

# The Central Loop

UPDATES FOR PARENTS AND CARERS OF BRAIDWOOD CENTRAL SCHOOL STUDENTS

Term 1  
Week 7



## Upcoming Events

Braidwood's Got Talent	March 13 (Thur)
NAPLAN	March 12 - 24
Whole School Assembly - 12:00pm	March 27 (Thur)
AFL Coaching	Mar 27, 28 & Apr 2
Cross Country	April 4 (Fri)
Easter Hat Parade	April 10 (Tues)
School Anzac Day Ceremony	April 11 (Fri)

## Parent Reminder

Please ensure your children's clothes, bags, lunch boxes and other items are clearly labelled.

We continue to have an increase in lost items.



## Principal's Message

As we embark on a new school year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the fantastic start we've had at Braidwood Central School. For some of us, including myself, this is the first year at our wonderful school, and I am thrilled to share what an incredibly warm and welcoming environment we have created together.

From the moment I stepped through the doors, I was greeted with smiles, enthusiastic greetings, and an unmistakable sense of community. It has been heartening to witness our staff's dedication to fostering a nurturing atmosphere for every student. Whether it was through orientation activities, welcome gatherings, or simply sharing a friendly chat in the hallways, it is clear that our school values each individual and strives to make everyone feel right at home.

The first few weeks have been filled with excitement, learning, and new friendships. Students have been actively engaging in their classes, exploring new subjects, and participating in various extracurricular activities. It has been inspiring to see the enthusiasm with which everyone has embraced the opportunities available to them.

As we move forward into the year, let us continue to build on this strong foundation of support and camaraderie. I encourage all families to stay involved, attend upcoming events, and communicate with our staff. Together, we can ensure that every student not only feels welcome but also thrives in their academic and personal growth.

This being my 25th year as a Principal and my 5th school that I have led, I have particularly enjoyed coming back to a rural school that has such a long history of education and support from this community.

Thank you for being such an integral part of our school community. Here's to a successful year filled with learning, growth, and wonderful memories!

Adam Zanco



# Sport News

## New House Names and Identity

In the last few weeks, staff and students have been contemplating the re-naming of our sports houses – to regenerate identity and inspire increased participation.

After a staff and House Captain vote – the new house names and 2025 Sports Captains for both Primary and Secondary are;



Our captains were badged by our house patrons – Mr Hayes, Mr S Wall and Mr Bennett, with Mr Zanco assisting at our whole School assembly. Congratulations to our new office bearers.

Our 2025 Houses hope to organise whole school events and challenges to continue with the phenomenal swimming carnival efforts. The next whole school event is the cross country carnival at the recreation ground on Friday 4th April



## 2025 BCS Swimming Carnival

Despite a gloomy start to the day, students and staff enjoyed a very successful swimming carnival. House spirit was a particular feature of the day – war cries, house colours and costumes and participation were the flavour.

Congratulations to all who attended, it was a fun day, with plenty of very impressive personal performance. Our 2025 Champions are:

	<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>
Primary Junior	Rain Weatherall	Elli Dixon
Primary 11 years	Ryder Osborne & Colton Clarke	Lucy Linder
Primary Senior	Tucker Dixon	Abigail Brown
Junior (12-14)	Archer Halligan <i>Runner-up</i> Liam Osbourne	Ellie Hagel <i>Runner-up</i> Remi Haroldson
Senior (15-18)	Benson Sisia <i>Runner-up</i> Oliver Gurling	Amelia Blinco <i>Runner-up</i> Josie Hudson

The house swimming points for our 2025 carnival were

Tallaganda House                      461 points

Gilamatong House                      424 points

Budawang House                      553 points

*Congratulations to Budawang House*



Thank you to all staff and parents who assisted on the day. Particular recognition goes to our PE staff who work on the carnival for many days prior to the event.

Ms S Walsh



## Stage 6 News

All Stage 6 students have now finalised their 2025 pattern of study. Units have been checked carefully with Mr M Wall (Pathways Coordinator) and submitted to NESAs. Year 12 are now commencing their second assessment of their HSC year, and Year 11 should have commenced preparations for their first assessment task.

Students have received a copy of the relevant assessment booklet, which contains our updated Malpractice Policy. It also contains a combined calendar of assessment, that will enable students to map and plan assessment completion.

Students are also reminded that forms to support any exceptional circumstances that may disrupt the submission of assessment tasks, such as:

Form A: Illness and Misadventure

Form B: Exceptional Circumstances - personal

Form C: Exceptional Circumstances-school approved event (e.g. VET work placement)

Form D: Application for Review

are all available in the back of the assessment booklet, in the Senior Study Hub and on COMPASS

### Unserious Careers

On Thursday 20th March, Stage 6 students will attend a presentation by Alana Kilmartin. As part of the 2025 rural and remote Roadshow, Alana will be sharing her insights in to 'building a strong career foundation'

Students will hear her career story, tips and ideas for planning the next stage of their lives and inspirational examples to 'feed the fire'.

*'Those first five years after school are key for building foundations and we want to help students make the most of them'*

### Premiers Debating Challenge – Round 1 Year 11 and 12

Our senior debating team, comprising of Mason Kelly, Grace Tybell, Chelsea Pharoah and Kara Moore completed round 1 of the PDC last Wednesday against Lake Illawarra High School

Our team was awarded the negative to the topic of 'All high schools should be separated into a junior and senior campus'. BCS presented a number of convincing arguments including that a 7 – 12 setting provides full leadership responsibilities, there is ample opportunity to role model and provide well-being support and in rural and regional schools, this is how community is developed.

BCS came away with a win - seems our seniors are very aware of the positives of a full campus.

We now wait to see who the team will face in round 2. Well done to all!



## Science/Maths/PDHPE

Here we are in 2025. A lot is already happening at BCS, especially for Stage 6 students. Assessments are beginning to be issued for Year 11 and 12; 'snapshots' of learning are being captured for Stage 4 and 5.

In Maths, we are making textbooks available to all students who are interested to give them extra support in Maths. I encourage all students to take advantage of this offer. All you have to do is find me, Mr Creevey, sign a borrowing form for a text book, use it and look after it and return it to me at the end of the year or see me to swap it for a different one.

In Science, students are learning how to separate substances in Stage 4 and the coordination and control systems of multicellular organisms in Stage 5.



## Stage 5 News

Last Wednesday Year 9 and 10 students attended Project Rokit. The project is endorsed by eSafety Commissioner and works on educating students about cyber safety and all issues surrounding respectful and responsible use of all things digital.

The Rally program empowers students to create a culture that challenges bullying, online and in person with the big message "Every single one of us can choose to be part of the solution when it comes to tackling bullying, even in the smallest and simplest ways."

Comments from the presentation included:

*'Beating the bullies is hard' R*

*'I think there are less bullies than the rest of us' A*

*'I hate getting up in front of everyone, but the bullies can't stop us from beating our fears' K*

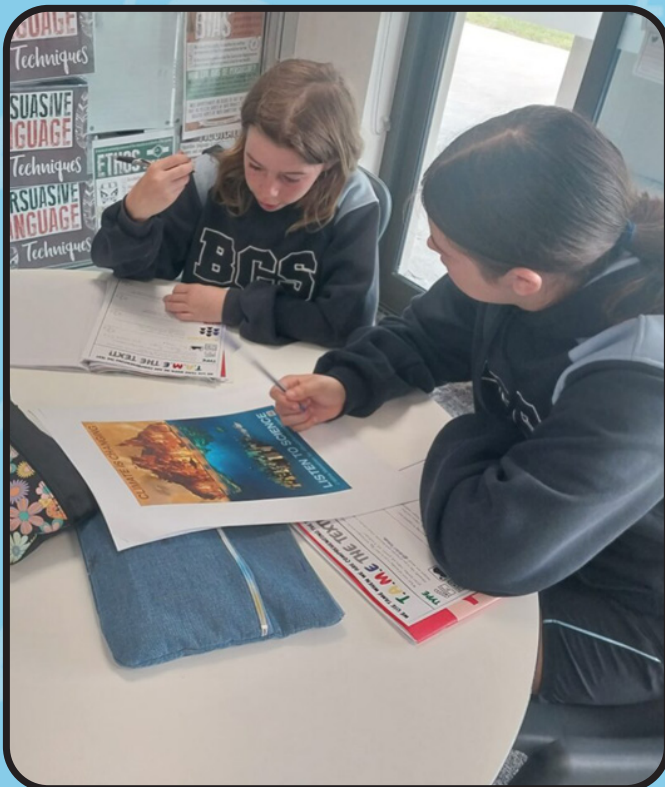
*'I can't wait til Year 11 and 12, there should be less bullies' M*



## Welcome Year 7

As the new school year unfolds, we are thrilled to welcome our Year 7 students to their first year of high school! This significant transition marks a wonderful opportunity for growth, exploration, and new friendships.

Year 7 is a time filled with possibilities. Students will embark on a journey through a diverse curriculum that encourages them to discover their passions and develop critical skills. From engaging science experiments to creative arts projects, every day brings new learning experiences designed to inspire curiosity and foster a love for knowledge.





## Bell Times - Secondary

At the beginning of the term our bell times have changed for secondary. A reminder that the first bell for the beginning of the school day is now 8:43am.

Students must be in homeroom by 8:43am on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. On Tuesdays a secondary school assembly is held in the secondary quadrangle commencing at 8:43am sharp.

Students should not be at school before 8:30am, as staff begin playground supervision at 8:30am.

## Secondary Bell Times

8:43 - 8:58am	Homeroom
8:58 - 9:50am	Period 1
9:50 - 10:42am	Period 2
10:42 - 11:12am	Recess
11:12 - 12:04pm	Period 3
12:04 - 12:56pm	Period 4
12:56 - 1:26pm	Lunch
1:26 - 2:18pm	Period 5
2:18 - 3:10pm	Period 6



# Cattle Show team events:

## Royal Canberra Show

We have had a very busy start to the year for our dedicated cattle show team members, beginning with the Royal Canberra Show on 18th of February. A team of 13 students travelled to Epic Park to exhibit our five steers and one heifer in their weight divisions and for student paraders. We were successful in the following categories:

Medium weight led steers

- Third place for "Nickleback" (exhibited by BCS and The Billaglen Pastoral Co)
- Fourth place for "Brisket" (exhibited by BCS and The Hindmarsh family)

Junior Judging

- Fifth places for Jess Dale and Ruby Kane

For the first time at the Royal Canberra show, students participated in meat judging, held at "Claystones Meats" in Fyshwick. This was a chance for our senior students, Charlotte, Jaxson, Bailey and Emily to demonstrate their knowledge of meat cuts and quality.

All students displayed excellent team work and leadership skills, cooperating well with all other competitors, and particularly with the students from Queanbeyan High School.



## Braidwood Show Cattle

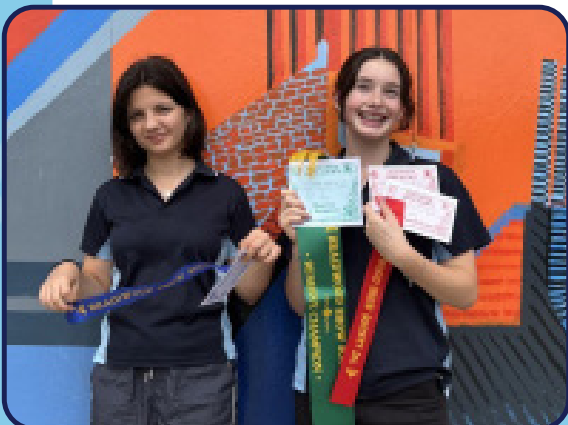
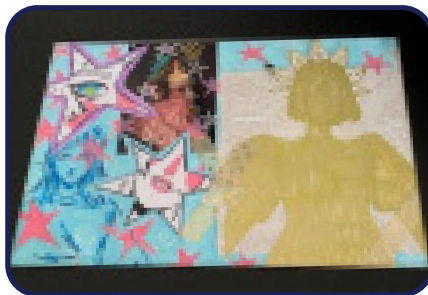
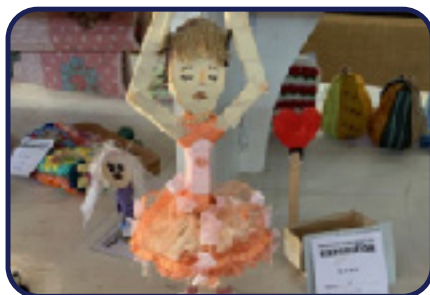
Last weekend our cattle show team also prepared and paraded our cattle team at the Braidwood show. Once again, all students involved show exceptional dedication and team work, coping with hot conditions and cranky cattle! All of the students did exceptionally well, particularly those who had their first go at parading in front of a home crowd.

Meckenzie Hoban was named Champion Parader, with her brother Jaxson, Reserve Champion. Jess Dale, Drew Hindmarsh and Meckenzie came first, second and third respectively in the junior cattle judging



## Braidwood Show Artists

Congratulations to all of the artists from BCS who entered art works, ceramics and photos into the Braidwood show last weekend. The following students were successful in winning a place in their nominated category: Bridie Gleeson, Gordy Hulse, Charlie Sheridan, Eden Wimborne, Drew Hindmarsh, Lucy Waddingham, Hero Bonin, Riley Long, Taylor Dixon, Morgan Wimborne, Chelsea Pharaoh and Tate Doherty.



# K-6 News

## Thriving Start to the 2025 School Year

A wonderfully busy start to our 2025 school year. It has been lovely to see everyone arriving at school enthusiastic and ready to participate in their learning.

A reminder that school readiness is having:

- A school bucket hat to wear during play.
- All your writing, colouring, ruling, gluing and drawing tools, and
- A have-a-go attitude to your learning.

The swimming carnival was such a success with many first time swimmers joining the races. Lots of eager participants in the novelty events in the little pool and a whole load of team spirit and cheering. A big thank you to all that participated, also to our organisers and helpers that made our carnival run so well. This was followed with our District Representative swimmers making Braidwood Central proud with their fighting spirit at the AIS full length pool. Congratulations to Rain for progressing through the Regional Carnival.

Our Meet-the-Teacher afternoon was well attended and our new Assistant Principal, Alicia Ernst or Miss E, has enjoyed a warm welcome from students that came to speak with her during playground duty and meeting the Years 6, 5 and 4 students in class as well.

It is important that your child attends school each day and that they are on time and ready to learn. Please do not send them to school if they are sick. If you are planning a holiday where your child will not be attending school, you will need to contact the office to fill in the appropriate paperwork.

There were a glorious amount of artworks finished by the students for the Braidwood Show. The K-6 school banner as a field of flowers looked delightfully colourful.

NAPLAN has now commenced for our Year 3 and Year 5 students. The four tests consist of Writing, Reading, Language Conventions and Numeracy.

We have many events still to come this term including Clean up Australia Day, Environmentors incursion, Harmony Day activities, Easter Hat parade and an ANZAC commemoration service.



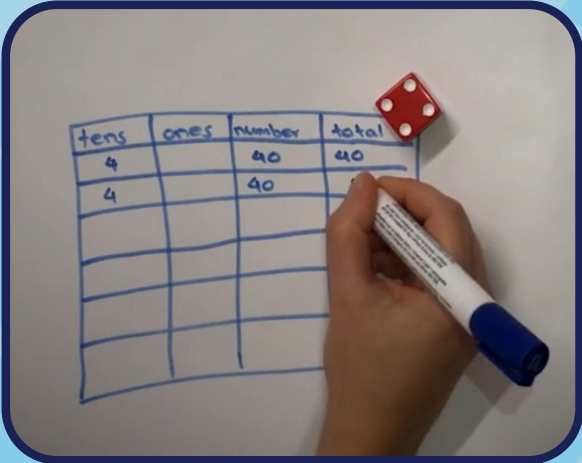
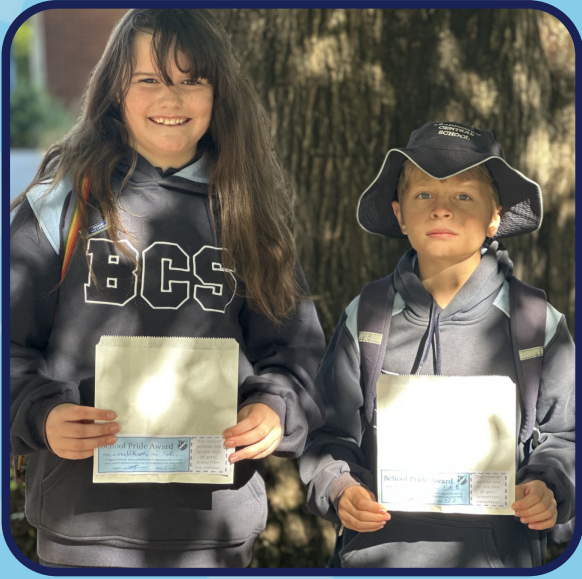
## Numeracy K-6

As parents and carers, you play a pivotal role in your child's learning through setting expectations, nurturing curiosity, and encouraging a love of learning. We all have our own 'favourite subject' and often we can indirectly influence how our child feels about a subject by the way we talk about it. Mathematics is commonly mentioned by many as a subject they are 'not good at'. These conversations start to shape your child's own perceptions of numeracy and can influence the way they see themselves as mathematicians. You can help to build your child's numeracy skills and love for mathematics by:

- being positive about their numeracy experiences
- praising their effort and perseverance NOT just correct answers
- letting your child know that there are different strategies and ways of solving the same problem
- involving your child in everyday opportunities to show them when and how we use mathematics daily
- playing games with your child
- learning alongside your child and encouraging a sharing of numeracy ideas and thoughts.

### Game spotlight – 101 you're out!

- Make a game board by drawing a 6 x 4 table.
- Label the first column as 'tens', the second column as 'ones', the third column as number and forth column as total.
- Each time you roll the dice, you have to decide whether the number is representing 'ones' or 'tens'. For example, if I roll a 3, I could use it as 3 ones (3) or 3 tens (which we rename as 30). If you choose to use your 3 as 3 ones, record the number in the ones column. If you choose to use your 3 as 3 tens (30), record your number in the left column.
- Continue to play for 6 rolls.
- Once you write a number, you can't change it.
- The winner is the player with the sum that is closest to 100 without going over!



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ORDERS DUE BACK BY: [ ]

Issue 2 2025

With **Wings of Fire: The Golden Thread** by Tui T. Sutherland

With **The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane** by Kate DiCamillo

With **Sweet Valley Friends** by Lisi Harrison

With **Baby-Sitters Club** by Ann M. Martin

With **The Hundred Names of Love** by Lisa Thompson

With **Dragon Girls** by Lisa Thompson

**SCHOLASTIC Book Club**

## School Leadership News

The senior student leadership team are planning a whole school Harmony Day project for Friday 21st March.

As a start to the planning, we are asking all students and staff to wear an item of orange clothing on this day.

Orange is the colour chosen to represent Harmony Week. Traditionally, orange signifies social communication and meaningful conversations. It also relates to the freedom of ideas and encouragement of mutual respect.



## Attendance

As per the Department of Education Policy: **Student attendance in NSW public schools' procedures:**

1. Parents and carers are reminded that absences **MUST** be notified and explained to the school.
2. The school is required to classify an absence as justified or unjustified
3. An absence is justified when the parent / carer provides the following
  - a) Illness – medical certificate or appointment note, verbal, face to face, written notification
  - b) Leave – a leave application has been completed and approved by the Principal

In the case that a parent / carer does not notify or explain an absence

- a) School staff must contact the parent or carer of any student absent without an explanation on the day of the absence. At BCS we contact our parents / carers via automatically generated SMS
- b) We are required to continue to attempt to contact the parent or carer until either an explanation is received or the student returns to school.

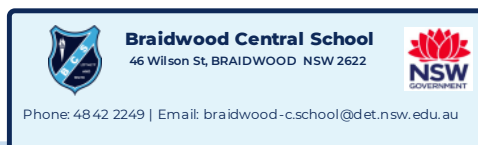
At Braidwood central School we will be implementing the following process for 2025

If a student is absent for 3 consecutive days or 5 days in 20

- Front office staff will send an email requesting a medical certificate or other justifying document
- The student will be referred to the Attendance Team to commence intervention planning, which could include:
  - Parent / carer interview
  - Creation of an attendance plan
  - Referral to the Home School Liaison program

Should you have any concerns please contact:

- Mrs Lisa Croxon (SASS – attendance)
- Mrs Kim Domanzer (K-6)
- Ms Simone Walsh (7-12)



## Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

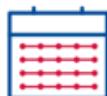
and years over their school life

**1** day per fortnight



=

**4** weeks



=

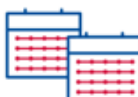
Over **1** year missed

**1** day per week



=

**8** weeks



=

Over **2.5** years missed

# Rural and regional school travel

Apply online for free school travel in rural and regional NSW. You only need to complete one form, even for journeys using more than one operator.

## Who can apply?

To be eligible for free school travel, students may need to live a minimum distance from their school:

### Years K-2 (Infants)

There is no minimum distance.

### Years 3-6 (Primary)

More than 1.6km straight line distance or at least 2.3km walking.

### Years 7-12 (Secondary)

More than 2.0km straight line distance or at least 2.9km walking.

## Who needs to apply

You only need to apply if the student has never been approved for free school travel before. Students in a shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody) should submit a separate application for both addresses.

## How to update your details

You need to update student details online if the student is changing their name, address, school or campus, or their Transport operator. You can update them at [transportnsw.info/ssts-update](https://transportnsw.info/ssts-update)

## Frequently asked questions

### Does the approved free travel include travel outside school hours?

Approved free school travel is only for travel to and from school. So for travel after hours, on weekends or during school holidays, students will need to buy a ticket.

### What if there's no public transport in my area?

In areas where there is no public transport, you may be able to get a subsidy for driving the student to school. For details, visit [transportnsw.info/school-students](https://transportnsw.info/school-students)

### How do I apply if the student needs to travel from two addresses because the parents live separately?

Each parent (or the student if aged 16 or over) needs to apply separately for each address. The same minimum distances apply.

## How to apply for free travel for the first time

You can apply for free school travel for next year from the start of Term 4 this year.

### Step 1

Once you have enrolled your child at the new school, apply online by giving your home address and telling us which bus company the student needs to travel with between home and school. You can apply online at [transportnsw.info/school-students](https://transportnsw.info/school-students)

### Step 2

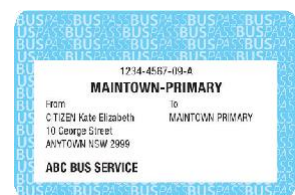
The school then confirms to us that your details are correct.

### Step 3

We will then work on your application. You will get an email confirming if the student is approved for free travel. If so, we will tell your local bus company who may send a school travel pass (if needed) to your school or, in some cases, the bus company will contact you directly about travel arrangements.

A parent or guardian must apply for students aged 15 years and under. Students who are 16 years and over must apply for themselves.

## What my card will look like



## Want to know more?

For more information, visit [transportnsw.info/school-students](https://transportnsw.info/school-students)

For help in your language, call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 131 450.

### Privacy

For information on how we handle personal information please refer to the Opal Privacy Policy at [transportnsw.info/tickets-opal/opal/opal-privacy-policy](https://transportnsw.info/tickets-opal/opal/opal-privacy-policy) and the School Pass Terms [transportnsw.info/school-pass-terms](https://transportnsw.info/school-pass-terms)

