



Term Four, Newsletter 25
Friday 20th October, 2023

St Ambrose Parish School

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



	Assembly 2.45pm
Tuesday 24 October 2023	SHC Junior Chef Competition 4-6pm
Wednesday 25 October 2023	School Advisory Council meeting 9.30am
Friday 27 October 2023	World Teacher's Day
Tuesday 31 October 2023	Grade 5 visit Goodstart Centre
Wednesday 1 November 2023	Senior Year Level Mass – 9.30am
Thursday 2 November 2023	Parents & Friends meeting 2.30pm
Monday 6 November 2023	Student free day – Report writing
Tuesday 7 November 2023	Melbourne Cup Public Holiday
Wednesday 8 November 2023	Prep Orientation Session 1 – 9-10am Prep uniform fitting 10-11am
Friday 10 November 2023	Junior Year Level Mass – 9.30am
Tuesday 14 November 2023	Grade 5 visit Goodstart Centre
Wednesday 15 November 2023	Prep Orientation Session 2 – 9-10am Prep uniform fitting 10-11am Advent Paralfurgy 2.45pm
Thursday 16 November 2023	Grade 5 Leadership Day Grade 6 Transition Day – St Mary's Primary School, Lancefield
Wednesday 22 November 2023	Advent Paralfurgy 2.45pm
Friday 24 November 2023	Bike Ed. In PE - Grades 3-6
Tuesday 28 November 2023	Grade 5 visit Goodstart Centre
Wednesday 29 November 2023	Advent Paralfurgy 2.45pm
Friday 1 December 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 Incurson End of Term/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 6-8pm
Tuesday 12 December 2023	Sacred Heart College Orientation Day
Wednesday 13 December 2023	Canteen closed Advent Paralfurgy 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)



We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of this land. We pay our respect to elders past, present, and future. They hold the story, hope, and dream for all.

Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of our teachers. They work hard to help elevate our knowledge, and with this prayer, we hope our appreciation for them reaches their hearts. Thank You for blessing us with teachers who are not only selfless, but motivators who help us find purpose and meaning in school.

Message from the Principal: Pg 2

School News: Pg 3-4

Student News: Pg 5-6

School Events: Pg 7

Prek K Classroom Feature: Pg 8

Around the School: Pg 9

Mental Health & Wellbeing: Pg 10

Faith & Family: Pg 11

Community News: Pg 12-13

- All are welcome to our assembly on Monday, Oct. 23rd at 2.50pm in the hall.
- Our next newsletter will go out on Friday, November 3rd
- School Advisory Council Meeting Wednesday, 25th 9.30 am

Message from the Principal

Dear families, parishioners, and friends,

It is terrific to observe our students enjoying our beautiful outdoor spaces on these lovely spring days.

You will notice that the side gates on Anslow Street have been fenced off to allow safe access into the library for our builders who are now renovating that area. The library refurbishment is the final stage of this building project. I have submitted another application for funding to resurface our hardcourts and we hope to get an affirmative outcome!

We will find out early next year.

We will also be installing two pedestrian gates along the Anslow St fence as well as the Urquhart Street fence to give access to the back of the school from the street. We feel truly blessed to have what will be a contemporary, and beautiful school building and environment which offers comfortable and flexible learning spaces.

Next Friday we will celebrate World Teachers Day in Victoria, although we do appreciate the dedication of our teachers every day! Each year this day is marked internationally to acknowledge teachers all over the world.

I would like to honour our amazing teaching staff

Mrs. Macca, Mr. Portelli, Mrs. White, Ms. Te Waita, Erin, Mr. Old, Mr. Lawlor, Mrs. McLay, Mrs. Devlin, Mrs. Watts, Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Callinan, Mrs. McMahon, Ms. Keenan, Mrs. Raco, Mrs. Woodman, Mrs. Old, Mrs. Cavric, Mrs. Byrne, Ms. Shannon, Mrs. Boldiston, Mrs. Geisler,

and all of our CRT staff.

Along with our ESO staff, we have a dynamic team! We thank them for their devotion to their vocation. We thank them for caring deeply, for encouraging their students to immerse themselves in their learning, for empowering them and supporting them to work together all while developing and growing as fine young people with Christian values and integrity.

This year, the theme for World Teachers' Day is 'The Teachers We Need for the Education We Want: The Global Imperative to Reverse the Teacher Shortage'.



Class Structures 2024

After careful consideration of our 2024 students and their needs and in consultation with leadership, consultative committee, and staff we have decided on the following class structures for 2024:

Prep
Prep
1/2
1/2
1/2
3/4
3/4
3/4
5/6
5/6



This model offers low numbers in our junior and middle classes as well as the opportunity for all teachers and students to plan and collaborate with like classes.

Class Groupings 2024

Now that our class structures are in place, our teachers are more closely considering class groupings for 2024. In doing this, academic, social, and emotional considerations are taken into account to inform decisions.

We are fortunate at St. Ambrose to have our teachers plan learning activities together and that also allows our children to mix across the class groupings. Our combined knowledge of your children guides us as we place children in their classes for the coming year.

You may email your child's current teacher, Debbie Geisler, or myself before October 26th, 2023 if there are considerations we need to be aware of that we may not know already.

St. Ambrose Parish School is a Child Safe School called to action through Gospel values. Through the mission of Jesus, we are dedicated to pursuing the fullness of life for all.

Indeed, school is a place where children benefit by learning how to relate to all of their peers rather than spending time with only a few favourite friends or children with the same interests and talents. In

doing this they learn about themselves in relationships and identify qualities within others that they find positive and assuring for themselves. It enables them to grow when they experience many varied friendships and children of different learning abilities than their own.

Our step-up day is on Tuesday, December 5th. This is when our students move into their classes for 2024. We will inform you prior to this day of your child's class and teacher for 2024.

To assist with managing enrolments for 2024 I ask that any families who already know they will not be returning to St. Ambrose who haven't already done so to please contact the school office. This allows us to contact families waiting for places as well as assisting with class lists and planning.

Thank you for the continued trust that you place in us to support your precious children in their learning journey.



Summer Hats

All children need to have their summer hat at school to wear for outdoor play this term.

Uniform & Footwear

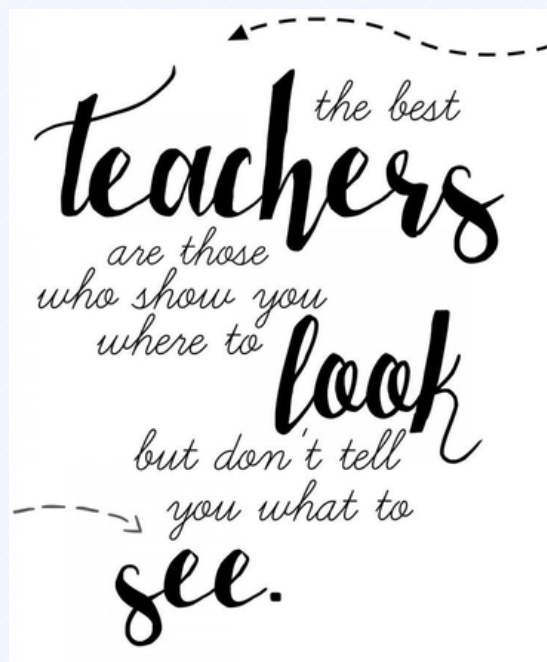
Thank you for ensuring your children are coming to school in the correct uniform. We have noted the effort made and that the vast majority of students are following our uniform policy. Great! Footwear should be all black unless it is their PE lesson day on Thursday or Friday. Year six students are required to all wear BLACK footwear each day other than Friday. NAVY socks need to be worn every day.

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 a.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



Our next newsletter will go out on November 3rd

**Bronwyn Phillips
Principal**



Private Music Lessons

The Ranges Music Network is excited to join the St. Ambrose school community in Term 4!

Choose from a great mix of fun and engaging group and individual music programs on Guitars, Woodwinds, Keyboards, Drums, Strings, Voice plus mini-bands, and more. We've set up a special page on our website for St. Ambrose families at <https://rangesmusic.net/saps>. There you'll find information on our inclusive and accessible programs and everything you'll need to get started.

Each program includes a minimum of 8 lessons per term plus additional ensemble activities, special projects, recording sessions, music videos, and more!

We also have access to affordable, valuable student instruments for purchase and hire and are always available for help and advice when choosing an instrument to start or to grow with. Contact our Program Director, Shaun Evans at shaun@rangesmusic.net with any questions you have.

NEW Group & Individual Music Programs are coming to St. Ambrose Primary in Term 4!



We're really excited to join in the St. Ambrose Primary School community with our fun and inclusive music program. The Ranges Music Network values accessibility and inclusivity in everything we do. Music is a language and we want to have fun with our musicians. **That's why we #playtolearn!**



Guitar

Bass

Piano / Keyboard

Woodwinds

Drums

Ukulele

Violin

Brass

Voice

+ Bands!!



get started at
RANGESMUSIC.NET/SAPS

Student News



 THE MOUNT PLAYERS
&
BOILERHOUSE THEATRE COMPANY
proudly present

 **Peter Pan** 
A MUSICAL ADVENTURE



Based on J.M. Barrie's original play
with permission from
Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children

Music by George Stiles
Lyrics by Anthony Drewe
Book by Willis Hall

November
3rd-26th 2023

The Mountview Theatre,
56 Smith St, Macedon

Book tickets at:
www.themountplayers.com
or call 54261892



PETER PAN (Stiles/Drewe Version)
Licensed exclusively by MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL (AUSTRALASIA)

All the best for your performances in
the Mount Players'
Peter Pan production
Kai Z.

Please contact the
office if these are your
child's glasses?



Happy Birthday

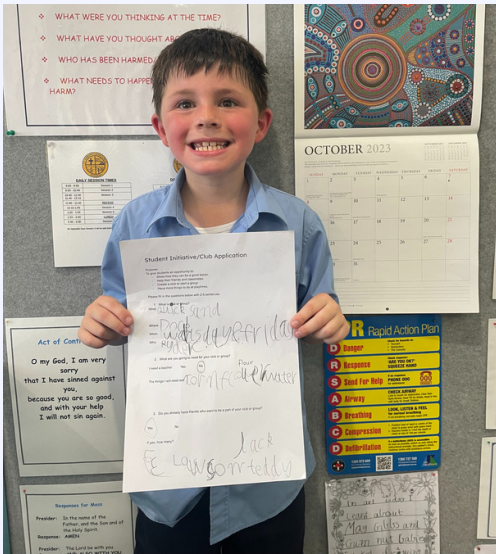
20 October Zach H
23 October Charlotte N
24 October Lily A
25 October Darcy S
26 October Sebby C



Student Initiatives & Sporting Achievements

State Athletics
Here we come!!

Congratulations again to our under 10 girls 4 x 100m relay team who made it to the state championships to be held on 1st November. Elke, Elsie, Harriet & Tora.



Ryder is pictured above presenting his idea for a quick sand club!



Also congratulations to Elke who ran her personal best times in both the 100m and 200m sprint races to come 1st and 2nd in these events at regionals, meaning she is also running these sprints at the state titles.

Great work girls!!

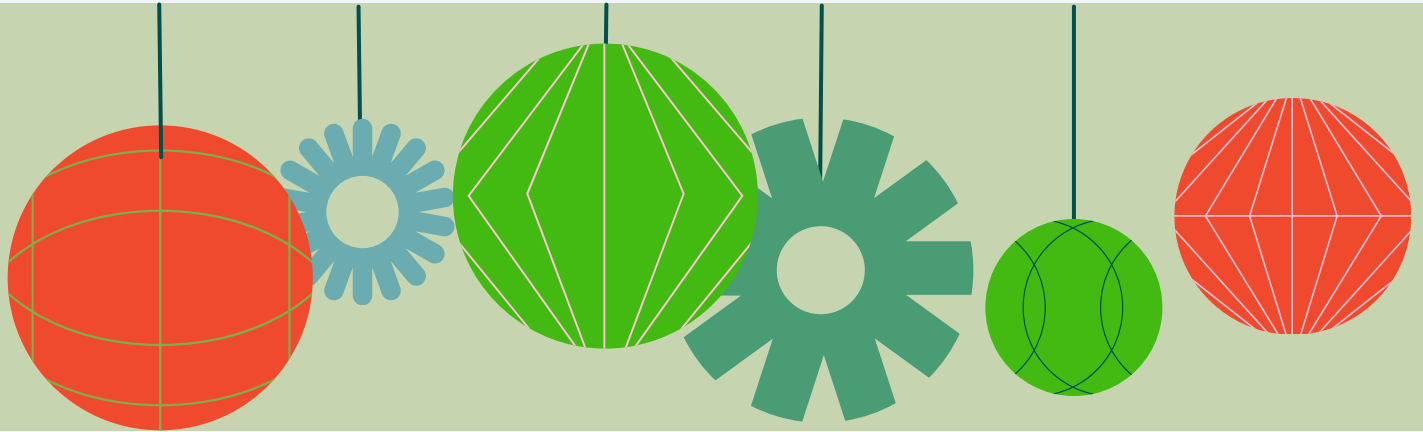


Flexischools allergen notice

You will see an allergen notice when you next order canteen through Flexischools.

Please note that nothing has changed in the production or handling of canteen food. We are just making families aware that great care is taken to reduce the potential cross contamination of allergens.

SCHOOL EVENTS



Christmas is coming...

and it's time to start gathering donations for our annual Christmas Raffle!

This year we will offer 15-20 hampers as prizes.

Each class will be given a colour and theme for their donation which can be placed in the Christmas box in their classroom.

If you own, run, or are part of a business, we would very much appreciate some corporate or voucher donations that can be added to a hamper or stand alone as a prize.

The raffle will be drawn at our school picnic and Christmas Carols on 7 December 2023.



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

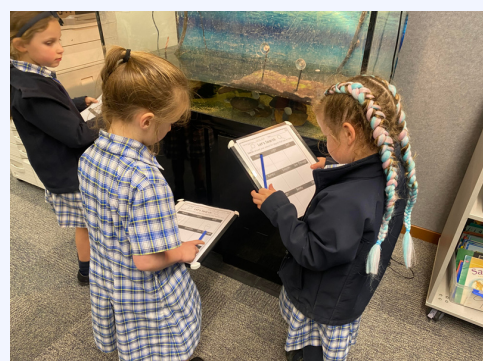
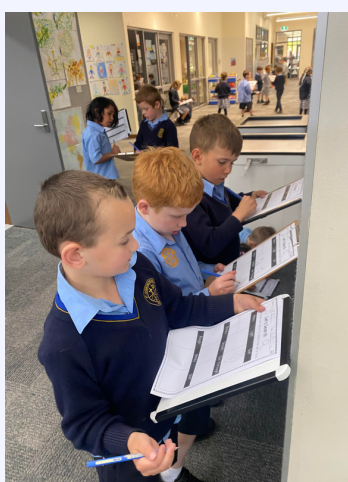
Thank you for your support!



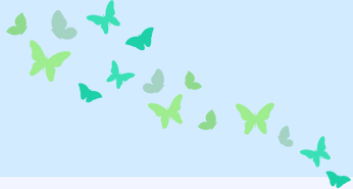
PREP K CLASSROOM FEATURE

SCIENCE FUN!

LAST FRIDAY PREP K ENJOYED A FUN MORNING OF SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS WITH SAM FROM SUPREME INCURSIONS. WE EXPLORED EXPLODING BAGS AND MADE OUR OWN SLIME!

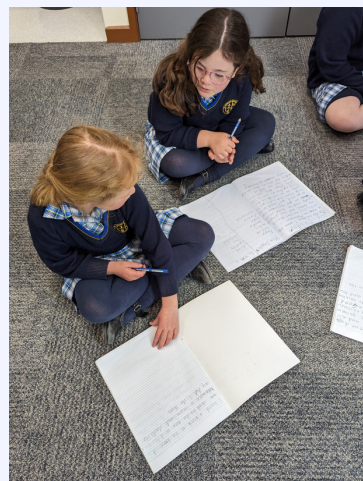
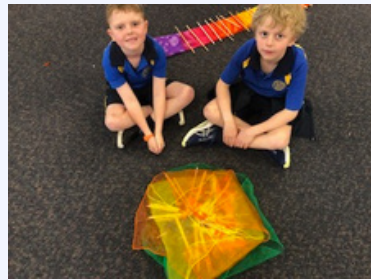


WE HAVE BEEN LEARNING ABOUT MATERIALS AND THEIR PROPERTIES AND AS SCIENTISTS, INVESTIGATED, OBSERVED AND EXPLORED THE PROPERTIES OF OBJECTS IN OUR SCHOOL.



AROUND THE SCHOOL

PREP-GRADE 2 INDIGENOUS CREATIONS



GRADE 5 VISIT TO GOODSTART





RESILIENCE, RIGHTS & RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS PROGRAM IS COMING IN 2024

We strive to provide our students, in alignment with our Catholic values, with the knowledge, skills and practice in developing their personal and social capabilities as they develop into teens and adults. We want to instill in the students a deep understanding of empathy for themselves and others, a great knowledge of who they are, how to seek help, how to build positive relationships and to understand gender stereotypes as well as what gender equality means.

That is why we are excited to announce that in 2024 and 2025, we will be introducing The Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships (RRRR) program into our classrooms from Prep-6. We will be following in the footsteps of many Catholic schools across the state.

The program is designed sequentially and age appropriately, leading students at all year levels to develop their skills and knowledge in the following areas:

- Topic 1: Emotional Literacy**
- Topic 2: Personal Strengths**
- Topic 3: Positive Caring**
- Topic 4: Problem Solving**
- Topic 5: Stress Management**
- Topic 6: Help seeking**
- Topic 7: Gender & Identity**
- Topic 8: Positive Gender Relations**

Topics 7 & 8 focus on building and promoting gender equity in relationships and the challenging of gender stereotypes. When teaching about gender inequality and related issues (such as gender-based violence, delivered age appropriately), students need assistance to understand the difference between the inherent biological differences between males and females (eg. termed differences between the sexes), and learned social and cultural differences (eg. termed gender differences). Children benefit from learning about the ways in which gender norms are created and transmitted. They benefit from critical thinking exercises which demonstrate and challenge the limiting nature of many traditional gender norms, as well as learn to value and show respect for diversity and difference, which aligns beautifully with the teachings of Jesus.

Respectful Relationships is a whole-school approach, recognising that schools are a place of learning, a workplace and a key part of local communities. It will lead us to embed a culture of respect and equality across our entire school community, from our classrooms to staff rooms, sporting fields and social events. This approach leads to positive impacts on students' academic outcomes, their mental health, class behaviour, and relationships between teachers and students.

Studies show that school-based violence prevention and respectful relationships initiatives can make a real difference, producing lasting change in attitudes and behaviours in students. The Department of Education and Training has provided a range of evidence based resources to support teaching and learning about respectful relationships.

You can find all of the lessons, resources and materials on the Department's website. Please feel free to explore and if you have any questions please reach out.

<https://fuse.education.vic.gov.au/Search/Results?AssociatedPackageId=&QueryText=Level+3-4+Resilience%2C+Rights+and+Respectful+Relationships&SearchScope=All>

Q&A Sessions with Erin Brass, our Mental Health & Wellbeing Leader
Tuesday 21st November- 9.00am-9.20am at school
Tuesday 21st November- 5.30-5.50pm online via google meet



JOIN THE CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS

Faith & Family

Loving God,
We pray for the wisdom to heed your call.
Help us recognise the value of your invitation and not be consumed by
worldly distractions or pride.
Grant us the humility to accept your grace and share in the joy of
your heavenly banquet.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord

Amen

A Wondering:

Whenever material things, money, worldliness, become the centre
of our lives, they take hold of us, they possess us; we lose our very
identity as human beings.

Pope Francis -

Do you let worldly distractions or pride deter you from God's love?

What is God inviting you to consider at the moment?

TERM 4 IMPORTANT RE DATES:

WEDNESDAY 25TH OCTOBER - MIDDLE YEARS MASS - 9.30AM

WEDNESDAY 1ST NOVEMBER - SENIOR YEARS MASS - 9.30AM

FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER - JUNIOR YEARS MASS - 9.30AM

WEDNESDAY 15TH NOVEMBER - 1ST ADVENT LITURGY - 'HOPE' - 2.45PM

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

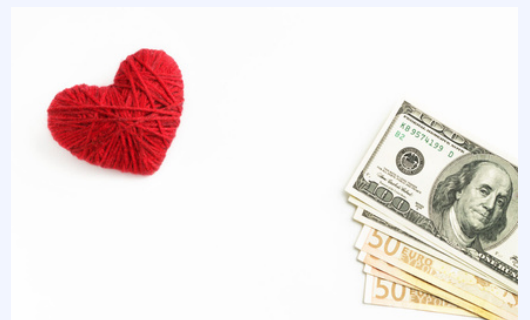
WEDNESDAY 29TH NOVEMBER - 3RD ADVENT LITURGY - 'JOY' - 2.45PM

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.

GOSPEL REFLECTION:
28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
(MATTHEW 22:15-21): 'TAXES TO CAESAR.'



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



COMMUNITY NEWS

THE MOUNT PLAYERS
&
BOILERHOUSE THEATRE COMPANY
proudly present

Peter Pan
A MUSICAL ADVENTURE

Based on J.M. Barrie's original play
with permission from
Great Ormond Street Hospital For Children

Music by George Stiles
Lyrics by Anthony Drewe
Book by Willis Hall

November
3rd-26th 2023

The Mountview Theatre,
56 Smith St, Macedon

Book tickets at:
www.themountplayers.com
or call 54261892

PETER PAN (Stiles/Drewe Version)
Licensed exclusively by MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL (AUSTRALASIA)

Garage Sale Trail

WOODEND NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

Woodend Community Yard Sale

WOODEND NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE
47 FOREST STREET, WOODEND

SAT 18 NOV 2023 • 8AM UNTIL 1PM

SELL YOUR PRE-LOVED TREASURES
BOOK A STALL ONLINE VIA WOODENDNH.ORG.AU
OR VISIT THE HOUSE OR CALL 5427 1845

GARDEN STALL (OUTDOORS): \$10
TABLE STALL (INDOORS): \$5

Come and Learn Karate and Self-Defence!

Where: Trentham District Primary School

When: Tuesday and Thursday
6:30pm – 8:00pm

Contact: Mark Stephens – 0427945245

More information visit www.Junseikan.com.au



日本伝拳法剛柔流順晴館

NIPPON DEN KEMPO GOJU RYU JUNSEIKAN INTERNATIONAL

For ages 7 years and older
Families Welcome!



COMMUNITY NEWS



Showcasing inclusion

Enter this digital photo competition to show what inclusion for people with disability means to you!





Scan here to enter

For more information visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/IDPWD
email epulleine@mrsc.vic.gov.au
phone 5422 0333



International Day of
People with Disability

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT BUSHFIRE?



As summer approaches, it's time to start talking about bushfires. To help start the conversation, Woodend CFA wants to know what questions you have about fire.

1. What do you want to know?
2. What will help you feel more prepared?
3. How would you like to receive information?

Scan the QR code, message on Facebook or speak to us at the next Woodend Farmers Market to let us know



SCAN ME

We'll use your answers to help prioritise the information we provide, and support the people of Woodend to keep thinking and talking about bushfires and what they mean for our community.

