

# St Brendan's Primary School 1581

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Newsletter No 37  
November 28, 2025



We gather on Gunaikurnai Country. We pay our respects to their Elders; past, present and emerging.  
We also acknowledge the ongoing living culture and connection to Country of all First Peoples.



## Collaborative Conferences

**Monday 1st, Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd**

Wednesday 3rd, Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th (Year 5 Blue only)

Collaborative Conference times have been sent out.

**Please call the school if you do not have your allocated time.**

If you are unable to make the meeting or will not be attending, please let the office know and we will do our best to arrange another time.

 You're invited to our  
**SCHOLASTIC Book Fair**


**Thank you for help making our Book Fair a huge success.**

The School would like to thank you for the generous support towards our Book Fair. A Scholastic Book Fair is a unique and rewarding experience and is the best way to support your school reading program and acquire much-needed resources for your school.

The school receives a commission from the sales and this year we sold **\$4,294.97** worth of books. This entitles the school to a commission rate of 30%. The school has received **\$1,288.49** to spend on new books and resources.

**Please know how much you've helped our students and how much we all appreciate all you support.**

EVERY DOLLAR EQUALS RESOURCES FOR OUR SCHOOL

 SCHOLASTIC

## UPCOMING EVENTS 2025

★ NOVEMBER

 **FRI 28**

**YEAR ONE EASTERN BEACH CAMP EXPERIENCE**

📍 Pick up from Eastern Beach playground at 5:30pm ⌚ 3:15pm – 5:30pm

DECEMBER

 **MON - WED 1-3**

**COLLABORATIVE CONFERENCES**

Monday 1st, Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd (Wednesday 3rd, Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th Year 5 Blue only)

📍 St Brendan's CPS ⌚ 3:30pm – 6:00pm

★

 **FRI 12**

**FAMILY BARBECUE**

On Friday, 12 December, St Brendan's will host our Family Barbecue. The afternoon will be a great chance for our community to get together and participate in some family activities. The outline for the afternoon is as listed below.

4:30pm: Art show in hall  
5:00pm: Carols and singing group performances  
5:30pm: Parent/Teacher versus Grade Six Students Soccer Match  
5:30 to 7:00pm: Dinner available - Shared Barbecue Dinner

 We are looking to recruit Year Six parents for the soccer match. Please advise your child if you can play. It should be a lot of fun.

📍 St Brendan's Primary School ⌚ 4:30am – 7:00pm

★

 **NOTES TO RETURN**

- Family BBQ - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Dec
- All items for the East Gippsland Community Christmas Appeal need to be in by Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Dec
- Swimming Carnival 2026 - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> Dec

		Up Coming Events
	NOVEMBER	Term 4
Week 8	Friday 28th	Year 1 Camp Experience Year 6—Gippsland Grammar Transition
	DECEMBER	
Week 9	Monday 1st	3.30pm Collaborative Conferences
	Tuesday 2nd	Year 6 Orientation Day Nagle College 3.30pm Collaborative Conferences
	Wednesday 3rd	Year 6 Transition—St Paul's Warragul 3.30pm Collaborative Conferences
	Thursday 4th	Year 6 Transition—St Paul's Warragul
	Friday 5th	Year 6 Transition—St Paul's Warragul 9.10am End of Year Mass
Week 10	Tuesday 9th	Year 6 Transition—BSC
	Wednesday 10th	Year 6 Transition—BSC School Captain Speeches
	Thursday 11th	House Captain Speeches Orientation Day for NEW 2026 students
	Friday 12th	2.20pm GCH Assembly 4.30pm Family BBQ
Week 11	Monday 15th	Year 6 Graduation Mass
	Tuesday 16th	3.15 Final day Term 4—HOLIDAYS!

## REMINDER: NO SMART WATCHES AND DEVICES AT SCHOOL

Smart watches that allow communication via SMS, email or phone call cannot be worn at school with the same rules applying as with a mobile phone.

At St Brendan's students may only bring mobile phones/devices/ SMART Watches to school if there is a need for them to contact their parents either before arriving at school or in the afternoon after leaving school. Upon arrival at school the phone/ device/ SMART Watch is to be checked in at the school office where it will be turned off and kept securely for the day. It is the child's responsibility to collect the phone/ device/ SMART Watch at the end of the day. Parents with an urgent need to be in contact with their child during the day should contact the school office and appropriate steps will be taken to pass on the message.



Mon 1st Dec:	St Brendan's	Lakes Entrance	9.10 am
	Whole School Prayer for Advent all welcome		
Tues 2nd Dec:	St. Brendan's	Lakes Entrance	9.30 am
	Communion Service.		
Wed 3rd Dec:	St.Colman's	Orbost	No Mass.
Thurs 4th Dec:	Opal	Lakes Entrance	11.00 am
	Nursing Home		
Fri 5th Dec:	St Brendan's	Lakes Entrance	9.10 am
	Whole School Mass.	End of Year—Advent	
	Calvary	Lakes Entrance	11.00 am
	Nursing Home.		
Sat 6th Dec:	Rosary	Lakes Entrance	8.45 am
	St. Brendan's	Lakes Entrance	9.30 am
	St. Joseph's	Swan Reach	5.00 pm
Sun 7th Dec:	St. Brendan's	Lakes Entrance	9.00 am
	St. Colman's	Orbost	11.00 am





# **FAMILY BBQ**

**12th  
DEC**

**2025**

ON FRIDAY, 12 DECEMBER, ST BRENDAN'S WILL HOST OUR FAMILY BARBECUE. THE AFTERNOON WILL BE A GREAT CHANCE FOR OUR COMMUNITY TO GET TOGETHER AND PARTICIPATE IN SOME FAMILY ACTIVITIES. THE OUTLINE FOR THE AFTERNOON IS AS LISTED BELOW:

**4.30PM: ART SHOW IN HALL**

**5.00PM: CAROLS AND SINGING GROUP PERFORMANCES**

**5.30PM: PARENT/TEACHER VERSUS GRADE SIX STUDENTS SOCCER MATCH**

**5.30 TO 7.00PM: DINNER AVAILABLE - SHARED BARBECUE DINNER (MEAT AND BREAD WILL BE PROVIDED, PARENTS ARE ASKED TO PROVIDE A SALAD OR DESSERT)**

WE ARE LOOKING TO RECRUIT YEAR SIX PARENTS FOR THE SOCCER MATCH. PLEASE ADVISE YOUR CHILD IF YOU CAN PLAY. IT SHOULD BE A LOT OF FUN. CHILDREN SHOULD WEAR CASUAL CLOTHES. PLEASE BRING A CAMPING CHAIR OR TWO.



**PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS (NO ALCOHOL). TEA AND COFFEE WILL BE PROVIDED AND ANYWHERE ESPRESSO WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE HOT BEVERAGES.**

**PLEASE RETURN NOTES FOR CATERING PURPOSES.**

**THANK YOU**



All items need to be in by Friday 5th, December. Thank you.

## East Gippsland Community Christmas Appeal

This year, St Brendan's will continue to support the East Gippsland Community Christmas Appeal. This Appeal provides food hampers and children's gifts to East Gippsland families at Christmas. It is about locals looking out for locals and acknowledging that Christmas can sometimes be a time of financial strain. Not all families experience the joy of sharing a Christmas meal with family and friends.

Community Service Agencies refer families to the Christmas Appeal, and hampers and gifts are given without judgment. It is an opportunity for the community to work together to share their best wishes at Christmas time.

Over the next few weeks, we will be collecting goods for this appeal. Each class has been allocated a family to think and pray for and to collect a hamper for. All items need to be in by **Friday, 5 December**, where they will be packaged ready for pickup. If you would prefer to give a small cash donation, it would be gratefully accepted and would help with the purchase of any missing items.

The Social Justice Student Leaders will be coordinating the collection of goods for the hampers.

Foundation Blue	Foundation Red	1 Blue	1 Red
Mum Dad Girl 5 years old Boy 4 years old	Mum Boy 5 years old	Mum Boy 5 years old	Young Mum Boy 1 year old
2 Blue	2 Red	3 Blue	3/4 Red
Mum Girl 8 years old Girl 6 years old Boy 5 years old	Mum Dad Girl 3 years old	Mum Dad Girl 5 years old Girl 3 years old Boy 5 years old Girl 3 years old	Mum Dad Girl 7 years old Girl 2 years old Boy 4 years old
4/5 Red	5 Blue	6 Blue	6 Red
Mum Girl 10 years old Girl 8 years old Girl 6 years old Girl 4 years old Girl 2 years old	Grandmother Boy 13 years old Boy 10 years old Boy 9 years old	Mum Dad Grandmother Girl 4 years old	Mum Dad Girl 23 years old Girl 15 years old Boy 5 years old

Each hamper needs at least one (more for larger families) of the following;

- Christmas cake · large tin of ham · tin of peas · tin of carrots · tin of potatoes
- Christmas pudding · custard · Christmas shortbread · long-life milk · potato chips
- Christmas chocolates, e.g. chocolate stocking or box of chocolates
- 3 x extra grocery items, e.g. pasta, rice or soup

St Brendan's has been a strong supporter of this appeal for several years now and this year we will once again, like Mary Mackillop, try to put our faith into action. Please talk to your children about why we are doing this and perhaps involve them in choosing which item/s to donate.

Thank you in anticipation.



# NEEDED and THANK YOU!



Year One and our local frogs would like to thank those people who sent in pipe offcuts for our frog bog. The pipes are now luxury accommodation for our amphibian friends!

We now need some rocks for the finishing touches, namely to hold down the pond liner. If anyone has a few fist size or larger rocks that they don't need, we would greatly appreciate them.

Much thanks, Year One



Year One Frog Information Display  
When: Saturday 22nd – Saturday 29th November  
2025

Where: Lakes Entrance Town Library foyer,  
near the Mechanics Hall entrance  
Please come and be informed!

Have you seen the Year One display in the Mechanics Hall foyer? The children worked really hard to research and become 'experts' on the frogs of East Gippsland. Need help identifying a frog? Ask a Year One!

Year One would like to thank Tim Wilson for the great load of rocks he delivered today. These should just about finish off our frog bog.





# YEAR TWO CAMP EXPERIENCE

Sadie M - I liked  
the games and  
the food



Mia B -  
We all  
had so  
much  
fun





# YEAR TWO CAMP EXPERIENCE

Taj- I had fun  
playing Farmer Sam



Phoebe - I liked doing the  
spoon and egg race



Ethan - I loved  
eating sausages





# THE 3/4 RED PRAYER TABLE

By Madi and Shiloh

This week we were asked by Mr. Clarke, our teacher, to decorate the prayer table for advent. First we changed the table cloth from green to purple. Then we found this pretty jar and we put red prayer beads in the jar and attached some leaves to make it look good. Secondly, Madi put up some beautiful prayers on the wall and the sign of the cross. We put some dazzling roses and lilies on the right corner of the prayer table over the jar. Then we put a cross on the flowers to cover the stems. Next we put a wine glass and put a white relaxing candle inside of it. We decided to put a red and a white candle next to each other. We found the indigenous table cloth so we put that on there and decided to put some rose petals on the indigenous cloth and after that we were finished. While Madi put on some finishing touches, I organised the decoration box, cleaned the floor and we both cleaned the nook. That is what we did to the prayer table and it indeed ended up looking amazing.





# INFORM & EMPOWER

Cyber Safety & Digital Wellbeing

Dear Parents and Carers,

On **10 December**, Australia will introduce a world-first law setting the **minimum age for social media use at 16 years**. This landmark decision reflects growing concern about the impact of social media on children's wellbeing and aims to create safer online spaces for young people.

**We want to take this opportunity to remind all parents and carers of our shared responsibilities in this space.** While some students may already have social media accounts, this new law provides an important opportunity for a reset. Your child's school is committed to child safety, both offline and online, and we ask for your support in upholding this collective effort.

**Your child's school is taking a proactive approach to cyber safety and digital wellbeing through their partnership with us.** Every student participates in an age-appropriate online safety session each term, building their skills and confidence as they grow.

**Which apps are restricted?** Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, YouTube, Facebook, Reddit & more.

**How will the age limit be enforced?** Social media companies will be required to verify a user's age.

**What if someone under 16 already has an account?** These accounts will be closed or suspended.

**What if my child finds a 'workaround' to be on social media and experiences online harm?** They will not get into trouble with the law (and neither will you, as their parent or carer). They can still report it and seek help.

For more detailed information, please visit: [www.esafety.gov.au/parents/social-media-age-restrictions](http://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/social-media-age-restrictions)

**We encourage you to talk openly with your children about the new laws.** Help them understand that this change is not about punishment, but protection. Social media has not been designed with young people's health or wellbeing as a priority.

#### You might like to:

- agree on alternative apps or websites where they can safely enjoy connection, entertainment and creativity
- explore offline activities to help maintain a healthy balance of screen time and green time
- remind them that they can always come to you, or another trusted adult, if something online makes them uncomfortable
- let them know that Kids Helpline ([kidshelpline.com.au](http://kidshelpline.com.au)) is always available for support

Sincerely,



**Marty McGauran**  
eSafety Expert



**Carley McGauran**  
Psychologist







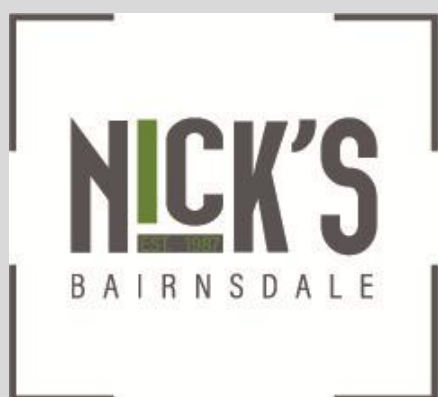
A reminder that the **car park** at the front of the school and the church are **NOT** drop off zones.

If you enter these car parks you **MUST** walk your children into the school.

**DROP OFF ZONE** is via the Mary MacKillop Hall carpark **only**.

The Disabled Parking spaces are for people with permits **only**.

Thank you.



**SCHOOL  
UNIFORM**

**St Brendan's School Uniform can be ordered online!**

Link to website for St Brendan's Uniform below:

<https://nicksbairnsdale.com.au/product-category/schoolwear/st-brendans-uniform/>

93 Main Street Bairnsdale Victoria 3875

Phone (03) 5152 1333

## Uniform Reminders

**JEWELLERY** is restricted to the following - a wrist watch, no more than **one** small plain matching pair of studs or sleepers in the ear lobe - gold, silver or gemstone, a religious medallion on a chain to be worn under clothing.

**Fashion jewellery, make-up and nail polish are not permitted.**

**HAIR** is to be kept neat and tidy at all times. Hair longer than collar length, must be **tied back completely**. This is to help restrict the spread of nits and lice and for student safety. Headband, hair ties, ribbons, scrunchies and clips must be **blue, black or brown**.

It is not appropriate for children to come to school with dyed or inappropriate hair styles as deemed by the Principal.







When picking up and dropping off your child we ask all parents to observe the following procedures at St Brendan's CPS.

**Collecting Students from School Grounds – Child Safety** As you would understand, child safety is the number one priority for schools. As circumstances evolve, we want to ensure we have the best possible practice in place. Please note the following requirements for collecting students at the end of the day.

**Collecting from the church gate –**  
Students in years Foundation, One and Two will remain with their class teacher at the end of the day just outside their classroom. The church gates will be open at 3.15pm, at which time parents are required to enter the school grounds to collect their children from the class teachers. This action is in place to avoid situations where students leave the school grounds and run into the church gate car park area without an adult being present.

***Please use the appropriate car park entry and exit. Please do not drive across the footpath to enter or exit the car park. We have students and other pedestrians using the footpath.***

**Collecting from the administration office**  
Please enter the gates and collect your child from the junior classroom area or your child from years Three to Six may meet you just inside the gates. Students are not to leave the grounds and cross the car park area without an adult walking with them. If dropping students off in the morning, you must also walk them into school. Please do not use the disabled parking bay without permission to do so.

**Collecting from car line**  
Typically, St Brendan's staff are there to organise students into cars at the end of the day. If you wish to park and collect your child, please use the crosswalk and an adult must walk with their child/ren. Drop off at the beginning of the day should take place at the bus stop area.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Regards,  
**Matthew Hamer**  
Principal



St Brendan's Op Shop has second hand school uniform available.

**St Brendan's School uniform available \$3.00 per item unless otherwise marked.**

Open 10am-3pm Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday.



Please remember to have your notifications on to receive the latest posts.



Lunch orders are available on a Friday and are supplied by Mamma Vu's Kitchen.

- All orders will need to be in by **Thursday morning - before 12pm** for lunch on Friday
- **NO LATE ORDERS** will be accepted.
- Please make sure that all orders are on a brown paper lunch order bag with the correct money
- Siblings will require one bag each
- Name and class needs to be clearly stated on the bag

Please see below menu and please take note of prices.

Example :

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Class \_\_\_\_\_  
1 Tuna & Avo sushi roll \$4.00  
1 Raspberry drink \$3.00  
Total \$7.00  
Thank you

# Lunch Order



## ST BRENDAN'S STUDENT LUNCH ORDER

### SUSHI ROLLS

Salmon & Avo	\$4
Avocado	\$4
Cucumber	\$4
Tempura Veggie	\$4
Teriyaki Chicken	\$4
Chicken Katsu	\$4
Panko Prawns	\$4
Tuna & Avo	\$4

### HOT FOOD

Fried Rice	\$7
Fried Pork Gyoza (Rice)	\$7
Spring Rolls (4pc)	\$7
Chicken Hokkaido Noodle	\$10
Honey Chicken + Fried Rice	\$10
Teriyaki Chicken + Fried Rice	\$10
Chicken Oyster Stir Fry + Fried rice	\$10

### DRINKS

Lightly Sparkling Mineral Water	\$3
Lime, Raspberry Watermelon, Mango	

## LUNCH ORDERS ARE AVAILABLE ON A FRIDAY

Order must be in Thursday

**MANY YUMMY OPTIONS!**



# INTERCHANGE GIPPSLAND COLOUR RUN



**WHEN:** Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
11:30am to 1pm



**WHERE:** Newborough Football Netball Club  
Southwell Avenue, Newborough VIC 3825



**WHO:** Open to the whole community - \$5 per person  
Interchange Gippsland affiliated families run for free!



**WHAT:** Be a part of the Interchange Gippsland Colour Run 2025 and experience a burst of energy, music & colourful vibes!  
Remember to wear a white shirt! AGM to follow at 1pm!



**RSVP:** Register today by contacting us on 1300 736 765 or [admin@icg.asn.au](mailto:admin@icg.asn.au)



## School Crossing Assessment

Council have been asked to conduct a school crossing inspection on behalf of the "Department of Transport" Victoria. This inspection will be completed at a random date during term 3 or 4 at morning drop off and afternoon pickup. During these inspections, Council officers will be required to take photos and measurements of existing school crossings and road infrastructure. There will be no facial recognition in any of these photos as all faces will be blurred out.





Reflect on a time you **felt proud**.

What made you feel this way?



**THE RESILIENCE PROJECT.**

**SCHOLASTIC**

## Book Club **LOOP** for Parents

**LOOP** is the Scholastic Book Club  
Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for parents.

To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit:  
**[www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP)**



## EVERYDAY COUNTS

Being at school every day helps students benefit from learning, friendships and opportunities that shape their future.

**80% ATTENDANCE = 1 DAY A WEEK**

An 80% attendance rate puts your  
child at risk of falling behind.



**1 DAY A WEEK = 40 DAYS A YEAR**



That's almost a full term of lost learning.

Every day counts, even small absences  
make a big difference.

**40 DAYS A YEAR = MISSING MORE THAN 1  
YEAR OF PRIMARY SCHOOL IN 7 YEARS**

Attendance matters.  
The more days missed, the harder  
it is to catch up.



## HEAD LICE ALERT

PLEASE CHECK YOUR CHILD'S HAIR TONIGHT!!

### TO CHECK

Check the scalp for insects or eggs.

Use a fine-tooth comb on wet hair then comb through the hair in sections  
looking for eggs or lice, repeat over a few days.

### TO TREAT

Wet the hair and scalp with conditioner or use chemical shampoo/ lotion (containing insecticide) – this will kill the lice and  
eggs. Using a fine metal comb, or special head lice comb you can get from a chemist, go through the hair in sections to  
comb the lice and eggs out.

*Always re-treat 7–10 days after the first treatment, to kill any head lice that may have hatched  
from eggs that survived the first treatment.*

### TIPS

- ✓ Check and treat the hair every night
- ✓ Please tie up long hair for school
- ✓ If your child has head lice please check everyone in the family home
- ✓ Do not share hairbrushes, towels, hats/ scarves etc.







# EGUFC 2026 U15 GIRLS TEAM

## Join us for Team Selections

Dates: 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> November  
Venue: Howitt Park, Bairnsdale  
Time: 6.15 – 7.30pm

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Age Eligibility:  
Born between 1 January 2011 &  
31 December 2014 (11–14 years)


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Contact: [egufcjuniors@outlook.com](mailto:egufcjuniors@outlook.com)  
Find us on Facebook!

**FREE | BOOKINGS NOT REQUIRED**  
**AGES 5 - 12**

**EAST GIPPSLAND  
SHIRE LIBRARIES**

## LEGO Club 2025




**Junior LEGO enthusiasts are invited to attend our after-school LEGO Club sessions**

Head into your local library and flex your creative muscles making the LEGO builds of your dreams!

Donations welcome: the library will gladly accept donations of old or new LEGO brand pieces for our LEGO Club collection.

This is an unsupervised event - attendees must be accompanied by an adult.

<b>Bairnsdale Library</b> Tuesdays 4.00 pm - 5.00 pm
<b>Lakes Entrance Service Centre</b> Wednesdays 3.30 pm - 4.30 pm
<b>Orbost Service Centre</b> Mondays 3.30 pm - 4.30 pm
<b>Paynesville Service Centre</b> Wednesdays 3.30 pm - 4.30 pm
<b>Omeo Service Centre</b> Wednesdays 3.30 pm - 4.30 pm
<b>Mallacoota Service Centre</b> Wednesdays 3.30 pm - 4.30 pm

 Libraries Change Lives

**FREE | NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED**

**EAST GIPPSLAND  
SHIRE LIBRARIES**

## We're Back!

### Rhymetime Returns



**Join us for our first Rhymetime session of 2025!**

This is a wonderful opportunity for children to explore the magic of stories and the joy of reading. Enjoy engaging tales that inspire creativity and imagination, along with fun songs and rhymes!

Rhymetime sessions are designed for children under 2 years and their parent/carers and run for approximately 30 minutes.

<b>Bairnsdale Library</b> Wednesday 5 February 10.30 am - 11.00 am
<b>Lakes Entrance Service Centre</b> Wednesday 5 February 11.00 am - 11.30 am
<b>Orbost Service Centre</b> Thursday 6 February 10.00 am - 10.30 am
<b>Paynesville Service Centre</b> Monday 3 February 10.30 am - 11.00 am
<b>Mallacoota Service Centre</b> Tuesday 4 February 10.00 am - 10.30 am

 Libraries Change Lives