Welcome to the Mount Macedon Primary School Newsletter

Issue 34 Tuesday 11th November 2025

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14th Rescheduled District Orienteering
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24th Aaron Moar Guitar Concert
18th & 25th 2026 Foundation Orientation Session

December
2nd 2026 Foundation Orientation Session
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9th Statewide Orientation Session
12th Kids Rule The School
15th Year 6 Graduation
17th Picnic at Hanging Rock
18th End of Year Assembly & Morning Tea
19th LAST DAY OF TERM finish @ 1.30

Principal's Report

Hello everyone,

Remembrance Day: Our whole school took a moment yesterday to commemorate Remembrance Day. We held a special assembly in our school hall, run by our School Captains, Mirra and Raphy, where we discussed the importance of the day and the significant sacrifices many have made to defend and spread peace around the world. The reverence our students showed during our assembly was immense and truly impressive.

Sex Education Australia: We are excited to be part-way through our visit from Sex Education Australia (SEA) who are working with our 3s to 6s over the last few weeks. SEA educator Vivianne has given amazing feedback about the engagement from our students and how they have been working in her sessions. We are proud of our relationship with SEA in offering and delivering this vitally important aspect of the Victorian Curriculum.

Soccer Pilot Program: Today concluded our two-week pilot Soccer Program which saw students from grades 1-5 participate in training sessions that aimed to develop not only soccer skills but teamwork and resilience skills. It was so wonderful to see students taking on all their coaches were sharing and show off their soccer skills at the same time. This pilot program was organised by Brooke and based on feedback; looks like something we can extend on next year. Thank you to everyone who helped organise the sessions.

Foundation Information Night: It's a very exciting time of year when we begin our transition program for our 2026 Foundation class! We are holding our 2026 Foundation Parent Information session tonight in our school library. Next year's Foundation students will also begin their transition sessions next Tuesday when they spend an hour with Mrs Barclay and Mrs Glenister. This continues each Tuesday morning up until the Statewide Transition Day on Tuesday the 9th of December when every student spends two hours in their 2026 classrooms.

Grade 4/5/6 Camp: We send off our Grade 4, 5 and 6s on Monday for their Queenscliff camp! Students will be spending three days down in Queenscliff at Cottage by the Sea, exploring a number of wonderful Queenscliff landmarks including the maritime Museum, Marine Discovery Centre and Fort Queenscliff. Information about the upcoming camp is available on Compass.

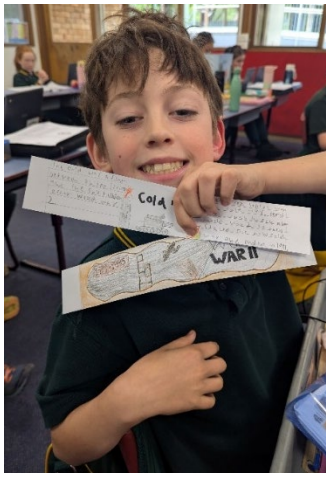
We are heading into a very busy time of the year, it is very important that we keep up to date with important events, these will be up on Compass as well as in the newsletter each week.

If at any stage you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to come and see me.

Many thanks, Joe.

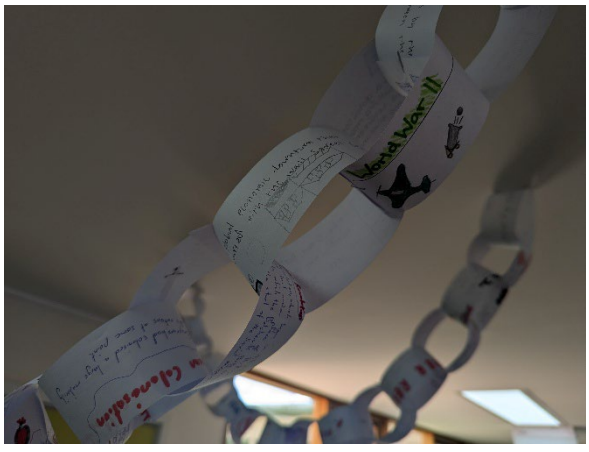
HISTORY IN THE 5/6 CLASS

The grade 5/6 class have started their final unit of the PYP. It is a history unit with a central idea that "Countries have historically interacted with each other resulting in significant historical events"



To start the unit, students have looked at events that have shaped our world, then within small groups, developed a visual, historical major events paper chain timeline (hanging in the main hallway for anyone keen to check it out).

Everyone is excited by what is to come for the remainder of this unit and each student choose an event, then have the opportunity to develop a model, artefact, map, or digital displays showcasing their chosen event and explaining its significance.



CLASSROOM NEWS

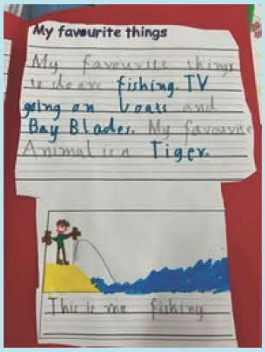
GRADE 1

Numeracy

We have been looki.ng at measurement the last few weeks. We have been measuring the length, weight and capacity of different objects / containers with lots of hands on actvities.

Literacy

We have been looking at the purpose and features of information texts, and have created our own that include headings, images, labels, captions and bold words.



Inquiry

We have been researching an endangered animal of our choice and have started creating a PowerPoint presention all about it.

The Mancave Incursion – Student report

The Man Cave 29th October 2025.
Recently, the grade 5s and 6s at Mount Macedon Primary School had the opportunity to take part in The Man Cave incursion, a workshop focused on building confidence, emotional awareness, and strong friendships. It was also about transitioning to high school. There were these guys called Jehan, Vincent and Lindsay, and they instructed us on what we would be doing.

During the session, the instructors from The Man Cave helped us explore what it means to be a positive and respectful young man. We took part in different activities and discussions that encouraged us to think about our values, how we treat others, and how we can support our mates.

We started with some fun team games that helped everyone feel more comfortable and connected. Then, we talked about the pressures boys sometimes face and how it's okay to show emotions and ask for help. The instructors shared personal stories, and many of us had the chance to share our own thoughts in a safe and supportive space.

Towards the end, we worked together to come up with ideas on how to make our school community a place where everyone feels respected and included. The day was inspiring and helped us feel more confident about being ourselves.

Overall, the Man Cave incursion was a meaningful and enjoyable experience that helped us learn more about ourselves and each other.

By Will and Hunter

The Mancave Incursion – Student report cont.

On Wednesday we had the Man Cave Incursion, it was all about helping young people express their emotions and help transition into higher years of school.

The people that guided us through the program were called Vincent and Jehan who were the main speakers. They guided us through people's backpacks, taking us on an emotional rollercoaster. Lindsay and Tom, who weren't one of the main speakers, were observing/listening to what was happening.

We started off by playing a few games, these games include moving a cone by picking it up without using your hands or arms!! We thought this would be easy until we had to pair up and both needed to be touching the cone at the same time. Then we played a reflex game, where you would partner up and try to pick up the cone when he says 'cone'.

Then we got to talking! We partnered up, and talked about stuff, and we also all shared as a group.

Overall, I think it was a really good experience and I would suggest that others of our age should try it!

Thanks Man Cave

By Edward Jones and Yash Sharma

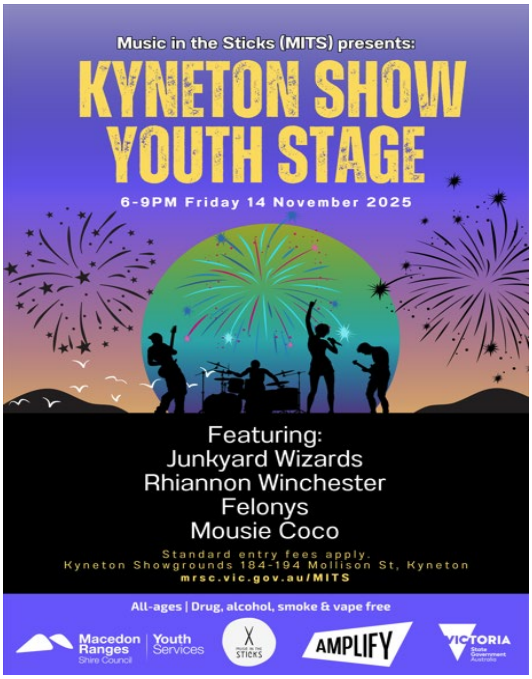
Wellbeing

Unfortunately, we had to postpone the Junior School Council's Mental Health Awareness activities last week due to the wet weather. We're hoping to run these activities over the next week or two, depending on the forecast. We look forward to students taking part in a range of fun, wellbeing-focused activities once the sunshine returns!

On Wednesday, we welcomed Vivienne from Sex Education Australia to begin the first of three sessions with our Grade 3–6 students. This program delivers compulsory Victorian Curriculum content, including respectful relationships, personal safety, and positive identity. The sessions are designed to empower students with age-appropriate knowledge and skills to stay safe and make informed choices as they grow.

Pop Culture Parenting Podcast
This podcast is about finding the sweetspot between the textbooks and real life when it comes to parenting. Dr Billy (a developmental pediatrician) and Nick (a developing parent) are a couple of dads having honest discussions about parenting day to day
Episode 111 – Nurturing Neurodiversity reflection (part 1)
In this part 1 reflection episode we discuss how the evidence can guide us regarding many of the challenges neurodivergent kids face. We cover questions about masking, rejection sensitive dysphoria, neurodiversity and emotional sensitivity, fitting in, medication and many more.
https://open.spotify.com/episode/0JFw044g7F99GkgfMJgVQm?si=JYZnKvRiQHSdelvHkevCaw

Emily from Thrive Counselling Services is running her Mindful Girls sessions again in Gisborne. See flyer below.



Register here:

https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/e85e9f

Come and Try Orienteering at the home of the Ashes!

Wednesday November 5th 6pm Salesian College Sunbury.

Awaken your sense of adventure this year: try orienteering!

It's the versatile and exciting adventure sport where your aim is to reach all the checkpoints on a special map as quickly as you can.

We'll explain how the maps work, what you are looking for and what you need to do.

All equipment is loaned on the night, just wear comfortable clothes and shoes to walk / jog in.

This event is part of the Twilight school workshops aimed at learning new skills, connecting with others and most of all having fun!

Registrations are accepted through:

https://events.humanitix.com/twilight-school-single-sessions

Cost: $10 + booking fee

FREE PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From 1 January 2026, people aged under 18 can travel free on all Victorian public transport services using a new youth myki card. This includes trams, trains, buses and coach services.

To access free travel, they must tap the myki card on and off each time they travel. For areas that do not use myki cards, they must show their myki card to travel free.
More information about the youth myki card will be available later in Term 4, 2025 – refer to the myki types webpage on the Transport Victoria website.

For more information about other travel options to school, and support for eligible students, refer to the Travelling to school webpage on the Victorian Government website.

Webpage to help families and students prepare for a new school year

A new school year is an exciting time for students and families, but it can be a big step – particularly for those starting Prep, secondary school or VCE.

The Department of Education has a webpage with resources and information to help you prepare for the new school year.

During the school holidays, please consider reading through the resources, which include:
· tips to help transition from kinder to Prep, primary to secondary school, and Year 10 to VCE
· what to expect at school
· help with school costs and fees
· health and wellbeing guidance to support children's mental health.

Please refer to the New year of learning webpage.

TRAFFIC & PEDESTRIAN SURVEYS – SCHOOL CROSSING

The Department of Transport and Planning (DTP), in partnership with Macedon Ranges Shire Council, will be installing a temporary survey camera at the Mt Macedon Rd (Salisbury Rd) school crossing from Tuesday 28 October to Thursday 30 October.

This camera will help collect traffic and pedestrian movement data to identify and address any road safety issues in our community.

Privacy is protected
The technology only detects movement. No one can be identified, and all faces are blurred.

Thank you for your understanding and support as this important safety work is carried out.

For more information, please contact Macedon Ranges Shire Council Engineering Department on 03 5422 0333.

8th March – International Women's Day

17-23rd March – Neurodiversity Celebration Week

17th – 23rd March – Harmony Week

April – Autism Acceptance Month

20th May – Internation day of Happiness

MAY – Australians Biggest Morning Tea

12-17th May – Mental Health Awareness Week

17th May – IDAHOBIT

11-15th August – Bullying No Way, National Week of Action

30th August – Wear it purple day

31st August – Daffodil Day

10th September – World Suicide Prevention Day

12th September – R U OK? Day

October – Mental Health Awareness Month

10th October – World Mental Health Day

14th November – World Diabetes Day

3rd December – Internation Day of People with a Disability

Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation

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Key Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Dates

20th March – National Close the Gap Day

26th May – National Sorry Day
27th May – Anniversary of the 1967 Referendum
27th May – 3rd June – Reconciliation Week

3rd June – Mabo Day

July 6th – 13th – NAIDOC Week

4th August – National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children's Day
9th August – International Day of the Worlds Indigenous Peoples

3rd September (First Wednesday) – Indigenous Literacy Day

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Acknowledgement of Country

written by 2024 student leaders Lenny, Ava, Cienna & Henry

Wominjeka, Welcome.
At Mount Macedon Primary School, we would like to acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation, the traditional custodians of the land, where our school stands. The Wurundjeri people believe Bunjil the eagle, created the people, the animals, the land and the waterways. We are grateful that they cared for this land, and we commit to continuing its care and to learn and grow here with our kir-rip, friends. We pay our respect to Elders, past and present, and acknowledge their ongoing connection to biik, Country.
Nagujin, thank you.