Volume 32 Issue 2

Thursday 12th February, 2026

Brentwood Park Primary School NEWSLETTER

brentwood.park.ps@education.vic.gov.au 9702 2022 www.brentwoodparkps.vic.edu.au

TERM DATES 2026 TERM 1 28TH JAN - 2ND APRIL TERM 2 20TH APR - 26TH JUNE
TERM 3 13TH JUL - 18TH SEP TERM 4 5TH OCT - 18TH DEC

DATES TO REMEMBER

13 FEB	PREP PUPIL FREE DAYS - INDIVIDUAL ASSESSMENTS ONLY
19-20 FEB	PREP PUPIL FREE DAYS - INDIVIDUAL ASSESSMENTS ONLY
17 FEB	SCHOOL PHOTOS
17 FEB	SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING @ 6:30 PM
18 FEB	SCHOOL PHOTOS FOR SIBLINGS

JIM BELL, PRINCIPAL JUDY ANDERSON, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL JO-ANNE DORAN, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Start of School 2026School Council Elections 2026

School councils play a key role in Victorian Government schools. Effective councils have a wide range of skills, expertise and knowledge to support good governance and provide the best possible educational outcomes for students. The annual school council election process provides an opportunity to attract members keen to add value and bring their expertise and skills to assist governance of the school. ***We are currently seeking nominations for parents wishing to stand for election.*** A parent can be nominated and seconded as a candidate on a completed nomination form or self nominate for the position. Both these forms are available from the office. The nomination forms need to be returned to the principal by ***Friday 20 February.***

The term of office for elected members is two years. Half of the members of a school council retire each year and this creates four vacancies within the ***parent membership category*** and two vacancies within the ***Department of Education of Education (DoE) employee category.***

A notice has been issued and a call made for nominations published in this week's newsletter. If you decide to stand for election, the nomination form is completed and returned to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election**.**

Being part of School Council does not require special skills or specific knowledge. All that is needed is a desire to work in partnership with others in shaping the school's future. If you decide to stand for election, the nomination form is completed and returned to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. If you have an interest and require further information, please don't hesitate to speak with the principal personally.

Please consider standing for election in 2026.

Celebrating our Cultural Diversity 2026

Recent school data illustrates that **645** of our students speak a language other than English at home. This is **62.87%** of our student body. **473** of these students were born in Australia, but speak a language other than English at home. They represent 46.1% of the student body. The graphic below conveys the Top Ten countries of birth for our parents!

Top 10 countries of birth - parents

	Name	Number	Percent
	India	666	33.42%
	Sri Lanka	334	16.76%
	Australia	302	15.15%
	China	226	11.34%
	Pakistan	57	2.86%
	Bangladesh	40	2.01%
	Malaysia	39	1.96%
	Korea, Republic of	30	1.51%
	Afghanistan	28	1.40%
	United Kingdom	26	1.30%

Next week has two significant cultural events commencing for a number of our school families. They are:

- **Ramadan** and
- **Chinese New Year!**

Schedule 4 - Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of **BRENTWOOD PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL.**

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4 pm on **Friday 20 February 2026.**

The ballot will close at 4 pm on **6 March 2026.**

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows –

Membership category	Term of office	Number of positions
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2026 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2028	**4**
DoE employee member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2026 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2028	**2**

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Jim Bell
Principal

"Electorate of the school" means the Department of Education [DoE] employee electorate of the school and the Parent electorate of the school.

"Parent electorate of the school" means all persons (except the principal) who are parents of students of the school, other than those who are DoE employees.

Notes:

"DoE employee electorate of the school" means the principal of the school and –

DoE employees engaged in work at and for the school (other than those who are parents of students of the school) and other DoE employees who are parents of students of the school.

"DoE employee" –

means a person employed for eight hours or more per week in either an ongoing capacity or for a fixed term of at least 90 days -

(i) under the *Teaching Service Act 1981*; or
(ii) under the *Public Sector Management and Employment Act 1998*; or
(iii) by a school council of a State school; or
(iv) under section 5 or 5A of the *Education Act 1958*; or
(v) under more than one of the paragraphs (i) to (iv) above, and

does not mean a person employed under a contract for service or the employees or the contracted personnel of such a person.

Votes may be posted to the principal or placed in the ballot box at the school on any day up to the closure of the ballot. Further details on how votes may be lodged will be provided when ballot papers are sent to the electorate of the school.

Ramadan

Ramadan is the holiest month in the Islamic calendar, observed by Muslims worldwide as a period of fasting (sawm), prayer, reflection, and community, commemorating the revelation of the Quran.

From dawn to sunset, healthy adult Muslims abstain from food and drink, focusing on spiritual growth, self-control, and empathy for the less fortunate. concluding with the festival of Eid al-Fitr

This year, Ramadan is expected to **begin at sundown on Tuesday, Feb. 17, and end on Thursday, March 19**.

The month of fasting concludes with Eid al-Fitr, a festival of breaking the fast celebrated with family and community.

Chinese New Year

This year, the Chinese New Year officially begins on Tuesday 17 February and will end on Tuesday 3 March. It is the biggest festival in China. With the population of China estimated to be more than 1.4 billion and with the population of overseas Chinese having grown to more than 50 million, 19.6% of people in the world will be celebrating Chinese New Year Day.

Chinese New Year is a festival that celebrates the beginning of a new year with the first new moon on the traditional lunisolar Chinese calendar. This year, it is the ***Year of the Horse***, more specifically, ***Fire Horse***.

According to Chinese astrology, those born in the ***Year of the Horse*** are confident, agreeable, and responsible, although they also tend to dislike being reined in by others. They're fit and intelligent, adoring physical and mental exertion; they're decisive but also easily swayed and impatient.

The Horse is this year's zodiac **(2026),** and the 7th animal in the 12-year cycle of the Chinese zodiac signs, coming after the Snake and before the Goat.

Recent years of the Horse include **2026**, **2014**, **2002**, **1990**, **1978**, **1966,** and **1954**, with the next Horse year in **2038** (Year of the Earth Horse).

Privacy Reminder for our School Community

The Department of Education, which includes all Victorian Government Schools, central and Regional Offices collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' Privacy Policy.

The management of "personal information" and "health information" is governed by the Privacy and data protection Act 2014 [Vic] and Health Records Act 2001 Vic] which are collectively known as the Victorian Privacy Law. Please take time to read our school's collection notice, found on our website www.brentwoodparkps.vic.gov.au

We ask parents to review the guidance on how we operate safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information.

Additionally, after reviewing the guidance, if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using information communication technologies, please contact the school.

School Injuries and Insurance

Parents and guardians are generally responsible for the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. Most costs will be refundable by Medicare. If you are a member of an ambulance or health insurance fund, you would also be able to claim transport or other expenses from the fund.

Please be aware that the Department of Education ***does not*** hold accident insurance for school students, however, reasonably low cost accident insurance policies are available from the commercial insurance sector.

The Department cannot advise parents on whether to purchase a student accident policy or which policy to purchase as individual families are likely to have differing needs.

An Exception to Policy

Although school policy directs that dogs are not permitted to be on school grounds, there are, on occasion, exceptions granted. Exceptions in the past have been made for ***Guide Dogs*** for blind parents and dogs who, with owners, are part of the ***Responsible Pet Ownership*** program delivered to our Year Preps. An additional exception this year will be for young ***Kiran***, an ***Australian Border Force*** pup undergoing his training which requires regular social outings and activities in a wide range of environments. Socialisation and environmental conditioning are crucial for development which will enable these pups to grow into confident and outgoing adult dogs.

STEM
SCIENCE • TECHNOLOGY • ENGINEERING • MATHEMATICS

3JR and 3AM participated in a STEM activity, working in groups to use only 5 marshmallows and 10 pieces of spaghetti to build a tower. The objective was to build the tallest tower that could stand alone, and only use the resources provided. The students showed great "getting along" skills, and showed the B.P.P.S values of 'Teamwork' and 'Respect'. Check out their great work!

Flynn and Mason won the challenge with their tower standing at 45cm!

‘Maths is FUN!!’ was the comment we heard on day three of year six! Music to our teacher, Ben’s ears seeing as he is the school’s leading teacher for maths. The activity was to find numbers relevant to ourselves e.g. birth year, shoe size, number of people in our home etc… and create equations to equal that number.

Receiving our year six uniforms are always a highlight when they arrive (waiting on a few more) with the students eagerly changing into them. We are off to a great start!

6

6MB & 6KR maths 6

maths 6

Term 1 - 2026

Visual Arts News

FOUNDATION

The Foundation students have spent two sessions in the art room over the past fornight. It was fantastic to see their smiling, excited faces as they entered our junior art room for the first time. They were all in awe of the materials, equipment and space we have to learn.

Students have been focusing on learning how to use different pieces of equipment and how to keep their workspace tidy.

This week, we discussed Valentine's Day and students completed a beautiful love heart to take home and share with someone they love.

Jess Murphy- Visual Arts Teacher

bp BRENTWOOD PARK PS

SWIMMING TRIALS

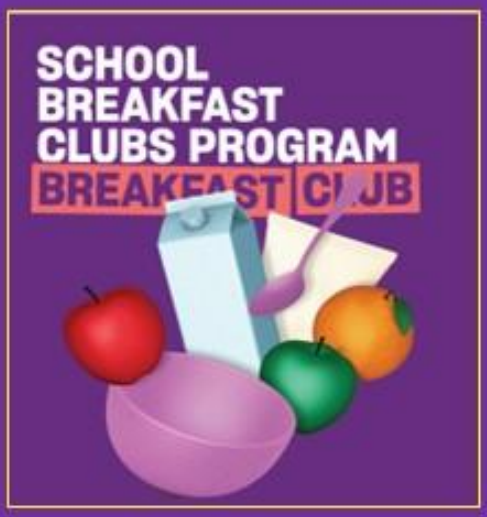
Congratulations to the 98 students who participated in the swimming trials this week. There were many fine performances throughout the day and it was exceptionally pleasing to see the effort, enthusiasm and sportsmanship everyone demonstrated.

There was no shortage of standout performances, with our Year 6 leaders setting a positive example for younger students through their competitiveness, positivity and team spirit. Well done to Terrence, Mason, Anna, Jade, Mahir, Rayona, Siddharth, Daniel and Sophie, who were some of the many notable performances throughout the day.

Many boys and girls from grades 3-6 achieved qualifying times that will see them participate in the district swimming carnival next month. District Swimming will take place on Thursday, 5th March at the Warragul Leisure Centre.

Thank you to all of the parents who supported this event. It was great to see many parents in attendance and providing encouragement to the students.

Jim Narayan, Erin Walters and Dylan Bennett



When: Tuesday and Thursday

Where: School Canteen

Time: 8:30am – 8:45am

Who: Any student of BPPS

Cost: Free – just come along

What is 'The School Breakfast Club'?

The School Breakfast Clubs Program is a Victorian Government commitment delivered in partnership with Foodbank Victoria. The program enables all students at Victorian government schools to enjoy a free, nutritious breakfast, allowing them to engage and participate fully in all the educational and social opportunities that school offers.

The Foodbank 2015 Hunger in the Classroom Report found: Two-thirds of Australian teachers report having children come to school hungry or without having eaten breakfast. It also reported that on a typical day, around three students in every class will arrive at school hungry or without having eaten breakfast. Feedback from schools indicates improved engagement and learning outcomes, improved school attendance, and improvements in student behaviour.

Can You Help Support our Breakfast Club?

Do you have a business that can provide addition products?

Would you like to volunteer your time on a Tuesday or a Thursday morning helping prepare food?

If you answered yes, please see Mel (Wellbeing Leader) to sit down and have a chat.

EAT. LEARN. SUCCEED.

Staffing at Brentwood Park 2026

Principal	Jim Bell
Assistant Principals	Judy Anderson and Jo-anne Doran
Business Manager /Accounts Payable / Human Resources	Maree Dale
Business Manager Accounts Receivable / Facilities	Barb Scott
Office Manager / Administration	Mandy Scarlett [Mon, Wed, Thur] Administration Support Kat Oram [Tue, Fri]
First Aid / Office Administration	Ros Cleversley

Year Prep	Tania Lucas	Room 1
Year Prep	Rebecca Crellin	Room 2
Year Prep	Effie Perioris	Room 3
Year Prep	Lyn Pearse	Room 4
Year Prep	Melissa Butcher	Room 5
Support Term 1	Marissa Shami	
Year 1	Aranee Udayakumar	Room 17
Year 1	Sunny Lee	Room 18
Year 1	Kylie Morgan	Room 19
Year 1	Nicole Garrett	Room 20
Year 1	Chanel Blair / Mel Dennis	Room 6
Year 2	***Linh Dang***	Room 32
Year 2	***Jade Lay***	Room 33
Year 2	Amy Lacey	Room 34
Year 2	Leah McCartney	Room 35
Year 2	Carolyn Hilton / Donna Clayton	Room 36
Year 2	Sally Morris / Angela V	Room 40
Year 2	Sarah Martin	Room 41
Support Term 1	EmilyWood	
Year 3	Bronwyn Coombs / Angela V	Room 21
Year 3	Alyce Bagnall	Room 22
Year 3	Amy Macartney	Room 29
Year 3	Jasmine Robinson / Angela V	Room 30
Year 3	Georgia Albertella	Room 31
Support	Trish Shaw	EFT 0.7
Year 4	Chantel Rowley	STEM Room
Year 4	Tash Cooper / Marina Kesegic	Room 23
Year 4	***Nilumi Hettige***	Room 24
Year 4	Mark Swift	Room 27
Year 4	Shelley-Anne Adams	Room 28
Year 4	Vicki Kromlidis	Gymnasium Music Room
Year 5	Maryam Tuhuti	Room 11
Year 5	Courtney Warren	Room 12
Year 5	Rylee Hepburn	Room 23
Year 5	Sharlene Marsche/Beth Seaman	Room 24
Year 5	Nadee Rathnasoorirya	Room 25
Year 5	Kim Wilkinson	Room 26
Year 6	***Silva Monterossa***	Room 7
Year 6	Leanne Maslen	Room 8
Year 6	Eden de Robillard	Room 9
Year 6	Ebony King	Room 10
Year 6	Michelle Conroy / Ben Maloney	Rooms 38/39 [mod 4 classroom]
Year 6	Kim Renshaw	Rooms 38/39 [mod 4 classroom]
Year 6	Lily Scouler	MUSIC Room in Year 6 building

Graduate Support Beth Van Es and Melissa Evans	
Digital Technologies	Lisa Lilley / Daisy He with Sarah Ierfone
Health and Physical Education	Jim Narayan,/ Dylan Bennet / Kirsty Courtis / Chanel Blair
Visual Arts	Jessica Murphy / Bree Stribbles
Performing Arts	Kenneth Mills / Sarah Ierfone
Chinese [Mandarin]	Chunyan Zhang and Shuyue [Daisy] He with Chanel Blair
Leadership Responsibilities	Judy Anderson, Jo-anne DoranBen Maloney, Heather Ghazarian, Carolyn Hil ton, Sharlene Marsche, Mel Dennis and ***Bryanah Chellew***
Integration Aides	Sandra Hess, Jill Strafford, Jo Morris, Anthea Barry, Belinda Smalley, Paula Dumesny, Rebecca Watson, Siobhan Hepburn, Larisa Schweitzer, Joelle Stan ley, Michela Biagioli, Nyah Seelig-Schattner, Hayley Woolfe, Nina Zhang, Kyle Vassallo, Kasuni Rodrigo, Sasha Webb, Melinda Clancy, Michela Biagioli, Meg Garret, Olivia Nugara, Jean-Carlos Aguiar De Sousa, Marina Tilbrook and Jack O'Brien

Maintenance: Daryl West **Technician**: Damien Hawkins **Multi Media:** Annette Wright, Josephine Tan and Veronica Carvajal

Term 1

Week ending

STARS OF THE WEEK

OTL	n/a	
ORC	n/a	
OEP	n/a	
OLP	n/a	
OMB	n/a	
1AU	Daniyal	for making a wonderful start to Grade One. You have participated positively in class activities and put in your best effort.
1CM	Sarang	well done on demonstrating our school values. You certainly show EXCELLENCE in all your work. Keep shining!
1NG	1NG	you all did an amazing job at making new friends and settling into Year One. Keep up the great effort.
1KM	Chanvika	for your beautiful handwriting.
1SL	Deon	for showing excellence and being helpful and respectful. Keep up your amazing effort!
2SM	Divyansh	for a fantastic start to the year, showing a positive attitude, effort and a willingness to give everything a go.
2SY	Aarnav	for being a respectful student to teachers and his peers.
2LD	2LD	for settling back into school routines. I am very much looking forward to a fantastic year ahead!
2LM	2LM	for a wonderful transition into Year Two. You have made new friends, followed class routines and tried your best in every lesson.
2CH	Ivan	for having a wonderful start to the year and 'having a go' at everything.
2JL	Alice	for always displaying our school value of 'excellence'.
3AM	Abi	for demonstrating the school value of 'teamwork' in the classroom.
3BC	Prem	for your magnificent start to Grade Three. You have been amazing.
3JR	Ava	for consistently demonstrating the BPPS school values. Well done!
3GA	Travis	for his fantastic effort in class and taking responsibility for his learning.
3AJ	Olivia	for showing our school values and being a good friend. Well done!
4SA	Minuli	for your outstanding listening skills and the high levels of respect you always show. Well done!
4MS	4MS	for making such a positive start to year 4.
4NH	Amelia	for being a responsible and respectful student who always tries her best.
4TC	Felix	for showing what it truly means to be a good student.
4VK	Grace	for working independently to produce a poster called 'Reading is Amazing.'
4CR	Tahara	congratulations to Tahara for making a great start at BPPS. You have settled in well, shown a positive attitude, and are already a valued member of 4CR.
5CW	Tasha	for your fantastic start to BPPS. You have settled in well and are a great addition to our class!
5NR	Kiana	for showing resilience and settling in as a new student, you demonstrated courage and a wonderful attitude.
5RH	5RH	for a fantastic start to Grade Five. I am impressed with how you have consistently shown our four school values.
5MT	Jade	for always bringing a positive attitude and your bright smile to class everyday. You stay focused and work hard every day.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Term 4
Week ending

6EK	Sophie	for being such a helpful member of 6EK. I appreciated that you have offered to help out in any way you can. Thank you.
6MB	Mihajlo	for demonstrating our school values of respect and responsibility to listening to others and contributing to class discussions. Well done!
6ED	Sruthi	for showing outstanding maturity as we establish our 6ED classroom. You contribute your ideas thoughtfully and displayed our school values in every aspect!
6KR	Aaditya	for demonstrating our school values of respect and responsibility when making the new student in our class feel welcome. Keep up the great work!
6LM	Neev	for confidently volunteering to run the first assembly of the year, showing strong leadership and initiative as school captain.
6SM	Eddie	for being a fantastic team player in our out-door games.
6LS	Jerry	for listening to feedback and identifying opportunities for improvement.

SPECIALISTS

PE—DYLAN
3AM — for demonstrating whole body listening and good effort during sport this week.

PE-JIM/KIRSTY/CHANEL
3AJ — for a fantastic start to the year, learning how to start a running race.

PA-SARAH
2LM — for showing such enthusiasm when exploring beat and rhythm.

ART-JESS
2LD — congratulations on an amazing first lesson in the art room. Your Van Gogh sunflowers are off to a great start.

ART-BREE
4TC — for your excellent use of line, shape and texture while drawing from observation.

CHINESE-DAISY
5RH — well done for a kick start in your first Chinese lesson in 2026. Keep up the amazing work!

CHINESE-CHUNYAN
2SM/2SY — for your excellent demonstrations of your class values: Creative, respectful and following rules in Chinese class. Great start!

DT-LISA/SARAH
Foundation great start to robotics and coding.

PA-KENNETH
5MT — for a fantastic start to our 2026 Performing Arts lesson. You showed amazing listening skills and helped singing with enthusiasm.

MEDIA-DAISY
6MB — for your awesome job in Media this week and what a fantastic start in 2026. Keep up the amazing job!

LIBRARY-ANNETTE/JO/VERONICA
4CR — for demonstrating exceptionally respectful voices and behaviour. Great start to the year.

Melanie's School of Dance

Melanie's School of Dance

Love dancing with us? Refer a friend and both of you get 20% off one dance style in Term 2!

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2026 TWILIGHT OPEN NIGHT

Wulerrp Secondary College

Wednesday 25 March

4.15 to 6.15pm

Meet the Principal and Assistant Principals, the Junior School Team, as well as our teachers. Take a tour and learn more about:

- Junior School Curriculum and Subjects
- Year 7 & 8 Programs
- Enrichment Program
- Our School Facilities

4.15pm School Tour Group 1
5:00pm Information Session *in the gymnasium*
5.30pm School Tour Group 2

Every student grows

Address:
60 Rivella Drive, Clyde North

Ph: (03) 5929 2979
Email: wulerrp.sc@education.vic.gov.au

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Casey North Community Information & Support Service

FM9.25

Food and Emergency Assistance

🍱 Do you need food or emergency support?

We provide **material aid** for people and families experiencing crisis or emergency situations.

✓ What support can we provide?

- 🛒 Food hampers / pantry items when available
- 🟥 Food vouchers
- 💊 Help with some medical prescriptions
- 🚿 Shower passes

👥 What to expect when you visit

Our staff and volunteers will:

- 👂 listen to your situation (listen to you about your situation)
- 📝 complete a short assessment
- 🧑‍🤝‍🧑 work with you to find the right best support available

🔁 Ongoing support

Our funding is limited, so we will not be able to provide ongoing support. We can help you to **connect with other food relief agencies** if you need continued assistance.

🤝 We can also help with

- ➡️ referrals to other community services & organisations
- ➡️ referrals to financial counselling for budgeting and money management
- ➡️ finding better utility providers (electricity and gas)
- ➡️ organising setting up payment plans

Please note: we cannot pay utility bills, but we will help you explore your options.

🌎 Language support 🗣️

Telephone Interpreter Services are available.

You don't have to go through this alone - We're here to help.

MELBOURNE FOOTBALL CLUB COME & PLAY CLINIC

You're invited to attend our Come & PLAY clinic with Melbourne AFL players!

Location: Casey Fields, VFL Oval
Date: Tuesday February 10th
Time: 4:00 - 5:00pm

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER

nab AFL Auskick

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AFL Superkick

7-12 YEAR OLDS

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*Kids can join NAB AFL Auskick if they are turning 5 in the calendar year (before 30th June in WA).

NARRE WARREN AUSKICK + SUPERKICK

STARTS MAY 1ST FROM 4:50PM

Scan the QR code to register!

AUSKICK

SUPERKICK