

# Benaraby State School Newsletter

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25th July 2025

## Term Dates

### Friday 1st August

Primary School Principal's Day

### Saturday 2nd August

Benaraby Bush Dance

### 4th to 8th August

Support Staff Appreciation Week

### Monday 11th August

Gladstone Show Holiday

### Friday 15th August

Bullying No Way Day

### Friday 22nd August

Book Week Dress Up Day

PJ Read In Night

### Sunday 24th August

Port to Park Fun Run

### 1st to 5th September

Teacher Aide Appreciation Week

### Wednesday 3rd September

Father's Day Stall

### Friday 5th September

Pupil Free Day

### Thursday 11th September

RUOK Day

### Friday 19th September

Last Day of Term 3

#### Please Note:

All dates are subject to change as required. Notices of events will be sent home to parents as needed.



## From the Principal

### WELCOME BACK

Welcome back to Term 3! It has been fantastic to see our students get straight back into their learning after the holidays. We welcome our staff and thank them for their efforts in ensuring a smooth start to the term. We hope everyone enjoyed their time off and we look forward to Term 3 being an amazing term of learning.

### REPORTING

In the last week of last term, our report cards went live on QParents. We hope you have taken this opportunity to sit with your children and talk to them about these. We also encourage parents to talk with their children about their effort mark. Here are some helpful questions to have a report card conversation...

1. How do you feel about your grades? *Allow your kids to feel what they feel without trying to change it. If they are happy & proud, say, "I see you feel happy and proud". If they are disappointed, say "You feel disappointed". Kids want to feel seen, heard and felt. Refrain from telling them what YOU think, "you should be very proud of this" or "These grades should be higher". Instead, just tell them how you see them reacting. This is hard but you can do it!*
2. What has this school year taught you about what you love and what you don't?
3. What has this school year taught you about your special gifts and talents?
4. What has this school year taught you about how you best learn and study?
5. Are there any surprises for you on this report card?
6. Which grade are you most proud of and why?
7. How could you make your next one even better?
8. What is your plan to get even better at playing this game called "School"?
9. Is there anything we can do to support you on your goals?
10. Which of the teacher comments do you appreciate/value the most?  
(<https://www.lifecoachingforparents.com/report-card-review/>)

### STAFFING

We would like to welcome Ms Kaylee Taylor to our Wellbeing support team. Kaylee is a Psychologist and will be working with us every second Friday taking over from our Social Worker, Miss Linda. We thank Miss Linda for her work with our students and look forward to meeting Miss Kaylee very soon.

We also had the pleasure of Miss Emma Rose working with us this week. Miss Emma has come onboard our Teacher Aide team to allow us to release some of our current team to work on projects as required. She will also be backfilling Mrs Creagh when she takes 4 weeks long service leave later this term.

## MISSION STATEMENT:

Delivering Equity and Excellence by working collaboratively to improve all Benaraby State School students' outcomes.

## **YEAR 1 PHONICS CHECK**

Later this term our students in Year 1 will be undertaking the Year 1 Phonics Check.

### **What is the Year 1 Phonics Check?**

In Year 1 your child's teacher is able to use the quick and easy Phonics Check to better understand the phonics knowledge of their students. The Check looks at how well your child can 'decode' written words. The teacher will listen to how the child sounds out the letter and letter groups and how they blend these sounds together from left to right to make words.

The Phonics Check helps your child's teacher and the school to confirm whether your child is making their expected progress in reading. Teachers and schools can then use this information to inform their teaching program.

### **How does the Phonics Check work?**

- Your child will sit with a teacher they know and be asked to read up to 40 words aloud.
- These words are a mix of real words and made-up words (sometimes called 'pseudo words', 'non-words' or 'nonsense words').
- Your child may have read some of the words before, while others, like the made-up words will be completely new.
- The Phonics Check normally takes just a few minutes to complete and is carefully designed not to be stressful. There is no set time limit for it and if your child is struggling, the teacher will stop

### **What words are in the Phonics Check?**

The Phonics Check includes a mix of real words and non-words. The teacher will tell your child before the Phonics Check that there will be made-up words that they will not have seen before. Children might be familiar with this because many schools already use non-words when they teach phonics.

Non-words are important to include because words such as 'vap' or 'jound' are new to all children. Children cannot read the pseudo words by using their memory or vocabulary; they have to use their decoding skills. This is a fair way to assess their ability to decode.

### **After the Phonics Check**

Your child's teacher can tell you about your child's progress in phonics and their results from the Phonics Check. If your child has found the check difficult, the teacher should also tell you what support has been put in place to help them improve. The check ensures that teachers understand which children need extra help with phonic decoding.

Remember that all children are individuals and develop at different rates.

You can find some great ideas for supporting your child to read through phonics in our [resources to support reading at home](#).

### **Supporting the Phonics Check at home**

Here is a [list of words](#) similar to the ones used in the school Phonics Check. You can practice these words at home with your child. To help you, [here is a guide](#) to how your child should pronounce the words. Make any comments or any questions you have on the pronunciation guide as your child reads the words. You can then discuss your observations with your child's teacher.

Let your child know that some of the words are real and some are made-up words. The made-up words are the names of the friendly monsters pictured next to the made-up words.

Try to choose a time when your child is feeling happy and relaxed. It is important that your child feels good about their efforts in reading the words to you.

Your child's teacher will explain the different letter sounds and letter-sound combinations your child has been learning in class. They will be able to tell you what you can expect your child to know and how you can help them improve their knowledge of letter sound relationships and reading at home. You might like to ask how you can support your child to take the next step in reading.

## **SCHOOL OPINION SURVEYS**

The School Opinion Surveys are designed to obtain the views of parents/caregivers, students and school staff from each school on what they do well and how they can improve.

Our improvement journey over the last few years has been heavily influenced with deliberate actions being planned from the survey results as well as allowing us to celebrate the areas we have shown growth and improvement in.

### **WE VALUE YOUR FEEDBACK!**

Opinions about the school on a range of topics are sought from a parent/caregiver in all families and from state school students in Years 5, 6, 8 and 11.

School staff and principals are also asked to provide opinions about their school.

The suite of 2025 School Opinion Surveys will be open between **28 July and 22 August 2025**.

Additional information about the surveys is located on the [School Opinion Survey FAQs page](#)



Kindest Regards,

Rebecca Crapp

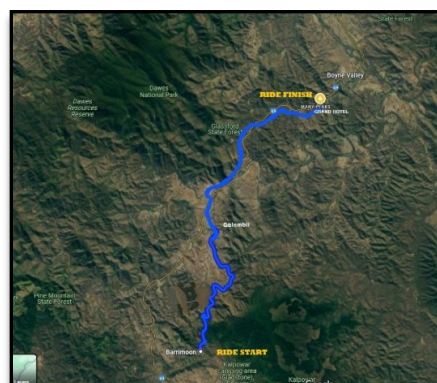
Principal

## **Notices**

### **Support Our School Chaplaincy – Join the 2025 Tour de Chaplain!**

The 2025 Tour de Chaplain is a family-friendly 20km bike ride along the Boyne Valley Rail Trail, from Barrimoon to the Many Peaks Grand Hotel. With drink stops, first aid support, a BBQ lunch and trophy presentations, it's a great day for riders aged 10 and up. This event raises awareness and funds for the school chaplaincy program, which provides vital social, emotional, and practical support for students through mentoring, programs, breakfast clubs, and caring conversations.

To register, visit the event page [here](#).



A big good luck to our 7 students auditioning for the Combined Schools Musical Mary Poppins this weekend. Students have had to prepare a song and a monologue and will perform them solo in front of an audition panel. They will also be attending a dance audition next Wednesday night. This is a great opportunity to practise getting into the musical arts scene in Gladstone

Reminder to parents and students, that aerosol deodorants or body sprays are prohibited on school grounds, due to health and safety concerns. Please ensure these products stay at home.



## Exciting News!

We're thrilled to announce that our school is introducing the **Oliver library system**! Oliver is an easy-to-use, student-friendly platform that allows students to browse, borrow, and manage their library loans online—helping to build independence and a love of reading. Oliver works on any web browser so it can be accessed via computer, tablet or even a smart phone.

Our team is currently working behind the scenes to get everything up and running, and students will receive their login details next week. We can't wait to see our readers exploring everything Oliver has to offer!




## Sora

In addition to online access to our library resources, we are very excited to share that we are now providing students with access to Sora, the education QLD e-book and audiobook library! Students are now able to access a wide range of ebooks and audiobooks anywhere, any time from any computer, tablet or smart phone. All you need to do is download the app or go to [soraapp.com](http://soraapp.com) and follow the steps. Students username is their MIS ID, this is what they use to log in to the computers here at school so most students will know them. Students in prep and year 1 will get theirs sent home next week. Sora will also soon be accessible through the Oliver system for quick and easy access to both programs.

More information will be sent home next week, when everything is up and running. Thank you for your patience.

# Getting started with Sora



With Sora, you can get free ebooks and audiobooks from your school.

- 1

Install the Sora app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store, or go to [soraapp.com](http://soraapp.com).
- 2

In Sora, find your school (or enter your school's setup code), then sign in.
- 3

Browse the **Explore** tab and borrow a book. Your book will open so you can start reading right away.
- 4

Close the book and go to your **Shelf** to see all your books (including assignments). From there, you can:

  - Tap **Open Book** or **Open Audiobook** to read or listen to the book.
  - Tap **Options** to renew or return the book, get to your notes and highlights, and more.

For more help with Sora, visit [help.soraapp.com](http://help.soraapp.com).

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# AWARDS CORNER

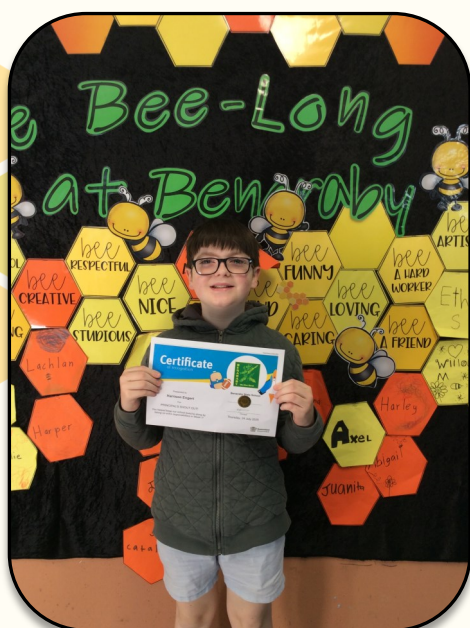
## CONGRATULATIONS TO LAST FORTNIGHT'S AWARDEES



## PRINCIPAL'S SHOUT OUT



## LAST FORTNIGHT'S PBL FOCUS



### Where You Play You Stay

Pick a play area and stay there the whole break.



BE SAFE





## 4/5/6 Camp

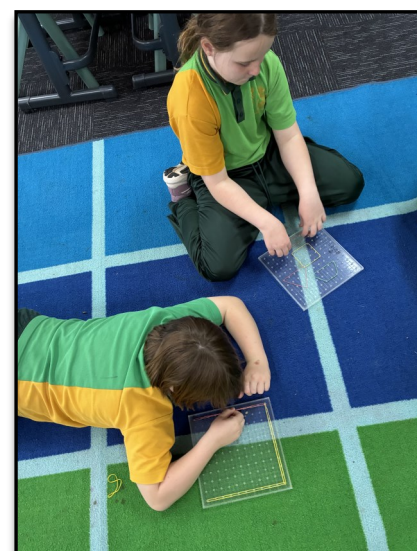








Our 2/3/4 class has had a fun start to their shape unit in maths, with a hands on lesson delivered by Ms Ren.







# COMMUNITY BUSH DANCE & CARDBOARD CHAOS CUP

PRESENTED BY SOLACE REAL ESTATE

**Saturday August 2, 2025 3:00-7:30pm**

Benaraby State School, O'Connor Rd Gates open 2:30pm

CAKE & CANDY  
STALL



LIVE MUSIC  
The Elysian Duo  
Lost for Words  
Mikayla Sippel

PETTING  
ZOO



RAFFLES, PRIZES  
& OLD TIME FUN!

\$5.00pp • \$15.00 family of 4 • Under 3 FREE  
Includes Games, Activities, Live Performances  
& Cardboard Chaos Cup



**Cardboard Chaos Cup 3:30pm**

Register your box brumby by 3:00pm

Thanks to the following  
Silver & Bronze Sponsors:



MCDANIEL  
SOLUTIONS

**McCOSKER**  
SAFETY FIRST. PROUD TO ALWAYS



K & N  
BROKERAGE



This is not a BYO event.  Follow the QR Code to our School P&C Fundraising Page







**RACE YOUR BOX BRUMBY IN THE  
CARDBOARD  
CHAOS CUP**



Corporate Entry Fee: \$100

Dress Up & Have Fun!

**This year, we're introducing a corporate category in our annual Cardboard Chaos Cup! Get your business involved and compete for glory on the track.**

**Corporate Race Rules:**

- > "Box Brumbies" to be made out of cardboard only
- > No staples, no metal, no sharp/sideways protruding parts
- > Incorporate your company brand in your Box Brumby design
- > Corporate Brumbies are to be fridge box size or similar
- > 2 Jockeys minimum
- > Jockeys cannot interfere with other jockeys
- > Jockeys must run the whole race inside the "horse"
- > Nomination forms can be completed prior or on the day
- > Races are run on the oval on a designated "race track"
- > Prizes awarded for 1st place, best dressed & best name
- > Corporate Entry Fee: \$100 (included for Gold/Silver/Bronze sponsors)

**Saturday August 2, 2025 > Corporate Race starts 4pm**  
To pre-register & pay email: [benarabypandc@gmail.com](mailto:benarabypandc@gmail.com)  
Follow the QR Code to our School P&C Fundraising Page







**RACE YOUR BOX BRUMBY IN THE  
CARDBOARD  
CHAOS CUP**



Pair up & WIN!

Dress Up & Have Fun!

**Race Rules:**

- > "Box Brumbies" to be made out of cardboard only
- > No staples, no metal, no sideways protruding parts
- > They can be decorated with anything that isn't sharp
- > Brumbies are to have at least 2 jockeys (preps ride solo)
- > Nomination forms can be completed prior or on the day
- > Bring your box brumby ready to race
- > Jockeys cannot interfere with other jockeys
- > Jockeys must run the whole race inside the "horse"
- > Races run in year levels, adults & sponsor categories
- > Races are run on the oval on a designated "race track"
- > Open to the community, not just students of our school
- > Prizes awarded for 1st place, best dressed & best name

**Saturday August 2, 2025 - Registration closes 3:00pm**  
Follow the QR Code to our School P&C Fundraising Page





**BSS Clubs 1ST PLAY**

**Monday**  
C Block

**DANCE**  
MISS TERRY

**Tuesday**  
C Block

**DRAMA**  
MISS TERRY

**Wednesday**  
Computer room

**TECH**  
MRS V

**Thursday**  
C Block

**CHOIR**  
MRS C

**Friday**  
4/5/6 room

**READING**  
MRS V



**Engaging Adolescents™  
Workshops**

Find an end to arguing and yelling, this workshop can help change your parenting style in simple & effective ways!

Wednesday 9.30-11.30am 6, 13, 25 August 2025.  
CatholicCare, 38 Herbert St, Gladstone.

Learn skills to help resolve difficult behaviour in teenagers provided by the Family Relationship Centre at CatholicCare

**You will learn:**

- Some common ground shared by parents & reasonable expectations to hold about adolescents
- New understandings of adolescents
- A three-option model & flow chart for decision-making
- Self check-in, first, for parents
- Building a relationship with your teenager and making the best of your non-crisis conversations with them

**Participants will receive:**

- A workbook to apply the concepts learnt to their families
- A certificate of completion

**FREE**

**REGISTER NOW**  
Call 1300 783 544

Or Scan the QR code >




**CatholicCare**

**1-2-3 Magic®**

Emotional coaching for parents

Learn to manage difficult behaviour in children 2-12 years old  
Three session program for parents and carers provided by CatholicCare

Wednesday 9.30-11.30am 6, 13, 25 August 2025. CatholicCare, 38 Herbert St, Gladstone.

“1-2-3 Magic® can be a magnificent preventative measure that any parent can use to avoid raising a child, who later down the line, needs excessive discipline or grows out of control

**You will learn:**

- How to discipline without arguing, yelling or smacking
- How to sort behaviour
- How to handle challenging and testing behaviours
- Choosing your strategy, the three choices
- Using emotion coaching to encourage good behaviour
- Seven tactics for encouraging good behaviour

**Parents will receive:**

- 1-2-3 Magic® & Emotion Coaching Parent Workbook

**FREE**

**REGISTER NOW**  
Call 1300 783 544

Or Scan the QR code >



 **FAMILY RELATIONSHIP CENTRE**  
HELPING FAMILIES BUILD BETTER RELATIONSHIPS

 An Australian Government Initiative

Provided in Central Queensland by  
**CatholicCare**





# The Great Rio Tinto Yarwun Valley Rally

## 2<sup>nd</sup> AUGUST 2025

### BACK TO THE FUTURE

- 11am start at CQ Uni Marina Carpark
- Drive thru finish at Yarwun State School
- Meal pack for 4 included with ticket

Prizes will be drawn at 7pm and posted on Facebook. Winners notified by phone

Tickets can be purchased on the day or via Facebook

## \$30 per car

*Proudly supporting Yarwun State School*




 Find us on:  
**facebook.**



The Great 'Rio Tinto' Yarwun Valley Rally  
Community · 798 followers

### With many thanks to our major sponsors...



Gladstone Ports Corporation's  
**PORT to PARK**



**Gladstone Ports Corporation**  
Growth, prosperity, community.



Gladstone Ports Corporation's  
**PORT to PARK**

## Gladstone Ports Corporation's **Port to Park Fun Run** supporting our local schools!

### Sunday 24 August 2025

Scan the QR code or visit [gpcl.com.au](https://gpcl.com.au) to learn more and register today!



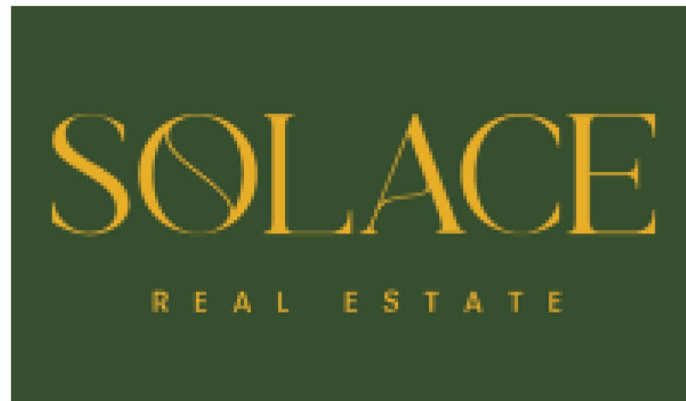




# THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 SPONSORS



Gold:



Silver:



Bronze:



K & N  
BROKERAGE

