learning experiences for everyone. As we move towards the end of semester, classrooms are now becoming very busy with assessment tasks and report preparation.

In Science, students have been exploring Indigenous eel trapping at Budj Bim as part of our Biological Sciences unit. Students have thoroughly enjoyed this learning and are excited to showcase their work at our end-of-term Showcase event.

Our Junior School Council representatives, including Nola and Lily, attended the GRIP Leadership Conference and returned full of enthusiasm and fantastic ideas to share with Miss Barnes for our school community.

In Mathematics, students have been focusing on learning about time. Year 3 students have been extending their understanding of 24-hour time, while Years 1-2 students have been practising o'clock and half past time through hands-on activities such as playdough and jigsaw tasks.

On Thursday the 21st of May, we had a very special visitor to Bungaree Primary School. Dr Misty Jenkins is a NHMRC fellow and laboratory head at the Walter Eliza Hall Institute for Medical Research, in Melbourne. Misty researches in the area of immunology and cell biology, and understanding how immune cells kill cancer cells. Dr Misty is an old and very dear friend of Ms K's and she was kind enough to drop in and have a chat with the students about her work as a scientist. Junior students shared their learning from our biological science unit about eel farming at Budj Bim and shared their learning of Gunditjmara language. Misty is a proud Gunditjmara woman and was so proud to hear the junior students speaking the language.

Ms K is also looking forward to returning to Wellbeing lessons this week after a busy fortnight of excursions and special events.

Finally, thank you for your support our Book Fair last week. Every purchase helped our school purchase new books for the library. Our Community Pantry was also available during Book Fair and was stocked with fresh fruit and loaves of bread along with pantry staples. Thank you to everyone who continues to support our Foodbank Pantry initiative.

Ms K

Art and STEAM

In Art over the last few weeks, students have been exploring textile art. Students started with the concept of weaving and used paper to create a weaving inspired by Ghanaian Kente Cloth. They then took their weaving skills from paper to yarn and have used the same technique to create a woven bowl. Students have also used wool and yarn to create a Van Gogh inspired landscape, and practised their sewing skills on hessian, using a running stitch or backstitch.

In STEAM this semester we have been learning about Media, including print, broadcast and digital media. Students have researched an indigenous media source and viewed and discussed advertising techniques. Our current project in STEAM is to create our own episode of Behind the News (BTN), called Bunga BTN! We are currently scripting some different news segments, practising speaking in front of the camera, filming and taking photos for our media presentation.

This week, we had another fantastic incursion from the Bendigo Discovery Science & Technology Centre on the topic of Marble Runs. Kirra, our facilitator introduced us to a fantastic video by the band 'OK GO', inspiring us to persevere with the activity even when things go wrong. Students then worked in pairs to create their own marble run with resources Kirra brought in to school, following two rules: 1. Include a funnel, and 2. The marble must land in the blue cup. Students brainstormed, collaborated and tried and tested a range of ideas to get their marble to go for a run! Students were mostly successful and had a great time working together on something new. See photos attached for a snippet of their creativity!

Kirra also spoke to us about ways that we can harness our innovation and create something like this at home using cardboard tubes, paper cups, cereal boxes and more - you might find some fantastic marble run items in your recycling bin and give it a go at home.

Mrs Ower



School families—save the date!

Tuesday, 2nd June at 6:30pm

Keep an eye out for a registration link for this special parent webinar on Compass.

Come along to a Parent & Carer Presentation!



Parenting with ACE Webinar

PRESENTED BY HUGH VAN CUYLENBURG

WHO'S INVITED?
Parents & Carers

DURATION
60 minutes

WHERE?
Online Webinar

ACE - Authenticity, Connection and Self-Esteem.

When your child feels connected, confident and supported to be themselves, they're more resilient and better able to navigate life's ups and downs at home, school and beyond.

This webinar will equip you with easy tools to foster your child's wellbeing:



Understand our ACE framework (Authenticity, Connection and Self-Esteem), and how it can support you and your child..



Tips and strategies to help your child build strong relationships, strengthen self-esteem and grow into their authentic self.



Explore topics including values, purpose, communication, positive self-talk and growth mindset.

SCAN FOR MORE ABOUT

THE RESILIENCE PROJECT™



Together we can grow

National Reconciliation Week

National Reconciliation Week—held every year from 27 May to 3 June—is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

What's the significance of 27 May and 3 June?

27 May marks the anniversary of the 1967 referendum when Australians voted to remove clauses in the Australian Constitution that discriminated against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

3 June marks the historic 1992 Mabo decision in which the High Court of Australia recognised native title—the recognition that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' rights over their lands did survive British colonisation.

The day before National Reconciliation Week, 26 May, is National Sorry Day, which was first held in Sydney in 1998 and is now commemorated nationally to remember and honour the Stolen Generations.

What is reconciliation in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples?

At its heart, reconciliation is about strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous peoples, for the benefit of all Australians.

For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, Australia's colonial history is characterised by devastating land dispossession, violence, and racism. Over the last half-century, however, many significant steps towards reconciliation have been taken.

Reconciliation is an ongoing journey that reminds us that while generations of Australians have fought hard for meaningful change, future gains are likely to take just as much, if not more, effort.

Why is National Reconciliation Week important?

National Reconciliation Week provides a focus for working towards our goal of a just equitable and reconciled Australia. National Reconciliation Week is an ideal time for organisations, schools, universities, community groups and workplaces to advance understanding of reconciliation within their own places and their own lives.

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It began as a Week of Prayer for Reconciliation in 1993, supported by Australia's major religious groups. Three years later it evolved into National Reconciliation Week under the guidance of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation (now Reconciliation Australia).

Reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds and actions of all Australians as we move forward, creating a nation strengthened by respectful relationships between the wider Australian community, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Reconciliation Australia



Bungaree Primary School would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the lands on which we live, learn and play, 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.

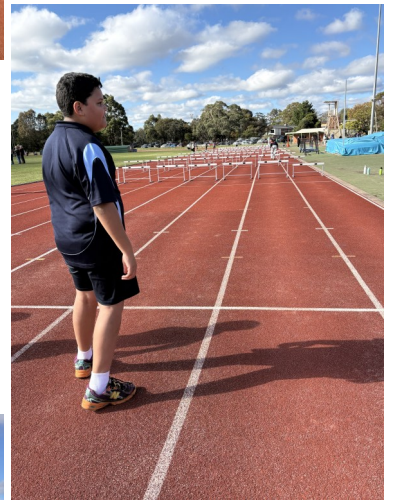
We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and thank them for taking care of this country over countless generations.

Koling wada-ngal (Let us walk together)

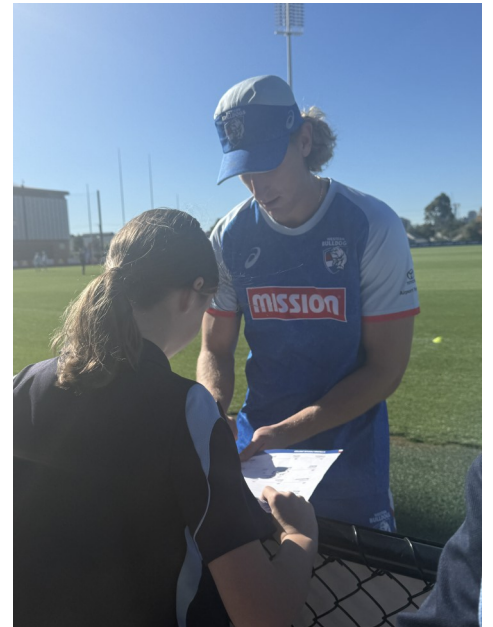


Out and about with Bunga

Scholastic Book Fair, GRIP Student Leadership Conference, Wathaurung Athletics Carnival, Bulldogs Read Whitten Oval visit, STEAM incursion, Wathaurung Soccer and AFL representation. Whoa! Go Bunga!



Together we can grow



Together we can grow