



# BOTANIC BUZZ NEWSLETTER

TERM 3  
WEEK 4  
2026

Growth - Respect - Responsibility - Safe



## Settling into school life

### *Principal News*



**Mrs Fuller**

Dear Community,

As we head into another busy few weeks at BRPS, there are plenty of exciting things happening across our school community.

**Colour Run Fundraiser:** Our much-anticipated Colour Run is fast approaching! This is one of our major fundraising events for the year, with funds raised going towards purchasing new musical instruments, sports equipment and a projector for our school hall. These are resources that will benefit all of our students. Please keep an eye on Compass and refer to the recent Compass post for all of the information about the event and how you can support our fundraising efforts.

**Engagement Sub-Committee Survey:** A big thank you to everyone who has already completed our Community Engagement Survey. Your feedback is incredibly valuable as we begin planning our community events and activities for 2027.

If you haven't had a chance yet, we would really appreciate you taking a few minutes to complete the survey. You can access it here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScKv8Q8oIf-dOIvKLvVMVYKVZs36MhD-REFmKLZtrqNxOrTBw/viewform?usp=header>

**Staff Update:** Congratulations to Chelsey Ivmey, who has been appointed as the classroom teacher for 4B for the remainder of the school year. We are delighted to have Chelsey continue with the class and know she will provide consistency and continuity for our students.

**Year 3 Camp Information Meeting:** Thank you to the families who attended the Year 3 Camp Information Meeting after school last Thursday. If you were unable to attend or have any questions about camp, please don't hesitate to contact Ms Redpath, who will be happy to assist.

**Book Fair and Book Week:** Week 6 is Book Fair Week! There are some wonderful opportunities for students to browse and purchase books while supporting our school. Please see the information later in this newsletter for all the details about the Book Fair and our upcoming Book Week celebrations.

**Out of School Hours Care:** School Council has commenced the process of tendering for an Out of School Hours Care provider for 2027 and beyond. Council members will be interviewing applicants as part of awarding a two-year contract.

If you have any feedback about our current provider that you would like School Council to consider as part of this process, please feel free to contact me.

**Little Birdie Market - Saturday 15 August:** We are excited to once again host the Little Birdie Market here at BRPS on Saturday 15 August. If you're looking for something to do, come along, support the fantastic stallholders, and don't forget to stop by our parent-led BBQ in the canteen for a delicious bacon and egg roll or sausage. We would love to see you there!

**Care Squad:** How wonderful for all our Care Squad to be presented with their new vests by Benn Hall from Stirling Real Estate last assembly. We are excited to share the "Cranbourne Star" will be visiting to write a good news story about what the group is up to at school – watch this space.

**Footy Day:** Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September is Footy Day. Please encourage your child to wear their footy colours, or other sports clothes, and watch this space (and Compass) to organise your hot dog for the day! All funds raised will go towards our teacher wish list.

**Assistant Principal:** I am sure you will join me in congratulating Scott Bloomfield on being our substantive assistant principal! After lots of months in the acting position, Scott was the successful applicant. Well done, Mr Bloomfield, and thank you all for your continued support of BRPS!

## Teaching and Learning Buzz

### *Building Knowledge Through Read2Learn*



Mr Bloomfield

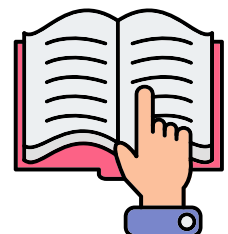
At Botanic Ridge Primary School, we believe that strong reading comprehension begins with strong knowledge. That is why every class participates in our **Read2Learn** program, where students build their understanding of the world while developing the vocabulary and background knowledge needed to become successful readers.

Each Read2Learn unit explores an engaging topic from History, Geography, Science or Civics, helping students make meaningful connections across the curriculum. As students learn new concepts, they also develop the language needed to understand increasingly complex texts and communicate their own ideas with confidence.

A typical Read2Learn lesson involves students listening to or reading a short section of text together with their teacher. The class then discusses the ideas, explores the meaning of new vocabulary and answers questions to deepen their understanding before moving on to the next section. By reading and discussing texts in manageable chunks, students are supported to think carefully about what they have read and build their comprehension skills over time.

This term, students will explore a wide range of fascinating topics. Our Foundation students will investigate **Weather** and **Community Workers**, Year 1 students will learn about **Countries, Continents and Maps**, and Year 2 students will discover **Great Inventions** and how they have shaped our world. Older students will explore **Growing Colonies in Australia, Early Settlers and Explorers in Australia**, and **Immigration and International Interactions**. These units are paired with rich mentor texts, allowing students to apply their new knowledge through reading, discussion and writing.

By combining knowledge-building with explicit reading instruction, Read2Learn helps students expand their vocabulary, strengthen their comprehension and become confident learners across all areas of the curriculum.



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**Ms Spinucci**

## Wellbeing Buzz

### *Mental Health and Wellbeing Workshops*



**Ms Symons**

We are excited to share that our Year 4-6 students will be participating in a Mental Health and Wellbeing Workshop delivered by the team at **"It's Okay Not to Be Okay"**.

Thanks to secured funding, these engaging early intervention workshops are being provided to our students at no cost. The workshops aim to build students' mental health literacy, strengthen resilience, and equip them with practical strategies to support their wellbeing during life's challenges.

During the one-hour workshop, students will:

- Explore and normalise a wide range of emotions.
- Learn the difference between mental health and mental health problems to build understanding and reduce stigma.
- Discuss positive ways to look after their mental health, including staying connected, being active, getting enough sleep, developing healthy habits, and seeking help when needed.
- Create their own "Backpack for Life"—a personalised mental health toolkit filled with trusted people, safe places, helpful activities, and coping strategies they can draw upon during difficult times.
- Learn how to recognise when a friend may be struggling and how to respond with kindness, inclusion, and by seeking support from a trusted adult.
- Share ideas with their peers and recognise that everyone's mental health toolkit is unique.

A key message of the workshop is that everyone experiences ups and downs. Just as we carry a backpack to school each day, we can all carry a toolkit of strategies and supports to help us navigate life's challenges with confidence and resilience.



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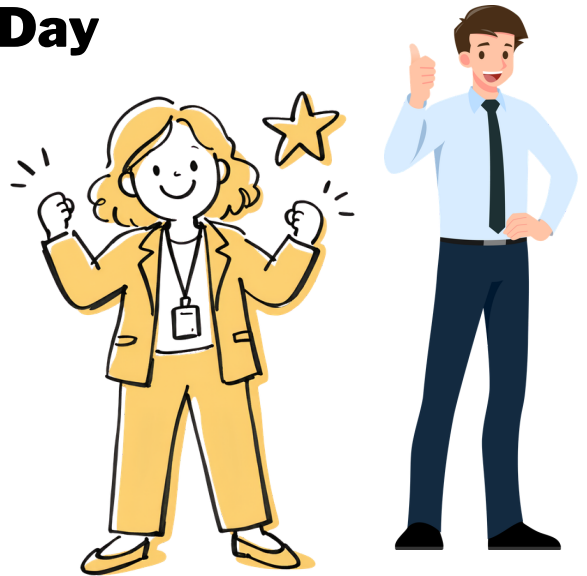


## Principal's Day

On Friday 7 August, we celebrate Principals' Day, an opportunity to recognise and thank our school leaders for their dedication, leadership, and commitment to our school community.

We acknowledge the important role principals play in supporting students, staff, and families, while leading teaching, learning, wellbeing, and school improvement every day.

We thank our leadership team for the care, guidance, and vision they bring to our school community.



## Colour Fun Run

Get Ready to get colourful with our Botanic Ridge Primary School Monty the Monstar Fun Run!

This term we are bringing the excitement with a Monty the Monstar Fun Run on Wednesday 16th September, all while raising funds for PE equipment, football and netball uniforms, musical instruments, and a projector and screen for the gym!

Fundraising opens on Monday 10th August, getting involved is super easy—just head to [myprofilepage.com.au](https://myprofilepage.com.au), set up a profile, and share it with family and friends for online donations. Kids can earn awesome prizes and collect Monty Coins as they go! Coming home with the newsletter will be information booklets about the Colour Run.

Raise just \$10 to unlock your first prize— the more donations raised, the more prizes you will receive. There are 15 unique prizes to be earned.

Happy Fundraising!



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## Book Fair & Book Week

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming back to BRPS! It will be here during week 6, Monday 17th - Friday 21st August. **This is the week BEFORE Book Week.**

During the week, our library will be transformed into a book store just for our school community! The Book Fair will be stocked with a great range of books for every age, interest, and reading level at great value prices! Bring your friends and family to explore the best new children's books, as well as posters, stationery, and other fun!

The book fair is a huge fundraiser for our school, with each purchase contributing toward books and resources for our school library. Families can also directly purchase a book from a teacher's wish list to donate to the library. Last year our community raised over \$3,500!

### The book fair will be open:

- Monday 3pm - 3:30pm
- Tuesday 8am - 9:15am and 2.30pm - 3:30pm
- Wednesday 8am - 9:15am and 2.30pm - 3:30pm
- Thursday 8am - 9.15am and 2.30pm - 3:30pm
- Friday 8am - 8:30am



Please note that we have extended our opening times for families to visit without their kids for those looking for gifts.

If you are unable to attend the Book Fair, an Online Pre-Payment option will be available. Students will preview the Fair with their class and complete a wish list which includes pre-payment information. Families can pre-pay a desired amount and students can choose books to that value. You can also purchase many similar titles from Issue 6 of the Scholastic Book Club.

Our book fair would not be possible without volunteers! If you are available to help us run the sales for a Book Fair session, please contact the office. You must have a Working With Children Check and have completed our volunteer induction session to help out.

### Competitions

Don't forget to enter one of our awesome competitions for the chance to win a Book Fair Voucher. All students can enter the Extreme Reading competition, F-2 students can show off their beautiful colouring, 3-4 students can design a creative costume, and 5-6 students can make a story sing with a playlist! Entries can be submitted to your classroom teacher, and close on Monday 17th Aug. Winners will be drawn Tuesday 18th. More details can be found on Compass.

### Book Week

The book celebrations continue into Book Week in week 7! On Wednesday 26th, children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character! Family and friends are welcome to join us for our Book Week parade at 9am.

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## Photos!



## Botanic Brilliance Awards

Congratulations to all of our award winners:

- 0A** Kobi, Kenzie
- 0B** Ayla, Nyra
- 0C** Lacy, Jasmine
- 0D** Jordan, Elliot
- 1A** Darcy, Arliah
- 1C** Jacob
- 2A** Kaden, Scarlett
- 2B** Silas
- 2C** Noah, Parker
- 2D** Ezra
- 3A** Colt, Parker
- 3B** Heath, Archer
- 3C** Aria, Jelani
- 34A** Blessed
- 4C** Flynn
- 5A** Lila, Aryan
- 5B** Christian
- 5C** Amelie
- 5/6A** Julian, Brock
- 6A** Christopher
- Music** Scarlett P.
- Art** Trey D.
- STEM** Pia C.

## Upcoming Dates & Reminders



- Fundraising for Colour Run opens - August 10<sup>th</sup>
- It's ok workshops for years 4-6 - August 11<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>
- Little Birdie Market - August 15<sup>th</sup>
- Science Week - August 17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>
- Book Fair - August 17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>
- Book Parade - August 26<sup>th</sup> (9am)
- Book Week - August 24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>



# Bringing fun after-school classes to your school



Little Coders • Coding • Curious Minds • Robotics  
Animation • Design • Minecraft Engineers

## What's on this term?

Code Camp After-School Coding, Years 3 - 6, Wednesdays 3:15PM - 4:30PM

Little Coders After-School, Years 0 - 2, Tuesdays 3:15PM - 4:30PM

Book now at:

[www.codecamp.com.au/botrid](http://www.codecamp.com.au/botrid)

Get in touch at [hello@codecamp.com.au](mailto:hello@codecamp.com.au)

Rated **4.7** on **PRODUCT REVIEW** with over 1,110 ★★★★★ reviews

# August Activities for dads & kids in Casey

**AUGUST**  
**07**  
7.00 PM  
The Meetup  
men's group



**AUGUST**  
**09**  
10.00 AM - 11.30 AM  
Plant a Tree  
With Your Children



**AUGUST**  
**15**  
10.00 AM - 11.30 AM  
Gardening Together



**AUGUST**  
**21**  
7.00 PM  
The Meetup  
men's group



**AUGUST**  
**22**  
9.00 AM - 11.090 AM  
Breakfast &  
kick-a-ball fun



**AUGUST**  
**22**  
9.30 AM - 11.00 AM  
First-time Dads  
Community Catch-up



**AUGUST**  
**24**  
6.30 PM - 7.00 PM  
Blokes & Bubs  
Evening story & play time



**AUGUST**  
**25**  
7.30 PM  
Forum for Men  
& Fathers



The community-led  
groups are supported by:





The grass stains you get playing as a kid stay with you your whole life. So for fun, friendship, and getting your hands dirty, it's gotta be NAB AFL Auskick.

PLAY.AFL/AUSKICK

# DEVON MEADOWS & SURROUNDS

## TERM 3 AFL PROGRAM

STARTS WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12<sup>TH</sup>

3:15PM - 4:15PM

Running out of Booring Reserve



SIGN UP  
HERE

## Parent Information

### 1. How is mental health explained to primary school aged children?

The Backpack for Life workshop is tailored for primary school students, generally from Years 5-6. Content is developmentally appropriate, engaging, and designed to meet children at their level of understanding.

We use simple language, relatable examples, and interactive activities to help children understand mental health as a part of everyday wellbeing—just like physical health. We focus on helping them identify emotions, understand how to talk about their feelings, and recognise when they or others might need support.

### 2. What kind of tools will children take home?

Each child creates their own personal mental health toolkit during the workshop. This may include: a list of people they can talk to, strategies for calming down (like breathing or movement), creative activities (like drawing or journaling), and positive self-talk phrases. The toolkit is practical, age-appropriate, and something they can keep and use.

### 3. Who runs the workshop and what are their qualifications?

The workshop is delivered by Georgia a social worker from It's Okay Not To Be Okay. All facilitators have experience working with children, Working With Children Checks and relevant safeguarding training.

### 4. How will you ensure the children feel safe and supported during the workshop?

We prioritise emotional safety. Workshops are delivered in a positive, strengths-based, and inclusive environment. Activities are carefully designed to be non-triggering, and no child is ever required to share personal experiences. Support is available for any student who needs a quiet space or additional care during or after the session.



IT'S OKAY,  
NOT TO BE  
OKAY



"The team from It's Okay, Not to be Okay held a workshop at my daughter's school yesterday. She came home realising that although we feel alone at times when we might be feeling down, insecure or anxious - in fact we all have these same thoughts and feelings, particularly as her and her classmates prepare to enter high school. Also that it is normal, not unusual to feel vulnerable at times.

Most importantly that it can be comforting to talk about what might be on our mind during difficult times. She now wants to start rocking the It's Okay merch, as she said to me that you never know when somebody might need to read that message.

Thank you to Georgia and the amazing team for empowering this young lady and her friends. The conversations that you spark have the power to save lives!"

- Parent of workshop participant