



AVONDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER #2 Friday February 20, 2026

VISION STATEMENT: Avondale Primary School; a community that strives for excellence through high quality learning, engagement and wellbeing for all.

VALUES: Learning, Respect, Responsibility

Avondale Primary School is a Child Safe School. We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people and have zero tolerance for child abuse.

Acknowledgement of Country



Hello to our Avondale community,

As we reach the end of our first four weeks of Term One, it's been inspiring to see our school community settle into the year with such energy, optimism and connection. Classrooms are buzzing, friendships are forming and our students have embraced learning with curiosity and confidence. We were very excited to welcome our families into our classrooms today during our **Open Classrooms afternoon**. This was a great opportunity to meet our teachers and ES staff and to see our students proudly share their learning spaces and achievements so far. We appreciate the strong family partnerships that make these moments so meaningful. We are scheduling Parent/Carer/Guardian Teacher Conferences early in Term 2, providing a great opportunity for our teachers and families to continue to build connections, discuss student learning and wellbeing.

One of the standout highlights has been the exceptional start made by our School Captains and Vice Captains. They have stepped into their leadership roles with maturity and enthusiasm, leading our assemblies with poise and setting a strong example for their peers. Their approach to leadership has contributed to shaping a positive tone for the year ahead.

Our Grade 6 student leaders have also had a powerful beginning to their leadership journey. Yesterday, our School Captains and Vice Captains, House Captains, Flag, Sandpit and Gate Monitors participated in an intensive student leadership workshop, where they explored teamwork, communication and what it means to lead with integrity. A big take away for our students was a new perspective on leadership and the role they play in developing house spirit. In the words of one of our students, 'Today we have created an inspiring vision of what it means to build house spirit at our school, beyond sports'. Our student leaders' engagement in this learning has set the scene for a vibrant year of student-led initiatives and community building. Stay tuned for more exciting information around our houses as our students have a number of proposals in the making.

IMPORTANT DATES

TERM 1 2026

Friday 20 February	Open Classrooms @ 2.30pm
Tuesday 24 February	School Council Meeting 6.30pm
Wednesday 25 February	Foundation Assessment Day #4 <i>Foundation students only required to attend school for their individual booking time</i>
Friday 27 February	Interschool Swimming Carnival- selected students only
Monday 2 March – Friday 6 March	Scholastic Book Fair in School Library
Friday 6 March	Whole School Assembly - Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony @ 8.50am
Monday 9 March	Labour Day Public Holiday
Wednesday 11 March – Thursday 19 March	NAPLAN Testing- Grade 3 and Grade 5 students
Thursday 12 March	8:30am – 9:00am Second Hand Uniform Shop Open
Friday 20 March	Grade 3-6 Athletics Day
Wednesday 1 April	School Photo Day Whole School Open Air Cinema Event Gates open 6pm. Movie screening from 7.30pm
Thursday 2 April	Last day Term 1 - Early dismissal 2.15pm

Our teaching teams have prepared **Parent/Carer Information Presentations**, which can be accessed on your child's Compass class newsfeed. These presentations offers families a clear overview of our general school processes, along with insights into our teaching and learning focus for the year. We encourage all families to take a moment to view this information, as it provides helpful context for the routines, expectations and learning experiences that will shape your child's school year. Our parent/carers/guardian teacher conferences this year are being held early in Term 2.

A big thank you to parents, guardians and carers who have completed our **Volunteer Induction Session**, with Jenna. Your willingness to contribute your time and support enriches our school in countless ways. We are especially grateful to our **canteen volunteers**, whose generosity supports Di to run the canteen smoothly and provide delicious and nutritious snacks and lunches for our students. The year is off to a fantastic start and we are excited for everything still to come. Thank you for the community spirit you bring to our school every day.

On Friday, March 6, we have our official Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony whole school assembly from 8.50am. At this stage, photos and video footage taken by our school community is dependent on the Elder who performs the ceremony. We will let families know at our assembly if this is possible, so ask that we respect this process. At the end of Term 1, we have our whole school open air cinema event on Wednesday, April 1 and we can't wait to see you all there.

Our second-hand uniform shop has also had a recent makeover, making it much easier for families to find the items they need. To help maintain this level of organisation, we are currently seeking donations of coat hangers. Any contributions would be greatly appreciated and will support the continued smooth running of this valuable service. Please drop these donations off to the office. Just a reminder that our uniform shop will be open from 8.30am on Thursday, March 12.

School Council Elections 2026: A **Notice of Election and Call for Nominations** has been issued for the Avondale Primary School Council for 2026. Newly elected members will join School Council, which where possible, meets once per month from 6.30pm. The Principal will preside at the first School Council meeting to elect office bearers, on **Tuesday March 31st from 6.30pm**.

From the beginning of the 2026 school year, school council members, except VIT registered teachers and students, are required to hold a Working with Children Clearance (WWCC) (either a volunteer WWCC, or employee WWCC if they already have this), when nominating for a role on school council.

All nomination forms are available in hard copy format from the front office. Parents are able to self nominate or nominate another parent member by Friday 27 February 2026. Please come to the school to seek assistance if you would like to stand for election and are not sure of how to complete the process,



2026 Avondale Primary School

School Council Election Process and Timetable

School council election process and timetable		
Name of the school: AVONDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL		
Letter	Event	DATE
a)	Notice of election and call for nominations	Friday 20 February 2026
b)	Closing date for nominations	Friday 27 February 2026
c)	Date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be posted	Thursday 5 March 2026
d)	Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed	On or before Tuesday 10 March 2026
e)	Close of ballot	Wednesday 18 March 2026
f)	Vote count (if required)	Thursday 19 March 2026
g)	Inform the school community of the outcomes of the election (if required)	Friday 20 March 2026
h)	Special council meeting to elect office bearers and formal declaration of the poll	Tuesday 31 March 2026

Membership category	
Parent member- 2 years	
Term of office	Year
From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in	2026
to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in	2028
Number of positions:	3

Membership category	
School employee member	
Term of office	Year
From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in	2026
to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in	2028
Number of positions:	1



Have a fantastic weekend

Avondale PS School Improvement Team

Jill, Jenna, Sarah, Teriann and Frances

2026 TERM DATES & CURRICULUM DAYS

Term 1 2026	Wednesday 28 January -Thursday 2 April Curriculum Day: Wednesday 28 January ALL students start school Thursday 29 January
Term 2 2026	Monday 20 April - Friday 26 June Student Free Day: Friday 22 May
Term 3 2026	Monday 13 July - Friday 18 September Student Free Day: Wednesday 19 August
Term 4 2026	Monday 5 October - Friday 18 December Student Free Day: Monday 2 November

**OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT UNDER THE STARS: SCHOOL COMMUNITY EVENT
SAVE THE DATE**



Team Kids

**AVONDALE PS
MOVIE NIGHT
UNDER THE STARS**

WEDNESDAY 1 APRIL
GATES OPEN: 6.00pm
MOVIE STARTS: 7.30pm

AVONDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL
THIS IS A FULLY TICKETED EVENT
TICKETS AVAILABLE VIA COMPASSTIX
Entry via Sydney Street using
QR ticket code

*Bring along your picnic dinner, blankets,
beanbags/low chairs and enjoy a fun
night with our Avondale school community.*

THIS EVENT IS FOR AVONDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS & FAMILIES ONLY
All children are to be supervised by an adult.
No Alcohol, Smoking/ Vaping or Dogs permitted on site

Further information will be shared with families next week outlining ticket prices and purchasing processes, food options and movie selection.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

We are excited to host this year's Book Fair in the Library from **Monday March 2– Friday March 6**. Students and families are invited to explore a wide selection of books and discover new stories to enjoy. It's a great opportunity to celebrate reading and support our school community. **See the poster below for more details.**

You're invited to our
SCHOLASTIC Book Fair
THE #1 BOOK FAIR

Book covers featured include:
- Ella Forever (School Rivals) by Serena Geddes
- ANH DO HOTDOG & Friends (Fun Park!) by Dan McGuinness
- Puppy Love (Get Some Big) by Rebecca Johnson
- SOCCER SUPERSTARS 2026
- SLEEPOVER BFFS (Bright Star) by Fiona Harris
- DOG MAN: Big Jim Believes (The International Bestseller) by Dav Pilkey

Date: **2-6 March** Time: **8:30-8:50/3pm-4pm**
Place: **Our School Library**

Find these books and much more at the Fair!

EVERY DOLLAR EQUALS RESOURCES FOR OUR SCHOOL
SCHOLASTIC
SCHOLASTIC REWARDS

EASE INTO ADOLESCENCE

The Department of Education has launched an [Easing into adolescence](#) webpage for families of students aged 10 to 14 (Grade 5 to Year 8).

The webpage has information and strategies you can use to help ease your child into adolescence and secondary school. These include:

- a guide to emotion coaching. Staff from The University of Melbourne's Tuning in to Teens Kids program developed the guidance.
- how to support your adolescent with their studies and more generally. Parenting expert and clinical psychologist Andrew Fuller helped develop this resource.

Subtitles for videos by The University of Melbourne on the webpage are available in 10 languages. You can select your preferred language on the [translations page](#).

For questions about these resources, contact the Strategic Partnerships, Transitions and Student Voice team. You can email them at Secondary.School.Transition@education.vic.gov.au.

Free online workshops

Early Years Series



Practical support for families raising children with developmental delay and disability

In March we are running two free 90-minute online workshops led by facilitators who are parents of children with disability.

Getting Ready for Child Care and Kindergarten

Find out how your child can be supported and included at child care and kindergarten. Learn simple ways to work in partnership with your child's educators.

Mon 3 March & Tues 4 March

First Steps to Support

Find out what help is available for you and your family, including: financial assistance, getting a break and supporting siblings.

Mon 16 March & Tues 17 March

Learn about



- Understanding your child's rights in education
- Reasonable adjustments in the early years
- Financial support options for families
- Self-care and where to go for help



Content was helpful and relevant. I walked away with practical resources I could use right away.



Scan to register

Email
educate@acd.org.au

Call 03 9880 7000 or
1800 654 013 regional

<https://bit.ly/EYSmar26CC>



CYBER SAFETY PROJECT – ONLINE SAFETY WEBINARS FOR FAMILIES

We're thrilled to announce our school is continuing to partner with [Cyber Safety Project](#) to offer parents access to the **Cyber Safe Parents 2026 Webinar Series**. These practical, easy-to-understand sessions, available live or on-demand, will provide simple strategies to help families manage online safety, screen time, AI, and digital wellbeing. Pop these important dates into your calendars now:

2026 Topics & Dates:

1. Cyber Safety at Home (Family session) – 10 March
2. AI & Critical Thinking (Parent/Guardian session) – 20 May
3. Balancing Life & Tech (Parent/Guardian session) – 3 August
4. Cyberbullying & Resilience (Parent/Guardian session) – 27 October

All sessions start at 7.30pm AEDT/AEST.

Can't attend live? Register to receive the recording and resources to watch at a time that suits you.

👉 Register here: <https://cybersafetyproject.com/parents-2026> (do not share this link on social media)

LIVE ONLINE

CYBER SAFETY PROJECT

JOIN THE CYBER SAFETY PROJECT FOR EXPERT INSIGHTS

Cyber Safe Parents 2026 Webinar Series

DEVICE SET UP

ONLINE RISKS

APP SAFETY

CRITICAL THINKING

SCREEN TIME

CYBERBULLYING



RAISING SMART, SAFE & KIND DIGITAL KIDS

The Cyber Safe Parents Webinar Series gives parents practical guidance to confidently support children online. Across four sessions, we turn online safety into simple, realistic actions to raise responsible, resilient and empathetic digital kids.

Can't make it live?
Register anyway for the recording and resources.

REGISTER HERE



OR bit.ly/Parents-2026

CYBER SAFETY AT HOME

When: 10 March 2026
Time: 7.30pm AEDT (45 mins)
For: Family Workshop (Parents & Children)

Covers the basics of online safety at home in clear, easy-to-understand language.

AI & CRITICAL THINKING

When: 20 May 2026
Time: 7.30pm AEST (45 mins)
For: Parents only

Learn what AI really is (and isn't) and why it matters for your family.

BALANCING LIFE & TECH

When: 3 August 2026
Time: 7.30pm AEST (45 mins)
For: Parents only

Tips to reduce conflict and restore healthy balance between screens and real life.

CYBERBULLYING & RESILIENCE

When: 27 October 2026
Time: 7.30pm AEDT (45 mins)
For: Parents only

Simple strategies to help guide young people to manage their wellbeing online.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL SUPERVISION

Student safety at Avondale Primary School is our highest priority and the safe and appropriate supervision of students is an important element of our duty of care to students. Part of this duty is ensuring parents and students are aware of our student supervision arrangements before and after school.

Before school: School grounds are supervised at 8:30am on the basketball court, playground, oval and 5/6 line up area. Gaga Pits, Futsal Court and the back of the school are out of bounds before school.

After school: School grounds are supervised from 3:15pm on the basketball court, playground, oval and 5/6 line up area. Gaga Pits, Futsal Court and the back of the school are out of bounds after school.

Students on school grounds outside these times will not be supervised (unless they are attending Team Kids or supervised extracurricular activity) and a Compass Chronicle will be recorded by the school and posted to families.

Parents/carers are requested to ensure that students do not attend school outside of these supervised times unless they are attending Team Kids, or a pre-arranged supervised activity.

Families are encouraged to contact TeamKids for more information about the before and after school care facilities available to our school community or if you would like any further information about our student supervision arrangements.

Please access the school website for a copy of our school's Yard Duty and Supervision Policy. This policy includes Avondale Primary School's student supervision arrangements across the school day, including before and after school.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

The purpose of the [Student Dress Code Policy](#) is to outline Avondale Primary School's requirements for student dress and appearance and to provide information about uniform purchase and support, dress code implementation and exemption processes. This dress code has been approved by Avondale Primary School's School Council in close consultation with our subcommittees and school community to ensure that it respects the rights of individual students whilst reflecting the values and interests of our community. Our school will assist families and students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible through avenues including State Schools Relief and Second-Hand Uniform Shop access. Uniform items are also available from Lowes Airport West or [online](#).

Families of students wearing non-compliant uniform items will be reminded of our Student Dress Code policy and asked to wear compliant uniform items. If a student is out of school uniform or otherwise breaches the Student Dress Code on a recurring basis, a Compass Chronicle will be recorded by the school and posted to families. If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, the School Improvement Team will follow up with a phone call or meeting, with the school continuing to work with the student and family to support compliance.

Jewellery and cosmetics

Due to safety and security concerns students are not encouraged to wear jewellery to school. These include stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, bracelets and necklaces. Watches that are not internet enabled are permitted, however the school does not take responsibility for these items.

The wearing of cosmetics and fake fingernails at school is not permitted.



Enrolling in Foundation in 2027

Foundation is the first year of primary school in Victoria. Your child can start school if they turn 5 years old before 30 April 2027. School is compulsory once your child turns 6 years old.

Applications to enrol in a Victorian government primary school for 2027:

- Open from Monday 20 April 2026
- Due by Friday 31 July 2026



Now that your child is turning 5, it's time to think about enrolling them in primary school. The first year of primary school is called Foundation (Prep). Children can start Foundation if they turn 5 years old by 30 April in the year they begin school. School is compulsory for children who are 6 years old.

How to enrol in a Victorian government primary school

Before you apply

- Work out what year your child can start school based on their age
- Find schools and your school zone at findmyschool.vic.gov.au
- Contact primary schools from Term 1 to book a tour (optional).

How to apply

- Foundation (Prep) applications open from the start of Term 2
- Submit your application form by the last Friday in July
- The school will contact you with an outcome in the first 2 weeks of August.



Learn more at vic.gov.au/enrolling-foundation-prep



Enrolling in Secondary School in 2027

If your child is in Grade 6 in 2026 and attends a Victorian government primary school, you will need to:

1. Read the Year 6 to 7 Placement Information Pack for Parents and Carers, which will be provided by your child's primary school by Wednesday 22 April 2026.
2. Use the [Find my School](#) website to locate your local secondary school or preferred government school, and read about [School zones](#) and [Enrolling in school](#).
3. Complete the application form and return it to your child's primary school by Friday 8 May 2026.

To support our Grade 6 families in this process and to complete application forms, we will be holding a Grade 6 to Year 7 Information Session on Tuesday April 21 from 3.30pm - 4.00pm in the Avondale Primary School staffroom. Please RSVP to avondale.ps@education.vic.gov.au if you would like to attend.

TEAM KIDS



Get ready to POUNCE, SPLASH, and SOAR! 🐾

TeamKids is celebrating World Wildlife Day on March 3rd with jungle adventures, roaring games, and wild fun for everyone.

Book now - <https://www.teamkids.com.au/venues/> to join the WILD side and make a roar-some day to remember! 🐾🌿

Avondale TEAMKIDS NEWSLETTER



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

This week we began running clubs in TeamKids, we are running many different clubs like basketball club, art attack, mini masterchef, chess and many more... The children have really enjoyed being apart of this and picking different activities to do as part of these clubs.

We also have some exciting events coming up like Teddy bear picnic day coming up this Thursday and on Tuesday the 17th of February we will be celebrating pancake day and random acts of kindness day.

We are so excited to see what this term has in store for us. Let the fun begin!

IMPORTANT DATES



TUE 17TH FEBRUARY

Pancake Day & Random Acts of Kindness Day

TUE 3RD MARCH

World Wildlife Day

MON 9TH MARCH

Labour Day | TeamKids is closed

TEAMKIDS CLUBS ASC WEEK: 5-8



MONDAY

Basketball & S.T.E.M

TUESDAY

Basketball & Soccer

WEDNESDAY

Sanrio & Football

THURSDAY

Lego Masters & Mini Masterchef

FRIDAY

Art Attack & Chess Club



Service Mobile: 0431 153 972

Office Phone: 1300 035 000

Service Email: avondaleps@teamkids.com.au

Office Email: info@teamkids.com.au

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

Applications are open for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF). The CSEF helps eligible families cover the cost of school excursions or in school events, camps and sporting activities.

Payment amounts for eligible families this year have increased to \$400 for primary and secondary school students. This is up from \$154 and \$256 respectively.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or support an out of home care student you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid directly to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments:** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances:** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

Completed CSEF forms need to be submitted to school by Friday 26 June 2026

The Safe Migration Project Starting Primary School

Make your child's journey to primary school a safe one with these important tips.

Try using active forms of travel and plan the safest route

Walking, scootering, or cycling are healthy and environmentally friendly ways to travel to school that can also be social and enjoyable. To do so safely:

- consider the safest route – it might not always be the quickest
- choose streets with low speed limits (ideally 40km/h or less)
- plan to avoid busy roads or complicated intersections
- choose the safest locations to cross roads, such as pedestrian crossings, traffic signals, pedestrian refuges, and areas where drivers can see you.



Stay close to children when walking

Young children lack the physical or perceptual skills to travel to school safely without active supervision. To be safe:

- stay close to children when walking or scootering to school
- always hold their hand when near traffic and while crossing roads
- role model 'Stop, Look, Listen, Think' when crossing roads.

Ride safely on scooters and bikes

If you choose to scooter or cycle to school:

- make sure you can actively supervise your child
- wear a helmet – it is a **legal requirement** for children and adults riding scooters and bikes to wear one
- helmets must meet Australian standards and fit correctly to provide proper protection – **they can reduce head injury risk by 74%**¹
- ensure you ride with a bell, an effective brake, and a rear reflector on bikes
- plan and choose the safest route by using footpaths on low-speed roads, bike and shared-use paths where available
- you can cycle on the footpath with your child if they are 12 years or younger.

¹ Bombach, M. R., Mitchell, R. J., Grzebieta, R. H., Oliver, J. The effectiveness of helmets in bicycle collisions with motor vehicles. A case-control study. *Accident Analysis and Prevention*, Issue 53, 2010.



The Safe Migration Project Starting Primary School

The 5-Step Test

Only when you can say YES to all 5 steps can your child move to an adult seat belt for that particular car.



Ensure your child is safe as a passenger

If you drive your child to school, it is important that:

- all children travel in the rear seats and use an appropriate child restraint or booster seat for their size
- children must use a booster seat until they **pass the 5-Step test** (see above), which is typically between 10 and 12 years of age
- booster cushions without a back must not be used because they do not provide head or side protection in a crash, and **are illegal**
- children enter and exit the car using the safety door – the rear passenger door, closest to the kerb, away from traffic.

Slow down when driving

Young children can be easily distracted and unpredictable when using the roads. They can also be hard for drivers to see because of their size. This makes children our most physically vulnerable road users.

- Slow down and take extra care when driving around school neighbourhoods to protect children.
- Driving below the sign-posted speed limit helps make children and school environments safer.

Consider where you park

- Park away from the school building and then walk to the school gate to reduce congestion and improve safety near school entrances.
- If you need to park near the school, use dedicated drop-off and pick-up zones and always follow parking rules.

The Safe Migration video resource



Scan this QR code to watch an engaging video that includes practical tips for parents and carers with children starting primary school.

Additional resources

Click the below links to learn more.

- [Child car seats](#)
- [Cycling with children](#)
- [Bicycle helmets](#)
- [Road Safety Education Victoria](#)



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION INSURANCE POLICIES

A reminder that the Department of Education insurance policies, which includes Avondale Primary School, **do not cover**:

- personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students - parents/carers of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance or transport as well as any other transport costs. Parents/carers can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers.
- private property brought to school by students, staff or visitors

ATTENDANCE

At Avondale Primary School, we prioritise regular school attendance. We work with families to ensure students are in class with their peers and teachers and enjoying all the benefits that brings. Attending school every day means experiencing what counts – the learning, friendship, fun and opportunities that can shape your child’s future.

We understand that there are times when your child will need to miss school, however, to ensure minimal disruption to their education, please consider scheduling family holidays or medical/dental appointments outside of school time. If your child is well enough to attend but is worried about friendships, schoolwork or assessment, please encourage them to come to school. Avoiding school can make these feelings worse and can create a negative pattern of behaviour.

If your child is having difficulty attending school, talk to their teacher or a member of the School Improvement Team so we can work together to support them. We know that parents and carers can be juggling challenges daily to get your children to school. If your child must miss school, notify us as soon as possible via Compass.

For more information about the importance of everyday attendance, see [Attendance and Missing School](#). Remember, **Every Day Counts**.

Please log into Compass and address any unexplained absences your child may have. If families need assistance, please send an email to the school email address avondale.ps@education.vic.gov.au or call the office on 9318- 1755. This helps to keep our attendance data up to date and accurate.



Missing **one day per fortnight** adds up to missing **four weeks** of school a year.

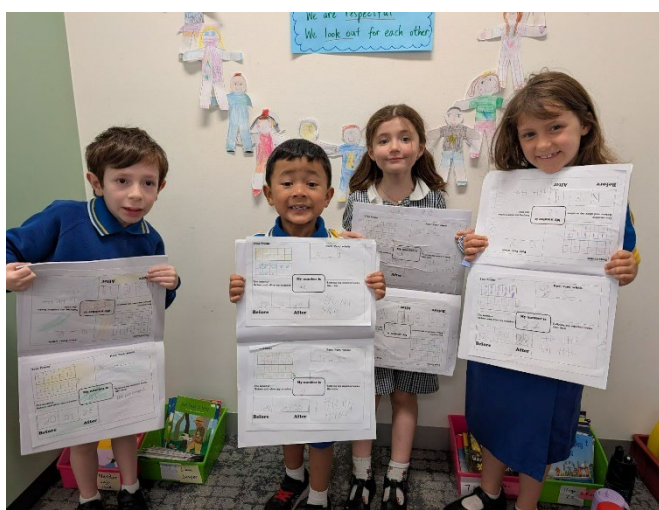
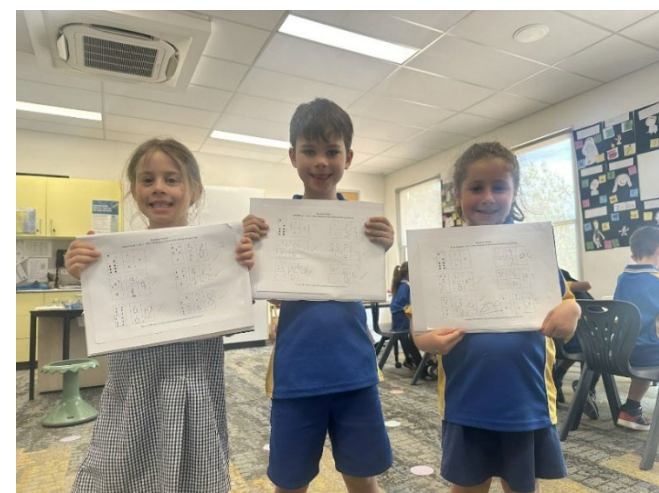
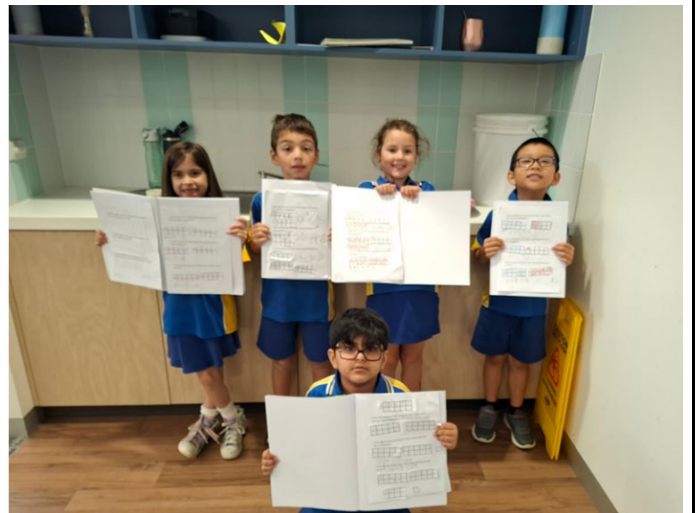
Attending school **every day** means experiencing what counts - the learning, friendships, fun and opportunities that can shape their future.

Celebration of Learning – Mathematics and Specialist Highlights

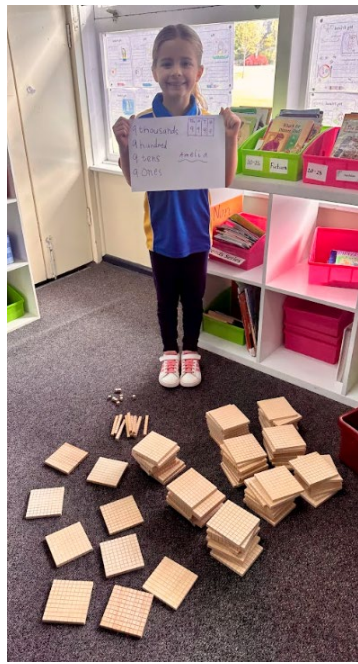
Our **Foundation** students have had a fantastic start to learning about Mathematics! Over the first few weeks, we have been learning to recognise collections up to 6, practising our subitising skills (seeing how many without needing to count). We've been playing lots of fun maths games with partners to build our number confidence and take turns, and we've also been exploring and getting to know our maths equipment. It has been wonderful to see the students building their confidence and enthusiasm for learning maths!

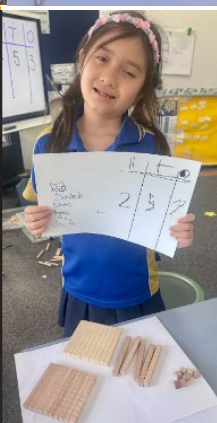
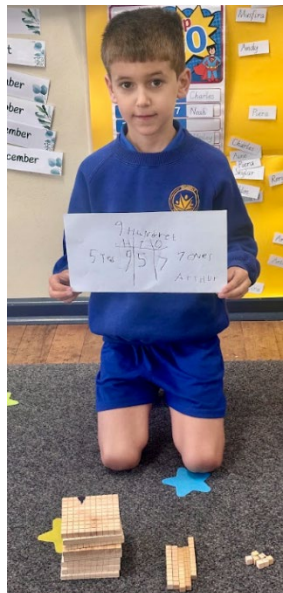
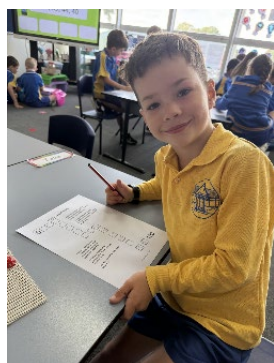
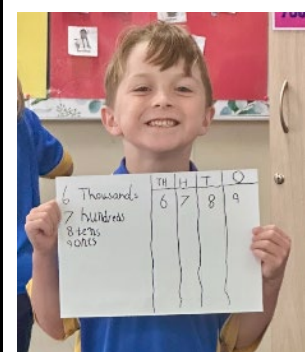


In **Grade 1**, we are mathematicians! Students have been learning to look at numbers in equivalent ways. They have used different strategies to show the parts of a number. Students created addition equations by making numbers using different parts. We read the story, 'One is a Snail, Ten is a Crab', by Jeff Sayre and April Pulley Sayre. Students used pictures of the characters from the book, having a different number of legs, to combine together and record number sentences that showed the total number of legs altogether. Students revised teen numbers and used materials, drawings and numerals to represent them. Students were also learning how to solve subtraction problems using a range of strategies. It has been such a big few weeks of learning!

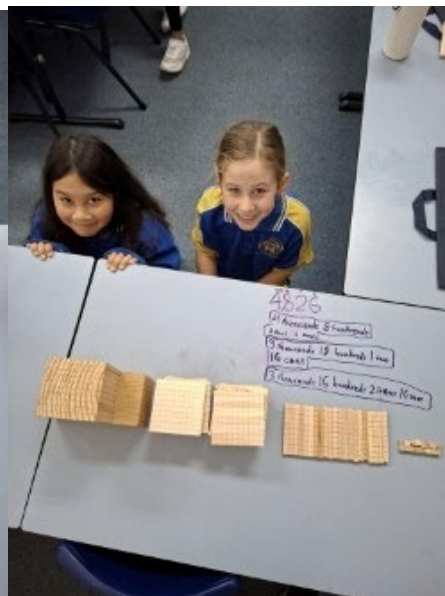
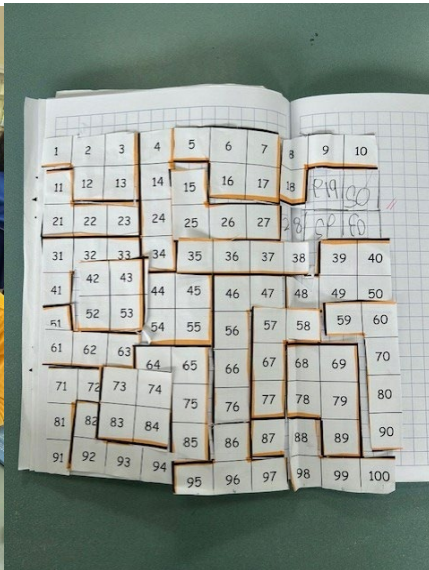
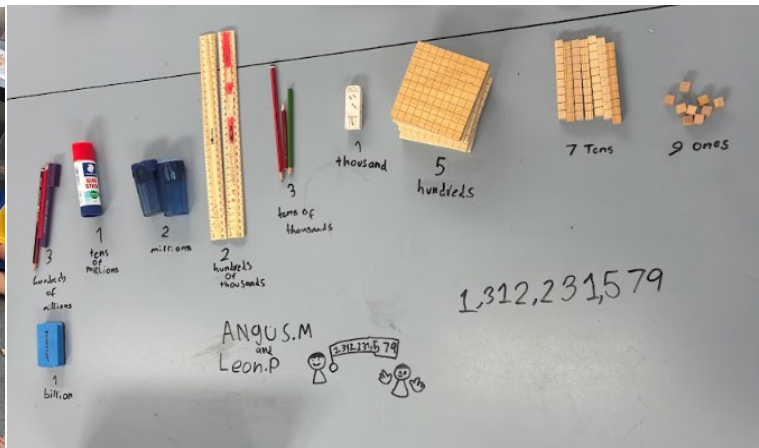
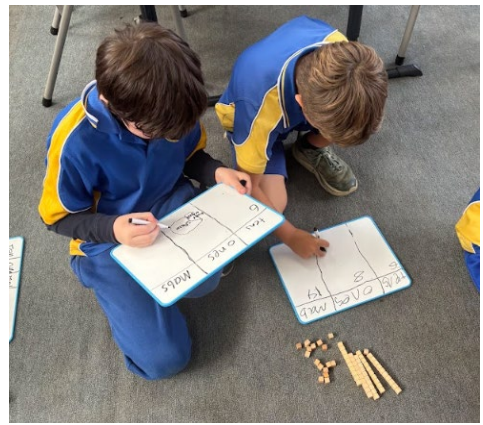
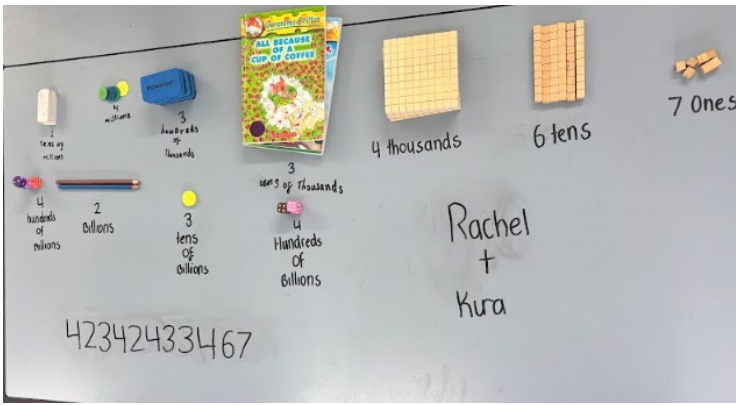


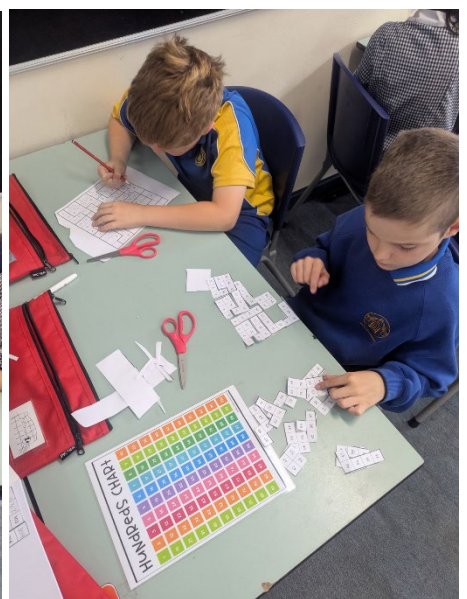
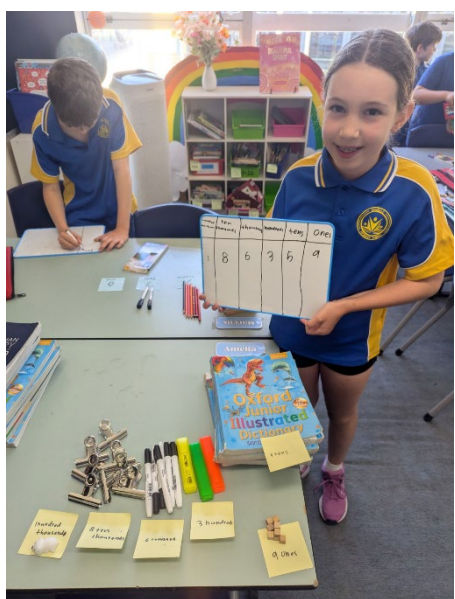
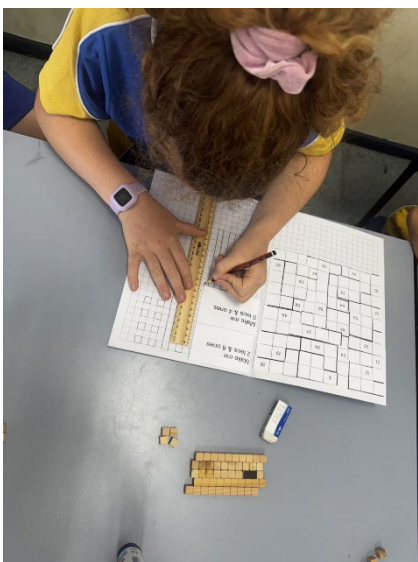
This week in maths, **Grade 2** students have been exploring place value by working with numbers to 1000 and beyond. Through engaging in hands-on activities and place value games, they investigated different ways to build and represent numbers using hundreds, tens, and ones. As part of this learning, students also created a Teen Number Cloud, showing the many ways a teen number can be made. We are so proud of their enthusiasm and growing confidence as mathematicians!



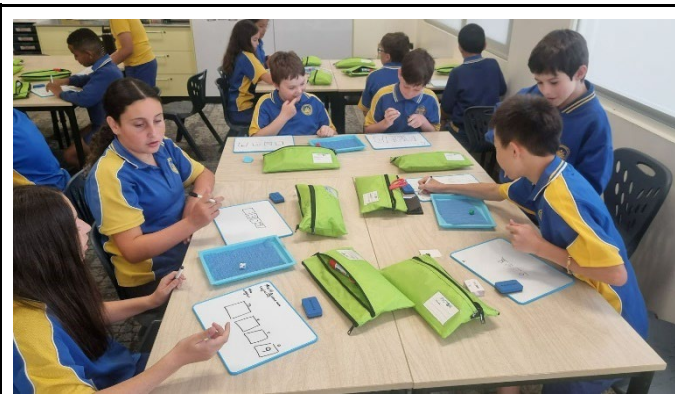


In **Grade 3/4**, students have been learning more about numbers and place value. They practised making and ordering numbers to tens of thousands and beyond, exploring how to write and name these large numbers. Students built numbers in different ways using MAB blocks and other materials around the classroom to represent the place value of numbers up to billions. They also practised renaming numbers, for example trading 1 ten for 10 ones and vice versa, in preparation for working with multi-digit equations. These hands-on experiences helped students see numbers in different ways and understand the value of each digit. With what we are learning in class we are ready to extend our mathematical thinking throughout the year!





In **Grade 5/6**, we have been revising our knowledge of place value by making, naming, recording and ordering whole numbers through a variety of hands-on experiences, games and puzzles such as missing number charts and place value jigsaws. We have also introduced decimal place value through paper folding, which provided a fantastic visual of dividing one whole into 10 smaller parts each part called a tenth. Students have been practising naming, comparing and ordering decimal numbers.



16/2/25 Decimals

7 tenths = $\frac{7}{10} = 0.7$ 3 tenths = $\frac{3}{10} = 0.3$

Decimal Number Chart Activity

0.4	0.4		0.43	0.44	0.45	0.46	0.47		0.49	
0.5	0.51		0.53		0.55				0.58	0.59
0.6	0.61	0.62	0.63	0.64	0.65	0.66	0.67		0.68	0.69
0.7		0.72	0.73				0.76	0.77	0.78	
0.8	0.81	0.82	0.83			0.86			0.88	0.89
0.9				0.94	0.95			0.97	0.98	0.99
1.0	1.01	1.02	1.03	1.04			1.07	1.08		
1.1	1.11					1.15	1.16	1.17	1.18	
1.2			1.23	1.24	1.25				1.28	1.29
	1.31	1.32	1.33			1.35	1.36			1.39

* Roll 2 ten sided dice to create a starting number with ones and tenths





In **Auslan** this week, students from grade 2 to 6 have been revising the technical parts of Auslan signing by rediscovering H.O.L.M (Handshapes, Orientation, Location and Movement). The location of where you place a hand sign is important, and students have been learning about the similarities and differences of where certain signs belong.

Grade 1 students have learnt signs about the different types of transport we regularly use (e.g. bus, car, train, tram, bicycle) and Foundation students have discovered the wonderful world of Colours!

Each week, we revise the previously taught signs so that students can retain their Auslan signs knowledge.



It has been a busy and exciting start to **Science** this term! All students completed pre-assessments to help identify their prior knowledge and inform our planning.

Foundation students explored weather and seasons, learning how different conditions affect us and what clothing protects us from the sun, wind, rain and snow.

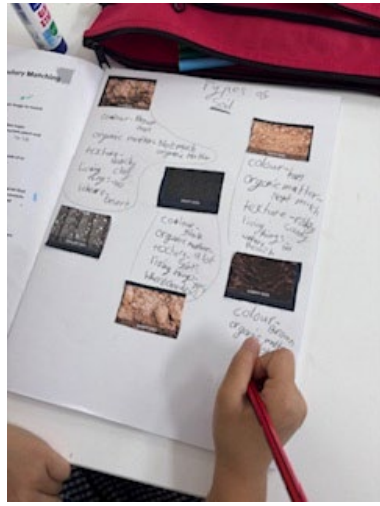
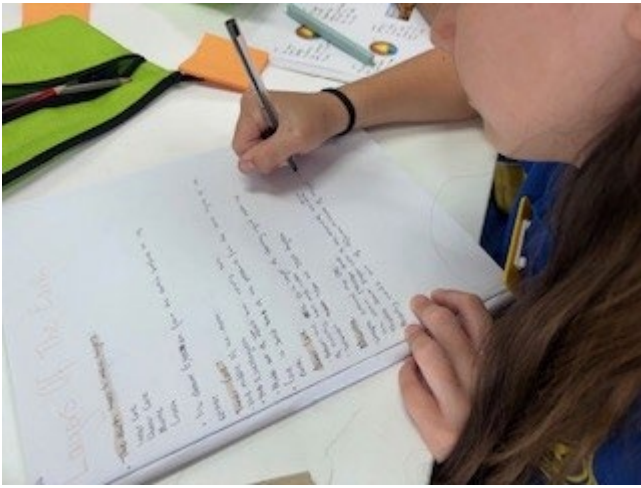
Grade 1 and 2 students investigated where water is found around our school and how it is used, developing an understanding of its importance in everyday life.

Grade 3 and 4 students began their unit on rocks, minerals, soil and crystals. They built scientific vocabulary and discovered that soil is a complex mixture of rock fragments, organic matter, air, water and living organisms - not just "dirt."

Grade 5 and 6 students explored the Earth's layers - crust, mantle and core and investigated tectonic plates, modelling plate movement on the school oval.

It has been a fantastic fortnight of curiosity, investigation and hands-on learning across all year levels.





Students have had an exciting start to **Physical Education** this term, getting active and building their skills across all year levels.

Our Foundation students have been introduced to key PE rules and routines while enjoying a range of warm-up games that focus on safety, cooperation and fair play. They have also loved learning about our Gaga pits and participating in the game each week.

In Grades 1 and 2, students have been revisiting their fundamental motor skills with a strong focus on throwing and catching through fun, game-based activities.

Meanwhile, students in Grades 3–6 have begun preparing for the upcoming Athletics Day. Grades 3 and 4 students have been learning and revisiting the different events. Grades 5 and 6 are working on refining their technique and improving their results. It's been fantastic to see such great energy and effort from everyone involved.

This fortnight in **Visual Arts**, the Grade 5/6 students have been exploring the work of Australian artist Fred Williams. Williams is renowned for his abstract landscape paintings that capture the essence of the Australian bush through the use of dots, lines, and textured surfaces.

In the first week, students studied photographs of bushfires and the landscapes that emerge afterwards. Using pieces of cardboard, they painted the skyline and middle ground, applying thick layers of paint to create a rich texture.

During the second session, students experimented with natural materials such as sticks, twigs, and seed pods to stamp or add markings to their work—expressing their interpretations of trees, bushes and shrubs during or after a fire.

Here are a few examples of their wonderful creations!





Ava 5/6E



Josephine 5/6A

Performing Arts

We have had so much fun over the last two weeks singing and performing songs with such love. We have incorporated the use of up to 10 props to assist with the visual and aural enhancement of our music. The students are delving into a whole sea of new and exciting music vocabulary to enhance their skills in all aspects of the curriculum. Familiar and new music has filled our hearts with love and the ukulele has been our accompanying instrument.



HOUSE POINTS

Congratulations to all students who were awarded house points this week for showing our school values of Respect, Responsibility and Learning. Below is the total house points awarded for each house during Week 4, Term 1.

	Week 4
Green House	2710 points
Blue House	1810 points
Red House	2290 points
Yellow House	2190 points
House with the highest number of points.	Green House

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK – Term One: Week Three

STUDENT NAME	GRADE	VALUE Respect Responsibility Learning	DEMONSTRATED WHEN
Zylar D	Foundation A	Respect Responsibility Learning	For contributing her thoughts and ideas during class discussions. Keep up the great work!
Jude	Foundation B	Responsibility Learning	For showing wonderful progress and bravery by coming into school calmly each morning and starting the day ready to learn. Amazing effort Jude!
Isla	Foundation C	Respect Learning	For showing great listening skills and sharing her ideas!
Alfie	1A	Respect Responsibility Learning	For showing great focus and producing pleasing work!
Tristan A	1B	Respect Responsibility Learning	Well done on following instructions carefully and being respectful to others. Keep it up Tristain!
Charlie K	1C	Respect Responsibility Learning	For showing a love of learning this week by challenging himself with more complex books and finding all the possible solutions to a maths problem. Keep it up Charlie!
Ayda E	2A	Respect Responsibility Learning	For demonstrating our school values by being kind and respectful towards others and showing that she is ready to learn each day. Keep up the great work!
Jake O	2B	Learning	For working really hard on his retell of our mentor text 'Let's Get a Pup'. Keep it up Jake!
Millie R	2C	Respect Responsibility Learning	For consistently demonstrating thinking hard with a positive mindset.
Luke V	3/4A	Respect Responsibility Learning	For consistently demonstrating our values, supporting others, collaborating effectively as part of a group and sharing of your fabulous thinking during our discussions this week investigating the text 'Fox' by Margaret Wild
Sotiri A	3/4B	Learning	For confidently reworking sentences to change meaning and add emphasis. Keep up the great work!
Ada S	3/4C	Respect Responsibility Learning	For making a wonderful start to 2026! You continuously demonstrate all our school values and are such a great role model. You have shown a positive and enthusiastic attitude towards learning. Keep it up Ada!
Matthew C	3/4D	Learning	For your wonderful work brainstorming ideas for your narrative, from our writing seed about a key. Amazing work Matthew!

Natsu K	3/4E	Respect Responsibility Learning	For consistently showing learning and responsibility by putting in so much effort in class and creating some amazing work. Well done!
Arya S	5/6A	Respect Responsibility Learning	For being a great helper in the classroom and sharing his knowledge of the classroom routines with his classmates. Well done and keep it up.
Aaron C	5/6B	Learning	For really engaging in Maths this week and using his number knowledge to solve problems methodically. Well done Aaron!
Edward T	5/6C	Respect Responsibility Learning	For consistently demonstrating our values, supporting others and collaborating effectively as part of a group. Well done Edward!
Leila H	5/6D	Responsibility Learning	For showing greater confidence to share your ideas with the class during mini lessons. Keep it up!
Jasmir	5/6E	Respect Responsibility Learning	For demonstrating excellent focus in class, listened carefully to instructions and demonstrated polite and respectful behaviour towards others.

SPECIALIST AWARDS – Term One: Week Three

STUDENT NAME	GRADE	VALUE Respect Responsibility Learning	DEMONSTRATED WHEN
Alexander T 1A	Performing Arts	Respect Responsibility Learning	Thank you for your courtesy and delightful manner in Performing Arts
5/6B	Visual Arts	Respect Responsibility Learning	For showing interest and engagement in this week's activity and displaying the school values.
FA	Science F-2	Respect Responsibility Learning	For demonstrating excellent focus in class and following instructions.
Josiah 5/6E	Science 3-6	Respect Learning	For being a responsible member of our class and for sharing his knowledge of natural disasters.
Oliver N 1C	AUSLAN F-2	Respect Responsibility Learning	For being a super focused learner and confidently signing each of the 'breakfast foods' signs' and sharing his signing with his peers. Great work Oliver!
Leon M 3/4C	AUSLAN 3-6	Respect Responsibility Learning	For demonstrating great team leadership during our Auslan warm-up activities. Leon assisted his peers with their alphabet and number signing and helped others throughout the session. Well done Leon!
Jeremy J Foundation C	PE F-2	Respect Responsibility Learning	For being an enthusiastic learner and coming to the lesson ready to try his best. Well Done!

Samuel D.P. 5/6B	PE 3-6	Respect Responsibility Learning	For coming to the lesson ready to learn and try his best.
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STUDENTS OF THE WEEK – Term One: Week Four

STUDENT NAME	GRADE	VALUE Respect Responsibility Learning	DEMONSTRATED WHEN
Delilah S	Foundation A	Respect Responsibility Learning	For always trying her best and actively following instructions.
Liana S	Foundation B	Learning	For carefully drawing a detailed picture of a fox and neatly copying the sentence with great effort and focus. Fantastic work Liana!
Ky An N	Foundation C	Learning	For putting his best effort into all learning tasks. Keep it up.
Alessandra	1A	Respect Responsibility Learning	For being a hard working student and a kind and co-operative member of 1A.
Zoe T	1B	Respect Responsibility Learning	For always trying your best in all learning activities and actively following instructions! Well done!
Evie	1C	Respect Responsibility Learning	For trying your best in all your learning activities this week, especially in writing and maths. Keep up the amazing effort Evie!
Sophia B	2A	Respect Responsibility Learning	For her fantastic listening and always showing that she is ready to learn. Great Work!
Enaaja G	2B	Respect Responsibility Learning	For doing an amazing job at participating in reading lessons and displaying our mini whiteboard expectations. Keep it up Superstar!
Harrison S	2C	Respect Responsibility Learning	For writing meaningful sentences about his emotions and his enthusiastic efforts to learn new words.
Evelyn F	3/4A	Respect Responsibility Learning	For demonstrating all our school values, being respectful in everything you do, and being a role model learner during our writing this week. You wrote an excellent alternative ending for the book Fox, and listened to feedback before taking responsibility by revising your text. LOVE IT!!!
Noah	3/4B	Learning	For taking on feedback and applying his descriptive writing to an alternative ending of our text 'Fox'. A wonderful effort! Keep it up!
Aurelia G	3/4C	Respect Responsibility Learning	For producing an interesting new ending to the text Fox. You have used rich language and creative thinking to captivate the reader! Well done.

Amarey	3/4D	Learning	For your wonderful writing piece based on the next part to the story Fox we have been exploring. Your thoughtful word choice and language techniques had a lasting impact on your readers. Amazing work Amarey!
Sofia A	3/4E	Respect Responsibility Learning	For always putting so much effort into making her writing exciting for her reader. Sofia is always trying out new ideas and experimenting with what she has learnt in class. Keep it up!
Chloe D	5/6A	Responsibility Learning	For setting new personal bests in our maths challenges and working hard to complete her tasks to a high standard. Well done and keep it up!
Phoebe W	5/6B	Learning	For having the confidence to share her writing and creative ideas with the class. Keep up the great work Phoebe!
Lily R	5/6C	Responsibility Learning	For your effective use of a rubric to evaluate your writing and set a personal writing goal! Well done Lily!
Hunter W	5/6D	Responsibility Learning	For asking lots of great questions when exploring different words that can be used to describe our emotions.
Anthe	5/6E	Respect Responsibility Learning	For demonstrating wonderful confidence, resilience and perseverance in your learning, tackling challenges with a positive attitude and determination. I'm very proud of the way you approach each task and keep striving to do your best.

SPECIALIST AWARDS – Term One: Week Four

STUDENT NAME	GRADE	VALUE Respect Responsibility Learning	DEMONSTRATED WHEN
Liam C 1C	Performing Arts	Respect Responsibility Learning	Thank you for shining in Performing Arts and showing us how to sing and perform with love!
Josiah A 5/6E	Visual Arts	Respect Responsibility Learning	For showing our school values by being a responsible learner and being kind and respectful towards others. Well done!
Rory M 2C	Science F-2	Respect Responsibility Learning	For being an engaged and enthusiastic learner in Science and sharing your knowledge and ideas about our topic.
Inaya 5/6D	Science 3-6	Learning	For her deep understanding of Tectonic Plates and the impact it has on environments and our Earth.
Georgia B 2B	Auslan F-2	Respect Responsibility Learning	For demonstrating great listening skills and always helping her peers during our Auslan group activities. Georgia has a great memory for recalling previously learnt signs and always contributes during our discussions! Well done, Georgia!

Annika S 5/6D	Auslan 3-6	Respect Responsibility Learning	For being an excellent learner by demonstrating her new knowledge of signing Auslan numbers and letters during our session this week. Annika's enthusiasm to learn Auslan has been fantastic!
Liam C 1C	PE F-2	Respect Responsibility Learning	For always being a positive and enthusiastic learner as well as a responsible class helper. Well Done!
Selena P 3/4A	PE 3-6	Respect Responsibility Learning	For coming to the lesson ready to learn and try your best. You did an amazing job during our high jump practice. Well Done!

COMMUNITY INFORMATION



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Tennis Australia Qualified Club Professional Coaches
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 February 8th
 8.30am to 12.30pm

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Nick - 0411 224 976
 nick@vidatennis.com.au

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Keilor East
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Kick start a year of swimming with your first

FOUR LESSONS FREE

Back to school, back to swim!
You'll love everything our program has to offer from day one.
Offer ends 8 February and limited to the first 100 enrolments.



Scan the QR code to view more information or call Keilor East Leisure Centre to speak to one of our friendly staff on 03 9283 6402.

Promo code 4FREE must be entered at time of sign up.
Terms & Conditions apply.

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JOIN TODAY AND GET YOUR FIRST 4 LESSONS FREE


Our GOSwim swimming and water safety lessons are suitable for infants from 6 months of age, pre-school, school age, teens through to adults. Lessons run year round in our Learn to Swim Pool and Indoor 25m Pool.

Memberships include:

- Weekly lessons with easy and affordable payments
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\$21.25 per week (\$15.30 concession)

Available for first 100 enrolments only.
Offer ends 08/02/2026.



THE DANCE SOCIETY

Keilor East
LEISURE CENTRE

Kick start a year of dance with your first

FOUR LESSONS FREE

Back to school, back to dance. Offer ends 8 February.



Scan the QR code to view more information or call Keilor East Leisure Centre to speak to one of our friendly staff on 03 9283 6402.

Promo code DANCE4FREE must be entered at time of sign up.
Terms & Conditions apply.

THE DANCE SOCIETY

THE DANCE SOCIETY

Looking for a fun and enriching way for your child to improve their dance skills and coordination?

The Dance Society offers the perfect opportunity for kids to develop their abilities in a mix of hip-hop, jazz, and musical theatre!

Plus, as a parent, you can relax knowing there's no need to worry about costumes or extra stress - just pure enjoyment for everyone!

MEMBERSHIP \$16.40/Week
On a direct debit

PRE-SCHOOL (3-4 YRS)
WEDNESDAY 4:15PM - 4:45PM
THURSDAY 4:45 PM - 5:15 PM

LEVEL 1 (5-7 YRS)
THURSDAY 4:00PM - 4:45PM
FRIDAY 4:00PM - 4:45PM

LEVEL 2 (8-11 YRS)
TUESDAY 4:00PM - 4:45PM
THURSDAY 5:15PM - 6:00PM

LEVEL 3 (12+ YRS)
SATURDAY 9:00AM - 9:45AM

PLEASE NOTE: Age ranges are only a guide. Levels are based on abilities.

CONTACT

E kelcinfo@movemv.com.au
P 03 9283 6402
A 84 Quinn Grove, Keilor East
W movemv.com.au

T&Cs: All memberships are on a direct debit of \$16.40 per week.



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SEASON 2026





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Meet our Principal, Michael Keenan, for an overview of Maribyrnong College's vibrant educational community. Then join Assistant Principal, Bernadette Caulfield, and student representatives for a tour of the College.

BOOK ONLINE:
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YEAR 7 (2027) APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

Maribyrnong College invites talented student-athletes to apply for our select entry program. Sports scholarship applications close Wed 25 Mar.

TERM 1 SPORTS ACADEMY TOUR WEDNESDAY 25 FEB

BOOK ONLINE:
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Free online workshops

Early Years Series



Practical support for families raising children with developmental delay and disability

In March we are running two free 90-minute online workshops led by facilitators who are parents of children with disability.

Getting Ready for Child Care and Kindergarten

Find out how your child can be supported and included at child care and kindergarten. Learn simple ways to work in partnership with your child's educators.

Mon 5 March & Tues 4 March

First Steps to Support

Find out what help is available for you and your family, including: financial assistance, getting a break and supporting siblings.

Mon 16 March & Tues 17 March

Learn about



- Understanding your child's rights in education
- Reasonable adjustments in the early years
- Financial support options for families
- Self-care and where to go for help

66

Content was helpful and relevant. I walked away with practical resources I could use right away.

99

Scan to register

Email
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Call 03 9880 7000 or
1800 654 013 regional

<https://bit.ly/EYSmar26CC>



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- No experience required

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Tom Isaacs - 0400044006 or StBernardsfooty@gmail.com





nab AFL Auskick

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5-13

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