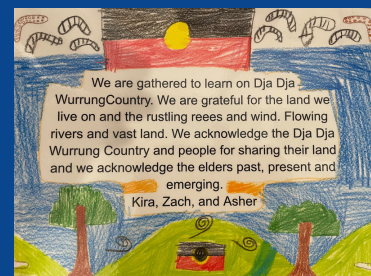




Term Four, Newsletter 26
Friday 3rd November, 2023

St Ambrose Parish School

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



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 Paraliturg 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 Paraliturg 2.45pm
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 Paraliturg 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 Incurison 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 6.30-8pm
Tuesday 12 December 2023	Sacred Heart College Orientation Day
Wednesday 13 December 2023	Canteen closed Advent Paraliturg 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)

Bless our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander brothers and sisters and bless us. Help us to join our hands and hearts together. Help us to heal one another and the land, so that our lives may flow with harmony and that we may live with love and deep respect. Amen.

-Student Free Day Monday 6th November
Staff report writing.

-Public Holiday Tuesday 7th November
Melbourne Cup

-Students return on Wednesday 8th November.

-Our next Newsletter will go out on Nov 17th

Message from the Principal: Pg 1
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Message from the Principal

Dear families, parishioners, and friends,

There certainly is a lot happening throughout our school and community over this final term of the year. You will notice the Harring-inspired work our children completed to brighten up our school during COVID-19 times has been painted over in preparation for the children to work with local artist Daniel Butterworth to create fresh expressions of our local area. These works will invite us into our outdoor sanctuary where we are planning on designing totems and ground art to offer our respect to our First Nations people. The students are also working on a St Ambrose Acknowledgement to Country which we will document in our front foyer.

Our children begin each assembly with an acknowledgment of country which is followed by singing our national anthem, (pictured on the front of this newsletter). Indeed we pray for an inclusive and just shared future for all who call Australia home.



It is great to honour the achievement of our students at assemblies and hope they feel a sense of pride in the growth they have made.

We aim to keep the children as our focus with their best interests at heart as we make the most of each day's learning opportunities and celebrate the milestones over the remainder of this year. Given the shorter week next week our next newsletter will be sent on Friday 17th of November. Please note The **school will be closed on Monday 6th (staff report writing day) and Tuesday 7th (Cup Day).**



Building Update



Raysett are progressing very well with the renovation of our library and performing arts areas which will be completed by the end of the term. From the pictures you can see the extra space we will have as well as the options for outdoor classroom areas. We are currently looking at furnishing options for this space.

How exciting!



African Drumming



Our 3-4 classes immersed themselves in the art of African drumming and dancing this week. Much fun was had by all!

Staffing Update

Mr. Michael Lawlor is relocating to another area in the new year which means he will be finishing with us at the end of this year. It has been great to have Michael on our team over the past two years and we wish him all of the very best in the next chapter of his life. We are in the process of engaging an innovative teacher to replace Michael.

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.



Thank you to E.J. from Buffalo Sports (Ruby & Charlotte's Dad) for his very generous donation of balls for students to enjoy.

School Improvement Planning

Our school leadership team is pictured above working on our four-year strategic plan which is informed by our school review.

MACS consultants are supporting us with this planning which we will share with you in a few weeks.



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.

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 x 2

1/2 x 3

3/4 x 3

5/6 x 2

One of the most beautiful things in the world we can do is to help one another. Kindness doesn't cost a thing.

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.

Thank you Karen White



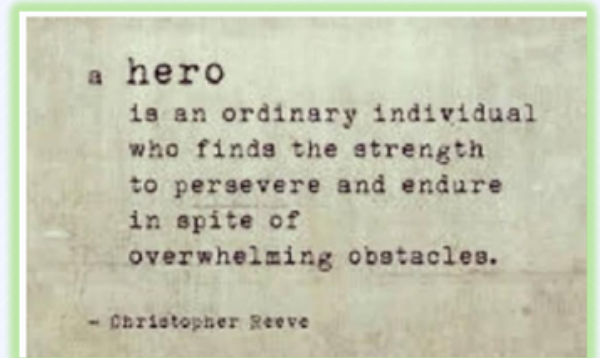
We thank Karen White for journeying down to St Ambrose to work with 5-6P while Mr. Portelli was on leave. Karen is finishing today and we will welcome back Mr. Portelli on Wednesday.

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](#)




Enjoy the long weekend everyone. We will see you back at St. Ambrose on Wednesday!



Bronwyn Phillips
Principal

Independent Writing in Prep K


Elise
8.11.23
The Mouse Was a
Clever Mouse.
The Mouse was in a
harness and
he was going
to get the cheese
in a Mouse trap.



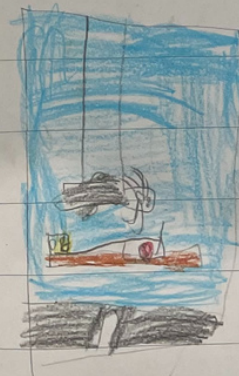
The Mouse is curious of
the cheese because ^{mice} (mouse)
love cheese. The mouse
is ^{trying} chring to get the
chreese from the
mouse trap.
Isabelle 31.1.23



The mouse was
wearing a harness. The
mouse was trying to
get the cheese.



The mouse was mischevious it was
^{itself} lowering it's self down.
It saw the Mouse trap and it
^{really} was wants to get the cheese.





Student Awards



Prep K Dominic O for fantastic collaboration when exploring measurement in Maths!

Prep K Amelia S for sounding out words that she is writing! Well done Amelia.

Prep K Harry O for improvements to his writing and focus in Writing time - amazing work Harry - well done!

Prep K Alfred O for fantastic collaboration in reading about tree frogs!

1/2CM Ryder M for demonstrating how he uses great maths strategies.

1/2CM Gwen G for making her writing entertaining by using adjectives.

1/2CM Lawson N for listening and showing great focus. Excellent!

1/2RO James B for taking responsibility for tasks in the classroom without being asked!

1/2RO Molly M for demonstrating a great understanding of fact families!

1/2RO Leo W for working so hard to complete his persuasive writing!

1/2RO Jordan M for demonstrating a great understanding of fact families!

1/2WL Mosako S for working well with learning his spelling words.

1/2WL Ruby W for super counting and number work.

1/2WL William C for great work on his persuasive writing topic.

1/2WL Darcy S for showing leadership skills in work and play activities.

3/4L Elsie A for showing leadership in classroom activities.

3/4L Leon G for showing a positive attitude this term.

3/4L Josh R for always offering to help his class mates.

3/4M Joel W for extending himself while researching his information poster.

3/4M Tom L for his thoughtful contribution to all class discussions.

3/4O Ellie B for a great performance in readers theatre.

3/4O Max N for consistently showing all of our PBL.

5/6M Austin S for his funny, creative poetry about "Dinglemouse!"

5/6M George S for always trying hard to learn more...What a fabulous trait!

5/6P Tahlia J for showing respect during class discussions.

5/6P Will B for an imaginative poem about a bad day.

5/6P Alani F for being responsible during group work.

5/6T Darcy C for demonstrating kindness to his peers in their time of need.

5/6T Mia T for demonstrating responsibility by helping others when needed.

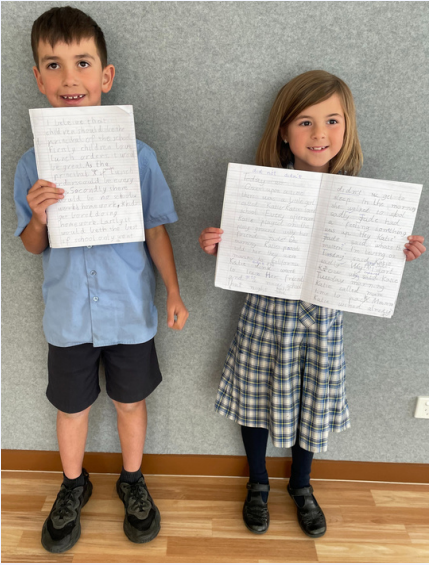
PBL Bronze award - Elliott N, Harry O, Dominic O, Lizzy R, Mateo S, Florence H and Elise M.

PBL Silver award - Olive S, Mollie H, James B, Evelyn C, Annie D, Bassy G, Augie L, and Lucy S

PBL Gold award - Rose A



Student Achievements



Jethro and Marli are proud of their persuasive writing.

Past Students' visit



Tomas T (class of 2017) has now finished Year 12 so he called in with flowers to thank Mrs Eloise Meyer (past teacher) for her dedication to teaching him.
Congratulations Tomas!

Student Initiatives



Audrey and Violet presenting their garden plans.

Junior PE

This week in junior PE we were lucky enough to partner with coaches from Macedon Ranges Basketball Association (MRBA) using our sporting schools grant through the government's Sporting Schools program.

We had Nick and Molly come coach the prep to two students some basketball skills used in their Aussie Hoops program. Nick was a prep student when I (Mrs Cavric) started my teaching at St. Ambrose, from a beautiful local family. He won a basketball scholarship to the US (unfortunately start of Covid) and has completed his Cybersecurity degree over there.

It was great to see Nick back at St. Ambrose. We continue the program next week to learn more skills. Thanks to MRBA for working with us to organise these session.

(See photos in "Around the School").





Junior Chef Competition Finals

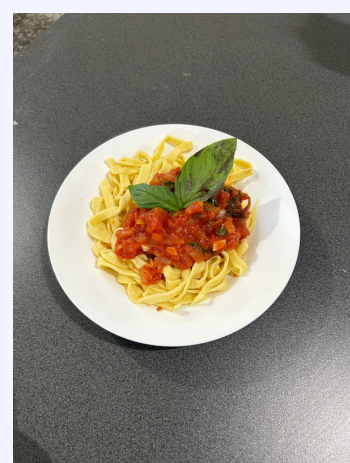
On Tuesday we (Madeline, Joel, Sophie, and Harriet) went to the junior chef competition finals. We had one hour to cook a napoli sauce with fresh homemade pasta. We were competing against five other schools.

When the timer started everything was going well. We had 5 minutes to plan so we decided that Madeline and Sophie would be on the sauce and Joel and Harriet would be on the pasta. With not long to go our pasta machine broke so we had to get a new one, which took up a bit of our time.

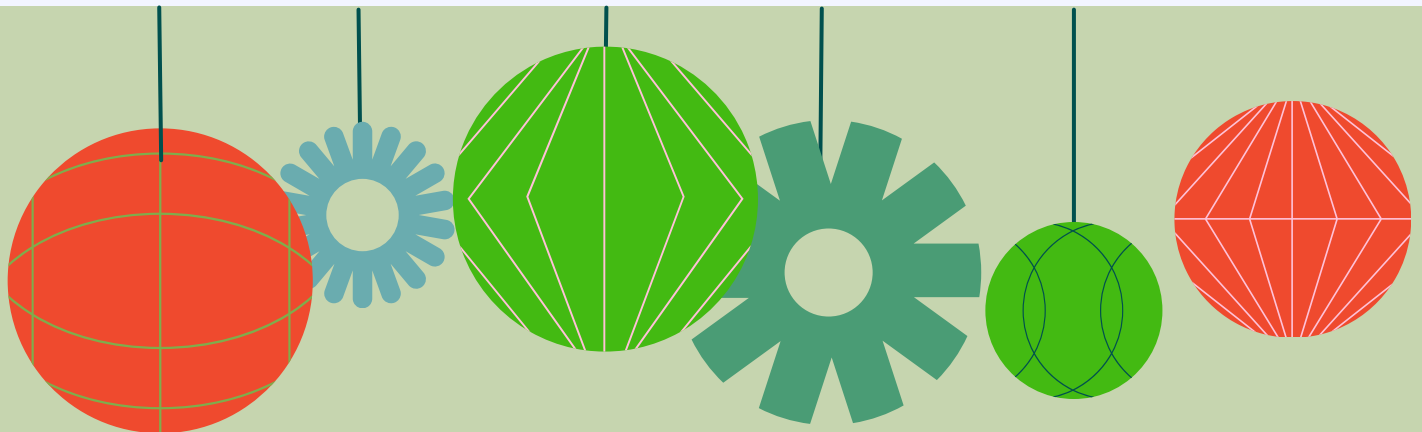
So we had to go with the pasta that we had. We went to put it on the stove, but there was a big line so we had to wait. With about 3 minutes to go our pasta was cooking and still needed longer on the stove.

With 15 seconds to go we took it out and Joel ran with the pasta while the audience was shouting 10, 9, 8, 7, and raced to the table, he quickly put some of the pasta in a bowl and the rest of the team put some sauce on top and quickly added some basil and cheese with only 2 seconds to go. We got no bad feedback by the judges, but unfortunately did not win.

We all had a great time though! Thank you Katie D for being an awesome coach!



SCHOOL EVENTS



Christmas is coming...

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

Thank you for your donations which can be placed in the Christmas box in your child's classroom.

Prep K - Toys and children's gifts.
1/2CM - Christmas decorations.
1/2WL - Red/green Christmas trimmings.
1/2RO - Gold/silver Christmas trimmings.
3/4L - Christmas fare food.
3/4M - Christmas fare food.
3/4O - Christmas fare food.
5/6M - Christmas drinks.
5/6P - Vouchers.
5/6T - Christmas drinks/vouchers.

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!

SCHOOL EVENTS



**St Ambrose
Parish School
Fete**

SATURDAY 16 MARCH 2024
9AM-1PM

- ✓ Fun & Games
- ✓ Arts & Crafts
- ✓ Market Stalls
- ✓ Live Entertainment

St Ambrose Parish School
18 Templeton Street, Woodend

 [@STAMBROSEPARISHSCHOOLFETE](#)

Calling all Green Thumbs

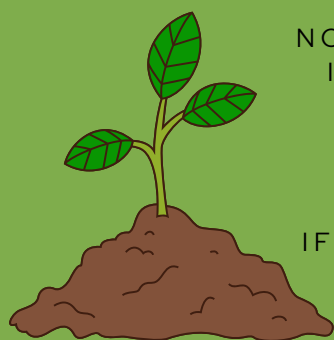


SPRING IS HERE!

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.

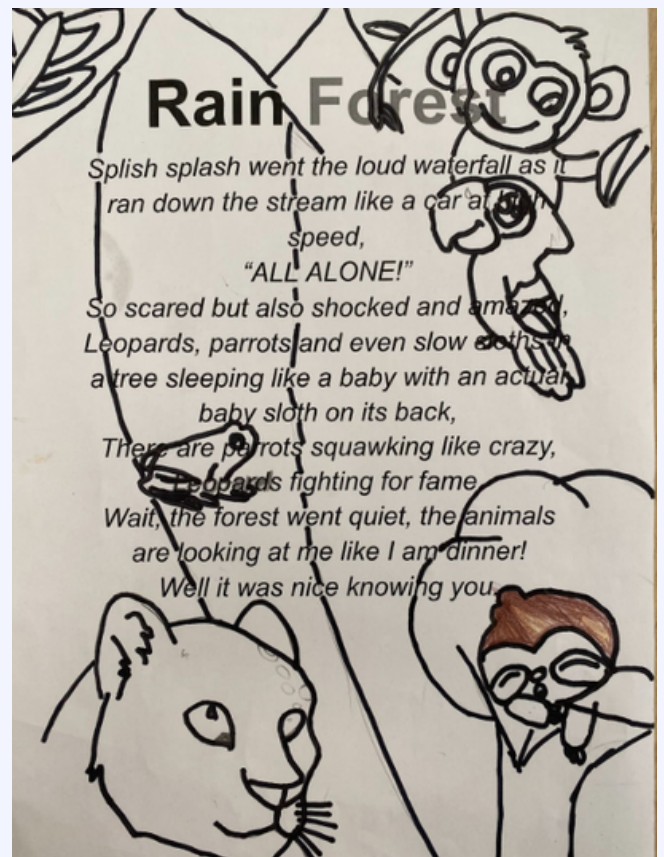
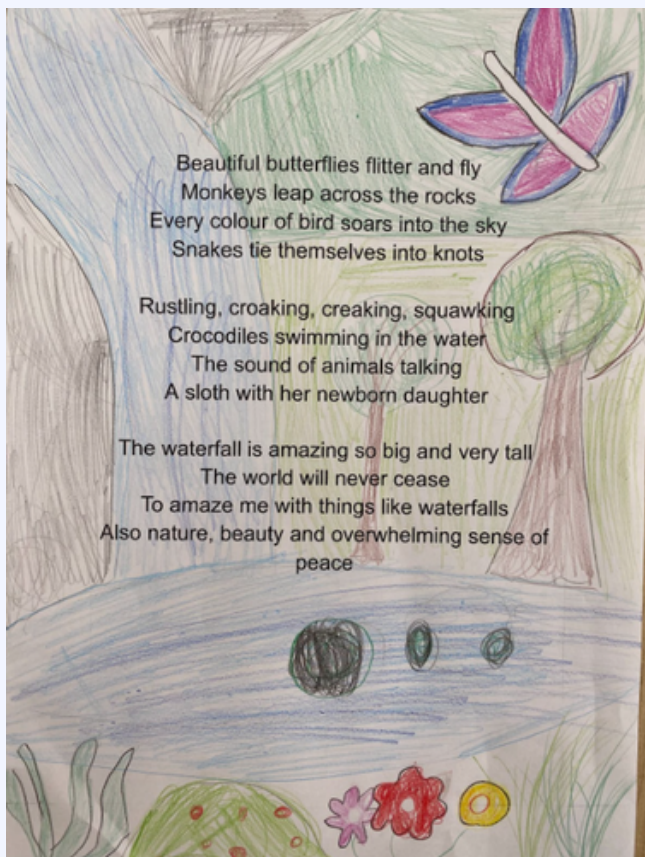
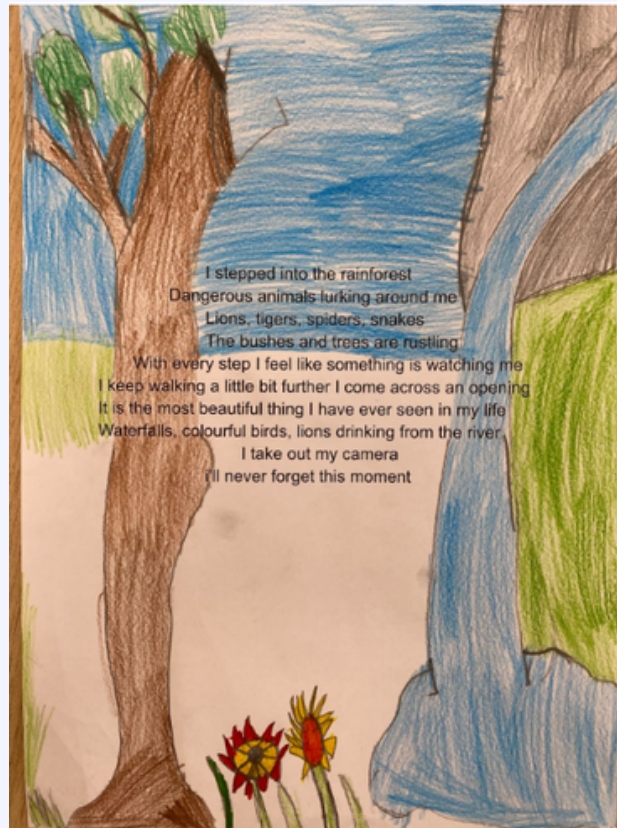
IF YOU NEED POTS OR OTHER SUPPLIES PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH HELEN MORRONGIELLO ON 0433 698 476.





5/6P CLASSROOM FEATURE

This term we've been exploring different types of poetry including Limericks, Ballads, Odes & Free Verse. We used a visual prompt of a jungle to write our own free verse poem.



AROUND THE SCHOOL



A cold snap last week!



A visit from the Kinder.



African Drumming with Grades 3/4.



MRBA coaches Nick & Molly with our Prep-2 students.



THE MOST IMPORTANT 9 MINUTES OF EACH DAY

The way you spend **THREE MINUTES** during these times throughout the day and night will have a huge impact on your child's mindset, brain development and well being!



THE FIRST 3 MINUTES WHEN THEY **WAKE UP**

INSTEAD OF:

- ♦ Abrupt wake-ups and rushing

TRY:

- ♦ "Let's lay and wake up together in 3 minutes."
- ♦ "What are you most looking forward to today?"
- ♦ "I love starting my day snuggling with you."

THE FIRST 3 MINUTES WHEN THEY **GET HOME FROM SCHOOL**

INSTEAD OF:

- ♦ Letting them run to the TV
- ♦ Asking them about homework
- ♦ Greeting them from the other room

TRY:

- ♦ "I'm so happy to see you. Tell me about the best part of your day."
- ♦ "You look sad. Let's snuggle for a minute."
- ♦ "Let's have a snack and share our highs and lows of the day."

THE LAST 3 MINUTES BEFORE THEY **GO TO SLEEP**

INSTEAD OF:

- ♦ Saying goodnight and sending them off to bed on their own
- ♦ Tucking them in and leaving right away

TRY:

- ♦ "What were you most grateful for today?"
- ♦ "What was the best part of your day?"
- ♦ "I loved how you showed perseverance today."



JOIN THE CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS

Faith & Family

A Wondering:

During our early catholic formation, some of us were taught to love our neighbour, but the emphasis upon loving your neighbour 'as yourself' was omitted.

We are invited to love ourselves the way God loves us unconditionally. Love God, love your neighbour and remember to love yourself.

How easy is it to love others?
How difficult is it to love yourself?
Spend some loving time with God today.

Jesus, fill me with your unconditional love for everyone.

Make me love my enemies as much as my dearest friend.

Give me the love that you demand.

I don't have the wherewithal to love like you want, unless you give me your enabling grace.

Amen

TERM 4 IMPORTANT RE DATES:

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:

MATTHEW 22:24-30 - LOVE YOUR GOD WITH YOUR WHOLE HEART AND SOUL AND LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR AS YOURSELF."

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

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE WOODEND CRICKET CLUB

COMMUNITY OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT CHRISTMAS PARTY

INCLUDING SPECIAL GUEST APPEARANCE BY SANTA!

THE FUN STARTS FROM 6:30PM.
BRING ALONG THE WHOLE FAMILY!
FOOD & DRINKS AVAILABLE FOR
PURCHASE THROUGH THE CLUB.
MOVIE STARTS AT SUNSET.
GILBERT GORDON OVAL.

16

DECEMBER

FREE ENTRY
FOR EVERYONE!

elf

RSVP THROUGH
TRYBOOKING

MAJOR EVENT SPONSOR
SGA
Engineering
STRUCTURAL STEEL & STEEL SALES

SEASON 2024

PLAYER GRADING

JUNIORS + MINIROOS
GIRLS + BOYS

Monday - Wednesday
November 13 - 15, 2023 +
November 20 - 22, 2023

From 5pm
More details on the website
@Dixon Field

REGISTER NOW

gisbornesoccer.com.au

Places are limited.
Register your EOI before
5 November 2023.



COMMUNITY NEWS

KINDNESS CUP

An ecoChic 'nup to the cup' extravaganza



Non-horse races // Sustainable fashion - rent, reuse, op-shop, upcycle // Prizes for outrageous hats & glamour // Dancing // Delicious grazing platters // BYO drinks // Hilarity

NOV 7 | 2-5 PM

MALMSBURY TOWN HALL

PRE-PAID ENTRY \$35 ADULTS, \$30 MRS&G MEMBERS

\$5 KIDS (UNDER 12)



The Courageous Kids Writing Competition

Courageous Kids and their Amazing Adventures by Stephanie Owen Reeder and Liz Duthie contains seven stories about real-life young Australians who have shown amazing courage.

To celebrate its publication, primary school students in years 4-6 living in the Goldfields Libraries region, are invited to....

Write a story about a time YOU were courageous!

Your story of courage may be about a big adventure or a smaller moment, like when you stood up for a friend, performed in the school play or had to get through a tough time.

The story must be:

- Full of interesting and varied language
- Captivating and understandable for the reader
- Believable – but it doesn't have to be true!
- 300-500 words (neatly handwritten or typed)
- Hand deliver to your local Goldfields Libraries branch, or email Shae at shaeh@ncgrl.vic.gov.au

Entries close 5pm, Friday 24 Nov

More info at ncgrl.vic.gov.au/courageouskids



WIN

a signed copy of the book, a \$50 book voucher and a visit to your school by illustrator Liz Duthie!

Winner will be announced at the *Courageous Kids and their Amazing Adventures* book launch!

Saturday 2 December, 10:30-11AM

Castlemaine Library
212 Barker St, Castlemaine



CHOC
Orienteering

'Fun' teering
@ Alice Miller
Sun 12th November

10:30am -11:30am

Navigation challenges for
Beginner to Advance

\$5 for Kids \$10 for Adults

Fun for the Whole Family



See Our Website for More information: <https://centralhighlands.weebly.com>



REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER 2023

A FAMILY FUN DAY FULL OF T-BALL & SOFTBALL AT FAWKNER PARK, SOUTH YARRA



FOR KIDS AGED 5-12

ENTER YOUR

SCHOOL TEAM OR AS AN INDIVIDUAL PLAYER
(& BE PLACED IN A TEAM)

COACHES & SUPPORT PROVIDED FOR SCHOOL TEAMS

