



Bungaree Primary School

Newsletter

Term 4, Week 2
16th October, 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,

As we move through Term 4, it is wonderful to see the energy and enthusiasm that comes with a term packed full of learning opportunities for our students. Across the school, students will be taking part in a wide variety of incursions, excursions and camps that enrich classroom learning and provide memorable real-world experiences. From literacy and numeracy through to the arts, physical education and outdoor education, there is certainly plenty to look forward to.

In our rural setting, it is particularly important that students have opportunities to learn beyond the school gate. These experiences broaden horizons, spark curiosity and help students make meaningful connections between their learning and the wider world. We are fortunate to be able to offer such a rich range of opportunities while maintaining a balanced and engaging curriculum throughout the week.

Last week's excursion to Arts Centre in Melbourne was a fantastic example of this in action. Students returned with many stories to share and thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to experience a world-class performance venue. Meanwhile, our Year 5/6 students are eagerly preparing for their upcoming Cluster Camp alongside students from two other small schools—Lal Lal and Cape Clear. Experiences such as these build confidence, independence, resilience and friendships, while creating lasting memories.

On a personal note, I would like to thank families, students and staff for their understanding while I took some time away from school following the passing of my father. I am very grateful for the support shown to my family and for the care and professionalism of our staff. It is reassuring to know that the strength and stability of our team ensures students continue to learn and thrive, even when key staff members are absent.

A reminder to families that Monday 2 November (Curriculum Day) and Tuesday 3 November (Melbourne Cup Holiday) are student-free days. I hope families enjoy the opportunity for an extra-long weekend and some quality time together.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our amazing school.

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

Curriculum Day

Monday, 2nd November

School will be closed on this day as approved by School Council, for assessment and report writing.

Calendar

October

Monday 19th	Seniors BioCats excursion, Geelong
Tuesday 20th	Maths with Dash incursion
Wed 21st-Fri 23rd	Year 5/6 Beloka Cluster Camp
Friday 23rd	MARC Van at school; Year 3/4 Bulldogs Read Finale excursion, Ballarat
Tuesday 27th	RECHEDULED School Council meeting, 4:30pm
Wednesday 28th	Sporting Schools PE afternoon excursion—Badminton TBC
Friday 30th	Foundation Fun 9:00am

November

Monday 2nd	Curriculum Day—student free day
Tuesday 3rd	Melbourne Cup public holiday—school closed
Wednesday 4th	Sporting Schools PE afternoon excursion—Badminton TBC
Friday 6th	MARC Van at school
Wednesday 11th	Sporting Schools PE afternoon excursion—Badminton TBC
Friday 13th	Foundation Fun 9:00am
Tuesday 17th	School Council meeting, 4:30pm
Wednesday 18th	Sporting Schools PE afternoon excursion—Badminton TBC
Friday 20th	MARC Van at school
Tuesday 24th	Earth Ed incursion—STEM challenge
Wednesday 25th	Sporting Schools PE afternoon excursion—Badminton TBC

Junior Room News

As we move through Term 4, please continue to support your child's learning through regular home reading, spelling practice and GEM homework. These routines are especially important for our Year 3 students as they prepare for the increased expectations of Year 4.

Our call to action for families: Please make time each evening for home reading, encourage your child to practise their spelling words regularly, and support them to complete their GEM homework. Your encouragement and involvement make a real difference to your child's learning and progress!

Students have been enthusiastically exploring Life Skills Go, learning how to navigate the app and discover its many features. We have also been reflecting on our Term 3 learning goals, celebrating our progress and setting new goals to help us finish the year feeling proud of our achievements.

We had a fantastic time in Melbourne watching *Housewarming* at the Ian Potter Theatre. It was a wonderful opportunity to experience live theatre and enjoy something a little different from our usual classroom learning.

Our Year 3 students are beginning to get very excited about their first school camp to Melbourne later this term! We are looking forward to the adventures, new experiences and wonderful memories they will make together. While the Year 3s are away, Ms K and Miss Murphy are busy planning an exciting day camp for our Foundation-Year 2 students, so there will be plenty of fun and adventure for everyone!

Finally, a friendly reminder about our 10-cent container recycling program. Every eligible container returned helps raise valuable funds for our school while encouraging students to care for our environment. Thank you to everyone who continues to support this initiative!

We look forward to a busy and exciting remainder of Term 4, filled with learning, new experiences and opportunities to celebrate how far our students have come.

Thank you for your continued support of our Junior Room. We look forward to an exciting end to the term, filled with new experiences, learning and wonderful memories!

Ms K and Miss Murphy

OSHC—Book in today!



Senior Room News

The first two weeks of Term 4 have certainly set the tone for what promises to be a busy, exciting and rewarding term of learning in the Senior Classroom.

We were delighted to learn that Annie was selected from students across the Ballarat region to participate in the Victorian High Ability Program (VHAP) Masterclass in Mathematics. This opportunity recognised her ongoing participation in extension learning and her strong mathematical capabilities. Throughout the day, Annie worked alongside other talented young mathematicians, tackling challenging problem-solving tasks, exploring coding concepts and applying multi-step thinking strategies to a range of complex mathematical investigations. Most importantly, she returned with a glowing review of the experience and a great deal of enthusiasm for future mathematical challenges. We congratulate Annie on her commitment to her learning and encourage all of our students to continue striving to do their personal best in whatever areas they are passionate about.



Another highlight of the term so far was our excursion to the Arts Centre in Melbourne. Our senior students represented the school exceptionally well throughout the day, demonstrating leadership and maturity as they supported and guided our younger students. It was wonderful to see them acting as positive role models while also embracing the opportunity to enjoy the performing arts experience themselves. The behind-the-scenes "backstage pass" tour of the new Ian Potter Theatre was a particular highlight and provided students with a fascinating insight into the work that happens beyond the stage curtain.

There is plenty to look forward to in the weeks ahead, including the much-anticipated Year 5/6 Beloka Cluster Camp. Affectionately known around the school as "Puppy Camp," students will take responsibility for nurturing and caring for a kelpie pup as part of their camp experience. Combined with sleeping in swags, cooking over campfires and experiencing life on the farm, it promises to be an unforgettable week of learning and adventure.

Finally, a reminder that home reading remains an important expectation for all students in Years 4-6. As we head into the final term of the year, we encourage families to support regular reading at home and help students finish the year strongly. Even ten to fifteen minutes each night can make a significant difference to reading growth, vocabulary and confidence. Let's work together to make Term 4 our strongest reading term yet!

Miss Barnes and Miss Murphy

Wellbeing Wisdom

How to help build your child's self-esteem

Self-esteem is something that is crucial for a child's learning, social development, emotion regulation and sense of wellbeing. Often children with low self-esteem can present shy, withdrawn and put limitations to what they believe they can achieve. In comparison, children with high self-esteem present as enthusiastic, have a greater sense of worth and are more comfortable with who they are.

To support your child to develop their self-esteem, there are a few things you can do:

Help your child learn how to do things

Every time a child learns something new, there is a new opportunity for self-esteem to grow.

Be honest

Ensure the feedback given is honest and specific, targeting specific points (eg. Even though it wasn't your best game, I am so proud of you for not giving up.)

Be a good role model

Show kindness to yourself, and put care and effort into what you do, as this shows children how to do the same.

Avoid being critical

Negative statements can have significant impact on a child's self-esteem. It is important to correct children with patience, focus on what you want to be done next and when needed show them how.

Focus on strength

Focusing more on the positives and the child's strengths rather than areas of improvement helps them to feel good about themselves.

Notice what is being done well

Support children to focus on what went well, as often children with low self-esteem will focus on what did not go well.

Encourage healthy friendships

As children grow older, their focus shifts towards peer relationships, which have a significant impact on their self-esteem. It is important to encourage children to have healthy friendships and challenge negative things they may see other children do.

Let kids help and give

Self-esteem grows when children see that what they do means something to someone else. Acts of kindness and helping others build positive emotional experiences and self-esteem.

Sinead, Student Wellbeing



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.

Happy birthday in Term 4

6th October—Ange
8th November—Ms K
11th November—Logan
12th November—Mrs Ower
14th November—Adrian
21st November—Archie
4th December—Chloe and Miss Barnes
23rd December—Lily



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

SCHOLASTIC

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Housewarming at the Arts Centre, Melbourne

On Monday we were lucky enough to be part of the audience for *Housewarming*, a performance to celebrate the reopening of the Ian Potter Theatre.

The show included a bit of everything from music and dance to acting, ballet to African drumming, and circus skills to a laser show. The show followed the journey of Rachel searching for the Lyrebird, who was missing from the theatre curtain.

After the show, we were taken on a Front of House tour by Maria, where we saw two theatres and learnt about how the Arts Centre operates behind the scenes.

The Fairfax theatre was a small intimate space, and the Playhouse was a medium sized theatre with an orchestra pit and manual fly system.

The other theatres were in use for shows, workshops, or bumping in/out!

We also tried on some opera outfits which were surprisingly heavy! A highlight was the secret room where we went on an architectural discovery.

Some fun facts about the Arts Centre are

- The Arts Centre spire is a representation of a ballerina, not the Eiffel Tower like many people think!
- The stage hands have to mop the floor with water and Coke before the ballet so the ballerinas don't slip over!
- The Arts Centre has a number of sound locks, which are carpeted all over and designed to trap sound. When we were in there, voices sounded like we were under water and it started to hurt some of our heads a bit!
- The Arts Centre is built on the original site where the famous Wirth's Circus operated from 1882-1963 - 8 decades!

Mrs Ower

