Bruthen Primary School
"Learning for Life"

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Principal: Rachel Davis

RESPECT COURAGE HONESTY TEAMWORK FUN

Newsletter Term 4 Wednesday 14th October 2026

School Council Members – President: Sarah Kennedy Vice President: Lucy Whillance Secretary: Kathleen Callow Treasurer: Kelsey Schueler Executive Officer: Emily Forbes; Lahnie Tong, Emily Earles, Rachel Rogers, Sally Whillance, Jade Simpson and Nicole Hood

Upcoming Events

October 2026

Monday 19th -Division Summer Sports
Monday 19th -MARC Van
Monday 19th -School Council Meeting
Thursday 22nd –Friday 23rd Grade 2 Camp
Friday 23rd -Division Summer Sports Backup Day
Wednesday 28th -Regional Summer Sports
Friday 30th -Assembly at 3.15pm

November 2026

Monday 2nd -Student Free Day
Tuesday 3rd -Melbourne Cup Day
Wednesday 4th -4/5/6 Swimming Program
Thursday 5th -F/1/2/3 Swimming Program

A huge thank you to:

BRUTHEN GARDEN SUPPLIES

For line marking our Netball Court at no cost.

It is very much appreciated!

PRINCIPAL NEWS

It has been such a pleasure to start Term 4 as your Principal. I want to thank the students, staff and parents for a very warm welcome and their generosity in sharing all that is special about Bruthen Primary School. It has been wonderful how smoothly students have returned to school after the spring holidays, settling beautifully into their classes and routines. I have enjoyed seeing their confidence, enthusiasm and positive attitudes to all aspects of learning and playing together. This smooth start is a true reflection of the dedication, care and professionalism of our amazing staff, who work tirelessly to ensure every child feels safe, supported and ready to learn. Thank you to our families for your ongoing support as it makes a real difference and maintains the strong dedication to learning at school and beyond.

Uniform:
Please ensure your child wears the correct school uniform each day. Students are now wearing a sunhat at all times while outside as SunSmart guidelines outline that these are to be worn mid-August through to the 30th of April. If your child doesn't have a school sunhat to wear, they will play under the covered area for their safety. Spring weather can be unpredictable so please remember to pack a jumper and dress for the expected weather of the day. We also ask that hair longer than shoulder length be tied up.

World Teachers' Day

On the 30th of October, we will be celebrating World Teachers' Day, a special occasion to acknowledge and thank our dedicated teaching staff for their hard work, passion, and commitment to our students' learning and wellbeing. Our teachers play a vital role in shaping the growth, confidence, and curiosity of every child, and this day provides an opportunity for our school community to show appreciation for their efforts. We thank all our teachers for their ongoing dedication and the positive impact they have on our school each day.

Thunderstorm Asthma

With changes in weather, the risk of thunderstorm asthma may increase. This condition can occur when high grass pollen levels combine with certain types of thunderstorms, causing many people to experience asthma symptoms over a short period.
Those most at risk include:

- People with asthma or a past history of asthma
- Individuals with undiagnosed asthma (those who experience symptoms but have not yet been diagnosed)
- People with hay fever, with or without asthma

Having both asthma and hay fever, or poorly managed asthma, can further increase the risk.
If you have any concerns, please consult your doctor. If your child has asthma, even occasionally, ensure that the school has a current asthma plan and puffer in sick bay.

Summer Sports Cricket and Basketball

Our keen cricket and basketball team headed off last Thursday, representing Bruthen Primary School with great pride and demonstrating outstanding teamwork. Students enjoyed the opportunity to develop their skills, teamwork, and confidence while completing against for other local schools. Thank you to Mrs Grinter, Mrs Hood and Katrina for supporting our students to work together to enjoy a wonderful day of sport, collaboration and fun. Our Cricket Team won 2 of their 4 matches and our Basketball Team played with great enthusiasm against other local teams.

Upcoming Curriculum Day

A reminder that our third Curriculum Day for the year will be held on Monday 2nd of November. This will be a student free day.

Year 2 Camp – 22-23rd October

Our Year 2 students will be enjoying two days of camp including an overnight stay at Camp Coolamatong, exploring the Koala Walk on Raymond Island and visiting Crystal Infusion. Permission information has been posted on UEducateUs, and students can bring along $5 spending money for their visit to Crystal Infusion.

Foundation and Year 1 Big Day Out

Our Foundation and Year 1 students are planning on visiting Raymond Island and then returning to school for a sleepover. Dates and further details will be forwarded shortly.

Student Arrival Times and Before-School Supervision

The safety and wellbeing of all students is our highest priority. To ensure students are appropriately supervised and supported, we kindly ask that families do not send students to school before **8.45 am**. Staff supervision is provided between **8.45 am and 9.00 am**, when students can safely arrive and prepare for the school day. Before 8.45 am, staff are not rostered for yard duty, and students are on school grounds without appropriate supervision. We sincerely appreciate your support and cooperation in ensuring students arrive within the designated supervision times.

Transition for 2027 Foundation

We are excited to announce our Foundation Transition Program for 2026! This will be held over four sessions where children will spend time at school, becoming familiar with the routines and expectations of a school day. These sessions help students feel comfortable and confident as they prepare for the year ahead and enable them to develop a strong connection as the newest members of our school community.

If you haven't enrolled for Foundation 2027 yet or know of someone wanting to enrol for school next year, please get in touch with our school office to access all the necessary enrolment information. We look forward to welcoming new little learners to our school community next year!
The dates for our 2026 transition sessions are:

Friday 13th November	9.00-11.00am
Friday 20th November	9.00-1.30pm
Friday 27th November	9.00-1.30pm
Friday 4th December	9.00-3.30pm

Kinder Visits

Thank you to Yvonne, Kirralee and the children at Bruthen Kindergarten who welcomed Mrs Young and myself last Thursday for a visit and play. It was wonderful to catch up with some of our future Foundation students, and I look forward to visiting our other local Kindergartens to welcome future Bruthen Primary School learners.

Anaphylaxis

We have a student within our school who has life threatening food allergies to nuts. The food allergy is severe and exposure to anything containing these foods could result in anaphylaxis, a potentially fatal condition that requires immediate medical attention. For the safety of this student, we are asking parents/guardians to be conscientious in the selection of snacks and lunch that your child brings to school in an attempt to limit the chances of this child being exposed to nuts. Please instruct your child to not share food with other classmates and this safety practice will be reinforced by our staff. Thank you in advance for making the school environment a safe and healthy place for all the students.

Christmas raffle donations being accepted at the office

Each year we seek donations from our community for our annual Christmas Raffle. Donations of items can be dropped off at the school office and raffle tickets will be sent home in mid-November to help fundraising efforts. The raffle will be drawn at our Annual Concert, and lucky winners will be able to choose from the wonderful prizes on offer. Thank you for your support.

Annual School Concert

Our annual School Concert will be held on the 15th of December from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. We thank Mr Harvey for developing the script and working with our Year 4-6 students in developing their performance skills and teamwork. This is shaping up to be another memorable school production, and we invite families to join us for an entertaining evening. Students in Yr 4-6 will be asked to arrive at the Bruthen Hall at 5.00pm for costume/ makeup preparation and Foundation-Yr 3 will be asked to be dropped off at 5.30pm for their costume/ makeup. At the end of the performance students will remain with staff for parents to sign them out before heading home for a well-earned rest.

Next Assembly

Our next School Assembly will be on Friday 30th October 3.15pm. We invite parents and carers to join us.

Teaching Children Problem-Solving Skills

During Primary School, children go through many stages of forming friendships, and along the way, they will inevitably experience conflicts. This is completely normal, as conflict is part of how children learn what works in relationships and what doesn't. In essence, these experiences help children develop their social and emotional skills.

Sometimes, children may feel confused when disagreements arise and may even label these situations as bullying. It's important to understand that there is a significant difference between conflict and bullying. Here's a simple way to distinguish between them:

- **Misunderstanding** – Usually arises from communication issues.
- **Disagreement** – Occurs when people have different opinions and both want their own way.
- **Conflict** – Involves situations where both parties usually want to solve the problem. If not resolved properly, it can continue over time.
- **Bullying** – Involves threatening, repetitive, targeted behaviour with the deliberate intention to harm. There is no effort to resolve the issue.

As children grow, especially in the upper primary years, they may begin to resolve conflicts independently. Younger children, however, often need guidance and, most importantly, emotional support.

We can help children develop problem-solving skills by providing opportunities to brainstorm solutions, allowing them to work through challenges without stepping in too early.

Believe it or not, harmless conflict teaches children:

- How to give and take
- How to reach agreements
- How to compromise
- How to solve problems
- How to build empathy
- How to understand others and their needs
- How to get along in a group
- How to develop successful, loving, and healthy relationships as adults

Restorative Practice – Building a Positive School Culture

At our school, we use a Restorative Practice approach to foster a positive school culture and support students' social and emotional learning. Rather than focusing on punishment, our priority is repairing harm and rebuilding relationships. This approach encourages students to take responsibility for their actions, engage in meaningful conversations to reflect on their choices, and work to restore trust and connection with those affected.

Some of the ways we put this into practice include:

- Collaborating with students to achieve win-win outcomes, helping them grow socially and emotionally.
- Focusing on a positive process rather than being attached to a specific outcome, ensuring all involved feel heard and supported.
- Using authoritative practices instead of authoritarian approaches, addressing mistakes without defaulting to punishment.
- Considering each situation in context, understanding that every incident is unique and requires a tailored response.

This does not mean there are no consequences when harm or conflict occurs. Instead, consequences are applied thoughtfully within a restorative framework, taking context into account, supporting learning for all involved, and guiding students toward positive growth. This approach best equips children to develop socially and emotionally, helping them make better choices and maintain strong relationships.

Rachel Davis
Principal

School Council

Monday 19th October 2026 at 6pm

Tucker Tuesday

Some students had a fun day in the kitchen with Kellie making lunch!

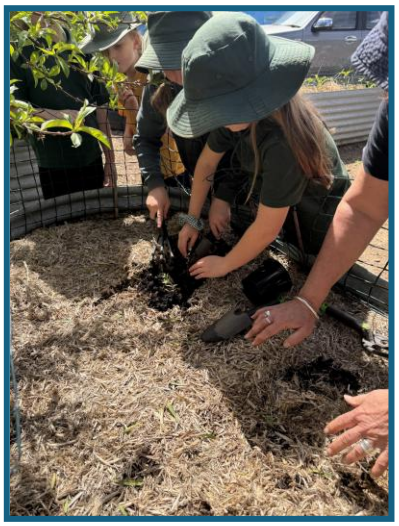






Science 2/3






Congratulations to Jacob Callow on completing a 10km Marathon



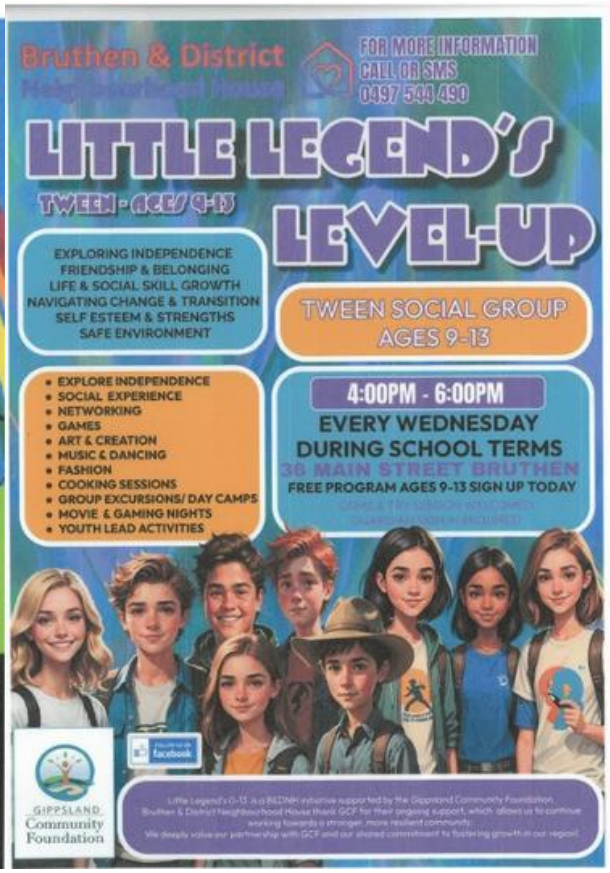
At the start when I was waiting for the run on the screen, someone finished already and I got nervous when I started. I was going good. I walked a bit. It took me 1 hour 5 minutes and 59 seconds. After it felt like my legs were broken.

Jacob

Little Legends

Come and join the fun.
Every Thursday 9:30am-11:00am at the sports shed during the School Term.











TAC L2P

MENTORS NEEDED

Help Learner Drivers Get Behind the Wheel

- We are looking for Volunteers with driving experience to help young Learner Driver's gain on the road experience through our TAC L2P program.
- All it takes is one hour a week!
- L2P is a program which provides access to Mentor drivers for young Learner Drivers who are facing significant barriers to gaining on road experience.
- Such barriers might include no access to a vehicle or a supervising driver.
- Insured vehicles are provided by the program as well supervisor driver training.

Our next TAC L2P Volunteer Mentor Training will be held on
Thursday 5th November 2026
9.30am – 4.30pm (Lunch provided) at
Mission Australia Office
Shop 14 Riviera Plaza 80-88 Main Street Bairnsdale

For more information or to register your interest for this role
Please contact Cheryl Siely on 0419605533 or email
sielyc@missionaustralia.com.au
or Kerri Sanders on 0498764636 or email
sandersk@missionaustralia.com.au

MISSION AUSTRALIA

East Gippsland Children's Expo 2026

Friday 23rd October · 2pm – 6pm · Bairnsdale Squash & Table Tennis Centre
64 Great Alpine Road, Lucknow

Children's Week 2026

Free Entry, Activities & BBQ plus Giveaways & Prizes!

- Welcome to Country
- Cultural Connect Dance Group
- Jumping Castles & Soft Play Area
- Face Painting
- Designated Quiet Space
- Stalls & Entertainment
- Coffee Van ($)
- Games & Activities
- Dance & Gymnastics
- Library - Reading for Kids






Children have the right to use their own language, celebrate their culture, and practise their religion

Ages 0 - 12

Meet & Greet with Bluey & Fireman Sam!
2.30pm, 3.30pm & 4.30pm

For more information contact
Rachael: 0409 355 043


Better Golf. Brighter Futures.
BUCHAN VALLEY GOLF CLUB
TERM 4
AFTER SCHOOL
KIDS GOLF LESSONS
LEARN / BUILD SKILLS / MAKE FRIENDS / HAVE FUN
STARTS
Monday 19th October
TIME
4:30pm – 5:30pm (1 hour)
DURATION
7 consecutive weeks
LOCATION
Buchan Valley Golf Club
COST
$20 per child per session
WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL GET:
Coaching by a PGA Associate
Professional, supportive and friendly environment
Fundamental skills and game development
A fun and inclusive program
Build confidence, focus and respect
Make new friends
Small group sizes – numbers are limited so get in quick!
NUMBERS ARE LIMITED so get in quick!
All skill levels welcome!
TO REGISTER & FOR MORE INFORMATION
Email: jyoung@pgamember.org.au
Call: 0423 495 194
Great habits start early.
BUCHAN VALLEY GOLF CLUB