BOTANIC BUZZ NEWSLETTER

TERM 3
WEEK 6
2026

Growth - Respect - Responsibility - Safe

Settling into school life

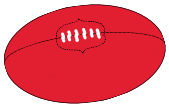
Principal News

Mrs Fuller

Hi Everyone,
Can you believe we are already in week 6!

Parent Opinion Survey:
Please can each family take a few minutes to give us feedback via the department's Parent Opinion Survey. Refer to the compass post I sent on Monday. Thank you.

Footy Day:
Friday the 11th of September is 'Footy Day'. Please keep an eye out for the information coming through compass for purchasing hot dogs. We will also require some volunteers, so let us know if you're keen to help. Please wear your footy team colours to show support!



Book Week Celebrations:
Thank you for your support with the Book Fair this week. The library looked amazing! Thank you, Miss Grace. Please remember to dress up as your favourite character on Wednesday, and join us in the hall at 9am for our annual book parade. The lovely Kinder children will also be joining us in all the fun!

Engagement 2027 survey:
Thank you to those of you who completed the survey for our engagement events for 2027. The engagement sub committee are pulling this together, with dates, to make a calendar for next year. Please remember we are always seeking volunteers!

Little Birdie Market:
Last weekend we held a Little Birdie Market at school. It was lovely to see so many of our families come along and enjoy the sun. We raised a total of $1700 to go towards maths resources. Thank you to all the parents who kindly volunteered their time!

Playground Rules:
We have received our new playground rule signs which we will put up around the playground shortly. Thank you to the SRC and Ben Hall from Stirling Real Estate for making this happen.

Hat rules:
We are a Sun Smart school and as the weather starts warming up for spring and summer, everyone needs to remember to bring their hats to school!

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Teaching and Learning Buzz

Mr Bloomfield

Fluency Pairs: Building Stronger, More Confident Readers

At Botanic Ridge Primary School, developing strong reading fluency is an important part of helping our students become confident and successful readers. One way students build these skills is through **Fluency Pairs**.

During Fluency Pairs, students work with a partner to practise reading a short passage aloud. They read the same text several times, taking turns to read and listen. With each reading, students become more familiar with the words and can focus less on working out what each word says and more on reading accurately, smoothly and with expression.

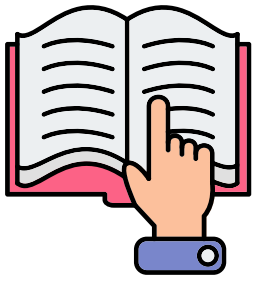
Repeated reading is particularly valuable because fluency develops through practice. As students become more automatic with recognising words, they have more attention available to think about the meaning of what they are reading. Students also practise noticing punctuation, reading in meaningful phrases and using their voice to make the text sound natural.

Working with a partner adds another important element. Students listen carefully to one another, provide encouragement and notice improvements across each reading. This helps make fluency practice positive, purposeful and engaging.

Families can support the development of fluency at home too. Regular home reading provides valuable additional practice and helps children build automaticity and confidence.

Encouraging your child to read aloud, reread a familiar book or passage, and focus on making their reading sound smooth and expressive can reinforce the skills being developed at school.

Through regular practice at school and at home, we can help students move beyond simply reading the words on the page to reading with accuracy, expression and, most importantly, understanding.



Little Kickers coming to BRPS

We're pleased to welcome Little Kickers to Botanic Ridge Primary School. They will be running Saturday morning soccer clinics for children under 8. See the attached flyer for more information.

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Ms Spinucci

Wellbeing Buzz

Grade 3 & Grade 5 Camps -
Supporting Your Child's Wellbeing

Ms Symons

With our Grade 3 and Grade 5 camps coming up, we know that camp can be an exciting time for students. It is also a big step for many children as they spend time away from home, navigate new experiences, manage friendships and become more independent.

From a wellbeing perspective, camp provides a wonderful opportunity for students to develop confidence, resilience, independence and problem-solving skills. It is completely normal, however, for children to experience a mixture of emotions before and during camp – excitement, nervousness, homesickness, anticipation and even uncertainty.

Helping your child prepare
Parents and carers can support their child by having positive and practical conversations about camp before they leave. Talk about the fun things they will experience, while also letting them know that it is okay to feel nervous or miss home.

Some helpful messages include:
"It's okay to feel nervous – lots of people feel that way before camp."
"You can miss us and still have a wonderful time."
"If something is worrying you, there will always be an adult you can talk to."
"You don't have to solve everything on your own – ask for help when you need it."
"Camp is a chance to try something new and discover what you can do."

Try to avoid making homesickness a major focus of conversations before camp. Repeatedly asking, "What will you do if you get homesick?" can sometimes increase a child's worries. Instead, reassure them that missing home is a normal feeling and that staff are there to support them if it happens.

Thank you to our families for helping us prepare students for this wonderful experience. By working together, we can help our Grade 3 and Grade 5 students approach camp with confidence, resilience and a sense of adventure.

We can't wait to hear all about their adventures when they return!

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Colour Fun Run

The countdown is on for our Monty the Monstar Fun Run on Wednesday 16th September!

Don't forget the main attraction - SLIME A TEACHER. Our very own Mrs Fuller & Mr Bloomfield has volunteered to be slimed! Along with a few other names, bring a gold coin donation on a Wednesday morning before school or to the office to cast your vote!
The teacher that raises the most money, will be slimed on the day after the Colour Fun Run!!!

Jump online at myprofilepage.com.au to create your profile today. There are lots of prizes to be won and we are raising money for PE and Music equipment!

This is one event you won't want to miss!

Book Fair & Book Week

Congratulations to the winners of our book fair competitions! There were some amazing and creative entries, you can see the winning entries over the page.

Thank you to all our families for supporting our book fair this week! We have raised an amazing amount of money so far, which will all go towards new books and resources for our school library!

Thank you especially to the all the parent and staff volunteers who helped run the sales for the book fair. Your time and your commitment to our school community is greatly appreciated, our book fair would not happen without you!

The book week fun continues next week! Don't forget our Book Parade dress up day next Wednesday 26th August. I can't wait to see all your creative costumes!

Extreme reading:
F - Mercedes Bellotti FC
1 - Charlee Stephens 1B
2 - Ace Smith 2A
3 - Leah Alfaro Kelly 3A
4 - Ahan Oza 4C
5 - Nixon Page 5A
6 - Kyla Williams 6A

Colouring:
F - Frankie Macdonald FD
1 - Luca Veleski 1B
2 - Hazel Calleja 2D

Costume Design:
3 - Emily Fletcher 3C
4 - Sophie Irving 4A

Create a Playlist:
5 - Angela Guymer 5C
6 - Harper Blyth 6A

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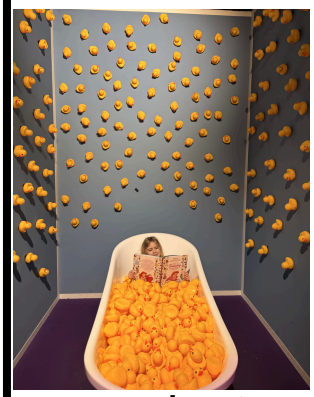
Book fair competitions photos



Mercedes FC

Charlee 1B

Ace 2A

Leah 3A

Kyla 6A

Ahan 4C

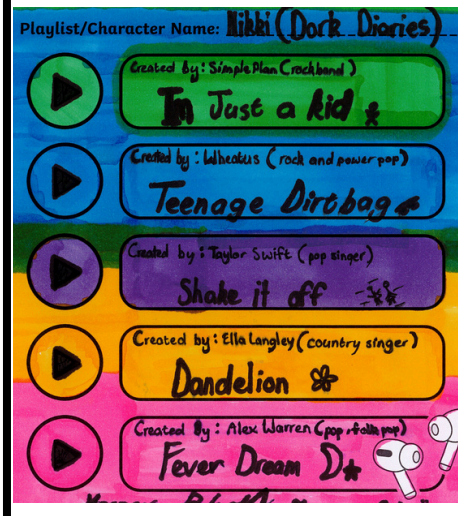
Nixon 5A

Frankie 0D

Luca 1B

Angela 5C

Sophie 4A



Nixon 5A

Hazel 2D

Emily 3C

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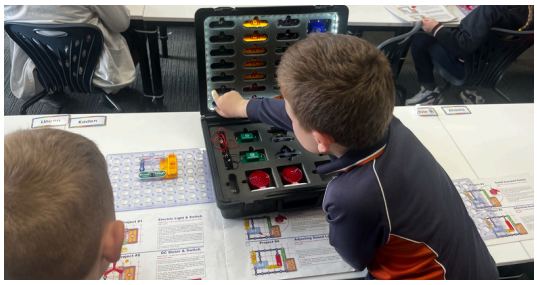
Photos!

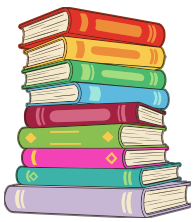


Botanic Brilliance Awards

Congratulations to all of our award winners:

0A Oliver, Ezekiel
0B Jaxon, Eva, Leo
0C Teddy, Harper
0D Gurmehar
1A Anelia
2A Ace
2B Quentin, Mahalia
2C Emelia, Katelyn
2D Frankie, Sofia
3A Emilia, Haelen
3B Aaliyah
3C Scarlett
34A Meagan, Ayla
4A Sophie, Rohan
4B Cooper, Kaylea
4C Nixon B.
5A Nixon, Marlee
5B Blake, Tanishka
5C Levi, Wesley
6A Kyla
Art Audrey P.
STEM Ryan B.
PE Jaxon E.
LOTE Billie H., Hela T.

Upcoming Dates & Reminders



- Book Parade - August 26th (9am)
- Book Week - August 24th- 28th
- Year 5/6 Lightning Premiership - September 2nd
- Year 3 Camp - September 3rd - 4th
- Year 1 Sustainable Gardening Experience - September 3rd
- Father's Day Activity - September 7th

CodeCamp

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

Get in touch at hello@codecamp.com.au

Rated 4.7 on PRODUCT REVIEW .COM.AU with over 1,110 ★★★★★ reviews

Little Kickers

BOTANIC RIDGE!

Classes opening
19th September!

Five fun filled age groups running Saturday mornings at Botanic Ridge Primary School!

- Little Kicks (1.5 years - 2.5 years)
- Junior Kickers (2.5 years - 3.5 years)
- Mighty Kickers (3.5 years - 5 years)
- Mega Kickers 1 (5 years - 6.5 years)
- Mega Kickers 2 (6.5 years - 8 years)

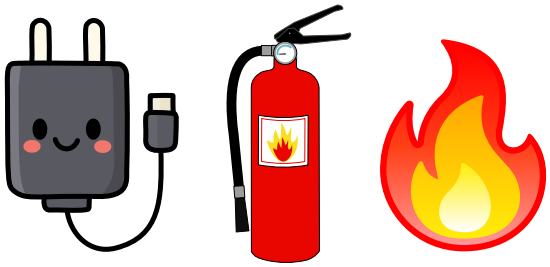
Scan here for more info & to secure your spot!

0421 494 003
casey@littlekickers.com.au
www.littlekickers.com.au

Fire Rescue Victoria: Lithium-ion Battery Safety

As the school year continues, many students are using devices such as laptops, tablets, phones, e-bikes and e-scooters. Most of these devices contain lithium-ion batteries, which have become part of everyday life, but need to be used safely.

Fire services are responding to an increasing number of fires caused by lithium-ion batteries, often caused by incorrect charging or leaving devices unattended. That's why fire safety at home is especially important during the school year.



You can help reduce the risk by:

- Only using the charger and battery designed for each device
- Unplugging devices once fully charged
- Never charging devices on soft surfaces like beds or couches
- Not charging devices overnight, or when no one is home
- Charging larger devices such as e-bikes and e-scooters away from living spaces and keeping them clear of exits
- Regularly checking devices and stopping use if a battery looks damaged, swollen or overheats

You can watch Fire Rescue Victoria's safety video here: https://www.youtube.com/shorts/UCmPE2YwINU

It's also important to make sure smoke alarms are working and tested every month. Fire Rescue Victoria recommends installing smoke alarms in bedrooms, living rooms and near areas where devices are charged —because working smoke alarms save lives.

For more tips on lithium-ion battery safety, visit:
https://www.frv.vic.gov.au/battery-safety

A few simple habits can help protect your home and your loved ones.