

NEWSLETTER

2025
VOLUME.5

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.

AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

JUNIOR SCHOOL:

The first two weeks of Term 3 have gotten off to a fantastic start, with our junior students returning to school full of positivity. One highlight has been getting started on their entries for the annual Gippsland water poster competition, where they've been brainstorming, planning and beginning to illustrate important messages about water use and conservation. We're already seeing some wonderfully thoughtful and colourful designs take shape!

SENIOR SCHOOL:

Our senior students have been showing excellent dedication during their sports sessions. They've been actively practising a wide variety of athletic events, including hurdles, discus, shot put and other exciting track and field activities. This has all been in preparation for the big athletics event tomorrow, and there's a real ethos of excitement.



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REMINDERS:

- TUBBS Division Athletic's Day is tomorrow for Grade 3-6 Students (Friday, August 1st).
- Outward Bound Excursion for Grade 3-6 students is on Thursday, August 7th. **The Outward Bound Online Permission Form needs to be completed by August 5th at the latest. The URL can be found on School Stream.**

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.



Semester 2:

Semester 2 is now underway, bringing fresh learning experiences and exciting activities for all our students. We encourage families to take a moment to celebrate everything their child achieved in the first half of the year. Reflecting on the school report together is a great way to recognise areas of strength and identify new goals to focus on this term. We're looking forward to a productive and engaging journey ahead with our learners! Our Grade 3 and 5 students who completed NAPLAN also received their results last week, our students achieved exceptional outcomes, which will be shared in the next newsletter.

Assessment:

With Parent-teacher conferences in two weeks and reports being distributed at the end of last term, I thought it was timely to include information on how students are assessed. I have attached what I wrote up last year. This was something that parents had flagged previously about "now knowing why or how assessment is used" in previous Parent-Opinion Surveys. The 2-pager in this newsletter attempts to break it down and provide an explanation.

Building Works:

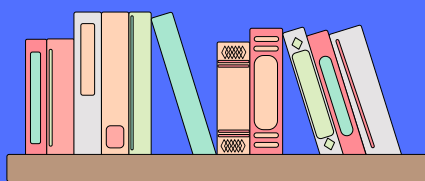
Over the past term, we've made some exciting progress on our school grounds. Most notably, the concrete slab for our brand new bike shed was poured, marking a major step forward in this much-anticipated project. We're now looking forward to seeing the assembly of the shed begin, hopefully as soon as next week. Looking ahead, we're also hoping to begin some landscaping improvements this term. These upgrades aim to improve the appearance of our outdoor spaces.

School Stream and Communication:

Please continue to check School Stream regularly, as I provide a weekly update that includes all key information for the week, as well as upcoming events. For example, last weekend I included information about the Outward Bound excursion which requires an additional online permission form, as well as the standard Department of Education form. This internal form must be completed by Monday, 4th August.

Best regards,
Aidan Johnston
Principal

PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE 2025



Don't forget to do the challenge. All forms must be handed to Julie by the end of August to allow time to be put in the system. If you require another form to record your books they are available from the office shelf.

Children from Prep to Year 2 are encouraged to read or 'experience' 30 books with their parents and teachers. Children from Year 3 to Year 10 are challenged to read 15 books.

All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and former Premiers.

This year, the Challenge is celebrating its 20th anniversary with the theme '20 years of words and wonder' and a year of special activities. For details, follow the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge Facebook

Since it began in 2005, more than 4.5 million young readers have taken part and together read more than 63 million books!



TUBBS KAROONDA PARK GRADE 3/4 CAMP

Buchan Primary School's Grade 3/4 students will be teaming up with Metung, Swan Reach, and Nungurner Primary Schools to attend camp at Karoonda Park. Students will take part in a range of fun and challenging activities, which may include the climbing wall, flying fox, initiative course, hiking and more. This camp is a fantastic opportunity for students to build teamwork, confidence, and resilience, while also making new friends and enjoying the great outdoors. We would love to see all Grade 3/4 children attend this camp. If you would like to organise a payment plan, please contact Julie. Full payment will be needed before the camp on the 12th of September.

Cost of Camp: \$395

Grades: 3/4

Dates: Wednesday the 10th of September to Friday the 12th of September.

TUBBS ATHLETIC'S DAY



Students from Buchan Primary School in Grades 3-6 will be participating in the annual TUBBS Athletics Day tomorrow, Friday the 1st of August. This exciting event brings together students from Tambo Upper, Metung, Swan Reach, and Nungurner Primary Schools to compete in a range of track and field events. It's a wonderful opportunity for students to show their sportsmanship, challenge themselves, and connect with peers from neighbouring schools. Events will begin at 10am, and we warmly invite all parents and families to come along and cheer on the students throughout the day. We're looking forward to a fun and active day for everyone involved! Students who place in the top 3 during any event will qualify for Districts Athletics, which will be held on Thursday the 14th of August.

OUTWARD BOUND EXCURSION GRADES 3-6



On Thursday the 7th of August, Grade 3-6 students will take part in an exciting excursion to Outward Bound's Bette Belong camp site, where they'll enjoy a day of outdoor learning, teamwork and adventure. This experience is designed to help build resilience, problem-solving skills, and confidence through a range of engaging, hands-on activities. This is free and no cost to families.

However, as well as the forms attached to this newsletter, Outward Bound has also asked that all parents of students who are going to attend complete their new online permission and medical form. **This needs to be completed by Monday, the 4th of August.**

The link is on School Stream, but can also be found here:

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=5bbZGvKN_UmTctTB9a60aDinGZhc4lVAoNJKTjnUzERUOEFBWTNBSVI4R1JFNjE3NVkOSFgwWEpRVSQIQCNOPWcu&route=shorturl

BOOK WEEK PARADE

BOOK WEEK

On Wednesday the 20th of August, we will be celebrating Book Week at Buchan Primary School and we are excited to be joined by the Buchan Early Years Learning Centre. The theme for Children's Book Week 2025 is "**Book [and] Adventure**", as announced by the Children's Book Council of Australia (CBCA). This inspiring theme, based on artwork by Jess Racklyeft, encourages students to explore the world of stories, both real and imagined, and reminds us how reading can take us on amazing adventures, open our minds to new ideas, and help us understand different perspectives. As part of the celebrations, students are invited to dress up as their favourite book character and take part in our much-loved Book Week parade. Following the parade, students will engage in a themed activity to extend their appreciation of literature and storytelling. The rest of the day will be a MARC Van day with Mrs Pinnock.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-Teacher Conferences are an important part of our partnership in supporting every child's learning and development. These meetings provide a chance to discuss your child's progress, their Semester 1 report, NAPLAN (if applicable), celebrate their achievements and identify any areas where they may need additional support. They're also a great opportunity to ask questions, share insights, and strengthen the connection between home and school.

Conferences will be held on the following days:
Monday 11th August
Wednesday 13th August
and Thursday 14th August
from 3:30pm to 4:30pm.

We encourage all families to attend.

Booking sheets are attached to this newsletter. If you are unable to make the above time, please contact your child(s) classroom teacher.

WEEKLY GOALS

This term, we have introduced weekly goals to support the development of positive habits and a respectful school culture. These goals directly link with our Whole School Wide Positive Behaviour (SWPB) framework and our Berry Street Model strategies.

This week, our focus has been on “filling other people’s buckets.” This is a simple but powerful concept that encourages students to be kind, respectful and caring towards others. Whether it’s offering a compliment, lending a helping hand, or simply using kind words, these small actions can have a big impact.

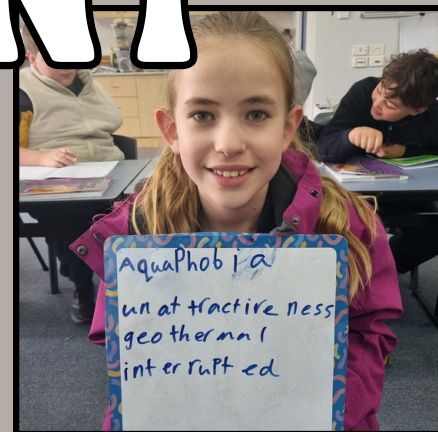
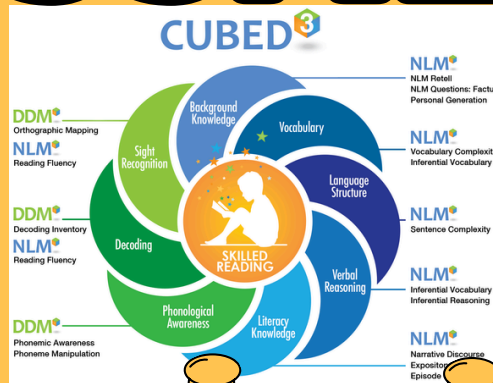
Looking ahead to next week, our weekly goal will shift to “responding the first time and quickly.” We are encouraging students to follow instructions straight away, whether that’s coming to the mat, tidying up, or transitioning between activities. The aim is to reduce delays and help our classrooms run smoothly and respectfully. No unnecessary wasting time or procrastination, just prompt and positive responses. Of course, we understand that every child is different. While we hold high expectations for all students, we always make reasonable adjustments for those who may need additional support. Clear expectations and consistent routines help all learners succeed.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to continue building a safe, respectful and inclusive learning environment for every student.



Show Respect • Show Empathy • Be Kind • Be a Friend

ASSESSMENT



Assessment

Assessment encompasses both formative and summative types. Formative assessment occurs continually, such as when students write on mini whiteboards to demonstrate understanding. If misunderstandings are evident, the material may be retaught immediately or in a subsequent lesson. Summative assessment, like tests, is what parents typically think of when they hear the term assessment.

FAQ

Does assessment take a long time?

As mentioned, assessment is a broad term that includes various methods, such as student work samples. Summative assessment in reading for Foundation students only takes about 20 minutes and includes all DIBELS sub-tests and the CUBED-3 NLM assessment.

English / Foundation Level / Language / Phonics and word knowledge

Content description

Recognise all upper- and lower-case letters and the most common sound that each letter represents

Foundation Level Achievement Standard

Reading and Viewing

By the end of the Foundation level, students use questioning and monitoring strategies to make meaning from texts. They recall one or two events from texts with familiar topics. They understand that there are different types of texts and that these can have similar characteristics. They identify connections between texts and their personal experience. They read short predictable texts with familiar vocabulary and supportive images, drawing on their developing knowledge of concepts about print, and sound and letters. **They identify all the letters of the English alphabet in both upper- and lower-case, and know and can use the sounds represented by most letters.**

Reading Example

In Reading and Viewing, there are 14 content descriptors for Foundation students that teachers use to guide their teaching. A Content Descriptor is a specific statement outlining what students are expected to learn in each subject, at each year level. The Achievement Standards describe what students should know and be able to do by the end of the year. Together, they guide teaching and measure student progress. Teachers establish what each student can and cannot do through assessments. Different assessments provide different information.

Alphabet recording sheet - lower case

Use this recording sheet for the Words and sounds: Letter - sound task.

Student Name: _____			DIBELS 8 th Edition Letter Naming Fluency																Benchmark LNF K Beginning		
Alphabet letter	Date	name	sound	Examiner script																Reminders	
				Here are some letters (point to the student form). Tell me the names of as many letters as you can.																Start timer	After you say Begin.
s																					Student begins; wait 3 seconds; name the letter; point to the next letter, and say 'Keep going; mark the missed letter as incorrect.'
m																					Student says letter sounds; say 'Remember, tell me the letter's name, not its sound. Score letter sounds as incorrect.'
f																					Student does not produce any correct letter names in the first line (10 letters): discontinue LNF.
t																					
w																					
l																					
g																					
r																					
h																					
a																					
n																					
y																					

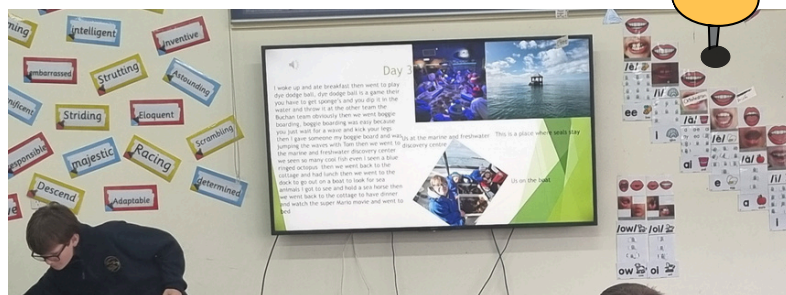
How Is it Assessed?

The highlighted part of the Achievement Standard above would be assessed through a sound and letter check for both upper- and lower-case letters, followed by a Letter Naming Fluency and Phonics test (All DIBELS sub-tests). If the Foundation student completed the assessments successfully, then they have met that statement/sentence of the Foundation Achievement standard for Reading & Viewing (data is triangulated).

What About a Different Example?

This example applies to the Speaking & Listening curriculum. In our classroom, students plan and deliver presentations for different purposes, being explicitly taught the necessary skills and program use. They might be given criteria and a specific timeframe to complete their presentations. While Grade 4 and Grade 6 students might have similar tasks, the expectations differ across grades. Each grade generally has about 15 content descriptors in Speaking and Listening that guide teachers to know what

they need to teach to students. These content descriptors generally form a continuum (they build on the previous level/grade expectation and the complexity increases each year). As shown below, the requirements for Grade 3 students differ from those students who are in Grade 6. Like the previous example, teachers look at the achievement standard to establish what level the student has achieved. A handful of student samples might be chosen for moderation (a second teacher will give a level and discuss why), teachers may also look at things like “sample banks” provided by ACARA to help determine the level and see comparable work. We also use a website that gives what is called “comparative judgement”, this helps us evaluate student work by comparing pairs of samples to determine which is a stronger piece. As you can see, different standards are assessed differently.



English work samples portfolios

Home > Resources > Work samples > English work samples portfolios

Year 4
Above satisfactory
Satisfactory
Below satisfactory

Level 3

Speaking and Listening

Plan and deliver short presentations, providing some key details in logical sequence, using appropriate tone, pace, pitch and volume (VCELY276)

End of Grade 3

Level 4

Speaking and Listening

Plan, rehearse and deliver presentations incorporating learned content and taking into account the particular audiences and purposes such as informative, persuasive and imaginative, including multimodal elements (VCELY308)

End of Grade 4

Level 5

Speaking and Listening

Participate in informal debates and plan, rehearse and deliver presentations for defined audiences and purposes incorporating accurate and sequenced content and multimodal elements (VCELY338)

End of Grade 5

Level 6

Speaking and Listening

Participate in formal and informal debates and plan, rehearse and deliver presentations, selecting and sequencing appropriate content and multimodal elements for defined audiences and purposes, making appropriate choices for modality and emphasis (VCELY367)

End of Grade 6



Lantern Walk

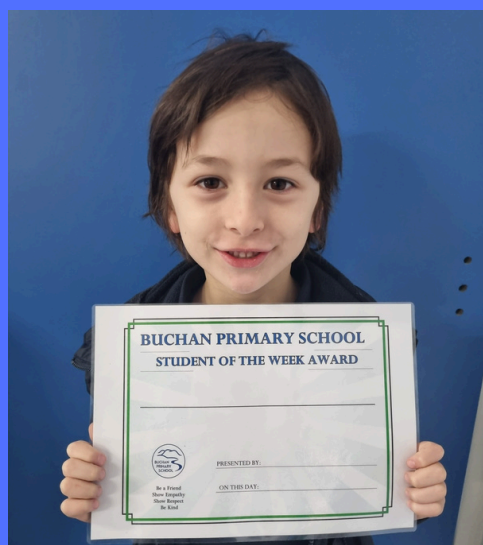
Last term, students worked alongside Mrs Z and Tara to create a series of stunning lanterns for the Buchan Foothills Festival of Colour. Over the course of about three weeks in their art sessions, students carefully designed, assembled, and decorated their lanterns, putting in a fantastic effort and showcasing their creativity. A big congratulations to all the students involved for their hard work.



Active Kids

Active Kids is continuing in Term 3 with Warren from Gippsland Lakes Complete Health. Students have been enjoying a variety of fun and engaging activities, including building with LEGO and creating their own colourful tie-dye t-shirts. It's been a great way for kids to get creative and remain active.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK



RAGNAR

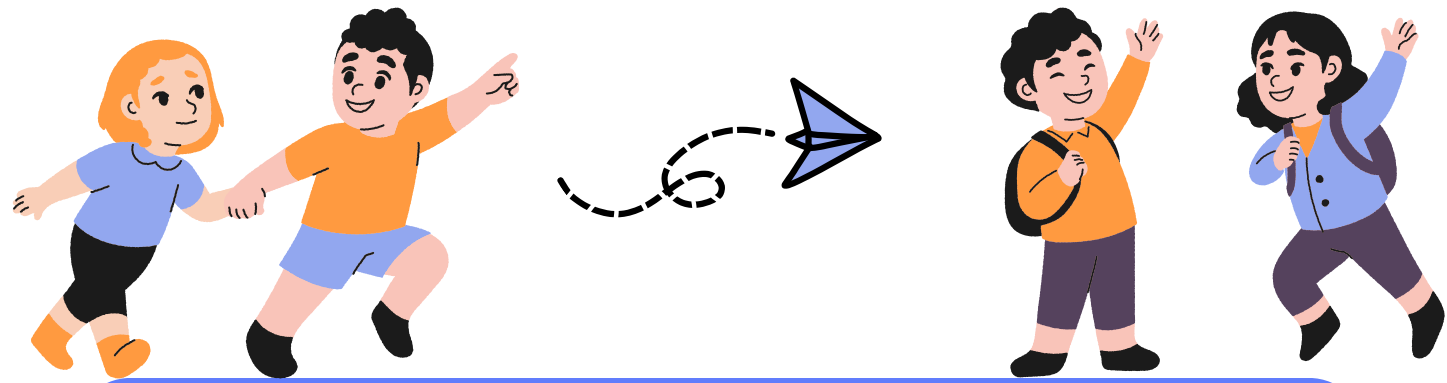
Congratulations for your excellent self-portrait completed in art last week, it was truly impressive!

JACKSON

You have made a terrific start to the term. Your leadership and kindness is infectious. Great job Jackson!



Pictured below is a schedule of events that will be held over Term 3. Please continue to monitor School Stream and each fortnightly newsletter, as events are always being added!



Upcoming Events in Term 3

August 1st:	TUBBS Athletic's Day (Grades 3-6)
August 7th:	Outward Bound Excursion (Grades 3-6)
August 7th:	Lunch Orders (Hot Dogs - NO ROADHOUSE)
August 12th:	School Council
August 14th:	District Athletic's Day (Grade 4-6s who made it through)
August 14th:	Lunch Orders (Hot Dogs)
August 20th:	MARC Van & Book Week Parade
August 21st:	Lunch Orders (Toasted Sandwiches)
August 28th:	Lunch Orders (Roadhouse)
September 3rd:	MARC Van
September 10th to 12th:	Grade 3/4 TUBBS Karoonda Park Camp
September 17:	MARC Van
September 19th:	Final Day Of Term 3 - 1PM FINISH

