



Bethanga Primary School

PRINCIPAL: Rachel Saunders

Our Purpose We provide all students from Bethanga, Bellbridge and beyond with an inspiring and responsive curriculum to promote thinking and encourage curiosity. We nurture individual talents and needs in our setting underpinned by high expectations, quality opportunities and caring personalized attention in order for our children to reach their full academic and social potential.

School Values **R**APPORT – **R**espect **A**cceptance **P**ersistence **P**ride **O**ptimism **R**esilience **T**ruth

Term 4 Week 4 2024

Newsletter published
Thursday 31st October 2024

Upcoming Dates

Week 4

Friday 1st November
Cluster Hockey Day

Week 5

Monday 4th November
Cluster Curriculum Day
STUDENT FREE DAY

Tuesday 5th

MELBOURNE CUP
PUBLIC HOLIDAY
NO SCHOOL

Week 6

Tuesday 12th
F-2 Hive Alive Excursion

Friday 15th

F-2 Melbourne Trip

Week 7

Tuesday 19th
F2025 Transition Session 1
10-11am

Week 8

Monday 25th- Thursday 29th
Whole School Swimming

Tuesday 26th

F2025 Transition Session 2
9-11:30am

Week 9

Tuesday 3rd December
F2025 Transition Session 3
12:30-3:30

Week 10

Monday 9th
TSC Transition Day 1

Tuesday 10th

TSC Transition Day 2

Statewide Transition Day

Thursday 12th
3-6 Sailing

From the Principal's pen...

Term 4 is such a busy time! Lots of learning, events, transitions and forward planning for next year. This week at School Council, I shared the class structure for 2025 and then today during Student Voice Leadership Sessions, worked collaboratively with students F-6 to share the restructure and talk through their 'wows' and 'worries' about the new model.

This year, we trialled a model of 'floating grade 3' this meant that the class sizes were more even with grade 3 doing literacy and numeracy in Mudgee and other subjects such as sport, integrated studies and EQ with Millewa.

There were many benefits to this model: the grade 3 students received 1:6 instruction with Mrs Hamam for writing and numeracy, still had 1:1 laptops and were part of 3-6 events and excursions with the cluster. However, a big focus of any school is belonging and connection. As a staff, we felt that this model created a disconnect for these students, a sense of displacement (which was confirmed in conversations with them). This is the main reason that I have made the decision to revert to our traditional F-2 and 3-6 model in 2025.

Therefore, it is projected that Mudgee (F-2) will have 9 students and Millewa (3-6) will have 25 students. I appreciate that this is an imbalance that I would have liked to avoid given our small school context however, I believe that the measures I have planned to support this structure will ensure that all students get the focused instruction they need.

Due to the larger cohort in 3-6, we will be flipping buildings – the classroom adjacent to the library will become the F-2 learning space, still encompassing Discovery Learning, as well as age-appropriate furniture and resources (The main teacher for this class will continue to be Mrs Smith). Georgie will be on 12 months study leave next year, there will not be a replacement ES staff member employed. Students in 3-6 will be taught full-time by Mrs Baude, supported by Jaymee in her fulltime Education Support role and Mrs Hamam in her intervention and extension tutoring role. This will mean that for the core subjects of Literacy and Numeracy, there will be 3 adults in the learning space with students in 3-6.

Over the coming weeks, there will be a lot of movement as we flip the spaces, however, I anticipate that the outcome is going to be well worth it – learning spaces reflective of class sizes, teaching and support staff with adult to student ratio 1:9 for all students.

Our larger numbers in 3-6 will reduce annually commencing in 2026. It is anticipated that there will be 21 students in the 3-6 in 2026, 19 in 2027 and 17 in 2028. Of course, new enrolments to the school can impact this and the model will be re-evaluated if required but I strongly believe this is the best model given the current and future projected numbers.

I invite families wishing to discuss these changes further to please come along to a parent info session about the model next Wed 6th Nov @ 3:30pm in Mudgee.

Regards, Rach Saunders



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Student Achievement

Congratulations to the students who were acknowledged at Assembly this week for being active learners and making positive contributions to the Bethanga Primary School community.

Olivia B: Olivia has demonstrated amazing progress in our Maths unit on money. She confidently writes money amounts correctly and skilfully calculates change for purchases under \$5. Olivia can count on cents to the nearest dollar and then adds the remaining dollars, showing a great understanding of change needed. Fantastic work, Livy!

Aleysha: for taking onboard everything she is currently learning about banking, and having her own account - what to save, ensuring she has enough money in everyday account for bills, extra money in savings account for the higher interest, and earning supplementary income to increase her weekly wage. Great job Aleysha!

Quinn: for taking onboard everything she is currently learning about banking, and having her own account - what to save, ensuring she has enough money in everyday account for bills, extra money in savings account for the higher interest, and earning supplementary income to increase her weekly wage. Great job Quinn!

Charlie: for using excellent strategies in your writing. You stretch out the sounds in tricky words, spell high frequency words correctly, and even tackle words with the 'i something e' spelling pattern including 'time' and 'slide'. Your school holiday recount was very impressive and blew us away! Keep it up, you're a superstar!

Nick: for the amazing expression he demonstrated during guided reading this week. Nick was able to change his voice to match the character in the story 'Three Billy Goats Gruff' and had a great troll voice! He also encouraged his peers to read with 'passion'. Keep it up Nick!



Happy Birthday to Ivy who is celebrating her birthday this week.

Term 4 eSafety Webinars

eSafety 101: how eSafety can help you

An overview of The eSafety Commissioner, and supporting programs and resources for parents and carers, children, and young people.

It's suitable for parents and carers of children and young people in primary and secondary school.

Term 4 dates (Australian Eastern Daylight Time)

- Thursday, 24 October, 12.30pm
- Wednesday, 4 December, 12.30pm

Supporting healthy tech use as your child transitions into high school

This webinar explores the social pressures, peer influences, and technological challenges young people face as they transition into high school. It also offers practical strategies for navigating online friendships and connections to help minimise negative experiences.

It's suitable for parents and carers of children in upper primary school (ages 11 to 12) and Year 7.

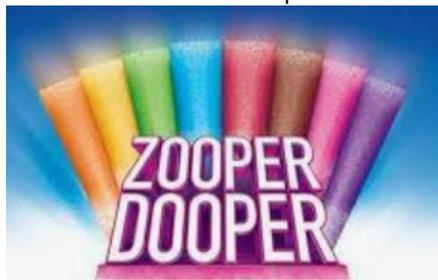
Term 4 dates (Australian Eastern Daylight Time)

- Tuesday, 29 October, 12.30 pm
- Thursday, 28 November, 12.30 pm

For more information and to register now: [eSafety.gov.au/parents/webinars](https://esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars)

Zooper Dooper Tuesdays

Each Tuesday for the rest of the term, our student voice leaders will be selling Zooper Doopers at lunch time for \$1 each.



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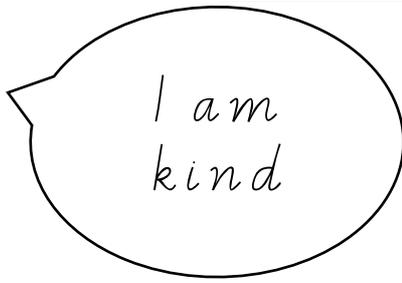
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Get to know our community



Maggie

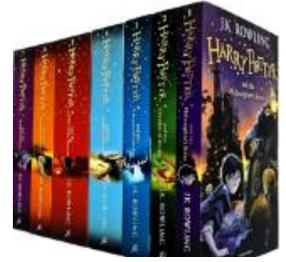


What makes me a good friend?



Harry Potter

My Favourite Movie



Harry Potter

My Favourite Book

You are a great friend to everyone. Every day I walk past you, you have a smile on your face. Owen
You are a good friend. Your smile lights up the sky. Brianna

You are kind, cool and funny. Nick

You are a great person, and you are very creative and have an amazing mind. Lucy

I love playing Harry Potter with you at the huts. Ollie- Avada Kedavra!

You have a bubbly personality, and you are funny, and you are kind. Maggie P

You have a very bubbly personality. Parker

You have a very bubbly personality. You're so kind and a great help at the huts. Liv T

You are the best Year 2. Zach

Your imagination is better than mine because I can't even think of things to draw. Maggie, you light up the sky with your creativity. Every time I walk past you, I see you always have a smile on your face and you love to say 'hello' when I am near. You are the best grade 2 I can think of.

Maggie, you are amazing! You are the star of this school; without you this whole school would be sad. Happy Bucket Filler Day! Olivia B

Happy Halloween. Have a great day tomorrow. Charlie

You are the best Year 2. From Henry

You come up with great games and a great friend. Remi

You are a great friend to me and Sylvie, and you are very kind to me and Sylvie. From Ivy

You have a very bubbly personality. From Parker

I love how you are funny, kind, arty, creative and I adore your love of sloths. From Jude P

Happy Bucket Filler Day! I love it when I walk past you with a smile on your face. Everly.

You are so kind and funny. You are a great friend, and you are very creative and arty. It's cool how you love sloths, and I love the colour green too. Sylvie. P.S. You have a wonderful imagination and Happy Halloween.

You are so funny. Happy Halloween. Angus

You are kind and you are always smiling. Ivy L

Fish are pretty cool. Happy Bucket Filler Day. Billy Bayliss

You're a really nice Mudgee. Happy Bucket Filler! Jacob

You are so much fun in leadership group. Olive

You're nice. I think GWS is an ok team. Chase

You are very nice, and I love your shoes! Melody

You are funny and kind. Happy Halloween. Quinn

You are kind and caring, I hope you have a great day. Ava

You are kind to others. Hugo

You are a funny person. Billy Blackburne

You are very funny. Hudson

You are a very kind and imaginative. You are enthusiastic, smart and a good person. Amelia

Happy Bucket Filler Day. You are very funny. Aleysha

You are a good friend; I hope you have a fun day. Jude B



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Millewa

Millewa have been looking at different coping strategies we can implement if we are feeling stressed, in new situations, facing something scary, are feeling angry, sad, frustrated, or lonely. With Year 7 coming up very soon for some, new classmates joining us next year and having to learn to work with new people again, and others taking on more of a leadership role within the school, there are many new situations that could arise for us. This is a great reminder to use a coping strategy and how we can put them into practice in each new situation. Over the next few weeks, we will look at more to see if there are some that we are more comfortable doing.



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Today we had Nick from Bethanga Cricket Club come along and run Cricket Blast sessions with our F-2 and 3-6 kids to get them excited about an upcoming opportunity to get involved with this program that will commence at the Bethanga Rec Reserve next week and run for 6 weeks. All of the kids truly had a BLAST so I encourage parents to use the QR code below to register your kids for this program if you are in a position to make it happen!

The 6 week program costs \$75. Each participant receives a fabulous starters kit which includes a t-shirt, bucket hat, bat and ball. Use the QR code below to sign up ASAP



From Woolworths Cricket Blast through the Junior Cricket stage, all kids can advance their skills and discover how awesome it is to be part of a team through fun game-based activities. The stages have been developed based on academic research, testing and community feedback.

This includes consideration for physical, mental and emotional development.

Participation and progression through the stage is based on ability level, therefore the ages are indicative only. Players are encouraged to participate at a stage appropriate for them.

	SKILLS BASED FIRST CRICKET EXPERIENCE	DURATION 60-90MINS	LEARN THE SKILLS THROUGH GAMES UP TO 10 YEARS <small>Age is indicative only</small>
	LEARN THE SKILLS THROUGH FUN, MODIFIED GAMES		
	PREPARE KIDS FOR JUNIOR CRICKET		
JUNIOR CRICKET 1	7 PLAYERS	40M BOUNDARY	LEARN THROUGH PLAY UNDER 11 <small>Age is indicative only</small>
	18M PITCH	DURATION 2HRS	
	20 OVERS		
JUNIOR CRICKET 2	8 PLAYERS	45M BOUNDARY	PLAYING THE GAME UNDER 13 <small>Age is indicative only</small>
	18M PITCH	DURATION 2-3HRS	
	30/20 OVERS		
JUNIOR CRICKET 3	9 PLAYERS	50M BOUNDARY	PLAYING AND COMPETING UNDER 14-19 <small>Age is indicative only</small>
	20.1M PITCH	DURATION 2.5-4HRS	
	20/40 OVERS		

Join Woolworths Cricket Blast

Designed for kids to learn skills, exercise, and make friends.

Bethanga CC Woolworths Blast Centre

Where - Bethanga Recreation Reserve

Time - 4:30pm to 5:30pm

Dates - 7th of November to the 12th of December (6 weeks).

