Beverford District Primary School Newsletter

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September 9, 2026
Term 3, Week 9

What's On at BDPS?

Term 3, 2026	
Thursday September 10	Divisional Athletics Room on the Broom Performance (P-2) Town Hall
Friday September 11	Prep Come & Try Session 4 RU OK? Day (Wear a splash of yellow)
Monday September 14	**Pupil Free Day**
Wednesday September 16	School Council – 7pm
Friday September 18	Footy Colours Day (Wear your footy colours) **Term 3 Ends – 2.20pm finish**
Term 4, 2026	
Monday October 5	Term 4 Begins
Thursday October 15	Grandparents Day
Wednesday October 21	School Council – 7pm
Thursday October 22	T-20 Gr. 5/6 Competition
Friday October 30	World Teacher's Day
Monday November 2	Pupil Free Day
Tuesday November 3	Melbourne Cup Holiday
Mon Nov 9 – Wed Nov 11	Swimming Program – Week 1
Thursday November 12	P-2 Echuca Excursion Gr.1-6 Sleepover & Prep Late Stay
Mon Nov 16 – Wed Nov 18	Swimming Program – Week 2
Wednesday November 18	School Council – 7pm
Fri Nov 20, 27 & Dec 4	Prep Transition Program
Tuesday December 8	Prep Transition & "One Up Day"
Thursday December 10	School Concert
Friday December 18	Term 4 Ends – 1.20pm finish

TERM 3 ENDS
Friday September 18
Early Finish – 2.20pm

Aspire Program

Over 8 Monday afternoons our Grade 4-6 students have undertaken the "Aspire Program".

The program has exposed the students to different career opportunities in the future.

The Grade 5/6 students also attended a day at SuniTafe in Swan Hill touring the facility and getting a taste of the practical learning that takes place there.

We would like to thank Fiona Mertz and Jan Hickmott for coordinating the wonderful program and delivering it to our senior students.

Harrison pictured learning about nursing.

Principal's Report

Big Finish to Term 3!

With only a week and a half to go before we enjoy our Term 3 Spring Holidays, we are going to finish with a bang. We have some big events coming up including the **"Room on the Broom"** P-2 Excursion (tomorrow) Thursday September 10. We will celebrate **RU OK Day** one day later than most, on Friday September 11, which is a free dress day with students encouraged to wear a splash of yellow.

During the final week we have a **Pupil Free Day** on Monday September 14 and on the final day of Term 3 it is **Footy Colours Day** and we finish early at 2.20pm. As a reminder, we have a **School Council meeting** next Wednesday September 16 at 7pm. Please contact the school if you are an apology for the meeting.

Congratulations and good luck to Harrison, Byron, Jack S, Onyx, Jack C, Mikayla and Felicity who have qualified for the **District Athletics** at Ken Harrison tomorrow. We know they will represent the school to the best of their abilities.

Our final **Prep Come & Try Session** will be conducted this Friday September 11 from 9am to 10am. We are now taking enrolment forms for our 2027 Prep students who will return in November and December for their official Transition Program.

Our teaching staff have been undertaking professional learning around explicit teaching. This has included **classroom observations** around teaching strategies they have been trialing in their classrooms. Through their weekly meetings our teachers are always reflecting on their practices and discussing ways to best cater for all students in their classroom. We truly have amazing educators.

We have a **Casual Gardener & Maintenance** position available at the school to start early in Term 4. It is approximately 6 hours per week in Term 1 & 4 and around 6 hours a fortnight in Term 2 &3. Work is generally required to be completed outside of school hours. A position description is available from the school. Applications close on Friday September 18.

Our **Friends and Father's Day Breakfast** last Friday was very well attended and a great catch up for everyone. We hope that everyone enjoyed a wonderful Father's Day on Sunday and enjoyed the beautiful weather.

We congratulate the following students on their recent awards:

Mathematics Awards:
W7: Oliver, William & Jack S
W8: Tyson, Imogen & Byron

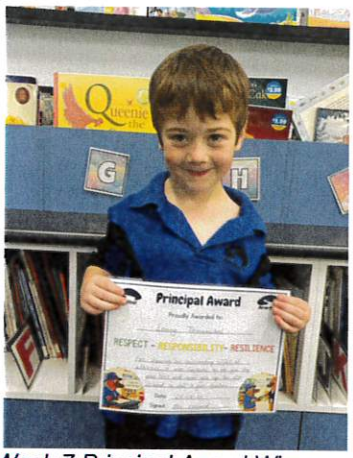
Junior Student of the Week
W7: Mila W8: Hunter

Middle Student of the Week
W7: Sienna W8: Ajay

Senior Student of the Week
W7: Rhett W8: Dannika

Principal Awards:
W7: Lenny W8: Indi

Have a great week.
Thanks Phil



Term 3 Week 7 Principal Award Winner – Lenny

Week 7 Student of the Week Winners: Mila, Sienna & Rhett (absent)

Week 8 Principal Award winner – Indi

Week 7 Maths Award Winners: Jack, William & Oliver

Week 8 Student of the Week winners: Ajay, Dannika & Hunter

Week 7 Home Reading Awards: Jack, Ada, Sienna, Skylah & Hunter

Week 8 Home Reading Awards: Riley, Cohen, Sienna & Byron.

Week 8 Maths Award winners: Imogen, Byron & Tyson

FATHER'S & FRIENDS BREAKFAST

Friday September 4

Making Telecopes at the Prep Come & Try Session No. 3

Creating Rocket Ships at the Prep Come & Try Session No. 3

HOLIDAY FUN WORKSHOPS AT THE DANDY LION STUDIO

SEP 21ST — A BUDGIE IN A BOX

Create a colourful budgie that's guaranteed not to fly away! Cut, collage, layer and decorate your own feathered friend and its special home.

SEP 23RD — COOL BANNERS!

Design, cut, layer and decorate your own colourful calico banner using fabric, collage and fine liners. A unique artwork to hang and admire!

SEP 24TH — OUTSIDE THE SQUARE

Discover the joy of stitching on hessian using colourful threads and fabric strips. Explore texture, pattern and creativity as your design grows beyond the frame.

SEP 30TH — WHO LIVES INSIDE YOUR SHELL?

Inspired by Marcel the Shell with Shoes On, create a tiny shell character, complete with its own personality, shoes and a special place to call home.

OCT 1ST — TAPE MASTERPIECES

Create bold and colourful artwork using masking tape, paint pens, cotton tips and pattern. A fun exploration of colour, shape and creative techniques.

The DANDY LION STUDIO

BOOK HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS + TERM 4 ART EXPLORERS
DANDYLIONSTUDIO.NET

Beverford District Primary School

Grandparent's & Friends Day!

Thursday 15th October 10:30-11:30am

Come and enjoy a classroom visit and some morning tea.

E L E NG

Beverford

with Mrs Blackmore

MHiPS
Mental Health in Primary Schools

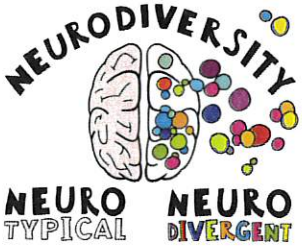
R U OK? Day at Beverford — This Friday!

This Friday, Beverford is celebrating R U OK? Day, a day dedicated to encouraging kindness and positive friendships across our school community. Students are invited to wear casual dress for the day, and if they'd like to add a touch of yellow, R U OK?'s signature colour, that would be wonderful! Checking in with our mates every day is such an important part of being a good friend, and this Friday gives us a special chance to focus on just that. Throughout the day, kids will take part in a range of activities exploring what it means to be a good listener, and learning when and how to seek help from a trusted adult if they're ever worried about a friend. We can't wait to celebrate kindness and connection together!

Understanding Neurodiversity

You may have heard the term "neurodiversity" and wondered what it means. Here's a quick guide:

- *Neurodiversity is the idea that people's brains naturally work in different ways — leading to differences in how we learn, communicate and experience the world.*
- *Most children develop in ways considered typical for their age and stage. These children are described as neurotypical.*
- *About 1 in 5-6 children have variations in brain development — including ADHD, autism and dyslexia. These children are described as neurodivergent.*
- *These differences are a natural part of human variation — they're not something that needs to be "fixed" or changed.*



Embracing Neurodiversity

Embracing neurodiversity means accepting, including and celebrating neurodivergent children for who they are. In practice, this looks like:

- *Adjusting tasks so all children can participate fully*
- *Recognising and nurturing the skills neurodivergent children are proud of*
- *Helping children find their own natural ways of managing everyday tasks*
- *Not expecting a child to suppress harmless behaviours, like stimming*
- *Making sure our school and community spaces are genuinely inclusive*

This matters because when neurodivergent children feel accepted rather than pressured to "mask" or act neurotypical, it's a real boost to their mental health, wellbeing and sense of identity. Hiding who you are or coping with constant sensory overload is exhausting — and it can get in the way of learning and friendships. Embracing neurodiversity benefits everyone, too: just as ecosystems need biodiversity to thrive, our communities benefit from the creativity, innovative thinking and specialised expertise that neurodivergent people often bring.

Some simple ways to embrace neurodiversity at home:

- *Talk openly with your children about it — even something simple like, "Some people's brains work differently, so they learn and make friends differently too."*
- *Explore age-appropriate books together (You can see me at school for a great selection!).*
- *Include neurodivergent children thoughtfully in social activities — for example, asking a parent how to best accommodate their child at a birthday party.*
- *Support different ways of communicating, such as using pictures or drawings alongside words.*

NEURODIVERGENT VS. NEUROTYPICAL

Different Brains. Different Ways. All Valuable.

NEURODIVERGENT	NEUROTYPICAL
Brain processes information differently from what is considered typical.	Brain processes information in ways considered typical by society.
May include Autism, ADHD, Dyslexia, Tourette Syndrome, and other neurological differences.	Does not have a neurodevelopmental difference that significantly affects thinking, learning, or processing.
May have unique strengths and challenges in communication, learning, attention, or sensory processing.	Generally develops communication, learning, and social skills in expected ways.
May experience sensory sensitivities or sensory-seeking behaviours.	Usually experiences sensory input in a typical way.
May learn best with accommodations or alternative approaches.	Often learns effectively through standard teaching methods.
May communicate or socialize differently.	Typically follows common social communication patterns.
Often has unique perspectives, creativity, and problem-solving approaches.	May naturally align with societal expectations and norms.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Neither neurodivergent nor neurotypical is "better."

Neurodiversity recognises that brains work in different ways, and those differences are a natural part of human diversity.

Different brains | Different strengths | Different challenges | All valuable

UNDERSTAND. ACCEPT. INCLUDE. EVERYONE BELONGS.

How to stay connected and ask R U OK? Any Day

Start by asking, 'are you OK?'

No, I'm not OK.

Yes, I'm fine.

Dig a bit deeper:

"What's been happening?"

"Have you been feeling this way for a while?"

"I'm ready to listen if you want to talk."

But your gut says they're not:

"It's just that you don't seem to be your usual self lately."

"I'm always here if you want to chat."

"Is there someone else you'd rather talk to?"

Listen with an open mind

Encourage action and offer support

"How can I help?"
"Have you thought about seeing your doctor?"
"What would help take the pressure off?"

Make time to check in

"Let's chat again next week."

ruok.org.au

Ask R U OK? ANY DAY

swan hill regional **library**

What's happening at Swan Hill Library these School Holidays...

Scan the QR to book

Library activities are available 21 September — 2 October 2026

To book, DM or call the library on 5036 2480. Check the Library's Facebook page or newsletter for more details.

Creation Station - All holidays

Open Daily: 10:00AM - 5:30PM | FREE | Suitable for children of all ages

Drop into the Creation Station in the library's children's area these school holidays! Kids can draw, cut, paste, colour, and craft using a variety of materials, including fun recycled items. Explore activity booklets and make your own unique creations. Perfect for sparking imagination!

Springtime Search & Find - All holidays

All holidays | FREE| Suitable for children 5 - 14

These school holidays, search the library for hidden Springtime posters! Find them all to score a reward and go in the draw to win a $50 Swan Hill Gift Card! Winner drawn Tuesday, 6 October 2026.

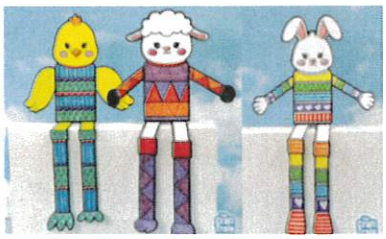
Proudly sponsored by Swan Hill Inc.

Minecraft, Switch & VR Fun - Monday, 21 & 28 September

1- 4pm | FREE | Suitable for children 5 - 18

Join us for an action-packed afternoon of gaming fun! Dive into Minecraft, step into new worlds with PlayStation VR (users must be 12 years of age or older), and try out our new Nintendo Switch. Just drop in and play.

No bookings required.



Spring Shelf Sitters - Tuesday, 22 September

2 - 3pm | FREE | Suitable for children 5+

Celebrate the magic of spring with a fun-filled afternoon at the library!
We'll share a beautiful spring-themed picture book, create an adorable spring animal shelf sitter to take home, and enjoy a special hands-on animal experience with our friends from Mallee Pets Supplies.
Meet some furry and feathered visitors while getting creative with lambs, rabbits, and chicks inspired by the season.
Perfect for children who love stories, crafts, and animals!

Bookings required.

Lego Brick by Brick: Build Your Imagination - Wednesday, 23 & 30 September

2 - 4pm | FREE | Suitable for children 3 - 18

Come along and enjoy the fun with our free Lego @ the Library sessions these school holidays! Complete one of the many challenges or enjoy free-play using your imagination to make a fantastic creation for a chance to win a prize!

No bookings required.

Get Creative with Loom Bands - Wednesday, 23 & 30 September

2 - 4pm | FREE | Suitable for children 7+

Join us for a fun loom band session these school holidays! Whether you're a beginner or experienced, come and create colourful jewellery and fun crafts. All materials, bands, boards, and hooks are provided!

No bookings required.

- Youth friendly activities and workshops. ***Please note:*** *Children under 12 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.*

swan hill regional **library**

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To book, DM or call the library on 50362480. Check the Library's Facebook page or newsletter for more details.

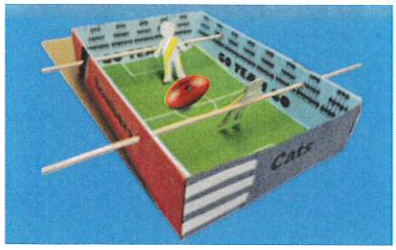
Dad's-Do-Hair - Wednesday, 23 September

7 - 8:30pm | FREE | Suitable for children ages of all ages

Calling all dads! Join us for a special Twilight Tales. We'll read *Daddy Do My Hair* by Tola Okogwu, before learning some handy hairdressing tips and tricks. A professional hairdresser will be at the library to show dads how to tackle their children's hair. From brushing and plaiting to creating simple styles they can try at home, no child will ever have a bad hair day again. And that's not all! Children will also enjoy a FREE goody bag filled with fun hair accessories, thanks to Swan Hill Health Promotions.

Come along, have some fun and leave ready to conquer those tricky hair days!

Bookings required.



Footy Craft with Bunnings - Thursday, 24 September

2 - 3pm | FREE | Suitable for children 5+

Get ready for some football fun with Trista from Bunnings in this exciting hands-on DIY session!

Design and build your very own tabletop football game to take home, then challenge your friends and family to a match. Perfect for kids who love creating, building, and playing!

All materials will be provided. Just bring your imagination and get ready to score some goals!

Limited places. Bookings required.

Kids Create: Baked Potatoes - Tuesday, 29 September

10:30 - 11:30am | FREE | Suitable for children 3 - 5

Join us for a fun, hands-on session with Bronte from Swan Hill District Health! We'll start with a delightful story before diving into creating your own yummy and healthy baked potatoes. A perfect mix of creativity, food, and fun for kids!

Limited places. Bookings required.

Wind Chimes - Thursday, 1 October

2 - 3pm | FREE | Suitable for children 5 +

Get creative with Trista from Bunnings in this fun, hands-on DIY session! Transform ordinary wooden spoons into a colourful wind chime to hang at home. Decorate, design, and assemble your unique creation while learning how to turn everyday materials into something beautiful and musical. Perfect for kids who love making and crafting!

All materials will be provided. Just bring your imagination and get ready to create something that chimes in the breeze!

Limited places. Bookings required.

Crafternoon - Friday, 2 October

2 - 4pm | FREE | Suitable for children of all ages

Get creative these school holidays with a fun Crafternoon! Enjoy a range of engaging activities, each designed to spark imagination and self-expression. All materials are provided. Just bring your creativity.

No bookings required.

- *Youth friendly activities and workshops.* ***Please note:*** *Children under 12 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.*