



# Bungaree Primary School

## Newsletter

Term 3, Week 2  
24th July, 2026

### Contact Details:

**Telephone:** 03 5334 0253  
**Email:** bungaree.ps@education.vic.gov.au  
**Facebook:** @bungareeps

**Address:** 348 Bungaree-Wallace Road, Bungaree, Victoria, 3352  
**Web:** www.bungareeps.vic.edu.au  
**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,

Welcome back to Term 3! It has been wonderful to see our students and staff return with a real sense of lightness, enthusiasm and readiness for the term ahead. Our classrooms have quickly come alive with smiling faces, curious minds and a shared commitment to teaching and learning.

One of the most pleasing observations from our teachers has been the noticeable step up from students this term. Across the school, there is a calm and purposeful atmosphere, with productive learning that can be seen and heard in every classroom. Whether visiting our Junior classes, Senior classrooms, or specialist programs, it is clear that students are engaged, asking thoughtful questions and taking pride in their learning. Everyone should be incredibly proud of the concentration, curiosity and positive attitude they are bringing to school each day.

This term promises to be another exciting one, with engaging learning experiences across literacy, numeracy, geography, swimming and gymnastics, alongside many other opportunities for students to grow, achieve and shine. There is already a wonderful vibrancy around the school as students reconnect with friends, embrace new challenges and continue building confidence in their learning.

Beyond the classroom, our school continues to thrive through the strong sense of community that makes Bungaree such a special place. Whether in the playground, on the sporting field, in our gardens or during everyday classroom moments, it is the care, respect and encouragement we show one another that helps every child feel valued and supported.

Thank you to our families for your ongoing support and partnership. Together, we are creating a positive, welcoming environment where every child is encouraged to learn, belong and flourish. We look forward to another fantastic term filled with learning, growth and memorable experiences.

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

### July

**Each Wednesday this term from 22nd** **Swim and Gym Program at BALC (Swim 12:30 -1:15pm; Gym 2:00-3:00pm)**

~~Monday 27th~~  
**RESCHEDULED to 31/8** **STEM Incursion: Planetarium and Climate Science**

**Tuesday 28th** **Seniors State Library Victoria webinar with Andy Griffiths; Western Bulldogs Footy Clinic; School Council meeting**

**Thursday 30th** **Bake and Grind pie and donut drive collection**

**Friday 31st** **MARC Van at school**

### August

**Monday 10th** **Whole school Earth Ed excursion "Sustainable Cities"**

**Thursday 13th** **First Aid in Schools incursions (Junior/Senior sessions)**

**Friday 14th** **MARC Van at school**

**Monday 17th** **Whole school Moorabool Kids Day Out excursion**

**Thursday 20th** **Family Night—keep it free, stay tuned!**

**Tuesday 25th** **Whole school State Library Victoria webinar with Josh Pyke; School Council meeting**

**Friday 28th** **MARC Van at school; Book Week Parade**

**Monday 31st** **Sunsmart begins—wearing hats; STEM Incursion: Planetarium and Climate Science; Senior Student-Lead Conferences after school**

### September

**Tuesday 1st** **Junior Student-Lead Conferences after school**

**Friday 4th** **Father's and Special Blokes Day Stall**

**Monday 7th** **Professional Practice Day—STUDENT FREE DAY**

**Wednesday 9th** **Sovereign Division Athletics (go Archie!)**

**Friday 11th** **MARC Van at school**

**Thursday 17th** **Student Showcase 9:00-10:00am**

**Friday 18th** **Footy Colours Day; last day of Term 3—2:30pm dismissal**

## Grounds Update—growing something special



A huge thank you to our wonderful students and staff for their enthusiasm, hard work and willingness to get their hands dirty as we transformed the garden beds around the Main Building. Armed with gumboots, work boots and plenty of energy, everyone pitched in to prepare the soil for some exciting new additions.



To celebrate Schools' Tree Day, we planted a range of beautiful native plants that will create a vibrant flowering garden throughout the year. Our goal is to attract bees, birds, butterflies and other important pollinators, helping to support local biodiversity while creating an attractive and welcoming space for our school community. Keep an eye out—our mulch will arrive this week to give the garden beds the finishing touch!



The excitement doesn't stop there. We are also preparing to build new raised garden beds in our upcoming Green Patch. This special outdoor learning space will become a hub for kitchen gardening, composting and hands-on environmental learning.

One of the most exciting plans for the Green Patch is the return of chooks to our school! Caring for chickens provides children with valuable opportunities to learn about animal welfare, responsibility, sustainability and where food comes from. Students will help care for the chickens, collect eggs and learn about the important role animals play in healthy ecosystems.

We're looking for four to six friendly hens to help get our flock started. If you, or someone you know, may be able to donate some chooks to the school, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact Miss Barnes if you can help.

With a little luck, our hardworking hens will soon be producing plenty of fresh organic eggs. We hope to sell some eggs to our school community to help cover the cost of their feed and ongoing care.

It's going to be an eggcellent addition to our school, and we can't wait to share the journey with you all!

Miss Barnes



## Wellbeing Wisdom

### How to help children cope with Cliques

Often children will have groups of friends, however sometimes these groups can become influenced by people's opinions and beliefs, which can lead to exclusion of certain people and inclusion of others. This is often referred to as a Clique. Cliques can be extremely challenging for children and can negatively impact their self-esteem and confidence. So what do you do if your child tells you they are having friendship difficulties?

#### *Talk about your own experiences*

Cliques have always been around, and most likely you have your own experiences of these...Talk to your child about them! This can help normalise the distress rather than let your child believe it is all just them.

#### *Help put their rejection into perspective*

Children have a limited ability to think into the future. As caregivers, it can be helpful to put how quickly friendships and relationships can change into perspective, especially when big feelings are involved.

#### *Talk about social dynamics*

Explain to the child what makes a healthy friendship and what makes an unhealthy friendship. Teach children how to tell if a friendship is one-sided or fake. Friendships flourish when there are shared values.

#### *Remind the child of insecurities*

Often cliques are formed due to insecurities and worries. This does not excuse behaviours, but helps your child understand and promote empathy. It also takes the child's mind away from self-blame if they are being excluded.

#### *Find stories they can relate to*

Cliques have been around for a long time, and often books and television shows explore these of peer rejection, friendship difficulties and the importance of being true to yourself and the importance of good friends.

#### *Encourage out of school interests*

This can help the child strengthen their identity outside of the social setting, and can improve their self-esteem and sense of belonging.

These are just a few tips to support your child through the highs and lows of friendships.

Sinead, Student Wellbeing



## Student Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received awards this week:

**Literacy Award:** Faith, for showing respect and determination in helping another person through some technology challenges.

**Numeracy Award:** Jack, for demonstrating determination and positivity during maths when using informal units of measurement to map out the perimeter of his theme park.

**Specialist Award:** Lindsay, for showing outstanding creativity and thinking outside the box when drawing her representation of sounds on the djembe!

**GEM Award:** Archie, for demonstrating gratitude, empathy and mindfulness during a challenging time!

Congratulations!



## Wellbeing Specialist

In Wellbeing, we have been setting ourselves up for success by developing positive strategies to support our emotional wellbeing.

As part of our Bucket Filler program, students have been learning how acts of kindness, gratitude and encouragement can help fill both their own buckets and the buckets of others, creating a positive and supportive classroom community.

Students also designed a personalised hand template featuring five things they can think about and identified their own happy place to help them feel calm and regulated. These hands will be available as an independent support tool whenever students need a moment to refocus, particularly during our learning about Gender Identity and Gender-Based Violence.

By practising these strategies ahead of time, students are building confidence and resilience while learning to recognise when they need to pause, regulate their emotions and return to learning when they are ready. Students continue to work on their Gratitude boardgames in readiness for Showcase at the end of term, this has been an ongoing project.

Ms K

## Junior Classroom News

In the Junior room we have begun exploring the concepts of perimeter and area as we embark on an exciting term-long Dream Theme Park project! Students had a fantastic time using informal units of measurement to map out the layout of their parks, preparing them for the next stage of drawing, measuring, and designing. This project will weave together a range of mathematical concepts throughout the term, encouraging creativity, problem-solving, and real-world application of their learning.

This term, our Inquiry learning is focused on Geography as we explore the question, "Who are Australia's neighbours?" Students will investigate the countries and cultures of our neighbouring nations, learning about their locations, environments and connections with Australia. We will also make links to the Commonwealth Games, discovering which neighbouring countries compete alongside Australia and celebrating the diversity, cultures and sporting achievements of nations across our region.

Ms K and Miss Murphy

**Bungaree PS  
is online**



## Senior Classroom News

The Senior Room has had a fantastic start to Term 3!

In Literacy, students have been developing their research skills, learning how to locate and organise reliable information as they begin writing informative texts about significant Australian locations and landmarks.

Our two Book Clubs this term are *Tim & Tigon* by Tim Cope; and *The Twenty-Seventh Annual African Hippopotamus Race* by Morris Lurie. Both explore beautiful narratives that take students around the world!

Our work in understanding and extending writing traits continues this term, with a current focus on an author's voice. We are learning through a very engaging graphic novel, *The Adventures of Ook and Gluk, Kung Fu Cavemen from the Future*. Let's just say that an author's voice can also be humorous, and students are very much enjoying learning through this model text.

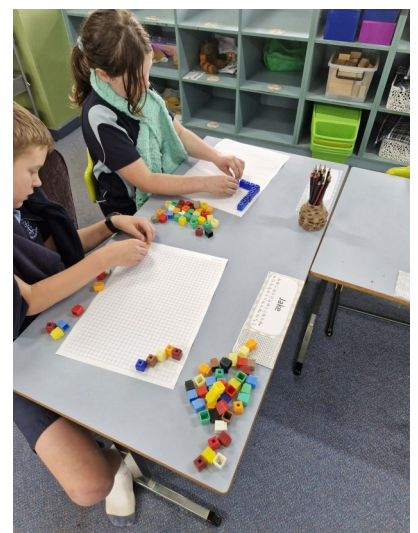
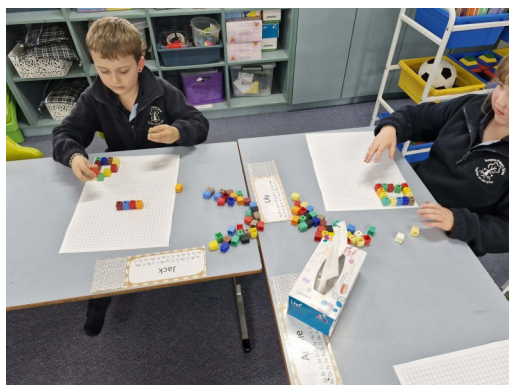
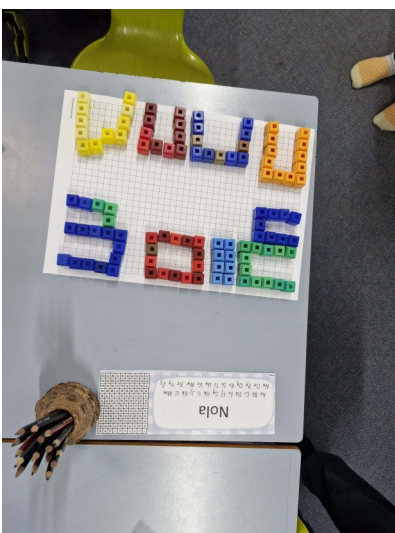
Students have also embarked on a geography unit, starting with a global view and now narrowing down learning into the people and places of Asia. The excitement to see and experience this continent is very evident (it might be Miss Barnes' enthusiasm with atlases, landmarks and flags though!)

In Mathematics, we have been exploring the concept of perimeter by measuring and calculating the distance around a variety of shapes. This connects to our next topic, area, including learning strategies for finding the area of irregular shapes.

Miss Murphy and Miss Barnes

# Up, down and all around—end of term

Junior maths and our garden planting around the Main Building.



Together we can grow