



BUCHAN PRIMARY SCHOOL  
IS A BARR SCHOOL  
(BUSHFIRE AT RISK REGISTER)

# NEWSLETTER

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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.

16/12/2025

## AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

Our whole school has been buzzing with excitement over the past few weeks, as students rehearse for the upcoming school concert. A massive thank you to Mr Lee, who has been working on all things concert for the past couple of weeks and even wrote the entire script himself. I am still yet to see it myself! We also extend our thanks to Tara and several senior students for their creativity and effort in making the props. Students have also been thrilled to welcome Mr Robbo back for MARC Van, where they've jumped straight back into hands-on learning and creative fun.



☎ 03 5155 9241

🌐 [www.buchanps.vic.edu.au](http://www.buchanps.vic.edu.au)

✉ [buchan.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:buchan.ps@education.vic.gov.au)



# 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.



## Staff and Class Structure in 2026

We are very pleased to announce that all of our wonderful staff will be returning to Buchan Primary School next year. We are thrilled to have such strong continuity, especially after the staffing challenges of 2023/2024. Their dedication and commitment to our students and community remain a vital part of what makes our school such a supportive and engaging place to learn.

### 2026 Teachers & Classroom Structure:

Principal/Grade 3-6 Senior Classroom Teacher — Aidan Johnston (Mon-Wed)

Grade 3-6 Senior Classroom Teacher - Lisa Whykes-Zelenko (Thurs-Fri)

Grade F-2 Junior Classroom Teacher — Jordan Lee (Mon-Fri)

## Student Reports

Staff have worked incredibly hard to finalise Semester 2 student reports, which will be available to families on Thursday the 16<sup>th</sup> of December. These reports will be sent home as hard copies with students. If you would like a digital version, please contact Aidan, who will make this available.

We are very much looking forward to sharing these reports and celebrating the many learning achievements, growth and efforts of our students.

### Semester 2 reports will include:

- Achievement against the Victorian Curriculum across all learning areas, including whether a student is working below, at or above the expected level
- Individualised teacher comments outlining what your child has achieved in each key learning area
- Attendance data
- Comments outlining learning and achievements in specialist classes
- Student self-reflection
- Principal comment

## School Council

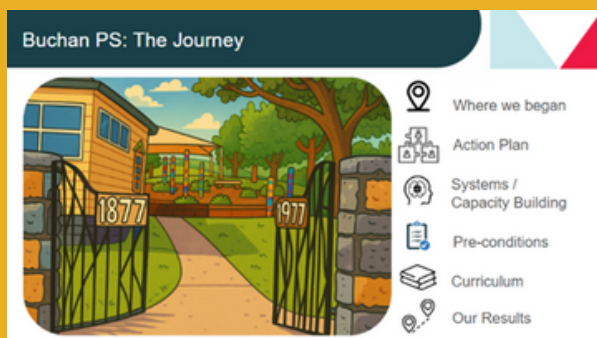
Massive thank you to Sophie Sandy, Clare Murphy, Donna Mraz, Sally Campbell, Lauren Hill, Cassie Mathers and Tara King for all of their dedication, commitment, hard work, and effort throughout the year on School Council. Tonight's School Council Training will be the final session for 2025 and sets us up 2026 very nicely.

## Principal Conference at Buchan Primary School

Buchan Primary School had the privilege of hosting the BTN Principal Conference on Tuesday, the 2nd of December. We welcomed more than 20 Principals, Education Improvement Leaders, Senior Education Improvement Leaders and Executive Directors to our school.

A highlight of the day was the outstanding way our students represented Buchan Primary School. Visiting principals consistently commented on how polite, confident and proud our students were, and how much they enjoyed engaging with them during classroom learning walks. Our students spoke positively about their learning, demonstrated a strong sense of pride in their school, and made a fantastic impression on our guests. Feedback from attendees also highlighted the high-quality teaching and learning taking place across our classrooms. The day also included a presentation outlining Buchan Primary School's pedagogical shift to the Science of Learning and Explicit Instruction, along with our three-year implementation roadmap and action plans.

A massive thank you to everyone involved in making the day such a success, including Julie for baking amazing food, Tara for her work organising the spaces, and all of our contractors for ensuring the school looked fantastic. Most importantly, congratulations to our students, who showcased our school so proudly.



Best regards,  
Aidan Johnston  
Principal



# CAMP COOLAMATONG

## *Lake Camp*

TUBBS GRADE 5/6

Our Grade 5/6 students recently attended Camp Coolamatong alongside students from our TUBBS Cluster. This camp provided a valuable opportunity for collaboration between schools and for students to build new friendships.

Students participated in a range of engaging activities, including sailing, low ropes, canoeing, kayaking, mountain biking, adventure racing, team-building games and geocaching. A highlight was the expedition hike, where students worked together and experienced sleeping in a tent overnight.



**TUBBS**



**CLUSTER**







## Grade 6 Big Day Out

The Big Day Out was a fantastic celebration, bringing together Grade Six students from across Gippsland to challenge themselves on the aqua park, play games, and enjoy a BBQ lunch, creating lasting memories as they finished primary school together and began building friendships with familiar faces ahead of Secondary College.



## Statewide Transition Day

Transition Day was a wonderful opportunity for our two 2026 Foundation students, who visited Buchan Primary School on the 9th of December to enjoy a range of fun activities, including the infamous Nudel Cart where they built a big go-kart, and spent time participating in activities alongside their buddies, helping them feel confident, connected, and excited about starting school.



## Gymnastics

Students enjoyed two engaging gymnastics sessions held on the 13th and 18th of November, including an exciting Ninja session and a traditional gymnastics class. These sessions focused on fun, fitness, and skill development, helping students build strength, coordination, confidence, discipline, and teamwork while exploring movement through games, obstacles, and gymnastics equipment.



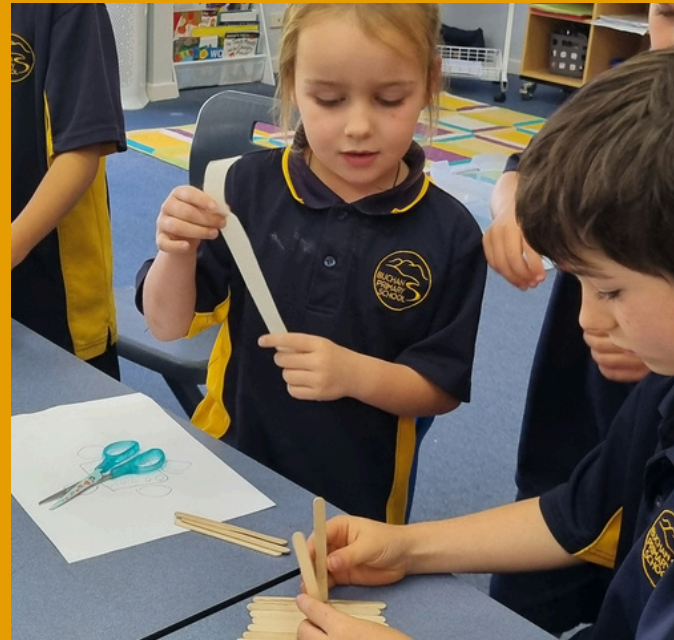
# Junior Sleepover

The Junior Sleepover was held on Friday the 5th of December and was a wonderful experience for our students. A big thank you to Mr Lee and Tara for staying back until 6:30 pm to support the evening, and to Mrs Z for staying overnight. Students had lots of fun enjoying activities, making bracelets and keychains, going on a night walk, and watching a movie together.



# Engineers Without Borders

Engineers Without Borders visited the school to run an engaging workshop focused on appropriate housing. Students worked in teams to design and build floating house structures, learning about problem-solving, teamwork, budgeting, and engineering principles while exploring real-world challenges faced by communities in other countries.



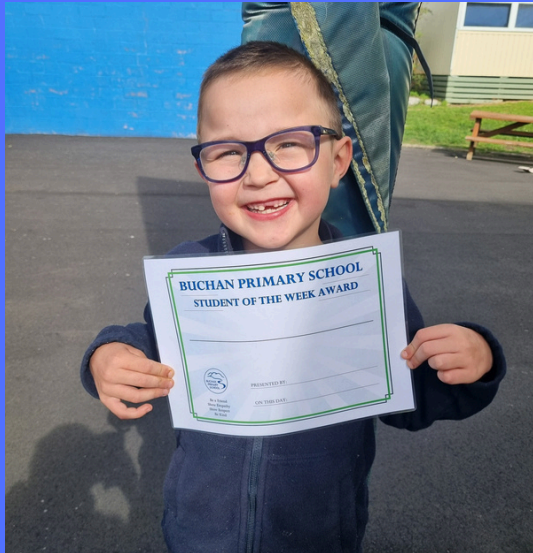
# Art

In Art, students in the Junior Classroom have continued to enjoy a range of fun and creative activities. They explored cutting, layering, and arranging shapes to create bold artworks, developing their fine motor skills, creativity, and confidence while experimenting with colour, design, and different materials.





# STUDENT OF THE WEEK



## HUGHIE

For putting your best foot forward at the Junior Classroom sleepover and giving everything that was an offer a go!

## ALENA

For showing a high level of respect towards your peers and teachers. Your effort was amazing, great.



## JESSIE

For working hard and for your persistence you showed during your learning last week.



## JACKSON

For showing a high level of enthusiasm during production practice. Your effort has been high quality, great work!





# Upcoming Events - Term 4

December 16<sup>th</sup>

School Council Training

December 18<sup>th</sup>

School Concert 5:30pm to 7:00pm

December 19<sup>th</sup>

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL - 1PM FINISH



## Term 1: 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
January 26th	January 27th	January 28th	January 29th	January 30th
Public Holiday Australia Day	Curriculum Day No Students	Curriculum Day No Students	First Day Back for Students	
February 2nd	February 3rd	February 4th	February 5th	February 6th
MARC Van				
February 9th	February 10th	February 11th	February 12th	February 13th
February 16th	February 17th	February 18th	February 19th	February 20th
MARC Van				





JAN  
21ST, 27TH &  
28TH JAN

BOOK YOUR  
SPOT NOW



# JANUARY HOLIDAY CLASSES

GYMNASTICS - NINJA - TRAMPOLINE

\$15 FOR 1HR SESSION - \$50 FOR 4HR SESSION

FOR MORE INFO EMAIL  
[eastgippslandgymnastics@gmail.com](mailto:eastgippslandgymnastics@gmail.com)



## SCHOOL HOLIDAYS SORTED

ONLY  
\$55!

LAKES ENTRANCE  
REC RESERVE

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January | 9am-3pm

