



NEWSLETTER

FORTHCOMING EVENTS / REMINDERS

If your child is absent please let us know by calling on 5169 6471 or entering the absence via the uEducateUs app by 8.45am.



Tuesday 24th February	School Barbeque—details to follow
Monday 9th March	Labour Day Public Holiday
Wednesday 18th March	School Photos
Thursday 2nd April	Last Day of Term 1

From The Principal's Desk

We are delighted to welcome **Patrick Kilday** as our new Principal, who will be sharing the role this year alongside our current Principal, **Sue**. Patrick will be at our school **Wednesday to Friday**, working in close partnership with Sue to continue leading our school community.



Patrick brings a strong background in teaching and learning, having previously worked as a Mathematics Learning Specialist at Churchill North Primary School, and currently serving as Assistant Principal there on Mondays and Tuesdays. Most excitingly, this role marks a special return for Patrick, as this is the first school where he began his teaching career back in 2014. Patrick is incredibly excited by the opportunity to reconnect with the school community and contribute to its ongoing growth and success.

We look forward to the shared leadership, continuity, and fresh perspectives this partnership will bring, and we warmly welcome Patrick back to our school.

School Council Elections

We are currently running our school Council elections. Information and Nomination Forms have gone home today to each family. Joining the School Council is one of the most meaningful ways parents can make a positive difference in our children's school lives. It gives you a voice in important decisions, from school priorities to community events, and helps ensure parent perspectives are heard. By getting involved, you strengthen the partnership between families and teachers, helping create a supportive, inclusive environment where every child can thrive. You'll also meet other parents, learn more about how the school works, and show children the value of community involvement. A small time commitment can have a big impact—for your child and the whole school.

A reminder that from 2026, parents, carers and community members who would like to join the school council need a working with children (WWC) clearance to nominate. If you are considering nominating for school council, and don't already have a WWCC, I encourage you to apply for a volunteer WWC check as soon as possible. This will allow for processing times, which are estimated to be from 3 to 12 weeks.

Drop-off Times in the morning

We ask families to note that, for safety reasons, **students should not enter the school grounds before 8:30am**, as there is **no staff supervision prior to this time**. Thank you for your support in helping us keep all students safe.

Labelling Student Clothing

As the warmer weather continues, we kindly remind families to **clearly label all student clothing**, including **hats, jumpers and jackets**. This greatly helps us return lost items to their rightful owners and keeps our lost property to a minimum.

Hats must be worn Term 1

It's been fabulous to see so many of our students donning a hat at recess and lunchtime.

A reminder that **hats are compulsory for all students during Term 1**, in line with our school's **SunSmart Policy**. Students without a hat will be required to play in the undercover area only.

Stay up-to-date with the uEducateUs App

All future Newsletters will be sent home electronically through uEducateUs. Please contact the office if you have not received your login details or are having difficulty logging in.

Families who would prefer to continue receiving a hard copy of the Newsletter please let Alexandra in the office know.

AROUND THE ROOMS

Newsletter F-2

What a fantastic start to 2026 for our new foundation students. Welcome to Banjo, Sadie, Emma, Declan, Emily, Leondre, Charlie and TJ. We have begun our Sounds Write phonics program, been entertained by stories and have been learning about patterns in Maths. In between learning there have been plenty of brain breaks and movement opportunities as the students gradually get used to new routines at school.

Of course, they love recess and lunchtime and have been making a fairy garden and enjoying a hit of tennis, as well as the swing and playground.

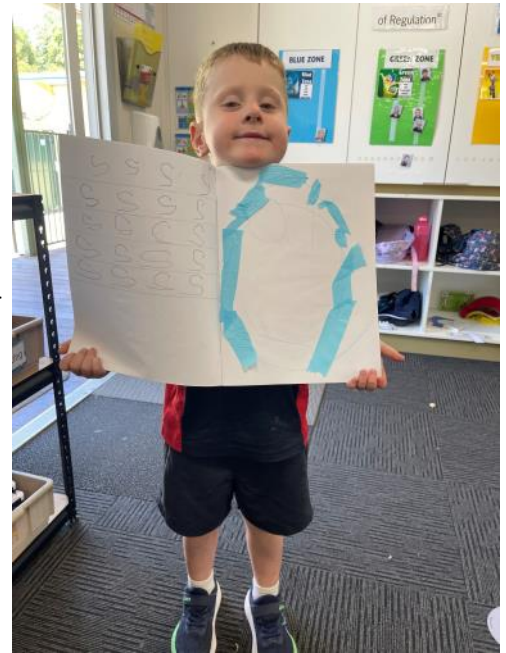
Just a reminder that Foundation students have Wed off during Feb. I am sure they will benefit from a mid-week rest day as they start to get used to going to school each day.

Our amazing Year 1 and 2s have started with confidence and are a great help to their new classmates.

Just a reminder to clearly label hats, jackets and jumpers so we can find the owners quickly! Also, could we please have the local excursion forms and photo permissions returned asap. Thank you.

If anyone has any questions, you are very welcome to pop in and see us.

Di Cascianelli, Jade, Mary and Sharon.



AROUND THE ROOMS

2-6 Class

Happy 2026 everyone.

My name is Ms Ann Pulbrook and I have been teaching in our Boolarra Primary School's Grade 2–6 classroom for the past week and a half. Thank you very much everybody for welcoming me to this friendly and vibrant school! The students, very supportive staff and school community have been extremely positive and have enthusiastically introduced me to the school's unique culture and beautiful grounds.



We welcome to the school and our classroom, new student, Braxton. We are also very happy to have our new students from last year's junior room joining us now in our middle-upper levels classroom for 2026. All together, we have 17 students this year, in our Grade 2-6 class.

We send a big congratulation to Miss Creighton, the Grade 3-6 classroom teacher for 2025, as she has given birth to a very healthy baby girl, named Ella.

Returning to enrich our classroom for 2026, is our wonderful Education Support staff, comprising of Kylie Bentham and Emily McIndoe.

It's an exciting time of year in the classroom of the Grade 2-6s, and we hope to share our learning, interests and successes with you, soon and continually, throughout this promising new school year.

AROUND THE ROOMS

Specialist Classes

The Arts

This term our focus is visual arts. Our first project is to create a hand for our belonging tree. Every year, each student at Boolarra Primary School traces their hand and decorates it. Once it is finished, we add their school photo and display the hands on our belonging tree located in front of the school office. The hands document our students' physical growth and the growth in their skills over their time at Boolarra Primary School.



Science

This term our focus is physical science. We begin by learning about forces. Our junior class have been identifying how a push or pull affects the movement of an object. We carried out tests and recorded our observations.

The senior class have been learning about contact forces. This week they explored examples of contact forces and explained how these forces act through physical contact to affect the movement of objects.



This year, Boolarra Primary School is excited to continue our involvement in the Mental Health in Primary Schools Initiative, a program developed by the Murdoch Children’s Research Institute, Melbourne University, and the Victorian Department of Education. The MHiPS program focuses on a whole-school approach to mental health and wellbeing, with the appointment of a dedicated Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader (MHWL). Tina Larrad carried out this role in 2025 and will continue in this role in 2026. The MHWL is distinct from allied health roles as it does not provide one-on-one counselling, but instead focuses on a broad approach to supporting the entire school community.

For those of you who don’t know me, I’ve been a teacher at Boolarra Primary School for over 20 years, working across all grade levels delivering classroom and specialist programs. This year along with my role as a Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader I am also the Health and Physical Education coordinator and teach science and the arts.

As a Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader, I will focus on improving the mental health and well-being of our students by supporting both our staff and families. I will work closely with teachers to implement Rights, Resilience and Respectful Relationships, Zones of Regulation and the Berry Street Educational Model (BSEM), which is our whole-school approach to social emotional learning. I will also help connect families and staff to support services, both within the school and through external agencies. My aim is to identify and address mental health concerns early, ensuring the best possible outcomes for our students.

Throughout the year, I’ll be sharing helpful information, strategies, and resources in the newsletter to keep you informed and supported. My goal is to make sure everyone in our school community has the tools they need to promote positive mental health and well-being. If you ever have any questions or need additional support, please don’t hesitate to reach out. My workdays are all day Tuesday and Wednesday and Thursday from 9am to 1pm.

Tina Larrad

Christina.Larrad@education.vic.gov.au



Students of the Week



Students of the Week

<p>Week 1 Term 1</p> <p>F/1/2</p> <p>Liam</p> <p>You have made a fantastic start to grade one! It is great to see you try your best in everything.</p>		<p>Week 1 Term 1</p> <p>Grade 2/3/4/5/6</p> <p>Braxton</p> <p>For showing great adjustment & engagement in his first week of school at Boolarra Primary</p>	
<p>Week 2 Term 1</p> <p>F/1/2</p> <p>Banjo</p> <p>For showing our school value of "Aspiration" by trying really hard in all class work!</p>		<p>Week 2 Term 1</p> <p>Grade 2/3/4/5/6</p> <p>Lacey</p> <p>For being such a kind and caring leader in our class</p>	

Maths Achievement Awards

<p>Week 1 Term 1</p> <p>F/1/2</p> <p>Blake B</p>	<p>Week 1 Term 1</p> <p>Grade 2/3/4/5/6</p> <p>Leon</p>
<p>Week 2 Term 1</p> <p>F/1/2</p> <p>Blake B</p>	<p>Week 2 Term 1</p> <p>Grade 2/3/4/5/6</p> <p>Ethan</p>

Thank you!

- Granny Barb for volunteering at our school
- All Staff for your continued dedication you to bring to our school every day. We are looking forward to another great year tother!
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Positive Yard Behaviour

Congratulations to the following students.

You have demonstrated our school values out in the Yard:

Students can choose an item from our prize box

February

We hope these students have a brilliant time celebrating becoming one year older. Happy Birthday from all of us at Boolarra PS!

Harry Liam

YOUTH ACTIVITY EXPO 2026

Thursday 19 & Friday 20 February
3pm to 6pm
Saturday 21 February
11am to 2pm

Information and Registration day for youth activities including:

- Football
- Netball
- Music
- Dance
- Community Youth Programs
- Youth Skills & Job Centre
- Pre School activities & more!

LOCATED IN CENTRE COURT

Scan the QR to see the organisations & clubs that will be participating:



THE HEART OF THE VALLEY
www.midvalleyshoppingcentre.com.au

Travel free



Under 18s travel free on all public transport with a Youth myki



Buy a Youth myki



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7 + 8 FEB 2026

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Love singing? For fun or for performing..... SINGING LESSONS

For beginners and intermediate levels,
children (7yo and up) and adults



ABOUT THE TEACHER – CAROLAYNE BOOTHMAN (B.Ed)

- 35 years of teaching experience – all ages and abilities
- registered with the Victorian Institute of Teaching
- singing and performing for over 40 years
- singing lead and harmonies with the band “Bordertown” for 20 years

PRIVATE LESSONS AVAILABLE:

- Morwell - Wednesdays from 5.30pm
- 30 min. sessions

LESSONS INCLUDE:

- your own preference of music styles and songs
- correct techniques, warm-ups, voice control, microphone use and stage presence

ENQUIRIES WELCOME.

Contact: Carolayne ph. 0419 526 709 or email
carolyneboothman@gmail.com