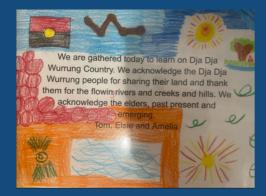




St Ambrose Parish School

Our Vision: Centred by Faith, In Partnership with Community, We Provide Excellence in Learning.

Wednesday 22 November 2023



'They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning We will remember them'

"Love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12-17)





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We thank Fr. Martin for donating Christ the King crucifix for our front foyer. It represents the resurrected Christ. The person who carved it is a great religious artist (Leopoline Mimovic) who does not do any work anymore. His sculptures in wood are quite valuable. It comes from the estate of Bishop Hilton Deakin recent Melbourne Auxiliary Bishop so Fr. Martin says it is a gift to the School from Him.

•	
Friday 24 November 2023	Bike Ed. In PE - Grades 3-6
Monday 27 Nov – Fri 1 December 2023	Walk for Mental Health
Tuesday 28 November 2023	Grade 5 visit Goodstart Centre
Wednesday 29 November 2023	Advent Paraliturgy 2.45pm – whole school
Friday 1 November 2023	Bike Ed. In PE – Grades 3-6
Monday 4 December 2023	Braemar College Orientation Day
Tuesday 5 December 2023	Prep Orientation Session 3 - 9-11am Prep uniform fitting 10-11am Grade 1-6 Going Up Day – 9-11am School Advisory Board meeting 5.30-7pm Parents & Friends meeting 7-8pm
Wednesday 6 December 2023	St Ambrose Day Celebration Incursion End of Tern/St Ambrose Feast Day Mass – 9.30am Canteen – Special Menu
Thursday 7 December 2023	St Ambrose Feast Day School Picnic & Christmas Carols – 5.30-7.30pm
Friday 8 December 2023	Bike Ed. In PE – Grades 3-6
Monday 11 December 2023	Grade 6 Graduation Mass 6.30-8pm
Tuesday 12 December 2023	Sacred Heart College Orientation Day
Wednesday 13 December 2023	Canteen closed Advent Paraliturgy 2.45pm
Thursday 14 December 2023	Grade 6 Graduation Day Out
Friday 15 December 2023	Last day of term Students dismissed 3.30pm
Monday 18 December 2023	Numeracy Testing (by appointment)
Tuesday 19 December 2023	Numeracy Testing (by appointment)

Advent Paraliturgy 2.45pm - whole school

Message from the Principal

Dear families, parishioners, and friends,

When we look through the news and some of our social media feeds, we can be brought to tears by the vulnerability of children caught in war zones. Each day I feel deep gratitude for the many blessings we enjoy in Australia and give thanks that our children are able to come to school, live in comfortable homes, and that they are safe. On Saturday we remembered the courageous men and women who gave their lives in wartime and as a result of war. As we remember the lives that have been lost, let us promise each other to work for the freedom of all who are oppressed in the world today. We ask this prayer in the name of Jesus who taught us how to live.

Pictured on the front cover are our school captains
Emmy and Matthew with their mothers, Renee & Louise.
They recited Flanders Fields and laid a wreath on behalf
of our school community on remembrance day.
RSL president John McCausland commended all local
students who attended the service and thanked their
families and schools for supporting the RSL to keep the
tradition of Remembrance Day alive.

This week we had our first liturgy to mark the season of Advent which officially begins four weeks before Christmas day. 5-6 T presented the liturgy and began the service by lighting the first advent candle, the candle of HOPE. The first day of Advent is the first day of a new Liturgical (or church) calendar and begins a four-week period of preparation for the nativity of Jesus Christ at Christmas. The Advent Season is about reflecting on how we can prepare our hearts and homes for Christ's birth in the world as it is today. We welcome you all to attend our Advent liturgies which are held each Wednesday at 2.45 pm in the church.



It was a joy welcoming our 32 preps for 2024 and their family members into the school this week. The children seemed settled and happy to be at school. We are also very happy to announce the appointment of Debbie Taylor who will be teaching one of our prep classes next year. Teaching staff for 2024 are listed later in this edition. We will allocate ESO staff to classes when we have finalised class placement.



Welcome Debbie Taylor



My name is Debbie Taylor, and I am honoured to be joining the team at St Ambrose Primary School. My husband and I have lived in the Macedon Ranges for the last 10+ years and I am looking forward to working within the local community. I also have a daughter who is excited to start prep next year and loves dancing and singing. I enjoy reading, beach holidays, and music. I have worked in a specialist education setting for the past 4 years and am enthusiastic about creating learning environments that are stimulating, challenging and enjoyable for every student. I foster and support all learning needs and voices, ensuring that students feel capable, confident and hold a positive self-view. I look forward to meeting you and embarking on our shared journey in 2024.

Parent as Helper Training

We invite all those needing to do their parent as helper training course (this needs to be done every three years) to attend our first opportunity to train for the 2024, 2025 & 2026 school years to join us on Step Up day (**Tuesday December 5th**) in the staff room at **9.10 am**. The training course takes approximately one hour.

Living Rosary



We feel privileged to have The Alliance of the Holy Family International (AHFI) missionaries visiting our school on Monday morning to facilitate Our Lady of Fatima Living Rosary. We will welcome Br. Louis, Br. Giovani, Sr. Michele, Sr. Natalie, and Fr. Arnold (Kilmore PP). Our children will pray the Rosary after taking part in putting together a giant rosary using helium balloons. Your children will be gifted with a set of rosary beads and scapular blessed by Fr. Arnold. You are welcome to come along on Monday morning at 9.20am if you would like to take part.

Mural Work by Daniel Butterworth



Many of you will have seen the impressive work facilitated by local artist and Archibald finalist Daniel Butterworth on our front panels. Our senior students had the opportunity to paint with Daniel while our middle school students could watch him at work and ask questions about his craft. We feel most privileged to have Daniel work with us and thank him sincerely. We also thank Clare Shannon for organising Daniel to work with us. Daniel is also working on a portrait of Christ to place in our front foyer.

How lucky we are. Stay tuned!



Rainbow Winner

Pictured is Sonny B who is our first student to receive a rainbow certificate for gaining 100 Gotcha PBL tickets.

The rainbow certificate was the idea of Ryder M who is standing with Sonny. Congratulations Sonny on this outstanding achievement!

Pictured below are silver and gold PBL winners!





Class teachers 2024

Prep K Ms. Rebecca Keenan Prep T Mrs. Debbie Taylor 1-2 S Ms. Alexis Seddon 1-2 C-M Mrs. Kate Callinan Mrs. Emma McMahon 1-2 O Mr. Pat Old 3-4 M Mrs. Christine Mc Lay 3-4 R Mrs. Alison Raco 3-4 T-W Mrs. Hayley Te Waita (Mon-Wed) Mrs. Kelly Woodman (Thurs/Fri) 5-6 M Mrs. Brenda McDonald 5-6 P Mr. Micheal Portelli Visual Arts Mrs. Kate Old Health & PE Mrs. Kristy Cavric Music &Performing Arts Mental Health & Ms Erin Brass Mental Health & Wellbeing Leader Finance Officer Mrs. Karen Basa Administration Officer ICT Leader Mr. Micheal Portelli Religious Education Leader Learning Diversity & Literacy Teacher & Leader Deputy Principal/ Teaching & Learning Leader Principal Ms. Bronwyn Phillips	01	NI
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Teaching & Learning Leader	Learning Diversity & Literacy Teacher	Mrs. Jennifer Boldiston
Principal Ms. Bronwyn Phillips	Teaching &	Mrs. Debbie Geisler
	Principal	Ms. Bronwyn Phillips

School Fees 2024

We take pride in the fact that we are able to achieve excellent educational outcomes for our students whilst providing an affordable Catholic education. In keeping our costs low and affordable, it is essential that families contribute to their child's education by ensuring that payment of the fees and levies is made each year and in a timely manner.

To meet our costs in 2024 we will continue to offer two options for how and when to pay school fees which can be:

- 1. in agreed installments via direct debit or
- 2. in total at the beginning of the year.

This assists in ensuring that the school receives funds at the start of the school year so that we can pay the many costs that are invoiced to us in January and February.

For families who are currently in arrears for the 2023 school year and have not made an arrangement with the school, it is essential that you please attend to your account as soon as possible or contact the office prior to next Friday 10th November 2023.

We do everything we can to hold costs down whilst providing the best education opportunities possible for your child. We thank you for your efforts to keep payment of fees up to date. It is important for us to collect fees as these are included in our budget to cover the costs of delivering rich and diverse programs for your children.

We understand that family income and financial situations can change for many reasons and can cause much stress to families and therefore always encourage families to communicate with us, so that individual circumstances can be managed.

For your forward planning, 2024 fees are set as follows:

- Family fee: \$2,030.00 per family
- Student Levy: \$665.00 per student
- Gr 3/4 camp \$ TBA
- Gr 5/6 camp \$ TBA

There is an increase of \$60 in the family fee and \$40 in the curriculum fee. This is a 3.9% increase which is within the recommended 5% increase.



Thank you for your efforts to keep your payment of fees up to date. This greatly assists us to meet our costs, update resources, and to continue to deliver quality programs for your children.

Concessional School Fees for Eligible Students

Students of eligible families are entitled to concessional school fees. See Karen at the office to find out more about concessional fees.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of the school in a non-financial way through participation in classroom activities and parent groups, contributing to school projects and works, and assisting with events. Our community, as a whole, has gained greatly from the gift of your time, effort, and support. We look forward to strengthening our partnership with our families in the 2024 school year.

Our Year 1-2 students are pictured above creating ceramic decorations for the community Christmas trees.



SAC Volunteer Roster for 2024

Our School Advisory Council is working with us on a plan to build community connection with the school and one which will promote parent involvement. From term 1, 2024 we will share areas where the school needs your involvement on a term-by-term basis.

Each family will be asked to offer two or more hours of their time each term to support school initiatives. We will share the ideas so far in the coming weeks.

Kindergarten Visits





The excited chatter of our local kindergarten students filled the corridors again when they visited our school to enjoy some story time with our year 3-4 students. We congratulate our 3-4 children who did a wonderful job engaging the young people.

Music Lessons

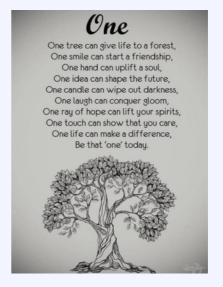
It is great to see our students engaged in and enjoying their music lessons.
Shaun is pictured working with a group on a keyboard piece.



School Uniform & Fitting Days

Hip Pocket will have stock available for uniform fittings on our step-up day (Dec 5th) from 11:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. for those of you who would like to size uniforms for the coming year. They will also offer a sizing time at the end of term 1, 2, and 3.

Uniform information







Bronwyn Phillips
Principal

6



Student Awards



Prep K - Baz R for working hard on improving his writing by writing interesting sentences.

Prep K - Charlotte W for building an amazing boat in Inquiry learning!

Prep K - Oscar D for wonderful work sounding out and spelling words in his writing!

Prep K - Isabelle A for taking risks in her learning and improving her writing!

1/2CM - Teddy M for working so hard on his reading. Excellent!

1/2CM - Rose A for being a great leader and role model. Well done!

1/2CM - Marli P for her fantastic persuasive writing about letting children run inside.

1/2CM - David Y for his fantastic persuasive writing about Goldilocks!

1/2WL - Grace M for working as a team member in science experiments.

1/2WL - Everly B for being a creative leader in our science experiments. 1/2WL - Ben C for working well in his reading group.

1/2WL - Sebastian M for working well with his persuasive writing.

1/2WL - Niamh F for being a great team leader in our spaghetti towers challenge.

1/2WL - Iona T for great team work in our spaghetti towers challenge. 3/4L - Madi M always includes and supports others.

3/4L - Amari B for consistently showing all our positive behaviours.

3/4M - Emily B for being motivated and independent during Inquiry.

3/4M - Felix D for his excellent progress in reading comprehension.

3/4M - Jorel L for showing independence in completing his poster.

3/4O - Riley W for consistently showing all of our Positive Behaviours for Learning. 3/4O - Archer B for his determination in his Inquiry project.

5/6M - Cooper B for always being respectful towards his peers and teachers. 5/6M - Harry M for his Poster Poem "The Jungle Scene".

5/6T - Joseph M for excellent improvement in focus and engagement. 5/6T - Maeve D for excellent effort and independence in writing and maths.

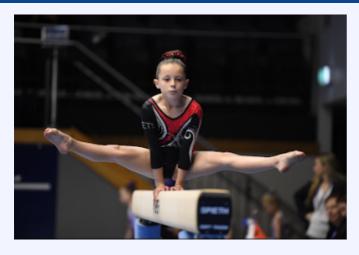
PBL Bronze award - Viviana W, Mary G, Ava R, Ruby P, Owen V, Mila C
PBL Silver award -Isla N, Amelia S, Jim G, Felix D, Patrick F, Emrys G, Walter G, Ruby
W, Jessica F, Joel W, Tom L, Marli P, Alice L, Rex R
PBL Gold award - Emily B, Varli F, Haley C, Cosette D, Caleb S, Hunter R, A.J. S,
Archie S, Tess J

PBL Ticket Draw Winners - Prep K - Harry R and Mack R, 1/2WL - Darcy S & Iona T, 1/2CM - Lucy S & Jethro F, 1/2RO - Jacques B & Rose A, 3/4O - Orlando L & Angus T, 3/4L - Poppy O & Josh R, 3/4M - Felix D & Mia W, 5/6M - Catalina S & Cooper B, 5/6P - Bruno B & Arlia M, 5/6T - Eva P & Maeve D

Student Awards

Student News

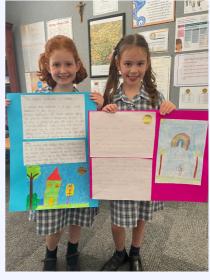




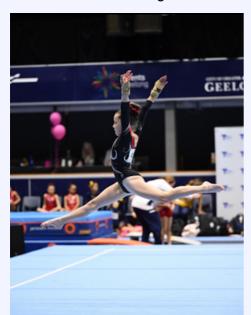
Congratulations to Isla N who competed in the state gymnastics championships a few weekends ago. Isla won 2 bronze medals in vault and floor.

She came 5th for beam and bars as well as 5th overall.

Amazing effort Isla!



Rose A & Neave E proudly showing their persuasive writing pieces.







Elias B had the opportunity to represent Gisborne Soccer Club at the Socceroo's opening World Cup Qualifier at AAMI Park last night. He and his teammates got to walk around the pitch before the game and to play a smallsided game on it at halftime. An amazing experience for them, capped off by a 7-0 win for the Socceroos.

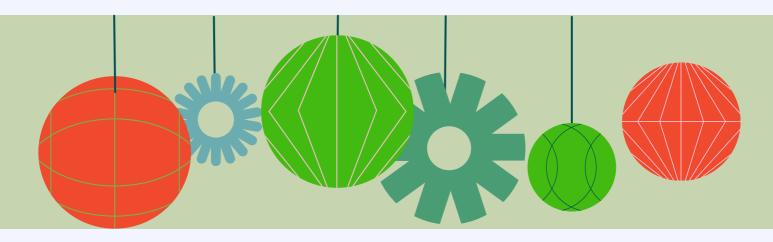
Student Initiatives

Catalina S and Alexandra M are pictured planning their initiative idea. We encourage and support our students to collaborate and lead any initiative that they feel passionate about.



Student News 8

SCHOOL EVENTS:



Christmas Raffle Online

https://myschoolconnect.com.au/st-ambrose-ps-raffles



Share the link with your family and friends!

Your chance to win one (or more) of 20 hampers!!



Toys, food, drink, decorations, vouchers & more!!

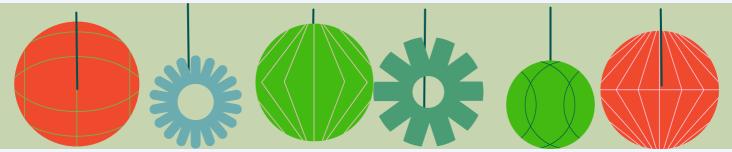
The winners will be announced at our school picnic and Chrismas Carols on 7 December 2023.

Please contact Sandy Howe if you have any questions - sandy.howe@sawoodend.catholic.edu.au

Thank you for your support!

SCHOOL EVENTS.





Donations for Christmas Raffle

https://myschoolconnect.com.au/st-ambrose-ps-raffles

Thank you for your classroom donations.

PREP K - TOYS AND CHILDREN'S GIFTS.

1/2CM - CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS.

1/2WL -RED/GREEN CHRISTMAS TRIMMINGS. Spread the Christmas Cheer!!

1/2RO -GOLD/SILVER CHRISTMAS TRIMMINGS.

3/4L -CHRISTMAS FARE FOOD. 3/4M -CHRISTMAS FARE FOOD.

3/40 -CHRISTMAS FARE FOOD. 5/6M -CHRISTMAS DRINKS.

5/6P -VOUCHERS. 5/6T -CHRISTMAS DRINKS /VOUCHERS.

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SCHOOL EVENTS





SCHOOL EVENTS 2





calling all Green Thumbs

SPRING IS HERE!

NOW IS THE TIME TO START TAKING CUTTINGS AND DIVIDING PLANTS
IN PREPARATION FOR OUR SCHOOL FETE, SO THEY ARE LOOKING
FANTASTIC COME MARCH.

WE WILL REALLY APPRECIATE YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS.

IF YOU NEED POTS OR OTHER SUPPLIES PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH HELEN MORRONGIELLO ON 0433 698 476.

SCHOOL EVENTS .



SATURDAY 16 MARCH 2024 9AM-1PM



Thank you so much to those parents who have come forward to offer assistance and support for the 2024 School and Parish Fete.

The committee need your help and this is a wonderful and rewarding way to meet other parents and contribute towards our wonderful community. Don't forget to follow along on Facebook <u>@stambroseparishschoolfete</u>

BBQ

Are you handy with the tongs? The Fete Committee are seeking a school parent who can take ownership of the BBQ at the Fete. This role would include gathering together your team of helpers and ensuring all of the gear is ready to go for a busy morning of cooking. The committee will offer plenty of support in the lead up to the day.

Please contact Amanda Lee 0420 415 761 or Sophie Lynch 0478 313 191 if you can take on this role.

SILENT AUCTION

We are seeking donations from within the School and Parish community. Do you have a service you can offer or are you willing to donate a prize?

We would be so grateful for any and all donations.

Please contact Sophie Lynch in person or on 0478 313 191

SECOND HAND BOOKS

Jodie Warner is generously co-ordinating the book stall. Have you got any good quality second hand books to donate to help make this stall a success?

These can be left at the front office.

FACE- PAINTING

We are seeking a few more creative parents to help out. Do you have a hidden talent you'd like to share? If so, we'd really love to hear from you.

Sensational scones and summer fruits for the fete.

Summer is coming and we would love to hear from anyone that has a garden with bountiful summer fruits to come such as; apricots, raspberries strawberries or plums. Or anyone who has a lemon tree that fruits all year.

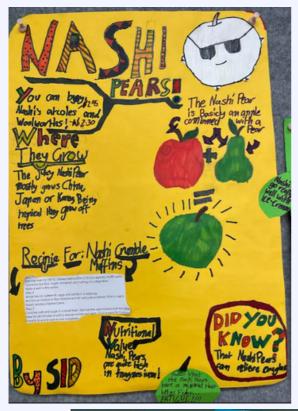
All in the name of Jam.

Do you make sensational scones like grandma used to make?
Or are you a jam whiz in the kitchen? We would love to hear from you.
A traditional school fete isn't complete without Devonshire tea!
Please call Anita La Forgia 0403967885 or Amy Cairns 0402 516 766



5/6T CLASSROOM FEATURE

This term we have been exploring 'Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies' for inquiry. We have looked at how the digestive system works and how foods affect us. Earlier on in the term we created a project where we chose a fruit or vegetable and found different information about the category, nutritional value, where it grows and what recipes it can be used in. Throughout the term we have also been cooking for our families for inquiry homework. We have had a lot of fun preparing and making the meal and then presenting what we have done to the class. Finally, the most fun we have had is the baking at school. We had a Finnish family visiting on Monday, which was lucky for them as we made cupcakes with the grade 1 and 2s. While they cooked, we played outside with the grade 1s and 2s which we loved.









5/6T CLASSROOM FEATURE









AROUND THE SCHOOL

































Around the School 15

AROUND THE SCHOOL



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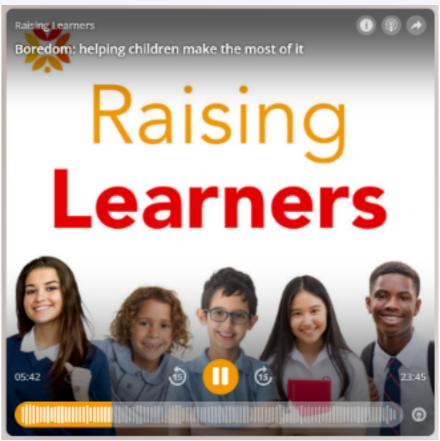


Around the School 16



Mental Health & Wellbeing at St Ambrose

Erin Brass





Boredom: Helping children make the most of it.

"A feeling of being a bit uncomfortable and not knowing what to do with yourself. It's a natural state for all of us... Boredom has an amazing place in sparking creativity, imagination, problem solving and building resilience."

A fantastic short conversation from the Raising Children Network, with play specialist, Cat Sewell, about how parents can support their children when they feel bored.

So many tips and tricks shared to have the children reframe their view of boredom, especially since school holidays are almost upon us.

https://omny.fm/shows/raising-learners/boredom-helpingchildren-make-the-most-of-it



JOIN THE CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS

Faith & Family

Let your light shine
Let Your Light Shine
Destroy the darkness about me,
Scatter the darkness before me,
Disperse the darkness behind me,
Dispel the darkness within me.
Let your light shine on me.
As the sun rises,
Lord, Let your light shine on me.
Amen.

Wonderings:

"The light of faith is unique, capable of illuminating every aspect of human existence. However, light this powerful cannot come from ourselves. It must come from God. Faith is born of an encounter with the living God who reveals his love and upon which we can lean for security in our lives.

Our life spreads light when it is given in service. The secret of joy is living to serve"

TERM 4 IMPORTANT RE DATES:

WEDNESDAY 22ND NOVEMBER
-2ND ADVENT LITURGY- 'PEACE'- 2.45PM

WEDNESDAY 29TH NOVEMBER
- 3RD ADVENT LITURGY - 'JOY' - 2.45PM

WEDNESDAY 6TH DECEMBER
- END OF TERM 4/ST AMBROSE FEAST DAY MASS - 9.30AM

MONDAY 11TH DECEMBER
- GR6 GRADUATION LITURGY - 6.30PM

WEDNESDAY 13TH DECEMBER
- 4TH ADVENT LITURGY - 'LOVE' & NATIVITY PLAY- 2.30PM.

<u>Woodend Parish</u> <u>Newsletter</u>

GOSPEL REFLECTION:

IF YOU KNEW THAT YOU WOULD MEET THE LORD TOMORROW,
WHAT WOULD YOU DO TODAY? (MATTHEW 25: 1-13)

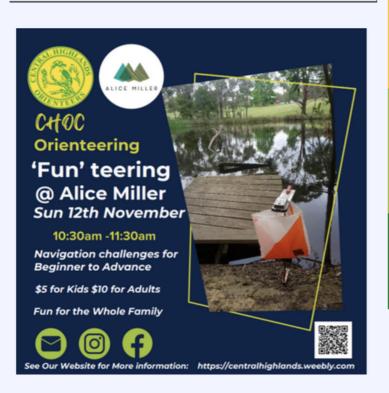
For all Faith & Family related matters, please email: nicole.sherlockbyrne@sawoodend.catholic.edu.au

Faith & Family 18



COMMUNITY NEWS







Central Highlands Orienteers 1 d . 🖓

Double header this week in Macedon

Wednesday night 8th Nov Return of our twilight series Registrations from 6pm starts 6.30-7pm: Ash Wednesday Park

Up to an hour to explore and complete course

Sunday 12th Nov 'Fun'teering at Alice Miller. Registrations and starts 10.30-11.30am Shorter style line courses to challenge your navigation

MACEDON RANGES TWILIGHT ORIENTEERING SERIES 2023



RETURNS 8TH NOV AT MACEDON ASH WEDNESDAY PARK 6:30PM

COURSES

Range from 3km up to 9km. There will be a course suitable for children and families without the need to cross major roads.

Events take up to an hour and can be completed individually or in a group. Walk, jog or run it is up to you.

REGISTRATION

From 6pm, starts 6.30-7pm Course close 8pm

\$3 children and \$5 adults includes map and hire of electronic timing reader

8th NOV MACEDON Ash Wednesday Park, Smith St

15th NOV KYNETON Barry Doyle Rotunda, Cnr Piper St & Campaspe Cres

22nd NOV WOODEND Campaspe Park Reserve, 4 Campaspe Drive

29th NOV ROMSEY Lions Reserve Playground, 50 Main St

6th DEC GISBORNE Adventure Playground, 10 Brantome St

Macedon Ranges



SCAN THE QR CODE FOR WEBSITE:



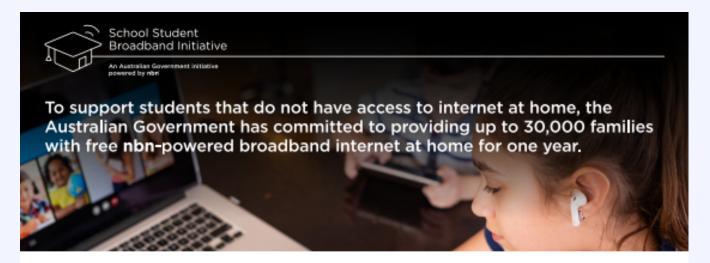






19 Community News





You may be eligible for the School Student Broadband initiative (SSBI) if you:

Have a school-aged child

Have no active nbn connection or have not disconnected in the last 14 days

Live in a premise that is serviced by the nbn network.



Scan the QR for more information.

To check your eligibility:

- Contact the National Referral Centre on 1800 954 610 (Mon-Fri, 10am-6pm AEDT)
- 📵 www.anglicarevic.org.au/student-internet

Callback and webchat functions are also available via the



Translating and Interpreting Services are available.



To support students that do not have access to internet at home, the Australian Government has committed to providing up to 30,000 families with free nbn-powered broadband internet at home for one year.

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20 Community News