

St Ambrose Primary School

Centred by Faith - In Partnership with Community -
We Provide Excellence in Learning

Respectful Responsible Resilient Kind



We pause to acknowledge the Dja Dja Wurrung people as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we learn. We pay our deepest respects to their Elders past, present, and emerging, and extend that respect to all First Nations people. We recognise their enduring connection to the lands, waters, and skies of this beautiful Country, a connection that has stretched across tens of thousands of years.



Our next newsletter will be published on Friday 1st June 2026.



God of Love,
We acknowledge the pain and shame of our history and the suffering of our peoples – especially the grief of those who were taken as children from their homes and families, taken from all they knew and loved.

We are deeply sorry that this happened
We give thanks for the survival of Indigenous cultures.
Give us the courage to acknowledge the realities of our history so that we may build a better future for our nation.

Teach us to respect all cultures.
Teach us to care for our land and waters.
Help us to share justly the resources of this land.
Help us to bring about spiritual and social change to improve the quality of life for all groups in our communities, especially the disadvantaged.
Help young people to find true dignity and self-esteem in the ways of your Spirit.

May the power of your love be the foundation on which we build our families, our communities and our nation.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Term 2 Dates

Saturday 30 May 2026	Sacrament of Confirmation 1pm
Monday 1 June 2026	SAC meeting 9.15am
Tuesday 2 June 2026	Region Cross Country St Arnaud
Wednesday 3 June 2026	Division Volleyball Bendigo Grade 5/6 x 18 students
Friday 5 June – Monday 8 June 2026	Woodend Winter Arts Festival
Monday 8 June 2026	King's Birthday Public Holiday
Tuesday 9 June 2026	Staff TIL Day – Pupil Free Day
Wednesday 10 June 2026	Assembly 2.45pm
Tuesday 16 June 2026	Grade 3/4 Western Water Incursion 11.40-3.30pm
Tuesday 23 June 2026	Curriculum Information Evening 5.30pm (for new enrolments across the school for families that would like to learn more about how we work with the students.)
Wednesday 24 June 2026	End of Term 2 Mass 9.30am Assembly 2.45pm
Friday 26 June 2026	End of Term 2 – dismissal 3.30pm
Saturday 27 June – Sunday 12 July 2026	School Holidays
Monday 13 July 2026	Term 3 commences. Swimming Program commences at Kyneton Sports & Aquatic Centre

Term Three Swimming Program - Helpers Needed

In order to deliver a successful swimming program and keep costs down we rely on the support of parent helpers at the swimming pool. We currently do not have enough volunteers to assist particularly in the junior classes. If you haven't already responded via nForma of your availability it would be great if you could ASAP. We need to be organised to begin the program in week one of term three. Thank you in anticipation of your support.



Confirmation Candidates

We pray for the candidates who will make the sacrament of Confirmation tomorrow at 1pm -

Eire B, Haley C, Felix D, Varli F, Leon G, Scarlett M, Angus N, A.J. S, Mirabelle S, Ruby Z W, Amari B, Olivia C, Alice C, Patrick F, Jim G, Isabelle M, Josh R and our parish children.

Canteen Help Needed

Katie does a wonderful job providing lunches to our students every Wednesday, but she needs some help. If you can assist in the canteen on any of the following dates for the remainder of Term 2, please contact the office.

Wednesday 3 June 2026 - 1 x 12-2pm
 Wednesday 10 June 2026 - 2 x 12-2pm
 Wednesday 17 June 2026 - 2 x 9-11am
 Wednesday 24 June 2026 - 1 x 9-11am / 1 x 12-2pm

Thank you!



Message from the Principal

Dear Families, Parishioners and Friends,

Our Prep class are pictured on the first page leading their first assembly at St Ambrose. They did a splendid job. It is heartwarming to watch our students grow in confidence and progress in their learning. This assembly was made even more special with many of our parents and some grandparents attending. Bravo to our Prep class, Mrs. Old and Joanna!



This week we recognised National Sorry Day. Officially the National Day of Healing.

It is part of the ongoing efforts towards reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.



As we mark National Sorry Day, we reflect with deep sorrow and humility on the painful history of forced removals and the ongoing impacts of past policies on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We acknowledge the profound trauma inflicted upon the Stolen Generations. We recognise the grief that echoes through generations of families and communities who were denied the right to grow up together, speak their language, and walk their ancestral lands.

"In saying 'sorry', we commit to listening, learning, and ensuring that the truths of our shared history are never forgotten."

On this National Sorry Day, we acknowledge the ongoing journey of truth-telling and healing necessary for true reconciliation.

We listen to the voices of the Dja Dja Wurrung people, honor their resilience, and work together toward a future built on mutual respect, justice, and shared understanding.

Message from the Principal

Shed Clean Up

Our sincere thanks to Meaghan, Kate K, Nadege and Renee for their help in cleaning up our shed.

We need some muscle power to restack the wooden tressle tables pictured below right before we can finish arranging the shelved items.

Please let the office know if you can be available any time during the week for about 30 minutes to assist us with this job.



Ambrose Care Thank you



We are incredibly grateful for our generous volunteers who give up their time to make sure that our fridge remains well stocked for those who may need support with meals during challenging times.

THANKYOU.

Indeed there were mouth watering aromas wofting from our canteen early last week!



Open Morning & Time to Enrol for 2027

Over our recent open morning we welcomed numerous families who toured our school. We thank our school leaders Eire and Olivia who were informative guides for our visitors. Our next open morning is on July 14th from 9.30 am - 11.00am A reminder to families with younger siblings starting in 2027. It is time to [enrol now](#).

Unexplained Absences

Our class roll is done by 9.05am each morning. If you drop off after the 9.00am bell you will need to sign your child in via the office and they then collect a late pass to take to their class teacher. If your child is going to be absent we ask that you log this through nForma. If we have unexplained absences Justine will send you a message. If we don't hear back from you by 10.00am Justine will then follow up with a phone call. Thankyou for your support in making sure that we have all of our students accounted for.

[Click here to see how a parent submits an attendance through the nForma parent portal.](#)

School Bus Route Update

Anita L continues to work with our school and other local schools in the hope that bus services will be extended to commence two new bus services that will benefit approx 40-50 students from our school.

We are a catholic school but we are working with two public schools to create the bus routes

One route will be with Woodend Primary incorporating Cobaw, Carlshurue, Pipers Creek and Newham. We have nearly completed this application and will submit in due course.

The other we are hoping will work with Heskett Primary. The challenge we are facing is reaching the minimum of 11 public school children for a new service application. At St Ambrose we have identified at last count more than 16 families this service would benefit.

We sincerely thank Anita for her work on this.



National Food Allergy Week



National Food Allergy Week aims to raise awareness about the seriousness of food allergies, promote safety and empathy, and educate on how to act in an anaphylaxis emergency.

In 2026 the key focus is on how to recognise the signs of anaphylaxis and knowing exactly what to do in an emergency situation.

Food allergies are a major public health issue. For example, Australia has one of the highest rates of food allergies and hospital anaphylaxis admissions globally.

The 2026 Theme: Focuses heavily on emergency preparedness—specifically, recognizing severe reactions and remembering the "Epi First, Epi Fast" mindset.

We are being called to be empowered and informed, to become "allergy aware"

Recognizing the Signs This Food Allergy Week

Anaphylaxis can happen anywhere—at school, in the office, or at a restaurant. Note that symptoms can look different depending on the person's age (e.g., subtle cues in infants vs. sudden distress in adults).

Recognize: Look for breathing difficulties, swelling of the tongue/throat, hives, dizziness, or persistent coughing.

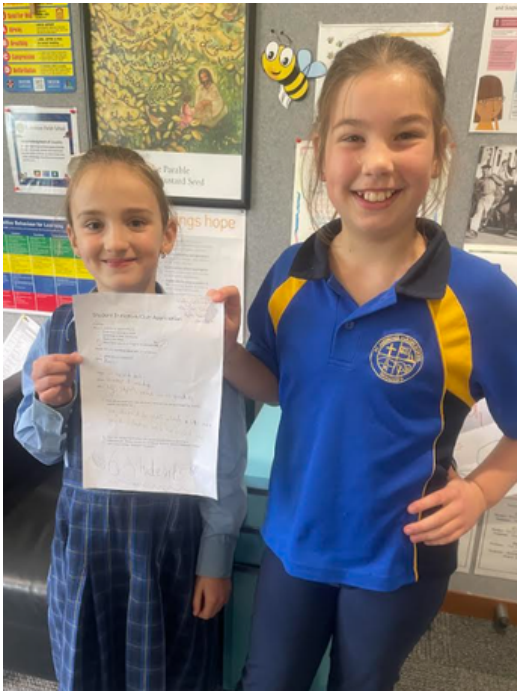
Act: Know where adrenaline injectors (like EpiPens) are kept and how to use them.

Support: Practice basic food hygiene (washing hands, avoiding cross-contamination) and never share food blindly.

- Never share food if you know someone around you has a severe allergy.
 - Wash your hands after eating to prevent transferring hidden allergen traces to communal surfaces.
 - Take it seriously.
- This [link](#) will take you to information and resources.

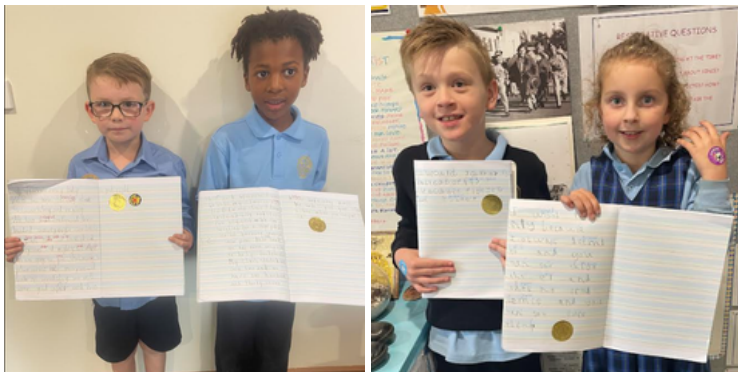
As a St Ambrose Staff we train in anaphylaxis management every year and also keep first aid training current.

Student Initiatives



Skylar and Holly are pictured above following speaking with me about their enthusiasm to begin an elastics club. Many of us will remember playing this in the school yard when we were at school. We look forward to seeing those who are keen revive this healthy sport!

Writing Stars



Jagger, Leboko, Lachie and Elise were very proud to share their story writing. It is such a joy to witness the sense of achievement our students have when they make progress with their learning. Congratulations children!

Parent/Teacher Conversations & Semester One Reports

We hope that you found your recent conversations with your children's teachers productive. Semester One reports will be sent out online on Thursday June 25th.

Child Safe Standard No 5: Equity is Upheld and Diverse Needs are Respected in Policy and Practice

This month our staff are refreshing their understanding of this standard to uphold our commitment to child safety. You too can learn more about this standard [here](#).



Petition for a Safe Crossing at Romsey Road - Remember to have your voice heard!

The school, along with Mayor Kate Kendall, has received calls and emails from parents concerned about safety and she is calling on concerned parents, school and Woodend community members to email the Minister for Roads and Roads Safety, The Hon. Ros Spence MP, via ros.spence@parliament.vic.gov.au as the Romsey road is managed by the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP). Council has also written to the DTP to request urgent safety improvements. Her email is kkendall@mrsc.vic.gov.au if anyone wishes to cc her in on any of the advocacy.

PROTECT



You may have noticed new “PROTECT” posters displayed around the school grounds and in learning spaces. These posters are part of our ongoing commitment to creating and maintaining a safe, respectful and supportive environment for all children.

The PROTECT posters are designed to help children understand:

- their right to feel safe
- the importance of speaking up if they feel unsafe or worried
- who they can talk to at school for support.

The posters use child-friendly language and visuals to reinforce key safety messages in an age-appropriate way. Staff will also continue to support students through wellbeing and social emotional learning throughout the year. We encourage families to talk with their children about trusted adults and the importance of seeking help when needed.

If you have any questions about the posters or our child safety practices, please feel free to contact the school.

Thank you for your continued support.



Our 2026 SAC

Our next meeting is on this Monday June 1st at 9.15am.

School Photos

Our whole school photo day on Monday 25th May ran very smoothly. Your children came to school looking polished and smart for their photos. We hope you will be happy with them.

Kings Birthday Weekend & Pupil Free Days

A reminder that Monday June 8th is a public holiday marking the Kings Birthday and Tuesday June 9th is a pupil free staff TIL day. This means it will be a four day weekend and we will welcome the children back on Wednesday June 10th.

New Footpaths

Council will soon be starting works to create a footpath along our north fence along Anslow St. I have included a map of these works later in this newsletter, for your information.

Student Medical Records

We ask that you keep the school informed about any changes or updates needed to your child’s medical records. You can update records on nForma then email Justine to let her know you have updated. Thank you.

2027 Enrolments Now Due

A reminder to enrol siblings now for 2027. You can access the enrolment form via our school website. Click below to enrol now.

[ENROL NOW](#)



Next Newsletter

Our next newsletter will be published on **Friday**
12 June 2026!

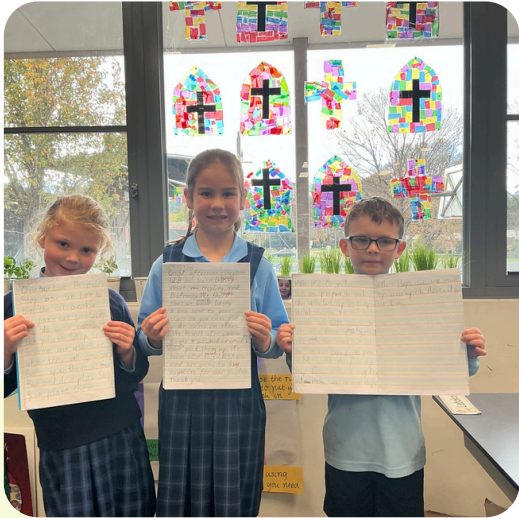
For more news and photos visit our [website](#) and look at latest news by clicking on our [Facebook](#) button.



Bronwyn Phillips
Principal



1/2B CLASS FEATURING SUSTAINABILITY



In 1/2B -

- We planted grass hair in our classroom.
- We grew snow peas from seeds into seedlings ready for our school vegetable patch.
- We weeded and cleaned our veggie garden using reused compost.
- We worked hard recycling cans and bottles.
- We visited the Woodend Recycling Centre and saw how recycling is sorted on the conveyor belts.
- We had a visit from Visy and learnt more about recycling and sustainability.
- We spoke at assembly and encouraged the whole school to get involved by giving each class a collection bag.
- We created amazing writing about our winter vegetable action plans.
- Money raised from recycling is going back into our garden to help care for the environment and keep our school sustainable.





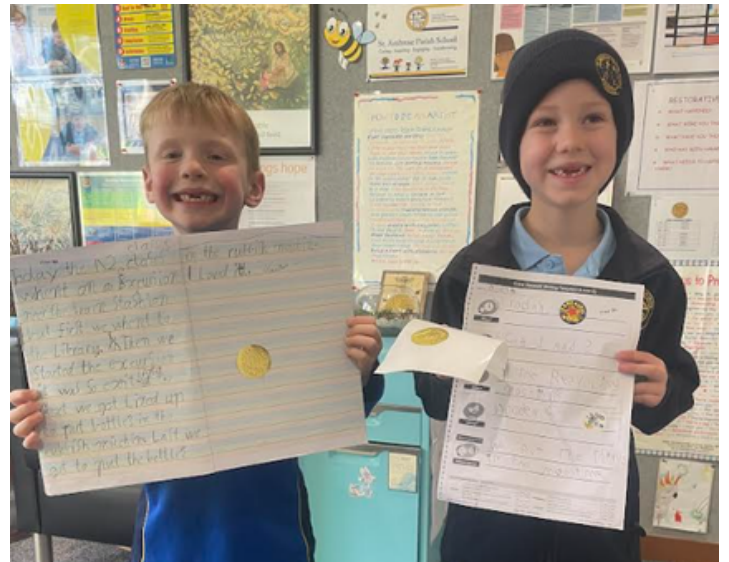
Student Initiatives



Atticus and Jock are planning ways to organise unwanted items benefitting those in need.

Recount of Walk to the Recycling Station

Indy and Bodhi enjoyed their visit to the local recycling station and were very happy to share their writing about it!



Year 1-2 Garden based Learning

It is great to see our 1/2s raking the leaves and preparing the garden to grow vegetables.



AROUND THE SCHOOL



Cobaw Sports





31 May	Evelyn C, Bill R
1 June	Poppy C
3 June	Neve E-S, Jagger J, Mirabelle S
5 June	Harrison G, Bosco L, Renzo L
6 June	Ben C
6 June	Kate D, Ava T
7 June	Louis M, Willa M
11 June	James B, Harriet C

Congratulations!

- Prep O Georgia B for her efforts in writing to record interesting ideas. I love reading your work!
- Prep O Arianna F for being a kind friend and looking after others when they are sad. Thank you!
- Prep O Willow R for giving her learning her best shot. I was blown away by how far you have come. Well done.
- Prep O Indiana M for her creative story writing and fabulous effort to use spaces and letters for all of the sounds!
- 1/2B Matteo T for spelling and participation in class.
- 1/2B Rupert F for attention and effort in Phonics +.
- 1/2S Valerie W for being a resilient learner in all aspects of school.
- 1/2S Aaliyah F for being a resilient learner in all aspects of school.
- 1/2T Milana M for working hard to improve her spelling and continued effort in all phonics activities. Well done!
- 1/2T Tilly N for showing focus and precision while learning to use a ruler to measure.
- 3/4C Taj M for working hard to use capital letters correctly!
- 3/4C Flo H for becoming more involved in class sharing and discussions.
- 3/4O Ivy H for showing resilience and bravery when a spider was spotted in her hair.
- 3/4O Ben Y for always supporting others to do, and be, their best. Great work Ben!
- 3/4O Mosako S for being concerned for others' wellbeing and always looking out for them.
- 3/4R Henry B for always being a positive role model for his peers and enjoying to learn!
- 3/4R Teddy A for his focus while writing an interesting narrative about a kitten!
- 3/4R Lucas T for his positive attitude towards learning and asking questions!
- 5/6BM Josh R for working hard to complete all set tasks to the best of his ability.
- 5/6BM Jorel L for his understanding of decimals to the third decimal place.
- 5/6JM Elliot D for asking questions and taking responsibility for his learning.
- 5/6JM Varli F for always being a reliable learner with a positive attitude.
- 5/6W Jett M for always showing kindness and respect to others inside and outside the classroom. Thank you Jett for being a great role model.
- 5/6W James B for showing determination and a positive mindset towards his learning tasks. Well done James!

PBL Bronze Award - George L, Jorel L, Ryan K, Felix D, Eire B, Charlie P, Jacques B, Harry O, Agatha W, Lizzy D, Gwen G, Deon S, Elliot D, Emrys G, Haley C, Jackson G-S, Jacob W, Matisse E, Billie H, Olive S, Elias B, Casey M, Dominic O, Lucas T, Heidi O, Poppy P, Pip F, Matteo T, Ava T, Fletcher R, Leboko S, Charlie C, Audrey C, Joaquin C, George E, Jagger J, Jonah M

PBL Silver Award - Grace H, Felicity F, Harper C, Teddy M, Sophie P, Grace M, Everly B, Charlotte W, Mollie H, Ryder M, Frida B, Teddy A, Mack R, Estella C, Skylar C

PBL Gold Award - Henry B, Harriet C, Neville G, Louis M, Lexi K, James F, Oliver D



KIDS AND WORRY

Join us to talk about it.

This 90 minute workshop will explore the reasons why children worry, and ways parents and carers can support them. It will include ideas as well as practical tools to assist children to manage their worries.

Come along and be reassured, reminded of something, or perhaps learn something new.

Presented by Loddon Mallee Regional Parenting Service.

**Monday, 1 June
1.30pm - 3.00pm
Woodend Library**

Open to parents/carers with children up to 10years

Register to come along by clicking [here](#) or by using the QR code below:



www.catholiccarevic.org.au
1800 123 228

JOIN THE CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS Faith & Family



During 2026 our focus for our community of faith will be based on the image of the Trinity (our new picture). An image reflecting the community of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, calling us to be a community of WELCOME and HOSPITALITY.

Prayer: CONFIRMATION PRAYER

Spirit of God, grant me:
The gift of wisdom
To see the world through your eyes,
The gift of counsel
To make difficult decisions,
The gifts of knowledge and understanding
To use my mind to know you and to love you,
The gift of fortitude
To have the courage to live in the faith
Despite the difficulties and disappointments,
The gift of piety
To be able to express my special love
And commitment to you,
And the right kind of awesome fear
That makes me pause
to wonder and revere God's Love.
Amen.

Please pray for our Confirmation candidates who will celebrate their Confirmation tomorrow.

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for May:

That Everyone Might Have Food
Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

This year marks the 800th anniversary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi. Pope Leo has proclaimed this year as the Jubilee Year of St. Francis.

Sacramental Dates in 2026:

If your child is making one of their Sacraments this year, please note the changes to the calendar below.

Date	Details
Saturday, 30th May	Confirmation @ 1 pm (Please note change of time!)
6th August	Eucharist Evening Meeting
22nd & 23rd August	First Eucharist Commitment Masses
10th September	First Eucharist Practice
12th & 13th September	First Eucharist Masses

Gospel Reflection: John 20:19-23 PENTECOST SUNDAY

As an educator and a parent, one of the most reassuring moments is when a child who has been afraid for some reason begin to trust. I see these moments when a student begins to share their concerns with a teacher, when one of my own children tries something they've been avoiding, or when a child pushes through on a project or continues to sports practice when the day has already been too much.

What happens in these moments when someone decides to overcome their fear or uncertainty?

In today's Gospel, the disciples are hiding behind locked doors, filled with fear. Jesus appears, not with judgment, but with peace: "Peace be with you." Then He breathes on them, giving them the Holy Spirit. That breath carries courage, strength, and a mission.

As parents, we often stand in those moments with our children when they are deciding whether to move forward or hang back. The temptation to make a decision for them, to fix everything for them, is real. What if instead of rushing to the rescue, we offer them encouragement? We can put the situation into perspective. We can empower them. We can hold their hand, pat them on the back, or simply say, "You've got this." We can give the Holy Spirit room to work in our children's lives by helping them help themselves.



Pentecost reminds us that God's Spirit is alive in all of us. We are not raising our children alone. When we feel tired, uncertain, or fearful, the same Spirit who filled the disciples fills all of us, too. We can model how to manage those moments, and how to allow space for the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts, so that our children can learn to turn to Him for their own strength.

By: Silvia-Maria Patalano-Ross
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Religious Calendar of Events in Term Two, 2026:

Date	Details	Time
Fri, 29th May	Sacrament of Confirmation Practice	11:45
Sat, 30th May	Sacrament of Confirmation	1 pm
Wed, 3rd June	Buddies Mass (Gr. P and 5/6) - CANCELLED	9:30
Wed, 24th June	End of Term 2 Mass	9:30

Please note: All are welcome. If you would like to join us in any of these celebrations, you are most welcome. Please sit at the back or upstairs to make sure there is room for all the students.

Ponder:

When was the last time you helped your child think through a problem they were facing?

Parish Bulletin 24 May 2026



COMMUNITY NEWS

1st Woodend Scout Group invites you to Woodend Winter Arts Festival 2026

Pop-up log cabin café and book fair

10am - 3pm Saturday 6th - Monday 8th June

41 Forest Street Woodend

Supporting Scouts and Woodend Neighbourhood House with every book sold.

2nd Hand **BOOK SALE** \$2

* gluten free (GF) and child friendly options available.



Grade 5 Parents - Act Now!

Enrolments for Year 7, 2028 close on 24 July, 2026 (students currently in Grade 5).

Explore the possibilities for your child - visit the enrolment page of our website to learn more about College life, to book a tour, or begin your online application.

For further enrolment information please contact College Registrar, Rowena Rokesky-Alder.



SACRED HEART COLLEGE KYNETON

A Ministry of Mercy Education Limited - ABN 69 154 531 870

T: 5421 1238 E: registrar@shckyneton.catholic.edu.au

www.shckyneton.catholic.edu.au

omnia Community Health

Free Child Development Drop-in Sessions

Speak to our speech therapists, occupational therapists and/or physiotherapists about your child's development

- Interactive play stations and opportunities for play, observation and practical ideas you can try at home.
- Chat with our clinicians to discuss your child's strengths, needs and development. Supporting parents and carers by sharing strategies, advice and resources.

For full details, dates, days and venues scan the QR code

info@omniach.org.au 5421 1666



Refugee Week

A Million Stories

Celebrating courage, resilience and our shared humanity

Trivia Night

MRRAR's night of nights returns! Sign up as a table of 8, or rock up and we'll assign you to a table. **\$25 per person**, with all proceeds going to the Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project.

6:30pm for 7pm start
Saturday 13 June
Norma Richardson Hall
Woodend



For bookings, visit trybooking.com/DLQMC



Book Club

The MRRAR book club provides a welcoming space to learn more about refugee stories. For this Refugee Week, we are reading **Cactus Pear For My Beloved**, a novelised memoir by Palestinian author Samah Sabawi.

6:30pm
Thursday 18 June
600 Above, Woodend
Attendance is free
Registration essential

RSVP: tinyurl.com/3ac6wrt3



Any questions? mrrar.refugees@gmail.com

WOODEND EAGLES

SOCCER CLUB



DJA DJA WURRUNG

Guwarrk
/ Kookaburra



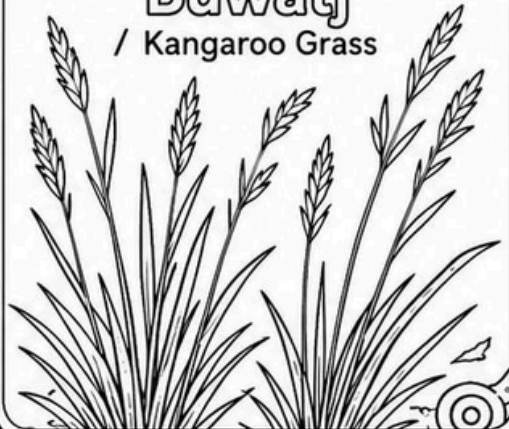
Wararak
/ Silver Wattle



Gitjawil Matom
/ Chocolate Lily



Buwatj
/ Kangaroo Grass



Burukil
/ Crimson Rosella



NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2026

••• Bridging Now to Next •••
27 MAY – 3 JUNE 2026

