Volume 32 Issue 5

Thursday 5th March, 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

10-13 MAR	YEAR 6 CAMP—PHILLIP ISLAND ADVENTURE RESORT
11-13 MAR	NAPLAN-YEAR THREE & YEAR FIVE.
17 MAR	ICE CREAM DAY
19 MAR	CHINA EXCHANGE PROGRAM INFORMATION NIGHT 6:00 P.M.
23-27 MAR	CULTURAL DIVERSITY WEEK
23-25 MAR	PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
30-31 MAR	YEAR FOUR RETHINK, RECYCLING INCURSION

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

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.

Ahoy me Hearties!

Last Friday concluded the first full week of attendance for this year's Grade Preps. To mark the occasion, the classes enjoyed a ***Pirate Day*** theme!!

The Year Preps were resplendent in their pirate costumes and enjoyed the pirate themed activities!

A HUGE THANK YOU must be extended to the parents for suitably attiring the children and for the abundance of pa**rrrrrrrr**ty food provided for a celebratory lunch!!

A collage of photographs included in this week's newsletter has captured the occasion for all to enjoy!!

Student Leadership

Joining our school captains, house captains and specialists' captains in their student leadership positions are our newly elected ***student representative council*** [SRC] members who were announced at last week's assembly.

SRC members are elected for each class in Years 3—6. The first meeting of the newly elected SRC was conducted this week under the facilitation of this year's SRC coordinator, ***Lily Scouler***, supported by last year's coordinator, ***Mark Swift*** . A feature page introducing our SRC is included in this week's newsletter.

NAPLAN Assessments

NAPLAN assessments are scheduled to be conducted next week for our Year 3 and 5 students.

- Wednesday: ***Writing***
- Thursday: ***Reading and Language Conventions***
- Friday: ***Numeracy***

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!

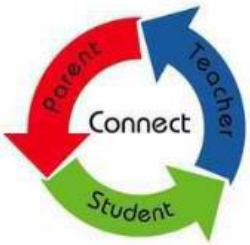
Please refer to the page in this week's newsletter promoting ***Breakfast Club*** and for ways that you can support!

Personal Achievement
As a school, we're proud to acknowledge the personal achievement of ***Adhiraj K*** of ***Year 5. Adhiraj is*** a valued member of his local ***Sub District Edeavour Hills Cricket Club*** and recently achieved a fantastic milestone in his sporting journey. Although only 10 years old, he was selected to play in a one day against Croydon Cricket Club Under 15 Div 1 match in recognition of his exceptional cricket performance.

Rising to the challenge of competing in an older age group, ***Adhiraj*** delivered an impressive performance, taking two important wickets that helped secure the team's victory. His achievement highlights his talent, teamwork, and maturity on the field and is a wonderful accomplishment of which to be proud!

As a school, we collective share in the pride of Adhiraj's parents! Congratulations, ***Adhiraj***.

Parent / Teacher Interviews
As you are aware, parent/ teacher interviews will be held across three afternoon/ evenings on Monday 23rd, Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th March. Accordingly, parents will be provided an opportunity to meet with their child's teacher to discuss progress, achievement and future learning goals.



We hope all families will take ad-vantage of the opportunity provided.

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.

Curriculum Highlight
There can be no doubt that a curriculum highlight for the ***Year Prep*** classes last Friday was their enjoyment of ***Pirate Day!*** The special day has been an annual event for our Year Preps ever since the installation of our Pirate ship playground!

For the select students from Year 5 and Year 6, I'd also be confident that a curriculum highlight for them is their participation, this term, in the ***Victorian High Ability Program.*** This program is an enrichment program which enables them to work alongside like-minded and like-ability students in weekly virtual lessons facilitated by ***Virtual School Victoria*** educators. We are pleased that in term 2, an additional ***nine*** students will participate in the program.

Pirate Day With The Preps

On Friday the 27th of February, the students in year prep completed their first full week of school. We celebrated this momentous event by holding our annual 'Pirate Day'. Students came to school dressed as pirates or pirate helpers complete with swords, eye patches, hooks, fabulous pirate hats as well as maps, gold and the occasional parrot.

AHOY

The day began with a pirate parade, pirate games and dancing. Activities were completed throughout the day with the highlight being a delicious pirate party at lunchtime.

The prep team would like to thank all the parents, relatives and friends who were able to come along and join in the fun of the day.
We hope you enjoyed Pirate Day!

Victorian High-Ability Program

The Victorian High-Ability Program is an extension course, where like-minded peers at neighbouring Victorian government schools, complete weekly lessons. The weekly virtual lessons occur during the school day and are taught by expert Virtual School Victoria educators and supervised by Carolyn Hilton, our High-Ability Practice Leader.

Students in Years 5 and 6 are nominated in areas of either mathematics or English, with the program being designed for students who have demonstrated high-abilities through their NAPLAN results and performance in these subjects. It has been delightful to see so many of our students accepted into this program.

Congratulations to our terms 1 participants. We look forward to seeing many more students attend these extension classes in 2026. Congratulations to Zain (5NR), Smayan (6KR), Nikeeta (5RH), Kushini (5KW), Yehansha (5CW), Aarav (6KR), Krishna (6MB), Anna (6EK), Navya (6EK), Sarina (6LS), Rohan (6MB), Caeden (6EK), Jason (6ED), Irie (6SM), Kaavya (6KR), Benjamin (5NR) and Nuriyah (5CW).

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!

Introducing the BPPS SRC for 2026

3AJ Anthony
3BC Tharu

3GA Tanishka
3JR Lilia

3AM Vianne N

4SA Ileesha
4NH Huzaifa

4MS Georgia
4CR Zara

4VK Kaarthikeya
4TC Claire

5CW Liam C
5RH Ishika

5MT Ruvi
5NR Viaan K

5BM Narun
5KW Dev

6LM Ann
6MB Rithwik
6LS Luca

6EK Risini
6KR Dinuli

6SM Eli
6ED Sruthi

Good luck in your new role!

China Exchange Program 2026

Information Evening
Thursday 19th March 2026

Dear parents/guardians,

An information night is being held on Thursday 19th March at 6.00p.m in the Performing Arts room for parents and students from year 5 and 6. The evening will provide information pertaining to the planned 2026 exchange. On the night, you can also register your interest for your child to participate in the 2026 exchange.
The information evening will provide parents and students with an insight into the 2026 exchange and there will be an opportunity for questions to be answered at the completion of the presentation.

Thank you,

Jim Narayan
Acting Assistant Principal

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

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

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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.

THE ULTIMATE SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

ROCKETEERS
Extraordinary Holiday Adventures

BOOKINGS NOW OPEN

THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE AT ROCKETEERS

Take the stress out of the school holidays with Rocketeers. Featuring over 200 wonderfully unique experiences that will ensure your child's school break is extraordinary!

From excursions to the cinema to see The Super Mario Galaxy Movie and high-octane fun like ninja courses, inflatables and trampolines, to hands-on projects including building a terrarium and creating a classic jack-in-the-box – and everything in between! There's something for everyone at Rocketeers.

Plus, a Big Art Day double feature – two massive days of creative and social fun!

Build Friendships

Discover Adventure

Create Memories

Have lots of fun!

DID YOU KNOW?

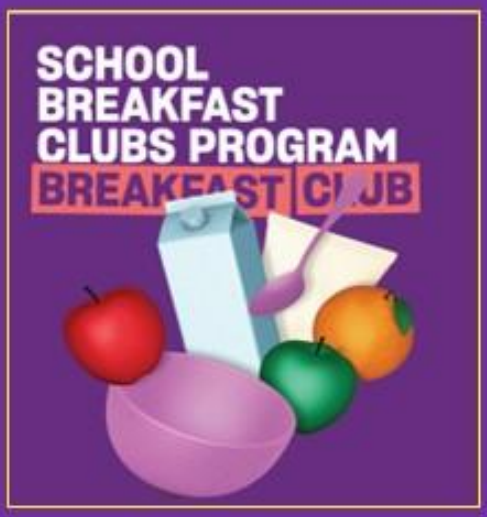
You don't have to attend the school where we operate to use our awesome holiday programs. Simply book into any of our convenient locations.

BOOK INTO SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN NOW!

SAVE WITH THE 3 DAY CHILD CARE SUBSIDY GUARANTEE!

NEW

Available for eligible families.



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.

STAR STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Term 1

Week ending 5th March, 26

0MB	0MB	for having an amazing first full week of school. It has been wonderful to see you all trying your best and learning new skills. You're superstars!
0EP	Aishwarya	for helping others in the classroom and always trying your best. Well done.
0LP	Suhani	for ALWAYS using your AWESOME listening skills and for completing all your work beautifully. Well done, Suhani!
0RC	Tanner	for continuing to work hard with your pencil grip. Keep up the good work.
0TL	Tavish	for putting in your best effort with all learning tasks.
1AU	Krithikesh	for making progress with his reading and always helping his peers. You're a star!
1CM	Ama	for showing EXCELLENCE this week! You have tried hard to work faster to get your work done in time! Keep shining!
1NG	Limu	you wrote a fantastic recount! You did an amazing job remembering to use time connectives like *first, next*, *after that* and *finally*. Keep up the great work!
1KM	Lily	for always being organised and ready to learn.
1SL	Jason	for confidently building towers of tens in maths and helping others on the concept of place value.
2SM	Zaara	for showing wonderful effort and concentration during phonics and always trying your best!
2SY	Heidi	for being a kind, respectful and helpful member of 2SY.
2LD	Rushna	for following instructions and using the RJ template to demonstrate your understanding of the text you read.
2LM	Ryan	for demonstrating growing confidence and actively contributing to both small group and whole class discussions.
2AL	Theerdha	for thinking of some great adjectives to describe nouns.
	Maeya	for giving your best effort during our *Phonics Plus* lesson.
	Julien	for your impressive efforts during phonics this week.
	Yuveer	for consistently demonstrating our school values.
2CH	Daniel	for demonstrating an excellent understanding of 'friends of 10' and 'friends of 20.'
2JL	Jibran	for demonstrating great personal and social growth and being a great friend!
3AM	Diya	for demonstrating her growth mindset and positive attitude in all her learning tasks.
3BC	Wyatt	for displaying a huge increase in your writing stamina. You have worked so hard this week.
3JR	Ayush	for having a strong attitude towards his learning all week. You are a star!
3GA	Myles	for his fantastic effort with his maths learning! Keep being awesome, Myles.
3AJ	Neyli	for demonstrating our school values and being a good friend. Well done!
4SA	Shakya	for your fantastic writing on the chalk drawing you made! Well done!
4MS	Haranya	for making such a positive start at your new school. You are a hard working and friendly member of the class. Well done.
4NH	Roohi	for being an excellent and respectful member of 4NH.
4TC	Rehmat	for your positive attitude when maths became tricky through effort and resilience you turned a challenge into an achievement.
4VK	Zoe	for trying superhard in writing a recount of her holiday.
4CR	Agastya	for writing detailed descriptive sentences using your senses. Keep up the fantastic work.
5CW	Liam C	for working well and staying focused during independent work time.

STAR OF THE WEEK

Term 4

Week ending 5th March, 26

5NR	Mustafa	for making positive choices and showing great improvement this week. You demonstrated focus and responsibility. Keep it up!
5MT	Jorja	for your fantastic resilience during writing. You have already made huge improvement in your writing skills! Well done!
5RH		
5BM	Apolonia	for being kind, focused in her work and always organised; taking care to complete tasks neatly and on time.
5KW	Nosali	well done on participating so confidently in our class discussions.
6EK	Nirresh	for his application of his prior knowledge of factors to successfully complete mathematics tasks this week. Well done!
6MB	Kaashvi	for making valuable contributions during class discussions and always putting in her best effort! Well done!
6ED	Patrick	for demonstrating outstanding focus during learning tasks this week. You applied yourself to all areas of learning and contributed really well to class discussions. Keep it up!
6KR	Narresh	for demonstrating our school value of *teamwork* through contributing to whole class discussion. We value your thoughts and ideas.
6LM	Rugved	for his awesome start at a new school. Well done!
6SM	Isabella	for embodying the school values on a daily basis. Well done.
6LS	Amya	for activating prior knowledge when analysing texts and for creative thinking when reading.

SPECIALISTS

PE—DYLAN		
	0MB	for your fantastic effort and whole body listening in your very first PE class! Well done, 0MB!
PE-JIM/KIRSTY/CHANEL		
	6MB	for an outstanding lesson learning the 'High Jump'. Very impressive performances from the whole class.
PA-SARAH		
	All preps	for a fantastic effort in your very first PA lesson. You showed confidence, enthusiasm and wonderful listening skills and I am proud of the amazing way you gave everything a go!
ART-JESS		
	0TL	for showing determination to carefully cut out your jelly fish outline. Well done, and keep it up!
ART-BREE		
	4MS	for trying your best at measuring and setting up your page for your fruit composition. Well done!
CHINESE-DAISY		
	5BM	awesome job on your Chinese paper cutting designs this week!
CHINESE-CHUNYAN		
	3AM	for your excellent engagement in making lanterns. You are all super stars!
DT-LISA		
	2LM	your touch typing skills are improving and it is great to see you putting your fingers on the home keys in Dance Mat Typing. Well done!
PA-KENNETH		
	5RH	for a fantastic lesson reading formal music notation and then saying and playing rhythm patterns using drumsticks.
MEDIA-DAISY		
	6SM	for your awesome job on your binary code designs this week!
LIBRARY-ANNETTE/JO/VERONICA		
	1SL	for showing great respect and having beautiful manners while in the library. Well done!
	2LM	for getting the right fit books for your CAFÉ and showing great respect in the library. Well done!

பாரதி பள்ளி

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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.

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 | 普通话 | ਪੰਜਾਬੀ | ગુજરાતી | සිංහල

CASEY.VIC.GOV.AU

BKs LEARN TO SWIM

Join BK's Learn to Swim and receive

50% off your first months swimming lessons + **50%** off your membership

ENROL TODAY

bkgymswim.com.au

Your local BK's centre is

BK's Learn to Swim Clyde North
77 Matterhorn Drive, Clyde North, VIC 3978
Ph 0409 150 280

Proudly partnering with GOswim | swimming australia

An initiative by belgraviagroup

City of Casey

Children are watching

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

Syndromes Without A Name

SWAN COBBERS*
FATHER FIGURES GROUP

PIZZA LUNCH
(just for men)

Sunday 15 March

11.00 am - 1.00 pm
Cranbourne Scout Hall

Free and open to all father figures (Dads, Step-parents, Grandfathers, Uncles etc) caring for children with Undiagnosed or Rare Genetic Conditions.

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swandads@swanaus.org.au
0466 122 290

www.swanaus.org.au
Inspired by COB = Male Swan*