



WEEK 2 TERM 1

Dear Parents and Carers,
School Review – Tuesday 17 February
On Tuesday 17 February, our school will be undertaking a School Review. All schools complete a review every four years.

The review process allows schools to celebrate achievements while also identifying areas for improvement and setting directions for the next four years. A panel of reviewers will examine school data from the past four years, including:

- NAPLAN results
- Teacher judgement (student reports)
- Student, staff and parent survey results
- Attendance and absence data

The panel will also spend the morning visiting classrooms and speaking with students, staff and parents to gain a comprehensive understanding of our school.

Following the review, new goals will be established and an Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) developed. As part of the process the panel would like to meet and speak with a parent group. The parent group discussions will be held in the library. We are seeking 5–10 parents to participate. The focus group will meet with the reviewer, Chris McCullam, at 9:00am. If you are interested in being part of this group, please come and see me.

School Council

School Council is formed by parents and staff members and as a group they oversee the finances and help create policies which govern our school. Seven parents and three school staff members are elected onto council for a 2 year period. The members of School Council for 2025 were Blair Dellelijn, Regan Montgomery, Annie Ewings, Renea Williamson, Jodie Addamo, Mark Greene, Sam Hindes, Krstal Doohan, Courtney Smith. Stevie Fisher, Kristie Lynch and Brooke Mc Grath were members who represented the Parents and Friends group. I thank all members for their commitment and contributions made during 2025. Blair and Courtney's 1 year positions are now available for filling. Sam, Krystal and Annie have now completed their 2 year term as members and so two 2 year term parent positions are declared open, to be filled by election, if needed.

Retiring school council members are welcome to renominate for election. Nominations are now being called for positions on School Council. If you would like to nominate someone or your self please come to the office and ask for a form. All nominations need to be lodged by Friday the 13th of February. If more than four parent nominations are received then an election will be organised. We are proposing to hold our first school Council Meeting on Tuesday the 3rd of March.

Parent–Teacher Interviews – Tuesday 10 February

Parent–Teacher Interviews will be held on Tuesday 10 February. These 15-minute interviews provide an opportunity to meet your child's teacher and discuss learning goals.

- Interviews will be held in the library
- Bookings must be made via the Compass App
- The booking window closes Thursday afternoon

Phone or Webex meetings can be arranged if you are unable to attend in person. If you cannot attend on this day, please contact your child's classroom teacher to arrange an alternative time.

Student Details

Student contact detail forms have been sent home. Please ensure all information is accurate and up to date. It is essential that the school is notified of any changes to:

- Mobile phone numbers
- Emergency contacts
- Residential or email addresses

Maintaining current contact details is the responsibility of all families and is vital in the event of an emergency.

Parents and Friends – AGM and Meeting

Coimadai PS Parents and Friends is a vibrant group that contributes greatly to our school community. All parents are welcome, and any level of involvement is greatly appreciated. For more information, please see Jo Cornish, Kyrie Harris or Krystal Doohan.

The next meeting and AGM will be held on Wednesday 11th February at 9:00am in the library. At this meeting Child Safety training will be presented to all people who volunteer in our school.



Cyber Safety Program

Bacchus Marsh Bendigo Community Bank and Bacchus Marsh Blue Light Community have partnered to provide cyber safety education for students and parents across the Bacchus Marsh community. Thanks to generous funding from Bendigo Bank, all families can participate in The Inform and Empower Cyber Safety Program at no cost.

- Students will participate in sessions at school throughout the year with corresponding information being sent home for families to continue discussing
- Parents are invited to attend an information session at the Shire Hall, Bacchus Marsh on Thursday 26 February 7:00pm.

More details are included in the flyer attached to this newsletter. I strongly encourage all parents to attend.

Student Books and Stationery

All student stationery must be purchased by families.

- Online packs have been delivered and have been labelled at school, ready for use.
- Families purchasing their own supplies should bring items to school as soon as possible
-

Student Mobile Phones

In line with the Department of Education's Mobile Phone Policy:

- Mobile phones must be switched off and securely stored in the office during school hours unless permission is granted for medical reasons
- Wearable devices and iPads are not to be used for notifications or communication

The full policy is available on our website; www.coimadaips.vic.edu.au

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)

The Victorian Government's CSEF supports eligible families with costs associated with camps, excursions and sporting activities.

Eligible families may receive \$400 per child, paid directly to the school.

You may be eligible if you hold a valid concession card or support a child in Out of Home Care. Special consideration applies for asylum seeker and refugee families. New applicants should contact the office or download the application form from the Victorian Government website. Families who applied last year do not need to reapply unless circumstances have changed.

Whole School Sports Day – Tuesday 31 March

Coimadai PS will join Balliang East PS, St Patrick's Gordon and St Brigid's Ballan for a Small Schools Athletics Day.

- Location: Mason's Lane, Bacchus Marsh
- Parents are welcome to attend and support students

Further information will be provided closer to the date.

School Fees

When making BPAY payments, please notify the school (by email or in person) of what the payment is for, as the Department system does not specify payment purpose. Alice needs this information to correctly allocate payments.

School Uniform

During Term 1, all students must wear a school hat at recess and lunchtime. The No Hat, No Play policy will be enforced. Uniforms can be purchased from the Uniform Shop in Bacchus Marsh.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club returns on Wednesday 4th February, operating from 8:30–9:00am.

Options include cereal, toast, porridge, spaghetti and baked beans. Lunch-time soup will be offered during cooler weather. This program is free, supported by Foodbank.

Car Park Safety

To ensure safety:

- Speed limit on school grounds is 10km/h
- Please park at a 90-degree angle
- Pedestrians must use the concrete footpaths and not walk through parking bays

This is particularly important for the safety of young children.

Annual Privacy Reminder

Our school collects and uses personal information in accordance with the Schools' Privacy Policy and Privacy Collection Notice.

Information regarding photographing, filming and recording students has been shared via Compass and can be found on our website; www.coimadaips.vic.edu.au

Parents are encouraged to review this information and contact the school with any questions or concerns.

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

READING NIGHTS AWARD

25 Nights Reading

Amelia, Maxwell, Xavier, Hope,
Jackson T, Robert, Genevieve,
Oakley and Eeli

50 Nights Reading

We hope you had a wonderful day
celebrating your special day.

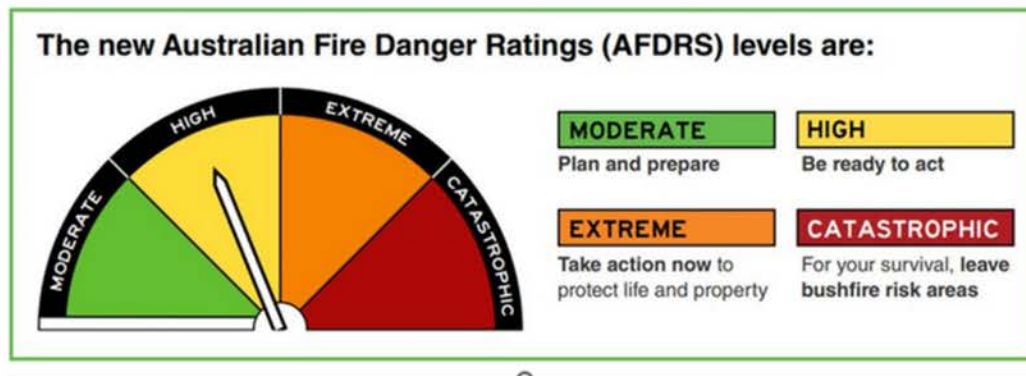


FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL





SCHOOL PROCEDURES FOR THE BUSHFIRE SEASON

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children's services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district.

Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days notice of a potential Catastrophic Fire Danger Day closure by letter and COMPASS notification.

A Catastrophic Fire Danger Day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1:00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Catastrophic Day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child.

It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Catastrophic Day.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.

Our Bureau of Meteorology district is Central Victoria.

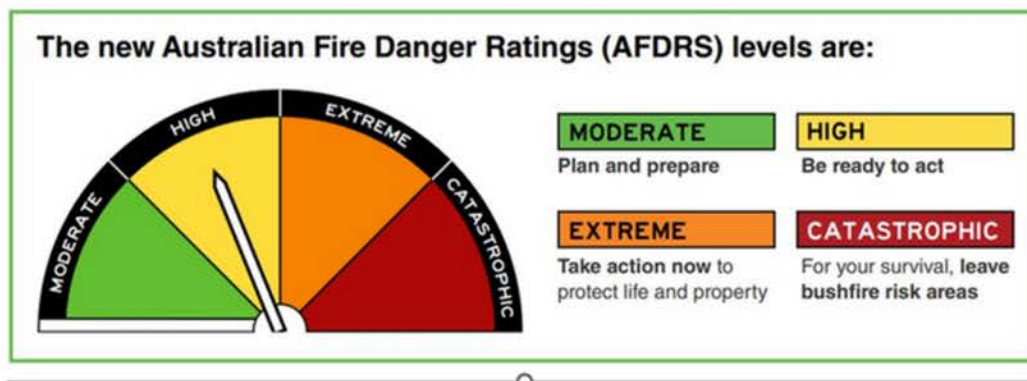
On these Catastrophic rating days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan - **on such days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.**

Emergency Procedures:

In the next few weeks we will be holding school fire drills. As a part of this process all students, staff and visitors on site are required to evacuate the buildings and relocate on the school oval or in the Library. During these times all students, staff and visitors need to follow evacuation procedures. Following in the newsletter are the steps on what to do if you are on site when an evacuation takes place.

In the event that we have an emergency, our first priority is to ensure that the students are safe and call for support through 000 and the DET Emergency Management number. As soon as 000 are called the media will be aware of our emergency. With social media and police scanners, you may be aware of the incident before we have had time to communicate with you. As stated, our first priority is to ensure all student, staff and visitors are safe. At our earliest convenience we will make contact with families either via phone, COMPASS or email.

Families can stay informed by monitoring warnings through the free [VicEmergency app](#), via the VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226), and listening to [emergency broadcasters](#). Avoid travelling near fire zones unless absolutely necessary and always follow the advice of emergency services.



In the event of an emergency

When on site, please ensure that you sign yourself and any other person/child with you into our visitors book.

If the emergency alarm is sounded, please evacuate immediately (external to the oval—road end, internal to the library) via the most direct route.

Once in the designated area, staff will ensure that all personnel are present and accounted for—the sign in book will be used to ensure all visitors to the site are present.

This is why it is vital that you sign in.

Remain in the designated area until further instructions are given by the incident commander. No one will be allowed to return to the classrooms etc. until the emergency services have deemed the site safe.



Car Park



A friendly reminder that all school community members and visitors are required to walk on the paths and not through the carpark.

This is for everyone's safety. Please let anyone who may drop off or collect your child about this safety rule.

Please be aware that our school driveway speed limit is 10km/hr. For everyone's safety—students, staff and families, please abide by this speed limit at all times, Thank you.

Important Dates

January

28th School begins for all students from Years Prep-6
OSH Club begins afternoon sessions

February

10th February Parent -teacher interviews
11th Parents & Friends AGM & Child Safety training for volunteers
17th School Review
26th Inform and Empower parent information night
27th BMPSSA Swimming Carnival

March

2nd Clean Up Australia Day for schools
3rd March Proposed School Council Meeting
9th March Labour day - Public Holiday
11th NAPLAN testing begins
31st Small Schools Sports Day - Mason Lane

April

2nd School dismissed at 2:30 for Term 1 holidays
3rd Good Friday - Public Holiday School holidays begin
20th Term 2 begins
28th BMPSSA Athletics Carnival for Years 4/5/6

May

8th BMPSSA Cross Country Carnival
8th Mother's Day morning activities

June

9th & 10th Gr 5 Sovereign Hill Excursion
12th Winter Sports Years 4/5/6
15th -25th whole School Swimming Program
2th School dismissed at 2:30pm for Term 2 Holiday

July

13th Term 3 commences

August

28th Summer Sports Years 4/5/6

September

2nd Father's Day BBQ breakfast
18th School dismissed 2:30 for Term 3 holidays

October

5th Term 3 begins
7th -9th Year 2/3 Billabong Camp, Echuca
19th - 21st Melbourne Camp Years 4/5/
28th School Photo Day

December

18th Last day of the school year



RAISING KIDS IN A DIGITAL WORLD

SEMINARS FOR ALL LOCAL PARENTS & CARERS

Supported by Bacchus Marsh Blue Light
& Community Bank Bacchus Marsh



Community Bank
Bacchus Marsh
Bendigo Bank

Seminar for Primary School
Parents & Carers:

Thurs 26 Feb
7.00 – 9.00 pm

Public Hall
Main St, Bacchus Marsh

Presented by

INFORM&EMPOWER
Cyber Safety & Digital Wellbeing

Seminar for Secondary
College Parents & Carers:

Thurs 5 March
7.00 – 9.00 pm

Bacchus Marsh Grammar
Maddingley Campus

Presented by

CYBER SAFETY PROJECT

Sessions suitable for parents/carers only

Register to attend
bit.ly/bacchus2026

Dear Parent,

The best gift any parent can give a child is the love of books and the joy and benefits of independent reading for fun. Children who read at home, or are read to, have a head start on reading success in school.

Our class is participating in **Scholastic Book Club** this year. Up to twice a term, during the school year, I will send home a Club catalogue with a different selection of books offered for all ages.

You'll find award-winning books and bestsellers, as well as old and new favourites. I recommend them because the books span a wide range of children's reading levels and interests and because they are inexpensive (some books cost as little as \$3).

It is easy to order. The **Book Club LOOP** platform for parents allows you to pay by credit card. Your child's order is submitted directly to school safe and sound and the books will be delivered to class. You can place your child's order at [scholastic.com.au/LOOP](https://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP) or using the **LOOP** app, which can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play.

Owning your own books is something special! I hope that you will encourage your child to order books this year. Each order helps earn free books and teaching materials for our classroom, however there is never any obligation to order. I know of no better way to encourage reading than to allow children to choose the books they want to read.



Sincerely,

Your Child's Teacher

KICK START READING FOR 2026

A brand-new school year means brand-new stories waiting to be discovered! Get back into that school rhythm with Scholastic Books and make Term 1 the start of your school's best reading year yet!

Set some reading goals, and see how many adventures you can fit into the first term...

Start Strong: Explore a series that makes readers excited to get to the next book

Build The Brain: Dive into nonfiction books that spark curiosity and deepen knowledge

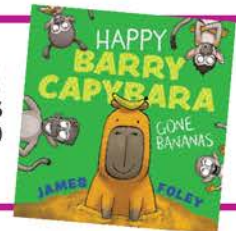
Genre Games: Explore a variety of different genres to open up new worlds

Finish Big: Celebrate milestones! How many books can your school can read this term?

AGES 3+

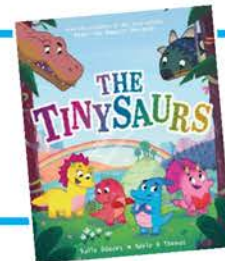
Happy Barry Capybara is the most chilled-out animal on the savannah. But when his friend the cheeky squirrel monkey, Harry, and his cousins are fighting over the last banana, Barry is left to decide who will get it. Which monkey will win the favour of Barry? Or will Barry have a new lesson to teach them about what it means to share?

GONE BANANAS
ITEM 010



AGES 6+

The tinysaurs are the smallest dinosaurs in the land: living in tunnels, foraging for food and hiding out of the way of big stomping feet and swooshing tails. Until one day, they discover a hidden entrance to ... The Enchanted Valley! Could this magical new world of sparkling lakes, ancient forests and mysterious creatures become their new home?



THE TINYSAURS
ITEM 016

AGES 8+

Ella is now in Year 6 and she is ready to take on the top year of primary school. And to make things even more exciting, it's time to vote for the school captain. But, yet again, her rival, Peach Parker is standing in her way. Will Peach use nasty tricks to win the votes? Or can Ella find a better way to win the top job? An all-new graphic novel adventure with everyone's favourite friend, Ella.

SCHOOL RIVALS
ITEM 006



AGES 10+

Piper is the daughter of two famous Hollywood actors and is sick of being followed by the paparazzi everywhere they go. So when she gets the opportunity to spend six months attending a regular high school, she grabs it with both hands.



From the new Tween Romance Series Two Hearts.
Romantic fiction for young hearts.
Romance without the spice.



ALL YOUR WISHES
ITEM 018




Book Club LOOP
for Parents



Healthy reading habits are forged through Book Club. Parents can order books easily through the Scholastic **LOOP** platform.

- 1** Log in, or create a new account at scholastic.com.au/LOOP
- 2** New parents can follow the Wizard to set up a child's profile
- 3** Click the ORDER tab, and select the child's school and Issue of Book Club
- 4** Select your child's name
- 5** Enter the product item number from the Book Club catalogue
- 6** Apply promotional codes that children may have earned from previous issues
- 7** Make a payment via credit card
- 8** Feel great about the Scholastic Rewards that have been earned for the school



ORDER TODAY
scholastic.com.au/LOOP

