

IMPORTANT DATES

- Friday, 21st August
Gymnastics
- Tuesday, 25th August
Step into Prep
- Wednesday, 26th August
Tappoc Book Week Event
- Thursday, 27th August
Excursion to WAG and Salt
Restaurant Masterclass
- Friday, 28th August
Gymnastics
- Wednesday, 2nd September
School Council #6
- Thursday, 3rd September
Father's Day Raffle drawn at
Assembly
- Friday, 4th September
BioLab for Grades 5 & 6
- Friday, 11th September
R U Ok? Day
- Friday, 18th September
Last day of Term 3, 2.30pm
finish
- Monday, 5th October
Term 4 begins
- Wednesday, 14th October
Scott's BMX Trick Bike Show
(incursion)
- Tuesday, 20th October
Readers' Cup
- Tuesday, 20th October
Diwali
- Tuesday, 27th October
Basketball at Penshurst
- Friday, 30th October
Student Free Day
- Saturday, 31st October
Halloween
- Monday, 2nd November
Student Free Day
- Tuesday, 3rd November
Public Holiday - Melbourne Cup
- Friday, 6th November
Grade 5 & 6 Cluster Sports Day
at BWCS
- Tuesday, 10th November
National Recycling Week



Branxholme Wallacedale
Community School

Newsletter

Term 3 Week 6 2026

An interview with... Hunter

What is your favourite book, movie, or TV show and why?

Harry Potter because I like the magic in it.

What is the funniest thing that has happened to you? When I was at school and I fell over and slid in the mud.

If you could only eat one food for the rest of your life, what would it be? Tacos

What is the best thing you have ever learned how to do? Ride a dirt bike

What is your favourite game to play at play times? Cricket

What is the best thing about our school? The big footy oval!

What makes someone a good friend? When they cheer you up when you feel down.

What do you like to do with your friends? Play footy and cricket.

If you could be any animal, which one would you be and why?

I would be a giraffe so I can see far away and I wouldn't be short!

If you had \$1,000 to spend on anything you wanted, what would you buy?
Dirt bike parts

If you could make up a new holiday, what would it be called and how would you celebrate it? Nana's Day. You would sleep over at their house.

If you won a million dollars, what would you buy? A nice house and car.

What job would you like to do when you grow up? A restumper with my Dad.

Who is the strongest person? My Dad

What's the worst rule at our school? We aren't allowed to tackle in footy.



What song makes you want to dance? 'Lose Yourself' by Eminem

What are you scared of? Heights

What is your favourite colour? Blue

What kind of car do you want when you grow up? A RAM TRX

Where do you want to live when you grow up? In the outback

What is the safest place in the world? A bunker

If you could have any superpower, what would it be and why? Speed of time so I can go to school and pause time.

What makes you feel truly happy? When my Dad rides the bikes with me.

What is something you are proud of? Winning my chook show

What is something you can do today that you could not do last year? Nutmeg with a soccer ball

If you could visit any place in the world, where would you go? Japan so I can go and watch the street races

(03) 5578 6253

Find us on Facebook

<http://www.bwcs.vic.edu.au/>

branhholme.wallacedale.cps@education.vic.gov.au

PO Box 69, Branxholme, Vic 3302 103 - 113 Monroe St, Branxholme, Vic, 3302

Student of the Week

This week, Cooper is being recognised for the outstanding endeavour he has shown during the text study of *Once*. He has approached his learning with enthusiasm and maturity, consistently putting thought and effort into developing a deeper understanding of the text, its characters, themes and important messages.

Cooper makes valuable contributions to class discussions, confidently sharing thoughtful ideas and observations while also listening respectfully to the perspectives of others. He has demonstrated an impressive ability to think deeply about the text, make meaningful connections, explain his thinking and support his ideas with evidence.

Cooper continues to be a positive and responsible leader, setting a wonderful example through his kindness, respect and willingness to participate. His positive attitude and thoughtful contributions make him a valued member of our school.

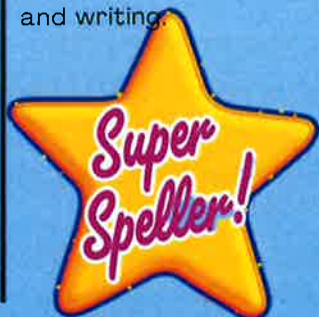


Super Speller Awards

Our students participate in daily Spelling Mastery and Phonics Plus lessons.

Spelling Mastery is an evidence-based program that explicitly teaches spelling through phonics, spelling patterns, rules and word structure. Rather than relying on memorisation alone, students develop a deep understanding of how words work by learning strategies that can be applied to unfamiliar words.

The program uses carefully sequenced lessons, explicit teaching and regular review to ensure students develop accuracy, confidence and automaticity in their spelling. Students' progress when they demonstrate mastery, helping to build strong foundations for reading and writing.



To celebrate effort, perseverance and achievement, students earn Super Speller awards when they successfully complete each level of the program. These awards recognise the consistent practice and dedication required to reach mastery and acknowledge the significant progress students make throughout the year. We congratulate all of our students on their commitment to becoming confident and capable spellers!

Congratulations to this week's Super Speller recipients:
Kristianna, Nate and Gabrielle



Home Reading Awards



At Braxholme all students receive a home reading journal to encourage regular reading, track reading habits, support communication between home and school, and provide helpful reading ideas for families.

Students are encouraged to record all reading activities, including take-home books, novels, magazines, newspapers, reading with younger family members, and other reading experiences. Reading books and journals are transported in a reading satchel, and students can exchange their take-home books each day.

Students are rewarded with a gifted book for every 5 full weeks of home reading, with a full week consisting of at least 4 nights of reading signed by a parent or carer.

Congratulations to our Home Reading Award recipients:

Gabrielle for 20 full weeks of Home Reading
Nate for 20 full weeks of Home Reading

national science week



The 2026 National Science Week theme, *Seeds of Science: Nurturing Science for All*, inspired Tappoc Cluster students to explore how curiosity, inquiry and shared learning help scientific understanding grow.

Like seeds flourishing in the right conditions, students' knowledge developed through authentic challenges, creativity, collaboration and real-world applications across scientific disciplines. They followed ideas from the first spark of a question through investigation, discovery and sharing.

The day began with a *Seeds of Science* quiz, revealing amazing facts, including that one loaf of bread contains around 16,000 wheat seeds. Junior students made seed bombs, studied the eucalypt life cycle and created seed mosaics. Middle students dissected broad bean seeds and explored ballistic seed dispersal. Upper students investigated wind dispersal by designing their own seeds and testing flying adaptations.

To conclude, every student planted sugar snap pea seeds to take home—a reminder that science grows through care and shared curiosity.



national science week

The theme for National Science Week this year is
Seeds of science: Nurturing knowledge for all.

Over this week, from 15-23 August, schools all over Australia
bring science to the fore with various learning activities.

Our students started an investigation into the growth of
mushrooms this week.

Students learned that fungi are neither plants nor animals,
but their own unique group of living things that contribute to
breaking down organic waste. As regards to mushrooms, they
learned that mushrooms are only the visible part of a much
larger organism living beneath the ground in a
web of threads called mycelium.

Using a kit from the Australian Mushroom Growers Association, students observed mycelium and worked to
prepare a suitable growing environment for it. After allowing the mycelium to grow for a few days, students will
mimic environmental signals of abundant water and cooler temperatures to initiate mushroom growth.

Before the end of term, students will be able to harvest some lovely, safe-to-eat white button mushrooms.



Want to know more
about what we do?

Gymnastics
HAMILTON



www.6ducks.com.au/hamilton

This term, students have been participating in a one hour gymnastics session every Friday in Hamilton. Gymnastics builds strength, flexibility, balance and coordination while encouraging confidence and resilience. As children learn new skills and overcome challenges, they develop perseverance, body awareness and a sense of achievement. Thank you to the staff and instructors in Hamilton for making everyone feel so welcome and providing our students with fun and engaging sessions each week.

SPORTING
Schools

Sporting Schools programs are provided free to children and their families to help students build the confidence and capability to be active for life.



Branxholme Wallacedale Community School is a Child Safe school

The Child Safe Standards are a set of principles and requirements that guide organisations to create environments where children and young people are safe, respected, and protected from harm.

Child Safe Standard 8

Child safety knowledge, skills and awareness

Staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training.

What does this mean at Branxholme Wallacedale Community School?



CHILD SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

Confident staff. Safe children. Strong community.

At Branxholme Wallacedale Community School we are committed to creating a child safe environment where all children feel safe, respected and connected so they can learn, grow and thrive.



SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Child safety is a shared responsibility. All staff, volunteers and contractors must complete mandatory child safety training as a condition of working with children at our school.



INDUCTION & TRAINING

Induction introduces our policies, Code of Conduct, reporting procedures and legal obligations.

Training is refreshed regularly and monitored through our training register to ensure compliance.



RECOGNISE & RESPOND

Staff are trained to recognise signs of abuse, neglect, family violence, grooming and harm from others.

We respond confidently, including making reports, following the Four Critical Actions, supporting disclosures and managing risks.



EVERYDAY CONVERSATIONS

In our small rural school, child safety is embedded in everyday practice. It is a standing agenda item in staff meetings, ensuring we reflect, review risks and stay up to date with legislation and guidance.



CULTURALLY SAFE AND INCLUSIVE

We build culturally safe environments through ongoing learning in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives, disability inclusion and trauma-informed practice.



STRONGER TOGETHER

Through ongoing learning, reflection and partnerships with families, agencies and our community, we continually strengthen our child safe culture.



LEARNING TOGETHER, RESPECTING CULTURE

Our recent professional learning with Reuben Smith, Uncle Richard Frankland and Belinda Payne, and our partnerships with Gunditjmarra community members, strengthen our capability to create environments where Aboriginal children and young people feel respected, valued and connected to culture.



PARTNERSHIPS
with families, agencies and community



PROTECT
children and respond effectively to concerns



EMPOWER
staff with knowledge, skills and confidence to act



Safe children. Supported staff. Strong school. Thriving community.



The items in both the Little Pantry and the Book Box are available for EVERYONE in the community to access.

The book box is currently overflowing - have a look - there may be some great books in there for you to enjoy!

"Give what you can, take what you need."

Donations are always greatly appreciated and help keep this valuable community resource thriving.





SALT RESTAURANT

WITH RESPECT TO INGREDIENT & TECHNIQUE

\$150 voucher donated by Salt Restaurant



**\$100 voucher
donated by
FriNge Benefits**



**\$50 voucher
donated by
Shwe and Nev Roberts**



**\$50 voucher
donated by the
Heywood Hotel**



**\$50 voucher
donated by
Your Regional Butcher**



**\$50 voucher donated
by
Stalker's Bend**

**The raffle will
be drawn at
assembly on
Thursday 3rd
September
3.10 - 3.30**



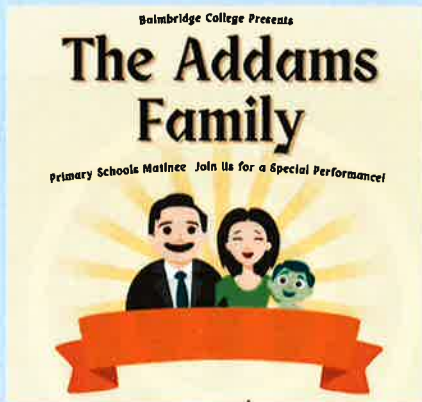
Thank you Baimbridge College for inviting us to your special performance of The Addams Family production.

Meeting and greeting us when we arrived and showing us around the school was a highlight for the students, particularly the woodwork and art rooms.

The students really enjoyed the show, and they loved being able to use the canteen.

It was such a clever way for students to be exposed to secondary school transition.

Thank you to the Sanderson's Buslines for generously donating our travel back to school.



Please get in touch if you would like to place an ad for your business or event in our newsletter.

	1/8 page	1/4 page	1/2 page	Full page
1 edition	\$5	\$10	\$15	\$30
5 editions 1 term	\$22	\$45	\$67	\$135
10 editions 2 terms	\$42	\$85	\$127	\$255
15 editions 3 terms	\$62	\$125	\$187	\$375
20 editions 4 terms	\$75	\$150	\$300	\$450



2026 CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

SYMPHONY OF STORIES



22-28 August 2026

• Congratulations Kristianna and the
13 & under netty team for winning
your Qualifying Final



		The Finals		
Saturday August 22 at Coleraine				
2nd Semi Final Day				
RESERVES		V		12.45PM
13 & UNDER		V		1.00PM COURT 2
Sunday August 23 at Heathmere				
1st Semi Final Day				
SENIORS		V		2.30PM
A GRADE		V		2.15PM COURT 1
B GRADE		V		11.45AM COURT 1
C GRADE		V		2.15PM COURT 2



2nd Semi Final Saturday - Coleraine Hotel
1st Semi Final Sunday - Condah Hotel

GO SAINTS !!!



Mental Health Services and Support

Beyond Blue

24/7 mental health support service

1300 22 4636
beyondblue.org.au

headspace

Online support and counselling to young people aged 12 to 25

1800 650 890
(9am to 1am daily)

For webchat, visit:
headspace.org.au/
[eheadspace](https://www.headspace.org.au/eheadspace)

Kids Helpline

24/7 crisis support and suicide prevention services for children and young people aged 5 to 25

1800 55 1800
kidshelpline.com.au

1800 RESPECT

24/7 support for people impacted by sexual assault, domestic violence and abuse

1800 737 732
1800respect.org.au

QLife

LGBTI peer support and referral

1800 184 527
(6pm to 10pm daily)

qlife.org.au
(online chat 3pm to midnight local time, including over holidays.)

Lifeline

24/7 crisis support and suicide prevention services

13 11 14
lifeline.org.au

Suicide Call Back

24/7 crisis support and counselling service for people affected by suicide

1300 659 467
suicidecallbackservice.org.au

Mensline

24/7 counselling service for men

1300 78 99 78
mensline.org.au

13YARN

24/7 crisis support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

13 92 76
13yarn.org.au

If you are concerned about someone at risk of immediate harm, call 000 or go to your nearest hospital emergency department.



With delivery partners



Funded by



Acknowledgement of Country

We would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land; the Gunditjmara people, who have cared for this area for over 65 000 years.

We pay our respects to Elders past and present.
Kurtuk-Kurtuk, meaning sisters, is the traditional place name for Branhholme.

The Branhholme area is home to the Direk Gunditj clans of the Gunditjmara Nation.

We have beautiful plants, trees and animals.

There are gum trees, emus, kangaroos and red and yellow tailed cockatoos surrounding us every day.

We are especially proud of the rare native plant called the dianella, which grows around Kurtuk-Kurtuk.

The land we are on now, the land where we live, learn, breathe, eat, and sleep:

Always Was, Always Will Be! Aboriginal land!

Written by the students of Branhholme Wallacedale Community School