

Phone: 5155 9241

4 Dalley Street Buchan VIC 3885

buchan.ps@education.vic.gov.au

www.buchanps.vic.edu.au

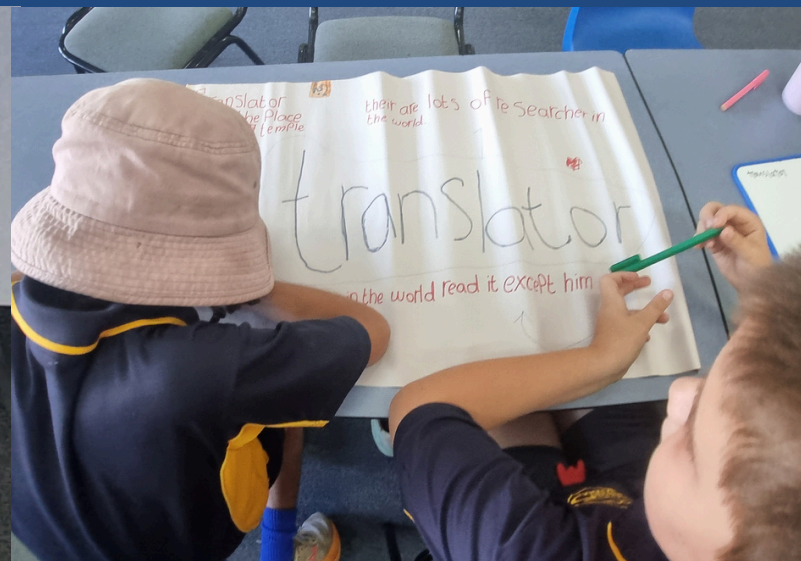
BSB: 063-501

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BUCHAN PRIMARY SCHOOL
IS A BARR SCHOOL (BUSHFIRE AT RISK REGISTER)
This means our school will be closed and unstaffed
on Code Red Days as well as other days deemed
unsafe. Families will be given as much warning as
possible. Safety is our first priority.



FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER



AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

JUNIOR CLASSROOM

Our Foundation students have been deepening their oral language skills through engaging story retells, using a program called "Story Champs". These activities enable our staff to teach story structure, vocabulary, and retell using story writing organisers and other activities. Students have especially enjoyed learning and using "sparkle words" to upgrade adjectives in their retells. Some of their favourite words have been "furious" and "disappointed," which has helped students create more detailed and exciting storytelling opportunities.

SENIOR CLASSROOM

Students have been thoroughly enjoying their book study, *The Tale of Despereaux*. In a recent vocabulary lesson using words from the novel, students explored the meaning of the word "conundrum" by examining different ethical and social dilemmas. After watching a video about discovering treasure, students collaborated to debate who deserved the greatest share; the researcher, translator or treasure hunter, before participating in a gallery walk to justify their thinking and consider the perspectives of others.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

We acknowledge the Gunai Kurnai people as the Traditional Owners of the land on which we work, learn and play. We pay our respect to Gunai Kurnai elders past, present and emerging and extend our respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and families of Buchan Primary School.



Absences:

We have had many students unwell over the past couple of weeks. If your child is absent due to illness (or for any reason), could you please notify the school as early as possible by texting the school mobile or sending a message through School Stream. Prompt communication helps us ensure all students are safe and accounted for, and saves Julie or Tara from having to call home to follow up unexplained absences throughout the morning. Thank you for your continued support.

TUBBS Grade 4-6 Winter Sports:

TUBBS Grade 4–6 Winter Sports will be held on the 22nd of May in Lakes Entrance. We will be teaming up with Swan Reach Primary School, Tambo Upper Primary School, Nungurner Primary School and Metung Primary School to compete against schools including Toorloo Arm Primary School, Lakes Entrance Primary School and St Brendan's Primary School.

Julie is away this week and next week, so if forms could please be returned by Wednesday to allow time for me to organise the paperwork, it would be greatly appreciated.

Attitude to School Survey (Grade 4-6):

The Attitude to School Survey (AtoSS) is a voluntary student survey offered annually by the Department of Education to help schools better understand students' experiences at school. Students are asked about their thoughts and feelings regarding their school, learning, relationships with peers, resilience, bullying, health and wellbeing, physical activity, and life in general.

The survey provides an important opportunity for students to share their voices about what is working well and areas where improvements can be made. This year, the survey will be conducted at our school from the 19th of May. If you wish to opt your child out of participating in the survey, please email Aidan at aidan.johnston@education.vic.gov.au by Monday the 18th of May.

Best regards,
Aidan Johnston
Principal

Mother's Day

Students thoroughly enjoyed participating in our Mother's Day craft activities on Thursday morning. Throughout the session, students rotated through a variety of creative stations where they designed and made thoughtful gifts including cards, jigsaw puzzles, paper flower vases, keyrings, picture frames, bookmarks and dreamcatchers. The activities provided students with an opportunity to express their creativity while creating meaningful keepsakes for someone special.

In the afternoon, students eagerly visited the Mother's Day Stall to purchase gifts for their loved ones. The excitement and care shown by students in selecting special items for their mums was wonderful to see. We would like to thank everyone who helped organise and support these activities and hope all of our wonderful mothers and special carers enjoyed a fantastic Mother's Day last Sunday.



Dolly's Dream

Our school proudly supported and raised over \$125 to contribute to Dolly's Dream. Students took part in a range of activities, including kindness role-play scenarios and trivia challenges, all aimed at promoting empathy and positive relationships.

Last Friday, many people across Australia recognised "Do It For Dolly Day." Dolly's Dream is committed to changing the culture of bullying in Australia. As a nationally trusted, evidence-based anti-bullying organisation, they support children, young people and families to live happy and safe lives free from bullying. Their work has a strong focus on helping children in rural, regional and remote communities across Australia.



Victorian High Ability Program (VHAP)

Congratulations to two of our Grade 6 students, Tom and Lachie, for being selected to participate in the Victorian High Ability Program (VHAP). Students are chosen by the Department of Education using a range of measures, including NAPLAN results and teacher judgement data. As this opportunity is generally offered to only around 5% of Grade 6 students, we are incredibly proud of their achievement and dedication - both students remain at swimming to complete their 2pm session. Huge thanks to Kate Hodge who drove the boys back up last week.

During their first VHAP lesson, they explored the key elements of narrative writing, including setting, characters, narration, suspense and plot structure. Through class discussions and breakout activities, they evaluated how these elements shape a reader's experience and reflected on ways to strengthen their own writing.

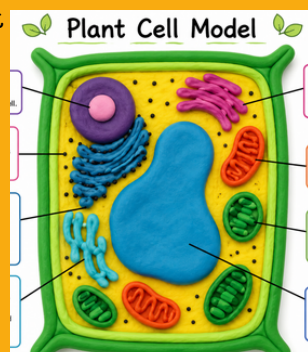


Science

Last week, the junior students explored how temperature changes throughout the day and learned how to use a thermometer to observe and record weather conditions. The hands on experiments helped juniors understand how weather affects everyday life.



Senior students explored the topic of cells and learnt that they are the building blocks of life. They learned that cells are the tiny structures that make up all living things and identified the different parts of a plant cell and their functions. To support their learning, students created a 3D plant cell model using clay, helping them understand how each part works together to keep a plant healthy and alive.





Division Cross Country

Well done to Michael, Jackson, Campbell, Alena, Olivia and Emily who competed in Division Cross Country at Nagle College on Tuesday the 5th of May. There were 70 - 120 participants in each race and all students showed great determination. A special congratulations to Michael, who finished 3rd, and Alena, who finished 6th. Both will progress to Regional Cross Country in June.



Swimming

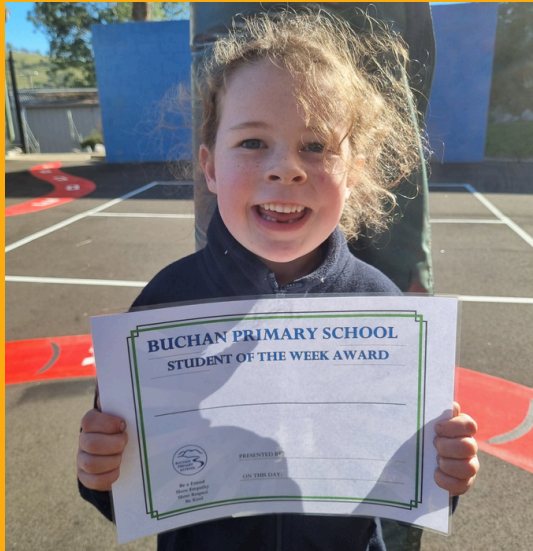
Students began their swimming program on Friday the 1st of May. After completing assessments, students were placed into one of three groups based on their skill level. Throughout the program, students have been developing their freestyle and backstroke techniques through regular practice and instruction. We thank the Lakes Entrance Aqua Dome staff for their ongoing support and generosity, including providing goggles to students when needed.



MARC Van

In MARC Van, students explored Australian native animals by reading and discussing a story about wildlife. They then used their creativity to design and make a koala papercraft origami model. Students carefully folded, cut, and assembled their creations while practising fine motor skills and following instructions.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK



JAMES

You have made an incredible start to your term, consistently following our school values and trying your best to achieve success. Keep up the great work

HOLLIE

This week's Student of the Week has truly embodied our school value of Be Kind. She consistently shows care and respect to those around her and approaches every activity with a positive attitude. Well done, Hollie!



RAGNAR

You consistently follow our school's values and display a high level of kindness and respect towards your peers. Last week, you were able to consistently maintain focus throughout the week and share your great ideas. Good work!

SOPHIE

This student consistently demonstrates our school's value of showing respect. She always listens carefully when others are speaking and regularly follows classroom expectations. Keep up the fantastic effort, Sophie!



Term 2: 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
May 11th	May 12th	May 13th	May 14th	May 15th
MARC Van			WE ARE HERE	Swimming at Lakes Entrance
May 18th	May 19th	May 20th	May 21st	May 22nd
				Grade 4/5/6 TUBBS Winter Sports
May 25th	May 26th	May 27th	May 28th	May 29th
MARC Van & Sustainability Incursion	Year 11 Student Project Visit		Swimming at Lakes Entrance	Swimming at Lakes Entrance
June 1st	June 2nd	June 3rd	June 4th	June 5th
	Grade 6 Division Lawn Bowls			

Events Later in Term 2

June 8th: King's Birthday - Public Holiday - No School

June 9th to 11th: Dental Patrol

June 12th: Report Writing Day / Student Free Day - No School

June 15th to June 19th: Grade 5/6 TUBBS Melbourne Camp

June 18th: Optional Roadhouse Lunch Orders

June 22nd to June 24th: Grade 3/4 TUBBS Coonawarra Camp

June 26th Last Day of School - 1PM FINISH

