

# NEWSLETTER

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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS / REMINDERS

Tuesday 13th February	Pupil Free Day Staff Professional Learning Science of Learning at Grey St Primary
Thursday 22nd February	Swimming Sports
Wednesday 7th February and each Wednesday until	No school for preps each Wednesday in February. Every day for preps begins in March
Monday 11th March	Labour Day Public Holiday
Wednesday 13th March	School Council Meeting
Tuesday 26th March	Yinnar & District Sports
Thursday 28th March	End of Term 1
Monday 15th April	Term 2 Begins

Please note the newsletter will now be **emailed** to all parents /carers at the nominated email addresses on file. It's also available on the **website** and **uEducateUS**.

### From Mrs Duncan's Desk

Greetings and welcome back to another exciting school year! We extend a warm welcome to our new additions, Bailey and Oscar, as they embark on their formative school journey with us. Additionally, we are delighted to introduce Mrs. Fox, a seasoned education professional with a wealth of experience. Mrs. Fox's passion for small schools aligns perfectly with our close-knit community.

A special welcome is also extended to Max and Jack, who will be lending their support to our teachers and students on a casual basis. As we navigate through the initial weeks, we encourage parents to assist their children in settling into the school routine by establishing consistent daily schedules. Adequate sleep plays a crucial role in fostering concentration and learning, and it is recommended that children aged 6–12 aim for 9–12 hours of sleep each night.

In other news, we bid farewell to Mrs. Moule this week, as she embarks on a new chapter in her career at Naracan Primary School. Mrs. Moule has been a valuable member of our team, and we extend our heartfelt wishes for success in her future endeavours. Sandra Hoy will be filling in whilst we search for our new Office Administrator.

Our students have seamlessly transitioned into the 2024 school year, thanks to the meticulous preparation by our dedicated teachers. We express our gratitude to them for their care and commitment to ensuring a smooth return for our students. Together, let's make this school year a memorable and successful one!

*Have a good weekend*

*from Mrs Duncan*

## Congratulations to our Students Leaders



School Captains: Violet & Ruby

House Captains: Angela (not photographed),  
Daisy, Sophia and Callen

Fire Ambassador & Junior School Councillors:  
Sian and Ivy

At Boolarra Primary School, fostering leadership skills is a core value we hold dear. We firmly believe that instilling leadership qualities in children from a young age equips them with essential tools to navigate peer pressures during their teenage years. While leadership may not be an exact science, imparting these skills early on is crucial in preparing the next generation to assume responsibility and become conscientious adults.

By nurturing leadership skills, we contribute to the growth of their self-confidence. Teaching children how to lead not only empowers them but also enhances their motivation to diligently pursue goals and embrace new challenges. As they develop these skills, they will fortify their sense of control and self-identity, laying a strong foundation for their future endeavours. At Boolarra Primary School, we are committed to shaping well-rounded individuals who are confident, motivated, and poised to take on leadership roles in their communities and beyond.

### U-Educate Us

U-educate Us serves as our primary communication platform. In the event of a school emergency, notifications will be disseminated through this application. If you haven't installed it yet, kindly do so. For those who have misplaced their passwords, please reach out to the office via a call or visit, and we'll gladly assist you. We are committed to helping everyone integrate the app on their phones. Additionally, the app is utilized for managing absences, sharing crucial dates, distributing newsletters, reports, and facilitating communication between parents and the school.





**Mrs Fox**



**Max**



**Jack**



Some of our emerging engineers decided to build a crate for Murphy. I'm not sure how happy Murphy was!

Good design James, Callen, Kodee and Gus.

Oscar and Kean enjoyed building tall towers at lunch whilst Bailey loved playing with Lego.



**Happy Chooks**







### School procedures for the bushfire season

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children's services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four [days notice](#) of a potential Code Red day closure by letter and Facebook [Posts](#). A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red [day](#) we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.
- Depending on which Bureau of Meteorology district is impacted bus route cancellations may affect our school.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – on such [days](#) children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the CFA advise that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management

#### What can parents do?

Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements [in the event](#) that our school is closed.

Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, [\[by checking our Facebook Page\]](#) and by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.

Most importantly at this time of year, if you're planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.

If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan.

You can access more information about children's services closures on the Department of Education and Training website – see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>

For up-to-date information on this year's fire season, visit the CFA website at [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au) or call the 24-hour Victorian Bushfires Information Line on 1800 240 667.

### Goodbye

After 12 years at Boolarra Primary School I am saying farewell to Boolarra Primary School having secured another position.

I wish all of you well—students, families and staff that I have had the privilege of getting to know and seeing students go from their Prep year all the way up to Grade 6, attending to bumps and bruises, seeing you perform at the Boolarra Folk Festival, our school concerts and productions and watching you all grow. I will miss so many of you and wish everyone the very best for the future.




I thank parents for your support over the years with fundraising, mother's and father's day stalls and supporting book club and our book fairs and offers of help when it has been needed.

I hope everyone has a wonderful 2024 as a new chapter for Boolarra Primary School begins  
Warmest Wishes Mrs M (Sharon)

# Students of the Week



# Students of the Week

<p><b>Week 11 Term 4</b></p> <p><b>Ashton</b></p> <p>This week Ashton has shown great engagement with his peers, teachers, and activities. He has also demonstrated exceptional generosity by sharing his treats with the class and staff. Go Ashton!</p>		<p><b>Week 1 Term 1</b></p> <p><b>Gewalin Burrows</b></p> <p>For modelling our school values, especially Aspiration and Responsibility. From Day 1 Gewalin has challenged herself and been a leader in the classroom</p>	
<p><b>Week 10 Term 4</b></p> <p><b>WHOLE OF GRADE PREP TO 2</b></p> <p>For all being a wonderful grade for the year 2023.</p>		<p><b>Week 1 Term 1</b></p> <p><b>Ashton</b></p> <p>For improving your level of engagement and having a good start to 2024. Keep showing that you are resilient.</p>	

## Positive Yard Behaviour

Congratulations to the following students. You have demonstrated our school values out in the Yard:



Well done to the whole school for positive behaviour. Everyone will receive a Super Dooper next week.



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

February —Harry

## Maths Achievement Awards

<p><b>Week 11 Term 4</b></p> <p>None</p>	<p><b>Week 1 Term 1</b></p> <p>Oscar</p> 
<p><b>Week 11 Term 4</b></p> <p>None</p>	<p><b>Week 1 Term 1</b></p> <p>Richie</p> 

# Thank You

### Spread The Word– 2024 Enrolments

Support your community, support your school.

We are currently accepting enrolments for 2024. If you know of anyone who is eligible to enrol at our school in 2024 please encourage them to contact the school.

## JUST A REMINDER.....

### **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.

Thank you



## U-Educate Us - PARENT COMMUNICATION/NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

Last term the school changed our parent communication platform from Skoolbag/Audri to U-Educate Us due to increasing costs. Notes have been sent home so parents so can put the App on their phone. These notes included the steps that needed to be followed and individual passwords for families. If you have not received your note please contact the school so we can send one home. It is important that all families have the app on their phone as this will be our method of communication should we need to close the school. As many parents would remember, this was necessary in 2020 when we experienced a severe weather event which resulted in our closure for two days. This last week should be a reminder to us all of the importance in having an effective communication system. As A Bushfire at Risk School we may be instructed to close on a Catastrophic Day. **Parents should use this system to notify the school of any absences.**



# After School Care

Before, After and Vacation Care

### After School Care Routine

3:15pm - 4:00pm	Put away school bags, roll call, wash hands and have afternoon tea.
4:00pm - 4:30pm	Homework supervision, reading or other quiet activity and Free Time.
4:30pm - 5:00pm	Special Activity time.
5:00pm - 6:00pm	Finishing up projects, free time and cleaning up.

### SESSION TIMES (MON-FRI)

After School Care: 3:15pm - 6:00pm  
End of Term: 2:30pm - 6:00pm

### Fee Structure

	Fee	Example of Approximate out of pocket expenses at 85% CCB	Out of Pocket
Now the parents at full rate (before the application of any CCBs)			
After School	\$ 27.82	After School	\$ 4.27
End Day of Term	\$ 54.24	End Day of Term	\$ 5.14

A discounted fee applies to Permanent Bookings. You will be charged for all bookings including absences and placement is guaranteed.

	Fee	Example of Approximate out of pocket expenses at 85% CCB	Out of Pocket
Casual Fees			
After School	\$ 26.92	After School	\$ 4.47

Casual Bookings will be taken if places are available and there is no guarantee of placement.

In 2 Learning is an approved service for the **Child Care subsidies**. We are more than willing to discuss this with you and assist where necessary in confidence.

### Why In 2 Learning Boolarra?

- Kids love our engaging programmes, participating in adventurous, creative activities and good old - fashioned play.
- We focus on children's health and safety
- Open door policy
- A staff to learner ratio of 1:15 allows for loads of engagement
- We build positive relationships with the children and families
- We offer a professional service with our core focus on CARE

### Weekly Themes

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Art & Crafts	Music/Drama	Sport	Technology	Fun Activities

For enrolments or any other enquires, please contact Juliana Arenas (Director):  
M: 0411 821 530  
E: [juliana@in2learning.com.au](mailto:juliana@in2learning.com.au)

## In 2 Learning Boolarra





# Community News



## Lumen Christi Parish Sacramental Program 2024.

Dear Parents,

We are inviting expressions of interest in the Sacramental Program for Catholic students in Government Schools.

Grade 3 students are eligible for **Reconciliation**, which will be held in first term.

The 4 x 1 hour lessons will begin on Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> February at 10.00am, at Lumen Christi, Churchill, after 9:00 a.m. Mass.

Grade 4 students are eligible for **First Eucharist**.

Grade 6 students are eligible for **Confirmation**.

Parents are welcome to attend sessions.

Any parent who is interested in enrolling their child for this year's programs is asked to contact the following Catechists.  
Helen Dyson 0412773417 or Marie James 0429933730.



## Living with Autism

FREE 6 week program interactive zoom sessions for parents and carers living with a child who has been diagnosed as having Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

Strategies to consider different approaches to help with parenting children on the spectrum

- How to help with social skills
- Managing changes and transitions
- responding to meltdowns
- How to respond when your child gets overwhelmed?
- Help your child to regulate their emotions?
- Support your child with their challenges?

Where: Online via ZOOM

When: Wednesdays, February 14th - March 13th

Time: 10:00am - 12:00pm

Cost: FREE. Bookings essential

Register: scan the QR code, follow the MS forms link <https://forms.office.com/r/4RXfwQ7288>

OR contact  
Parentzone.Gippsland@anglicarevic.org.au  
P: (03) 5135 9555



Please note these are interactive sessions and will not be recorded

[anglicarevic.org.au](http://anglicarevic.org.au)

PARENTZONE



## Children and Parenting Support

Supporting families in Churchill and surrounds



The Children and Parenting Support Program (CaP's) can support you with:

- Building your parenting confidence
- Strengthening relationships
- Establishing routines
- Identifying children's emotional needs
- Understanding children's behaviours
- Enhancing communication skills
- Introducing a healthy diet
- Reducing anxiety
- Sleep settling
- Support with referrals and linking with other services

The Program is available to all Parents and Carers of children aged 0-12 living in the Churchill area.

The Program provides support to families for up to 3-4 months in the home or via video conferencing.

For further information:  
Kathy Gleeson 0499 005 141 or  
[kathy.gleeson@anglicarevic.org.au](mailto:kathy.gleeson@anglicarevic.org.au)

5135 9555 | [anglicarevic.org.au](http://anglicarevic.org.au)

BETTER  
TOMORROWS



## Raising Resilient Kids

Do you want to:

- Help your child cope in a chaotic world?
- Improve your child's confidence and self esteem?
- Deal with anxious feelings?
- Help your child to cope with change?
- Develop strategies to manage anger?
- Communicate better with your child?

Venue: Online via ZOOM

Dates: Tuesdays 6th February - 12th March

Time: 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Cost: FREE

Come along to these 6 sessions to learn strategies, share stories and take some time out for you!

Register: scan the QR code, follow the MS forms link <https://forms.office.com/r/tqgSkG22qu> OR contact  
Parentzone.Gippsland@anglicarevic.org.au  
P: (03) 5135 9555

Please note these are interactive sessions and will not be recorded



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