Volume 32 Issue 7

Thursday 19th March, 2026

Brentwood Park Primary School NEWSLETTER

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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

19 MAR	CHINA EXCHANGE PROGRAM INFORMATION NIGHT 6:00 P.M.
23-27 MAR	CULTURAL DIVERSITY WEEK - HARMONY CELEBRATIONS 26 MARCH
30-31 MAR	PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
30-31 MAR	YEAR FOUR RETHINK, RECYCLING INCURSION
1 APR	CROSS COUNTRY
2 APR	EASTER RAFFLE / LAST DAY OF TERM

JIM BELL, PRINCIPAL

JO-ANNE DORAN, JUDY ANDERSON, JIM NARAYAN - ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Déjà vu - Chinese Delegation Number 2!

It was only last week, on Tuesday 10 March, that Brentwood Park Primary School hosted a delegation of sixty-one principals from ***Jiangsu, CHINA***. This week, on ***Monday 16 March*** we hosted our second delegation. Like the previous delegation, this cohort of ***Jiangsu*** educators were also selected by the ***Jiangsu Department of Education*** to attend a two week professional development program at the ***University of Melbourne.*** Whereas the previous delegation were high school principals and assistant principals, this second delegation were leading primary school educators! The group focus and learning outcomes for this cohort incorporated:

- Curriculum development including STEM and interdisciplinary curriculum in primary schools
- Our school's approach to teaching and learning
- Educational technology use in schools
- Educational leadership
- Teacher professional development

The ***Brentwood Park Primary School*** visit provided the Jiangsu educators with an opportunity to learn about our teaching in English and Mathematics with Judy Anderson and Ben Maloney, presenting respectively, as well as our inquiry units of work which often have a ***Science/STEM*** focus. Our practices and expertise were shared accordingly through visual presentations, a question and answer forum and four classroom visitations to observe for themselves. The classroom visitations highlighted were:

- Year 6 KR and 6 MB – ***electrical circuits***.
- Year 5 KW – inclined surfaces on which toy cars were rolled with adjustments made to measure the relationship of ***angle of incline*** and ***distance*** covered.
- Computer Laboratory – Year Preps coding ***BeeBot Robots***.
- Year 4VK – ***The engineering design process***.

Chinese Delegation's Visit to Brentwood Park

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- Our school's approach to teaching and learning
- Educational technology use in schools
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Harmony Day Celebration -Thursday 26 March

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**!

Although Harmony Week concludes this Saturday with Harmony Day on Saturday 21 March, we will be conducting our ***Harmony Day Celebrations*** during ***Cultural Diversity Week***. Our celebratory day will be ***Thursday 26 March***. The theme **"Culture Connects Us All"** provides an opportunity to highlight 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've been successful in organising performances for our **Harmony Day Celebrations** due to the support from parents and students and have formulated an itinerary of culturally diverse performers! THANK YOU, EVERYONE!!

Parents are invited to attend our celebrations on ***Thursday 26 March*** in the school gymnasium commencing at ***9:10 a.m.***

Ramadan

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

During its 29 to 30 days, ***Muslims have abstained 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*** and is likely to be on the evening of ***March 21***. It's celebrated as a time for family and friends to come together with communal prayer, gift-giving and dressing in new clothes. **HAPPY Eid al-Fitr** to all our celebrating families.

Proposed AEU Industrial Action

As you are no doubt aware, the ***Australian Education Union [AEU]*** has called on its members to take strike action on ***Tuesday 24 March 2026***.

Staff intending to participate in industrial action must provide 48 hours written notice, including the date, time and duration. Accordingly, as principal, I will be notified by ***5:00 pm Friday 20 March***. Once such information is provided, I will be able to inform parents regarding the impact on school operations.

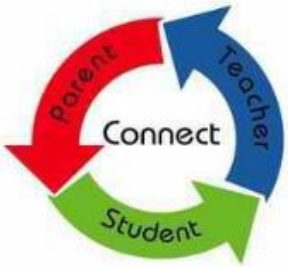
Advice from the Department of Education cites that this must be done by *2:00 pm. on Monday 23 March* 2026, however, I'm confident in being able to do earlier.

Where possible, we will endeavour to operate as normal although there may have to be modifications made. If this will cause you difficulties, in particular if you are a critical services worker, please get in touch as soon as possible.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Parent / Teacher Interviews

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



The interview times have now been uploaded onto the Xuno platform with interviews being conducted from ***3:30 pm until 6:00 pm*** on each of the respective days. Parents have been required to book a suitable time but asked to ensure when doing so, that they allow travelling times between classrooms should they be attending multiple interviews.

Due to the ***proposed industrial action,*** some teachers will not be available to conduct interviews on ***Tuesday 24 March.*** In this instance, the scheduled interviews will be translated to the following week and conducted on ***Tuesday 31 March.*** We trust we have parental understanding in this matter and that families will take advantage of the opportunity provided to attend interview.

Curriculum Highlights

Without doubt, the successful ***Year 6*** camp to ***Adventure Resort Phillip Island*** conducted last week proved to be major highlight of the term for our Year 6 cohort. Three feature pages capturing the occasion are in this week's newsletter for parents to enjoy!

Thanks are extended to ***Kim Renshaw***, ***Year 6 teacher***, for creating the pages despite a tiring week!

PHILIP ISLAND
YEAR SIX CAMP

Last week 152 of our year six students packed their bags and farewelled their families as they boarded three buses headed for their four-day, three-night camp at Phillip Island Adventure Resort. Confidence was boosted, risk taking was taken to a new level and new friendships were forged.

Students were placed in groups and rotated around to different activities; canoeing, raft building, giant swing, archery, camp cooking, and low ropes. All the activities presented their own unique challenges; however, the two constants were two of our school values, respect and teamwork.

Our annual walk to Smith's Beach was a little cool and overcast, however, that didn't deter some fun in the sand and searching the rock pools for sea creatures.

There is no doubt our incredible students know how to have a good time! The disco was an absolute highlight of the camp with our very own disco DJ, Kenneth pumping out the tunes as our students danced the night away! For those of us who prefer quieter moments, we enjoyed some games, colouring in, word searches and bracelet making.

With exhaustion starting to kick in, the final night was spent watching a movie and early to bed in readiness to wake up, clean, pack and head home!

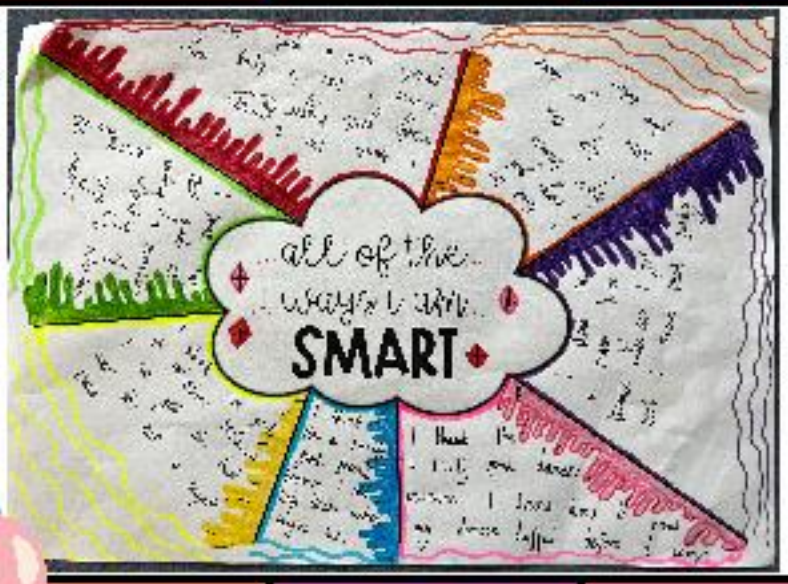
PHILIP ISLAND
YEAR SIX CAMP

YEAR 5 NAPLAN

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to the Year 5 students that have completed their NAPLAN!

We also had discussions on 'All the Ways I am Smart' because NAPLAN does not measure all the other beautiful qualities that we have!



SPORTS SHORTS

WEEK 8, TERM 1 2026

DIVISION SWIMMING

We would like to congratulate the 11 students who participated in the division swimming carnival at the Noble Park Aquatic Centre on Wednesday. This is a fantastic achievement for our swimmers who, for many of them, were participating in their first division carnival. It was a day where all 11 students demonstrated their swimming ability while also representing our school values exceptionally well.

Our day began with a commendable effort from Andrew, Terrance, Sean and Kody in the boys relay medley, followed by top 2 finishes for our 9-10 girls' and 11 boys' freestyle relay teams. Congratulations to Andrew, Sean, Kody and Adviek for their first-place finish, which will see them progress to the regional championships. With a close second-place finish, we applaud Jaisshu, Daon, Amelia and Ayla for their outstanding efforts, and we're very excited to see them back for another opportunity next year.

Our success in the pool continued into the individual events, with many ribbons awarded across the team. Jaisshu and Andrew both delivered strong performances in freestyle and backstroke, achieving fantastic results. A special mention is to be given to Andrew, who has qualified for regionals following his first-place finish in the 11 boys' backstroke event. Both Jerry Chen and Jerry Cao were fantastic in the breaststroke events, while Daon swam beautifully in the butterfly event.

We are extremely proud of the efforts of all students and we congratulate those who have progressed to the regional championships. A special thank you to our parents and carers for their support on the day. Your assistance with transport to and from the event, and your unwavering support on the poolside, was greatly appreciated.

UPCOMING

APRIL 1	Regional Swimming
APRIL 1	Cross Country
APRIL 22	Athletics (F-2)
APRIL 23	Athletics (3-6)

INTERSCHOOL SPORT

VS Hillcrest Christian College

HOME: Basketball, Cricket, Handball
AWAY: Softball, Volleystars

Thanking you for your continued support!

Jim and Dylan

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!

Term 1 - 2026

Visual Arts News

GRADE TWO

Students have begun the year with a focus on DRAWING. They have drawn by observation, creating realistic sunflowers and have taken great care to analyse the shape of sunflower petals to represent these in their drawings. To encourage individuality and creative flair, students were given the opportunity to choose which shape they drew their vase and the lines, patterns and shapes used to decorate it.

Inspiration for their work was drawn from both photographs from our old vegetable garden and the famous artist Vincent Van Gogh and his series of paintings called Sunflowers.

Grade two students should be very proud of their drawing and soft pastel work. Their finished pieces of artwork are vibrant and eye catching. Well done, grade two!

Jess Murphy- Visual Arts Teacher

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)

FMB were really busy this week coding the BeeBots and making Duplo bridges for them. They had to problem solve this task – deciding how wide and high to make the bridge for the robot to travel through and push the blocks. So much fun!

When: Tuesday and Thursday

Where: School Canteen

Time: 8:30am – 8:45am

Who: Any student of BPPS

Cost: Free – just come along

Can You Help Support our Breakfast Club?

Do you have a business that could provide additional products?

We would greatly appreciate donations of items such as **butter or margarine, disposable gloves, dishwashing liquid, a sandwich press, slice trays, and baking paper**. These items help keep our Breakfast Club running and allow us to offer a greater variety of food for students in the future. Regular donations or even a one-off contribution would be greatly appreciated.

Would you like to volunteer your time on a Tuesday or Thursday morning to help prepare food, serve students, or assist with washing up?

If you answered yes, please see Mel (Wellbeing Leader) to arrange a time to have a chat.

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.

Term 1

Week ending 13th March, 26

STARS OF THE WEEK

OMB	Jahan	for always staying focused when listening to instructions. Keep up the fantastic work!
OEP	Himaksh	always showing respect and kindness in the classroom. It's amazing watching you always try your best. Well done, superstar Himaksh!
OLP	Sivanyaa	for demonstrating kindness and care to all your classmates and for ALWAYS using your AWESOME listening skills. Well done, Sivanyaa.
ORC	JB	for continuing to work hard this week. It's great to see you always trying your best. Well done!
OTL	Ella	for always doing your very best. Wonderful work!
1AU	Sully	for being a maths superstar this week! Keep up the amazing work!
1CM	Ishani	for showing EXCELLENCE with your police incursion recount. You are a superstar! Keep sharing!
1NG	Opal	because you have been showing wonderful resilience when playing and working with others. Keep up the great effort!
1KM	Surya	for always being organised, prepared and for showing great teamwork.
1SL	Jayce	for consistently giving best effort on your learning and being a kind friend.
2SM	Tina	for showing confidence and huge improvement in subtraction!
2SY	Rachael	for not giving up during maths. Now you can count up in 10s starting from any number!
2LD	Lavika	for applying your knowledge of the split strategy to solve problems with high confidence and accuracy.
2LM	Riyansh	for participating in our morning maths games with a positive attitude and good sportsmanship.
2AL	Ajanthan	for using interesting words in his 'Big Write' which grabbed the reader's attention.
2CH	Dev	for demonstrating a good understanding of picture graphs this week.
2JL	Charlotte	for always being a supportive friend and always keeping on track in class. Well done!
3AM	3AM	for your dedication and focus when completing your NAPLAN tests.
3BC	Tharu	for displaying confidence and enthusiasm during NAPLAN. You are a superstar!
3JR	Ryder	for showing enthusiasm towards NAPLAN. You're a superstar!
3GA	3GA	for trying your best during NAPLAN. You all have done an amazing job.
3AJ	3AJ	for your amazing effort in NAPLAN. I am so proud of all of you. Well done!
4SA	Aathira	for your patience and kindness when working with others. You truly show the value of teamwork!
4MS	Julia	for your excellent story writing ideas and valuable contributions to class discussions. Well done!
4NH	Amalia	for completing all tasks to an excellent degree and contributing insightfully to class discussion.
4TC	Kanish	for writing an insightful and well crafted response that clearly showed your understanding of the Greek Myth text.
4VK	Navya	for her amazing Hindi singing, What a voice! Wonderful!
	Emilia	for presenting an informative talk about 'biking' as her favourite past time! Well spoken with confidence.
4CR	Bella	for your excellent work in maths when rounding numbers using place value strategies. Great job!
5CW	5CW	for showing resilience while completing NAPLAN. Even when some technical issues happened, you bounced back and tried your best. Well done for giving it your all!

STAR SOFTHEWEEK

Term 4

Week ending 13th March, 26

5NR	5NR	for completing NAPLAN and giving your best effort, you should be proud of your hard work!
5RH	5RH	for giving your best effort and showing a positive mindset while completing NAPLAN this week.
5MT	5MT	for a fabulous job during NAPLAN! You have all made amazing growth already! Well done!
5BM	5BM	for giving your best effort and showing a positive mindset while completing NAPLAN this week.
5KW	5KW	for the way they conducted themselves during NAPLAN and for putting in their best efforts.
6EK	n/a	
6MB	n/a	
6ED	n/a	
6KR	n/a	
6LM	n/a	
6SM	n/a	
6LS	n/a	

SPECIALISTS

PE—DYLAN
Camp

PE-JIM/KIRSTY/CHANEL
1AU — for putting in a huge effort when practising relay races in preparation for our athletics carnival.

PA-SARAH
1NG — for showing excellent listening skills and focus when exploring high and low pitches using both your voices and instruments.

ART-JESS
0EP — for their excellent use of oil pastels to create bright, colourful monsters.

ART-BREE
n/a

CHINESE-DAISY
n/a

CHINESE-CHUNYAN
1CM — for your excellent engagement in learning the order of writing Hanzi through (Yong, forever). You are all superstars. I'm so proud of you!

DT-LISA/SARAH
3AM — you are learning about internet safety using Interland App. Keep up the great level of focus!

PA-KENNETH
n/a

MEDIA-DAISY
n/a

LIBRARY-ANNETTE/JO/VERONICA
2LD — for your beautiful manners and showing great respect in the library. Well done!

MOONLIT SANCTUARY

AUTUMN HOLIDAY CLUB

JNR KEEPER CLUB

Ages: 7-14

9:00am-2:00pm

Registration Fee **$104**

Become a Junior Keeper for a Day and experience life behind the scenes at Moonlit Sanctuary.

- Meet and feed our amazing Aussie animals
- Help with real-life wildlife care
- Learn about conservation and animal behaviour
- Get hands-on with enrichment activities, animal diets and more

Moonlit Sanctuary
the best way to see Aussie animals

Learn more: moonlitsanctuary.com.au

Info : (03) 5978 7935

BK's 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

BERWICK COLLEGE BASKETBALL ACADEMY PRESENTS

BERWICK COLLEGE COMMUNITY CLINIC

BERWICK COLLEGE

CAMP DETAILS

WEDNESDAY 8TH APRIL & FRIDAY 17TH APRIL
9AM - 12PM

AIMED AT GRADE 5 & 6 STUDENTS ONLY

Join our holiday basketball sessions at Berwick College to boost your skills and enjoy competitive games. Whether you're experienced or new to the sport, these sessions are perfect for taking your game further. Don't miss out, register today for an unforgettable experience!

COPY THE LINK BELOW TO BOOK:

https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1550168

Additional information can be requested via Berwick College's Basketball Academy Director, Shannan Davey.
shannan.davey@education.vic.gov.au

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.

SAVE NEW **WITH THE 3 DAY CHILD CARE SUBSIDY GUARANTEE!**

Available for eligible families.

BOOK INTO SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN NOW!

Gardening Together

kids, dads & grandfathers

For all dads and grandfathers! Bring your children and have fun getting dirty, growing food and discovering the bugs & creatures that help us.

FREE activity

SATURDAY
21 MARCH
10:00AM

OLD CHEESE FACTORY,
BERWICK

Scan QR code
to register

Supported by City of Casey

VICTORIA State Government