Volume 32 Issue 4

Thursday 26th 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

27 FEB	PREP PIRATE DAY
17 MAR	ICE CREAM DAY
10-13 MAR	YEAR 6 CAMP—PHILLIP ISLAND ADVENTURE RESORT
11-13 MAR	NAPLAN-YEAR THREE & YEAR FIVE.
23-27 MAR	CULTURAL DIVERSITY WEEK

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

School Council Elections 2026

At the close of our call for nominations, we had received four nominations for the "parent member category" of school council. Given we had ***four standing nominations*** and ***four vacancies*** in the parent member category of school council, I was automatically able to declare elected those four candidates without the need for the school community to go to election. Congratulations are extended to ***Anna Lumanglas***, ***Dimos Kalogiannis***, ***Gaurav Sethi*** and ***Ragulan Karunanantham***. Three of our four parent representatives, ***Anna, Dimos*** and ***Gaurav,*** will be embarking upon their first two year term of office at Brentwood Park Primary whilst ***Ragulan*** has previously held school council term of office We sincerely thank all nominees for their interest and success in joining school council in 2026.

It is wonderful that, due to parent interest, we will once again be operating school council in 2026 with a membership of thirteen; eight of which are parents within the community.

At the close of our call for nominations, we had also received two nominations for the "Department of Education member category" of school council. Given we had ***two standing nominations*** and ***two vacancies*** in the Department of Education member category of school council, I was also able to automatically declare elected those two candidates without the need for the school staff to go to election. Congratulations are once again extended to staff members ***Trish Shaw*** and ***Jim Narayan.*** Our first school council meeting of the newly elected council will be held on **Tuesday 24 March**.

The full membership of school council 2026 and those elected to associated office positions, will be detailed in a forthcoming newsletter.

Harmony Day Celebrations 2026

Harmony Day celebrations has been part of Brentwood Park's identity for a number of years and is one which is enjoyed by our culturally diverse community. It's an opportunity for our students to proudly wear their cultural costumes or in the absence of a cultural costume to wear **ORANGE,** as this is the colour chosen to show support in the representation of **HARMONY**!

The 2026 theme for Harmony Week, running 16–22 March 2026, is **"Culture Connects Us All"**. This theme highlights how shared stories, traditions, and experiences foster understanding, belonging, and connection across Australia's diverse communities. The theme certainly resonates with our school motto **"Stronger Together".**

We are once again hopeful of conducting a **Harmony Day** special event and will be seeking support from parents and students to create an itinerary of culturally diverse performers.

If anyone in the family can play a cultural instrument, perform a cultural dance or sing a cultural song we'd appreciate hearing from you. Please contact the school office in person or by email to lodge your interest.

Mathematics Enrichment Classes
The outstanding attendance of our students at our ***Year 3*** and ***Year 5 Mathematics Enrichment*** classes is testimony to their passion for learning. ***Carolyn Hilton*** and ***Ben Maloney*** are conducting these classes each Thursday morning commencing at 8:00 a.m. in the lead up to the NAPLAN assessments which are scheduled to be conducted in March.

The willingness of our classroom teachers to undertake teaching duties beyond the regular teaching hours of school is certainly recognized by our school council and our appreciative community. Supporting Carolyn in Year 3 has been ***Amy Macartney.***

Breakfast Club
Other staff committed to undertaking duties outside of their regular hours of work are those operating our school's ***Breakfast Club .***

For two mornings per week on Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30 a number of dedicated staff prepare nutritious meals for all in attendance!

Please refer to the page in this week's newsletter promoting ***Breakfast Club*** and for ways that you can support!

Ramadan
We often make reference to the cultural diversity of our school community and acknowledge how we are enriched by it.

For Muslim families, ***Ramadan*** is a month full of social festivities such as communal dinners, group prayers, and other gatherings.

Ramadan will see Muslims abstain from food during daylight hours and pray before breaking their fast at sundown alongside family and friends. This year, Ramadan commenced in Australia on ***Wednesday 18 February, 2026.***

The start date of ***Ramadan*** can be challenging to precisely predict, as it's typically confirmed the ***night before, with the sighting of a new crescent moon.*** Thanks to modern technology, tracking the moon has become easier. Islamic authorities around the world announce the commencement of ***Ramadan*** once the moon has been sighted. The Islamic Calendar follows the phases of the moon, or the lunar cycle.

Lasting for 29 or 30 days, ***Ramadan 2026*** will **end around March 21**, with the celebratory days of ***Eid al-Fitr*** estimated to start around ***Saturday 21 March***, again with a possible difference of a couple of days.

During its 29 to 30 days, ***Muslims abstain from food and drink, including water, every day from dawn to sunset.***

Eid al-Fitr or the ***"festival of breaking the fast"*** marks the end of ***Ramadan***. It is likely to take place on the evening of ***Sunday, March 21*** depending on the sighting of the moon. It is celebrated as a time for family and friends to come together with communal prayer, gift-giving and dressing in new clothes.

Chinese Language and Culture
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.

Happy New Year: 新年快乐
(xīn nián kuài lè)
Happy Spring Festival: 春乐快乐
(chūn jiē kuài lè)

6LM & FMB Buddies

The Brentwood Park Primary School buddy program is a valued part of our school community, supporting student wellbeing and inclusion across year levels. Through regular shared classes, lunches, celebrations and library sessions, students in 6LM and FMB will connect, read together and build positive relationships.

Our senior students develop leadership and empathy, demonstrating responsibility and excellence as role models, while our junior buddies strengthen their sense of belonging and confidence through respectful, supportive teamwork. The program reflects our commitment to caring, inclusive relationships where every student feels supported and valued, and where respect, responsibility, teamwork and excellence are lived each day.

Term 1 - 2026

Visual Arts News

GRADE ONE

Students have begun the year with a focus on DRAWING. They have drawn using their prior knowledge of shapes and lines. They combined a variety of familiar shapes and lines to draw flowers that showed they understand that artwork does not always have to represent realistic features.
Students also learnt how to appropriately use soft pastels to present a vibrant piece of art. They should be very proud of their completed pieces.

Jess Murphy- Visual Arts Teacher

2026 Cross country

DATE: WEDNESDAY 1st APRIL

9:20am: 11yr and 12yr 3km race

9:45am: 9/10yr 2km race

10:10: 11yr and 12yr 1km FUN RUN

11:15am: Prep race

11:30am: Year 1 race

11:50am: Year 2 race

Important change for 2026: This year, 11yr and 12yr old students will have the CHOICE of either competing in the 3km race for a place in the district team OR participate in the 1km FUN RUN. The fun run will also include best dressed awards e.g.: best house spirit, most creative. The aim of school cross country is to promote whole school participation to be physically active and celebrate house spirit! House points are awarded to all students who participate!

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES?
TERM 1, 2026

Lisa Lilley – Digital Technologies specialist teacher/manager (Years F to 4 only)
Email: lisa.lilley@education.vic.gov.au
Sarah Ierfone - Digital Technologies specialist teacher (3 x Year 4 classes per semester)
Daisy He – Media specialist teacher (Years 5 & 6 only)

FOUNDATION: Creating Digital Solutions – Bee Bot robotics & coding

Victorian Curriculum (V2) - follow, describe and represent algorithms involving a sequence of steps, branching (decisions) and iteration (repetition) needed to solve simple problems

YEARS 1 & 2: Digital Systems & Security – internet safety, how a computer works, keyboard skills

Victorian Curriculum (V2) - identify and explore digital systems including hardware and software components for a purpose/ identify some data that is personal and access their school account with a recorded username and password

YEAR 3: Digital Systems & Security – internet safety how a computer works, keyboard skills

Victorian Curriculum (V2) - Explore and describe a range of digital systems and their peripherals for a variety of purposes/access their school account using a memorised password and explain why it should be easy to remember, but hard for others to guess/ explore transmitting different types of data between digital systems

YEAR 4: Data, Information & Privacy – internet safety, MS OneDrive, MS Excel, MS Word MS Outlook

Microsoft 365

Victorian Curriculum (V2) - recognise different types of data and explore how the same data can be represented differently depending on the purpose/access their school account using a memorised password and explain why it should be easy to remember, but hard for others to guess

YEARS 5 & 6: Digital Systems & Security – internet safety, how an iPad works

Microsoft 365 showbie

Victorian Curriculum (V2) investigate the main internal components of common digital systems and their function/examine how digital systems form networks to transmit data/access multiple personal accounts using unique passphrases and explain the risks of password re-use

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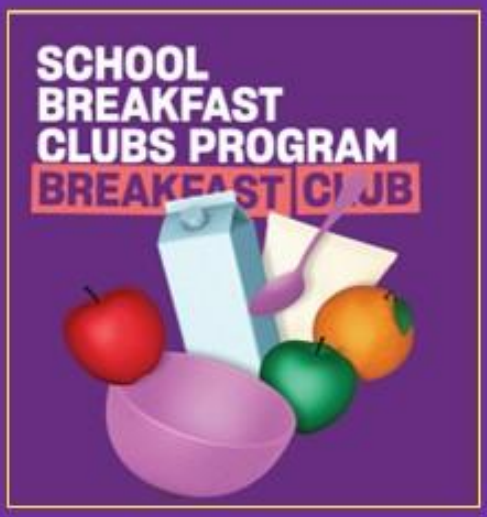
MINECRAFT EDUCATION EDITION

Students in Year 4 are currently attending after school coding classes using Minecraft Education. All students at government schools can access the Minecraft Education free app using their MS 365 school email address and password. Contact your class teacher to obtain these details. This log in can also be used to download MS 365 on any device at home for free for the years your child attends a government school.



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.

Registration Link: https://bit.ly/3u15l2B

Football Star Academy Berwick – 2026 Football Victoria Season Trials

Is your child ready to play in the 2026 Football Victoria season?

Football Star Academy Berwick is holding trials this Wednesday, 18th February. We are looking for motivated players to join our academy squads for competitive play.

- *Who: Players born between 2016 and 2018 (U8, U9 & U10 age groups)*
- *When: Wednesday, 18th February*
- *Time: 6:30pm*
- *Where: Beaconhills College - Berwick Campus (Multipurpose Courts)*
- *Access: Enter via Gate 2, turn right and follow the car park until you see the courts on your left.*
- *Register here: https://bit.ly/3u15l2B*

For any enquiries, please contact the Berwick Team at 0435 890 295.

Term 1

Week ending 26th February, 26

STARS OF THE WEEK

OTL	n/a	
ORC	n/a	
OEP	n/a	
OLP	n/a	
OMB	n/a	
1AU	Lexi	for always putting in her best effort. Your inquiry work on family trees this week was wonderful!
1CM	Jan	well done for showing EXCELLENCE in your work. You always try hard with everything you do. Keep shining!
1NG	Valentina	you always remain focused, put in your best effort and show the school values of respect, excellence and teamwork. Super start to year one!
1KM	Lakdam	for listening well and always showing excellence.
1SL	Sajak	you always show your whole body listening and put your best effort into your work. Keep up your amazing work!
2SM	Ayla	for always showing great effort, respect and kindness to others.
2SY	Visakan	for producing the highest standard of work with everything he does!
2LD	Khaqan	for showing responsibility for learning by asking for help, trying your best and contributing to class discussions.
2LM	James	for showing kindness to his classmates and greeting his teachers with a smile every day. Your caring attitude and cheerful nature make our classroom a happier place!
2CH	Everlyn	for writing a detailed recount of your weekend this week.
2JL	Priyash	for always contributing and participating in class.
3AM	Danny	for demonstrating his ability to sort nouns, pronouns and adjectives into groups.
3BC	Deveshi	for your outstanding writing this week. You showed excellent skill in choosing reasons why books are better than movies.
3JR	Harrison	for writing a fantastic persuasive piece about Winter. It was very convincing.
3GA	Edward	for his great attitude in class! Keep up the fantastic learning, Edward!
3AJ	Ezmay	for always contributing in class discussions. Well done!
4SA	Mason	for your enthusiastic and thoughtful insights into the story of Theseus and the Minotaur.
4MS	Sanojan	for always showing your kind and caring nature. Also, for your great contributions to class discussions.
4NH	Ved	for accepting responsibility for his actions and being a model member of 4NH.
4TC	Kyal	for actively engaging in our Greek mythology reading and giving detailed responses to show your understanding.
4VK	Karthikeya	for being a whiz bang, super dooper student!
4CR	Riyon	congratulations, Riyon, for contributing thoughtfully to our class discussions and always trying your best with every learning tasks.
5CW	Areesha	for your excellent response to our inferencing topic in reading!
5NR	Benadee	for your consistent focus and strong effort in your learning. You are achieving excellent progress. Keep it up!
5RH	Aditi	for your exceptional narrative wiring. Your vivid descriptions, engaging characters and strong voice create memorable stories that captivate readers. Keep shining!
5MT	Adhi	for your amazing attitude this week. You are trying your best in everything you are doing, and I am so proud of you. Well done!

STARS OF THE WEEK

Term 4

Week ending 26th February, 26

6EK	Anna	for her mature and thoughtful contributions to our discussions on emotions. Anna, you have amazing emotional intelligence.
6MB	Bonnie	for persisting and putting in her best efforts, even when she finds tasks challenging. Keep up your great attitude! Well done!
6ED	Riya	for displaying outstanding resilience during our SRC Elections. You were gracious in defeat and in doing so, showed true character. Well done!
6KR	Seyan	for demonstrating our school values of excellence and responsibility. Well done!
6LM	Ann	for her convincing SRC speech! Awesome work!
6SM	Daniel	for showing fantastic sportsmanship during interschool sport. Well done!
6LS	Rabab	for being very organised and giving 100% to all learning activities.

SPECIALISTS

PE—DYLAN

2LD — for your amazing efforts with your relay races this week. A big well done and well deserved, 2LD!

PE-JIM/KIRSTY/CHANEL

5MT — for super throwing skills especially with accuracy when throwing the vortex.

PA-SARAH

1KM — for your enthusiasm and confidence when playing your instruments. You followed the rhythm pattern beautifully and contributed positively to our musical performance.

ART-JESS

1CM — for working so carefully with soft pastels. You've made a great start to colouring your abstract flowers.

ART-BREE

4VK — for trying your best at observation drawing, using layering of line, shape and blended colour. Well done!

CHINESE-DAISY

6KR — amazing job in your dumpling making session this week! Congratulations on learning how to make yummy dumplings!

CHINESE-CHUNYAN

Prep/4VK — for your excellent engagement in making decisions dumplings. I am so proud of you. All of you are super stars! Well done!

DT-LISA

3BC — your touch typing skills are improving using Typing Club. Well done.

PA-KENNETH

5BM — for a great lesson playing rhythm patterns using drumsticks and connecting them to say and play the music with no breaks.

MEDIA-DAISY

5MT — for your amazing job learning input and output devices this week!

LIBRARY-ANNETTE/JO/VERONICA

n/a

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.

DADS MATTER
FAMILY CAMPFIRE NIGHT

City of Casey

Calling all dads, grandfathers and father figures! Bring your children and family along to the Dads Matter campfire for a night of fun and entertainment.

There will be games, entertainment, drumming, marshmallow toasting, and a free sausage sizzle (vegetarian and halal options available).

Thursday 19 March 2026 6.30 PM to 8.30 PM
Cranbourne West Community Hub
4 Flicka Boulevard, Cranbourne West

RSVP: https://www.trybooking.com/DJDNI

Dads Matter (It's a family thing)

Please note this outdoor event may be cancelled in the circumstance of severe weather

TIS: 131450 (Translating and Interpreting Service) العربي | 中文 | ਪੰਜਾਬੀ | ગુજરાતી | සිංහල

CASEY.VIC.GOV.AU

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nab AFL Auskick

4-7 YEAR OLDS*

Your introduction into Australian football centred around game-based activities kids love.

AFL Superkick

7-12 YEAR OLDS

Designed for any child to give it a go, with a focus on skill development and learning how to play the game.

*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!

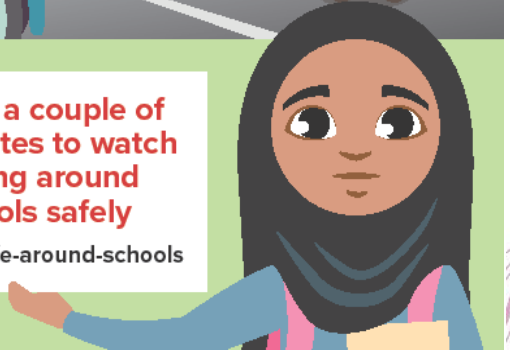
AUSKICK

SUPERKICK

Children are watching

City of Casey

Your behaviour around schools and kindergartens matters!



Take a couple of minutes to watch driving around schools safely

casey.vic.gov.au/safe-around-schools

Parenting Adolescents
Online Group

This 6-week program offers an opportunity to reflect on parenting and adolescents, and how you can support your child in having the experiences you hope for as they grow. It is suitable for parents and carers of children aged 10 to 17 years.

The Bringing Up Great Kids Parenting Adolescents program supports you as a parent or carer to:

- explore your parenting style.
- learn more about brain development during the adolescent period and its influence on the adolescents thoughts, feelings and behaviour.
- explore new ways of communicating with your adolescents.
- discover ways to take care of yourself, practice self-compassion and how to find support when needed.

Eligibility: *Participants must live in the City of Casey, Cardinia Shire, or Greater Dandenong. Unfortunately, we cannot accept registrations from outside these areas.*

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
Scan the QR code to register
Parenting Adolescents, Term 1, 2026 – Fill out form

COST
Free

DATES
Wednesdays
25th February
4th, 11th, 18th, 25th March
1st April 2026

TIME
10:00am until 12:00pm

LOCATION
Online – A link will be emailed to registered participants.

ENQUIRIES
P: 9704 8377
E: groupwork.south@vt.uniting.org

Australian Childhood Foundation

Uniting