

# BUCHAN PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



October 16th

Issues #9

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

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## Junior classroom

The junior classroom has continued their engaging work on Fantastic Mr. Fox as part of their ongoing book study. Students have been exploring the story in greater depth, discussing the characters, themes and key events. In writing, students have been focusing on developing their understanding of different sentence types.



## Senior classroom

The seniors have been busy completing art, pottery, drama, science, district sports and many other exciting activities over the past fortnight.



# 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.



## **Term 4:**

Welcome back to all staff, students, and families. Term 4 is here already! This term always seems to fly by, and it's set to be a busy and exciting one filled with fantastic learning opportunities and plenty of special events for our school community. Keep an eye on the calendar so you don't miss any of the fun activities and celebrations ahead.

## **Buildings & Grounds Improvements:**

Term 4 has brought a wonderful wave of beautifying projects to our school! Over the holidays, Cranes returned to complete the asphaltting and students are enjoying playing on the court. We're looking forward to having the line marking completed within the next couple of weeks, which will make the space even more functional and visually appealing for games and outdoor activities. Roots 2 Leaves also visited during the break to transform the side area of the school with some much-needed landscaping. The team worked hard to tidy and rejuvenate the space, removing overgrown plants, levelling the area and redefining garden edges to create a clean, polished look.

## **Foundation Transitions:**

There will also be 4 transition days over Term 4 for our 2026 Foundation students, in addition to Mr Johnston visiting the EYLC on Wednesday, November 12th. If you have any questions or queries, please feel free to reach out to Aidan on (03) 5155 9241 or via email: [aidan.johnston@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:aidan.johnston@education.vic.gov.au)

## **Warm Weather:**

With the warm weather hopefully here to stay, this is a great time to remind students to wear their wide-brim hats. Students have been doing an excellent job with this over the past two weeks. Wide-brim hats are a departmental requirement during this time of year and sun protection is recommended daily between 10:00 am and 5:00 pm.

Best regards,  
Aidan Johnston  
Principal

## TRASH PUPPETS



Buchan Primary School is excited to be joining with Tambo Upper Primary School for Trash Puppets! This excursion will be conducted over 2 days, the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of October at Tambo Upper Primary School.

This fun and hands-on workshop gives students the chance to explore sustainability through creativity. Guided by the Trash Puppets team, students will learn the basics of puppetry: construction, mechanisms, and performance, while building their own unique puppet entirely from recycled and reused materials brought from home.

The workshop encourages imagination and problem-solving as students transform everyday “rubbish” into characters that come to life.

Along the way, they’ll gain a deeper understanding of sustainability and their personal impact on the environment through the principles of reduce, reuse, and recycle.

## COOLAMATONG GRADE 5/6



This outdoor education experience is all about adventure, teamwork, and personal growth. The Coolamatong Camp program is designed to build resilience, confidence, and connection with nature through a range of hands-on and engaging activities. Students will take part in an expedition and overnight hike, learning essential camping and navigation skills while exploring the beautiful Gippsland Lakes region. They’ll also enjoy sailing adventures on the water, team challenges, and an Indigenous cultural session that deepens understanding of local history, traditions, and the environment. Other activities include bushcraft, environmental education, and plenty of opportunities for teamwork and reflection around the campfire.

**Cost of Camp:** TBC (around \$530)

**Transport:** Students will need to be taken by parents.

**Grades:** 5/6

**Dates:** Monday the 24<sup>th</sup> of November to Friday the 28<sup>th</sup> of November.

## RURAL ROADS TO READING



## LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

As mentioned on School Stream, our school is excited to be part of a 3-year La Trobe University research project, ‘Rural Roads to Reading’, which explores how regional and rural schools teach evidence-based reading instruction in the early years.

The project follows our current Foundation students through to Grade 2, with many families already involved. In Term 3, students completed assessments on oral language and reading skills with Mr Johnston.

Soon, La Trobe researchers will email Foundation parents a short Reading Anxiety Test (RAT-CP) questionnaire. This will take about 5 minutes to complete. Paper copies are available from your child’s teacher if preferred.

# Art

We're excited to welcome Mrs Deb Nicholls to our team! She began on Monday and introduced students to Picasso-style line drawing, which is an art technique that uses continuous, flowing lines to create expressive portraits. The students really enjoyed exploring this creative style and experimenting with their own unique designs. Mrs Nicholls will be back in a fortnight and continue to run art sessions for Term 4.



# Pottery Workshop

A huge thank you to Clare and Sophie for sharing their pottery expertise with our students during a hands-on workshop. Every student had the chance to shape and create their own clay bowl, learning about the techniques and creativity involved in pottery. It was a fantastic experience and we can't wait to see how their beautiful bowls turn out once they've been fired and the process is finished.

# Science

In science this term, Mrs Z is taking the junior class who have been exploring the materials that make up everyday objects: testing, observing and explaining why certain materials are best for specific purposes. Meanwhile, Mr Johnston has been working with senior students who have been learning about Newton's third law. This week students designed, created and tested balloon-powered cars to see how every action has an equal and opposite reaction.





# Lunchtime Activity Club

In response to student feedback and our ongoing focus on student voice, agency, and leadership, we've introduced several lunchtime clubs to offer more variety and engagement. Students can now choose from Chess Club, Arts & Crafts, Knitting Club, or outdoor bike-riding sessions, with each designed to cater to different interests and abilities.



The Chess Club has quickly become popular with those who enjoy problem-solving and strategy, while the creative clubs provide opportunities for self-expression, teamwork, and skill-building. The opportunity to ride the school bikes has also encouraged students to be active and enjoy the outdoors in a fun and social way.

These clubs have already made lunchtimes more vibrant and inclusive, giving students the chance to connect with others and try new things.



# TUBBS Grade 5/6 Summer Sports

On Friday, October 10th, students travelled to Lakes Entrance to compete in district volleyball or cricket with our TUBBS schools. It was a fantastic day of fun for everyone involved. Congratulations to our cricket team, who played brilliantly and have progressed to the next round on Monday, October 20th. Well done to all students for representing our school so proudly!

# STUDENT OF THE WEEK



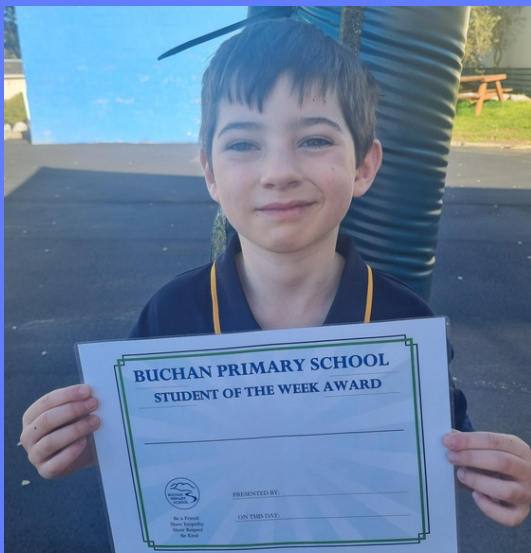
## ALENA

You have had a great start to your term. You often hold the door open for your peers and that doesn't go unnoticed. Your kindness has a big impact on our school.



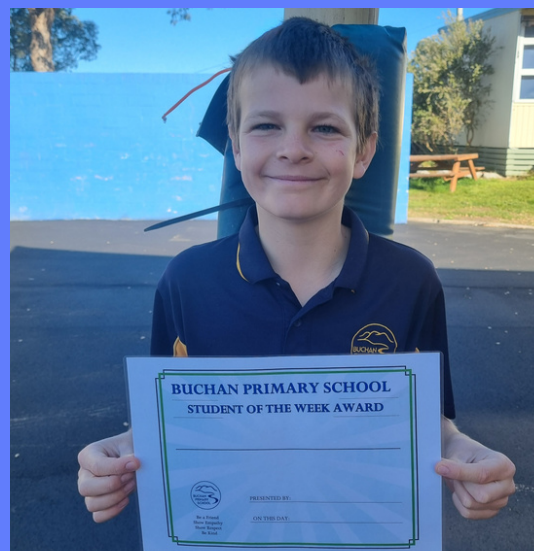
## SOPHIE

For having a fantastic start to Term 4! You are always so cheerful, polite, and happy to help others. You've also excelled at our Week 1 goal of doing it the first time and doing it quickly. Well done!



## JOHN

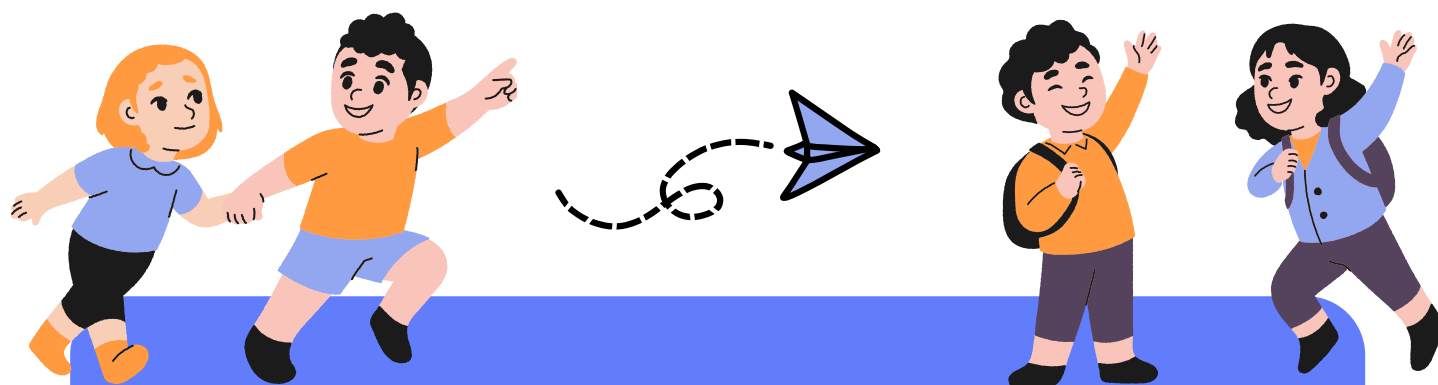
For having a very positive attitude towards his learning and for focusing very hard on learning his 2, 5 and 10 times tables. You almost got me in "Around the World"!



## LACHLAN

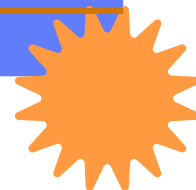
For doing a fantastic job supporting and guiding junior students whenever they needed help, and for showing maturity by taking responsibility for his actions, even when things don't go the way you wanted.

Pictured below is a schedule of events that will be held over Term 4. Please continue to monitor School Stream and each fortnightly newsletter, as events are always being added!



## Upcoming Events - Term 4

|                                                        |                                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| October 20 <sup>th</sup> :                             | Grade 5/6 Division Cricket Summer Sports   |
| October 23 <sup>rd</sup>                               | Optional Roadhouse Hot Lunches             |
| October 27 <sup>th</sup>                               | Trash Puppets Excursion Day 1              |
| October 28 <sup>th</sup>                               | Trash Puppets Excursion Day 2              |
| October 29 <sup>th</sup>                               | MARC Van                                   |
| October 30 <sup>th</sup>                               | Optional Hot Lunches (Hot Dogs)            |
| November 3 <sup>rd</sup>                               | CURRICULUM DAY - NO SCHOOL                 |
| November 4 <sup>th</sup>                               | Melbourne Cup - NO SCHOOL                  |
| November 6 <sup>th</sup>                               | Optional Hot Lunches (Toasted Sanwiches)   |
| November 12 <sup>th</sup>                              | MARC Van                                   |
| November 12 <sup>th</sup>                              | Mr Johnston Kinder Visit with 2026 Buddies |
| November 13 <sup>th</sup>                              | Optional Roadhouse Hot Lunch               |
| November 17 <sup>th</sup>                              | Kinder to School Transition Day 1          |
| November 24 <sup>th</sup>                              | Kinder to School Transition Day 2          |
| November 24 <sup>th</sup> to November 28 <sup>th</sup> | Grade 5/6 Coolamatong Camp                 |
| November 26 <sup>th</sup>                              | MARC Van                                   |
| December 1                                             | Kinder to School Transition Day 3          |
| December 9 <sup>th</sup>                               | Kinder to School Transition Day 4          |
| December 10 <sup>th</sup>                              | MARC Van                                   |





# FUN IS IN FULL SWING!

**Join Woolworths Cricket Blast**  
A safe way to have fun and stay active for kids of all abilities.

**BUCHAN CRICKET CLUB WOOLWORTHS CRICKET BLAST PROGRAM**  
**VENUE: BUCHAN RECREATION RESERVE**  
**DATES: THURSDAYS - STARTING NOVEMBER 6**  
**TIME: 3:30PM - 4:30PM**      **USE CODE A8555AA1 AT CHECKOUT**  
**SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER!**



**SIGN UP TODAY!**

Play Cricket

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY





## Detox your Home is coming to Bairnsdale

**Saturday 25 October 2025 | 9.00am to 1.00pm**

East Gippsland Livestock Exchange,  
11 Saleyard Road, Bairnsdale

Household chemicals such as bleach, pesticides, weed killers, cleaning products and fuels should never be put in your rubbish bins or poured down the drain.

Safely dispose of unwanted household chemicals at Sustainability Victoria's **free** Detox your Home event, without harming your health or the environment.

For a full list of chemicals accepted, visit [sustainability.vic.gov.au/accepted-items](https://sustainability.vic.gov.au/accepted-items)

Detox your Home events are drive-through and contactless.



To register to attend simply scan the QR code or visit [sustainability.vic.gov.au/detoxyourhome](https://sustainability.vic.gov.au/detoxyourhome)



# YOUTH ON PURPOSE PROGRAM

Youth On Purpose is a high-impact, four-day youth program designed to ignite self-discovery, purpose, and community-minded leadership in young people. Led by dynamic motivational artist Chico Johnson, the program uses interactive performance, storytelling, and creative expression to inspire participants to explore who they are, what they've been through, and how they can use it all to fuel a life of purpose and contribution. Through the art of music, film, motivational speaking, and songwriting workshops, we assist participants in finding their authentic and unique identity, reducing isolation and anxiety, improving self-worth and sense of belonging, and exploring solutions to better the world around them.

CheekyMac's youth programs have been designed by a team of teachers, youth mentors and artists as a proactive tool to empower disengaged and disadvantaged youth to discover a purpose driven life and enhance community capacity building.

A Four-Day Purpose-Driven Youth Program by Motivational Artist and Youth Mentor Chico Johnson

**PARTICIPANTS DEVELOP LIFE SKILLS TO LEAD A PURPOSE DRIVEN LIFE**



**4 DAY PROGRAM**  
**\$5,000 plus GST**

**CheekyMac Productions**



**GIPPSLAND COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

*Youth On Purpose is more than a program, it's a movement of young people rising with intention, creativity, and community spirit.*

### DAY 1 IGNITE: PURPOSE STARTS WITH YOU

The program kicks off with an energetic **live performance** and a powerful motivational talk from Chico Johnson. Participants complete a **pre-program survey** to reflect on their current understanding of purpose and community impact. This day sets the tone, awakening curiosity and connection.

### DAY 2 DISCOVER: WHERE PASSION MEETS PAIN. WE FIND PURPOSE

Participants are introduced to Chico's signature model: **Where Passion Meets Pain, We Find Purpose**. Through reflective workshops, they begin identifying their unique stories and how their experiences can fuel positive change, both personally and collectively in their communities.

### DAY 3 EXPRESS: VOICE YOUR STORY

Through engaging workshops, participants are taught to harness their purpose into creative expression. Options include **songwriting, poetry, or creative writing**, allowing each participant to find their voice in a unique way. They craft powerful, personal pieces that reflect their learning so far.

### DAY 4 ACTIVATE: FROM PURPOSE TO IMPACT

The final day focuses on future planning and collaboration. Participants take part in a **goal-setting workshop**, a **post-program survey**, and a **team-building exercise** to brainstorm ideas for collective impact. They leave with clarity around their personal purpose and a shared vision for contributing to school, family, and community life, enhancing community capacity building.

### FACILITATOR: CHICO JOHNSON

Motivational Artist, Singer Songwriter, and Youth Mentor

### CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION

[info@cheekymac.com](mailto:info@cheekymac.com) or 0432 337 753



**CheekyMac Productions**



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