

WELCOME TO THE MOUNT MACEDON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue 16 Tuesday 9th June 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

[PRINCIPAL'S REPORT](#)

[STUDENT REPORTER](#)

[IB PYP UPDATE](#)

[WELLBEING](#)

[COMMUNITY NEWS](#)

[SIGNIFICANT DATES](#)

FOS Events

Working Bee June 12th

Lantern Parade June 17th

Father's Day Event Friday 4th September

Meetings

Tuesday 21st July 7.30pm

Important Term Dates

Term 2

June

16th Yr 5/6 Duneira Excursion

17th Lantern Parade

22nd + 23rd Parent Teacher Interviews

24th Yr 6 Exhibition

25th Yr 5 visit to Gisborne Secondary College

26th LAST DAY OF TERM FINISH AT 2.30PM

Term 3

July

13th FIRST DAY OF TERM 3

27th Yr 4/5/6 Students Man Cave or Big Sister

28th School Council Meeting @ 7.30pm

29th 100 days of school (prep celebration)

August

14th District Basketball (selected students)

19th District Athletics (selected students)

25th School Council Meeting

31st District Hot Shots Tennis (selected students)

September

14th – 17th Production

17th District T20 Cricket (selected students)

18th LAST DAY OF TERM FINISH AT 2.30

Term 4

12th – 16th Whole School Swimming Program

16 October – Full loaded softball – selected students

November 2nd PUPIL FREE DAY

November 3rd Cup Day Public Holiday

November 27th PUPIL FREE DAY

December

12th Foundation BBQ Dinner

Yr 1/2 & Yr 2/3 Sleepover camp

Hello everyone,

JSC Pancake Day: Tomorrow our Junior School Council are holding a pancake day. Students will be able to bring along money to purchase pancakes to be eaten at lunchtime. Money raised is going to be going towards MMPS's submission to the *Energy Breakthrough Pushcart Competition*. Thank you to Abby and Hunter and our JSC for organising the day!

5/6 Camp: Last week the Grade 5 and 6 students and their teachers headed down to the city for three days of fun! Students visited the MCG, ACMI, The Old Treasury building and Parliament House and many more Melbourne landmarks. It was a huge undertaking so a big thank you goes out to Laura, Kelly, Ben and Amy for helping organise and take the kids down to the city for camp!

Working Bee: Pia, as part of her role on our Building and Grounds subcommittee, has helped organise a Working Bee for tomorrow, Friday the 12th of June. It will be held after school and there are plenty of jobs going so if you have a bit of time, please hang around and help us out a little. Hot chocolate and other refreshments may help sweeten the deal! We hope to see you there!

Light Festival: Next Wednesday night FOS will be holding the MMPS Light Festival. All our grades have been working hard with Mr. Garcia in Digi Tech and with Mrs. Glenister in Art to create a range of beautiful light-inspired pieces of art. You are all invited to our school hall for supper, hot dogs, soup and refreshments, followed by a tour of the grounds to explore all the classes' artworks around the school grounds. **The festival kicks off from 6:00pm in our school hall.**

Grade 6 Exhibition: There is a lot of work going on in the grade 5/6 class from our grade 6s getting ready for their Exhibition. The Exhibition is a huge part of our grade 6's final year of moving through the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program. They have been working on their Arts unit and will be displaying all their work to our school community. Keep an eye out on Compass for more information closer to the date. **The Exhibition will be held between 6:00pm and 7:00pm, the evening of Wednesday the 24th of June here at school.**

Attitudes to School Survey: Today our senior students completed the annual Attitudes to School Survey. The survey collects important data about our students' feelings towards many aspects of school and forms a significant aspect of our strategic planning going forward.

Reports and Parent-Teacher Meetings: Our semester reports will be going home to families next Friday the 19th of June. These will be available digitally via Compass, information on accessing your child's report will be sent out with your child's report. Parent-Teacher meetings will be held the following week on Monday the 22nd of June and Tuesday the 23rd of June. **Information on booking these will go home shortly.**

Pick up and Drop off reminders: Just a reminder that school doors open at **8.45am**. MMPS staff are not on duty before this time. If you need your child to be at school earlier, please discuss with myself prior, alternatively reach out to SchoolsOUT notifying them you require before school care. If there is enough demand (minimum of 5 students) SchoolsOUT will arrange this for you.

Maintenance Report: Our maintenance team have been hard at work. Currently they are repairing the bag room internal doors. These will be fixed in the coming weeks. The team have also planted the hellebores around the admin building at the front of the school. These plants were purchased with the bulb drive fundraiser.

I hope everyone had a lovely long weekend.

Joe.

Vr incursion

On Monday the 25th of May, we had a school incursion about Indigenous culture. The speaker, Helen, who is actually French, talked all about our local Indigenous tribes. We used VR (Virtual Reality) headsets to view a video that went into more depth about this.

The first video we watched was about the creation of the land using dreamtime stories. It explained things like how the Rainbow Snake formed the land, and how Bunjil the Eagle formed all of life. It also explained how the Indigenous people lived and evolved.

We then watched some videos of traditional Aboriginal dances. It was very interesting to learn about these traditional dances, and why they do them. For example, one of the videos was about weather, and a greeting to the new season.

After the videos were done, we played an interactive game, where the task is to collect all these items for your village. You collect things like firewood, and berries, to help everyone in your family. We learnt about rules regarding Aboriginals, including not attending practises without permission, which I found most interesting.

Written by Raffy Fox Garcia, with adjustments made from Yash Sharma.

Pupil free day

On the 8th of June, we have the King's birthday. There will be no students attending on this day. So your child can recharge your brain. School will continue the next day as planned.

Weather

As we approach winter, the skies and weather are becoming less appealing, so I recommend you equip your child with warm clothes. Another factor is that rain is making the ground slippery, and the chances of slipping have increased, and many students have already slipped while playing. I am just adding a reminder that we need to be more careful out in the yard.

Pancake Day Reminder

Hunter and Abby have created a pancake day to support some students who have been [making billy carts](#) to race on Wednesdays, they have created a poster containing all the information needed. This link will take you to a poster regarding Pancake Day.

Yr 5 GSC visit

On the 25th of June, the Grade 5's are heading to Gisborne Secondary College to see and experience how a high school works. Last time we went we all had a lot of fun, it was great to run around from one class to the next, it was one of my favourite things of Grade 5's.

Yash Shama – School Reporter

Another week, another step closer to our grand **Winter Solstice / Lantern Festival 2026** installations.

The Mount Macedon Primary Tech and Art rooms have been absolute hives of activity. We've officially moved from the "talking about it" phase to the "sticking things down and hoping it looks like a dragon" phase.

Here is what your brilliant digital engineers have been up to this week:

1. The Big Sticky Tape Test We took our giant 5-meter LED strips and actually mapped them out onto our design boards. Wrestling 300 addressable lights into the shape of a fire-breathing dragon, a giant bumblebee, and various winter solstice shapes is no easy feat.

Once the shapes were down, we plugged in our trusty micro:bit computers to make sure the electrical current was flowing smoothly from end to end. The hardware works, the connections are solid, and the room was absolutely buzzing with RGB light. The next step? The data programming phase, where we code the exact animations to make the dragon actually "breathe" fire and the bee "buzz" with light.

2. Makey Makey Chaos (The Science of Squish) To take a little breather from heavy coding, we also broke out the **Makey Makey** kits to deepen our understanding of circuitry, electrical currents, and conductivity.

For the uninitiated, a Makey Makey allows us to turn everyday objects into computer keys by completing an electrical circuit with our own bodies. Students learned that electricity doesn't just travel through copper wires—it travels through anything that can hold a current. Naturally, this led to the classroom testing the conductivity of various school supplies, tin foil, their friends' hands, and yes... a lot of fruit.

What's Next? We are right on the cusp of bringing it all together. Over the coming weeks, we will be diving into the "trickle process" of scripting individual pixels to match our physical art shapes.

Keep an eye out for more glowing updates soon—things are about to get very bright around here.

Mr. Garcia *Digital Technologies*

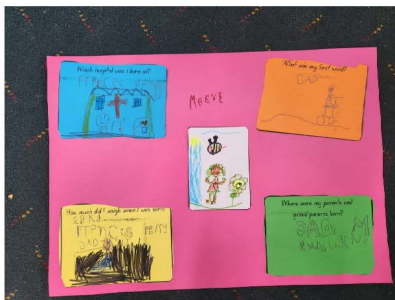


This term in Foundation/Year 1 Inquiry we have been exploring the central idea that ‘Everybody has a personal history’. We were very interested in this, and of course we started investigating this by first discussing what ‘history’ is and then what a ‘personal history’ is. This happened to occur just after we commemorated ANZAC Day so it was a perfect reason for us to discuss how learning about the ANZAC’s and what occurred at Gallipoli during the war is an example of history and why it is important for us to learn about history. We came up with the definition for history being ‘something that has happened in the past’. We followed this by discussing what a ‘personal history’ is and that while everyone has a personal history, we all have unique histories and pasts to each other. The students then brainstormed ‘Wonderings’ they all had about their own personal histories with the hope they could find some answers throughout the unit.

Some examples of these wonderings were:

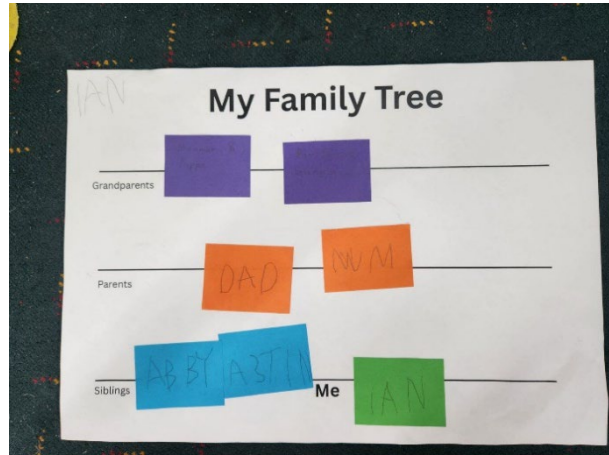
- ‘How much did I weigh when I was born?’
- ‘When did I get my first tooth?’
- ‘Where was I born?’
- ‘What was my parents first pet?’
- ‘What was my first word?’
- ‘Where were my parents born?’

We decided to investigate the answers to these wonderings by creating a little interview list to take home and interview our families. We chose 4 questions to ask at home, including: ‘How much did I weigh when I was born?’, ‘What hospital was I born at?’, ‘Where were my parents and grandparents born?’ and ‘What was my first word?’ Once we returned these with the answers to school, we set about creating posters about ourselves and our personal histories. These are some examples of these wonderful posters below:



IB PYP – Foundation cont.

We also investigated what a family tree is and why it is an extremely important piece of our personal history to explore people from our families in the past. We thought it was very interesting that the further back you go into your family tree, the more 'great' gets added to the names. We also thought it was very fascinating that you could see hundreds of years back in your family tree. A question was asked about how a family tree is created and we talked about how these need to be researched and investigated by people and are generally made by someone in your family who is interested in their family and personal history. The students made their own family trees that only went back a few generations, to include themselves and siblings, their parents and their grandparents.





G.E.M of the week

By Sadie & Jax J

Resilience project

This week in the resilience project we learned how to notice the glimmers (good things) in the day instead of focusing on the bad things. This helps when you think you had a bad day but you can actually realize that you had a pretty good day.



The thoughts of: Liam

Q1. What are you grateful for?

A. My Nintendo and Legos!

Q2. What is your favorite thing you learnt in Wellbeing this year!

A. All the art stuff!

It's time to talk gaming

For many parents, the sight of a 10-year-old child deeply engrossed in a video game — navigating virtual worlds with skill and enthusiasm — is a familiar one. The child has learnt the mechanics of the game, developed strategies and perhaps even connected with existing (or new) friends online. While gaming can be a source of entertainment and learning, it also raises important questions for parents about balance, safety and the impact on their child's development.

Understanding the appeal

For many children, gaming is more than just a pastime. It's a way to unwind, socialise and challenge themselves. Games often provide a sense of achievement through levels, rewards and defined, measurable progress. Gaming platforms can also be outlets for creativity as they sometimes allow children to build, explore and experiment in virtual environments.

Setting boundaries

As with any activity, moderation is key. Establishing clear boundaries around gaming time helps ensure that it doesn't interfere with other important aspects of life such as homework, physical activity, spending time with friends face-to-face, other hobbies and family time. If parents can involve their child in the discussions and resulting agreements about the reasonable amount of gaming time allowed each day or week – and be consistent in enforcing these limits – then it will help to establish a good framework from the beginning. It can be very different to try to impose limits on children once a precedent has been set, for example if they've had no limits in terms of time, to then insist that they start timing their time spent, parents may encounter resistance.

Encouraging balance

Encourage your child to engage in a variety of activities. Balance gaming with outdoor play, reading, other hobbies and 'live' social interactions. Ensuring there is a variety of activities helps children develop a range of skills and interests, which promotes overall well-being. Some parents feel that moderation is a good rule-of-thumb approach.

Safety first

Online gaming can expose children to risks such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content and potentially-dangerous interactions with strangers who may not be who they say they are. Teaching your child about online safety – including the importance of protecting personal information and how to recognise inappropriate behaviour – is an essential part of allowing children to spend time online generally, including being on gaming platforms. Use of parental controls and privacy settings can help manage their online interactions but nothing replaces an active engaged parent who is familiar with the different platforms their child is using. The best and easiest way to learn about platforms is to spend some time with your child engaging with a game. Have them explain to you how to play the game, which will give you the best insight into how it works. It will also give you the language so that you can talk with your child about their gaming, making it easier for you to check in.

Open communication

Maintain an open dialogue about gaming. Ask your child about the games they play, what they enjoy about them and any challenges they face. This interest shows that you value their experiences and helps you stay informed about their gaming habits. Being genuinely curious and interested means that your child will be enthusiastic about explaining and sharing this aspect of what they enjoy participating in game-wise.

Positive reinforcement

Acknowledge and praise your child's achievements in gaming, just as you would in other areas of their life. This positive reinforcement can boost their self-esteem and encourage them to approach gaming with a healthy mindset.

Modelling behaviour

Children often mimic the behaviour of adults. If we model a balanced approach to screen time and gaming in our own lives then it makes it more reasonable for us to then have conversations with them about balance. Show them that while gaming can be fun, it's important to make time for other activities and responsibilities.

Wellbeing cont.

Educational opportunities

Look for games that offer educational value. Many games can enhance skills such as problem-solving, critical thinking and creativity. Encourage your child to explore games that align with their interests and provide learning opportunities, especially while also providing off-line opportunities for learning and skill development.

Support and guidance

Be supportive and provide guidance when needed. If your child is struggling with gaming addiction or if it starts to negatively impact their life, it's important to seek professional help. Addressing these issues early can prevent long-term problems.

By understanding the appeal of gaming, setting boundaries, encouraging balance, prioritising safety, maintaining open communication and providing support, parents can help their children enjoy gaming in a healthy and positive way.

Some signs there may be addiction issues (taken from [article](#) on Raising Children Network):

- Withdrawing from friends and family
- Neglecting usual activities
- Performing worse at school
- Often complains about feeling tired or sleep problems
- Hiding or lying about how much they play
- Talking a lot about gaming
- Comments about thinking a lot about gaming
- Finding it hard to stop or limit place
- Experiencing 'gamer rage' – angry or aggressive behaviour while gaming or when asked to stop

Further reading

[‘How to Raise a Healthy Gamer’ Helps Parents Navigate the World of Video Games](#)

[The Parents Guide to Gaming for Kids & Teens](#)

[‘The Gaming Mind: A New Psychology of Videogames and the Power of Play’](#) by Alexander Kriss

[‘Raising a Screen-Smart Kid: Embrace the Good and Avoid the Bad in the Digital Age’](#) by Julianna

Miner (YouTube video)

[‘The Art of Screen Time: How Your Family Can Balance Digital Media and Real Life’](#) by Anya

Kamenetz

Documentaries (listed at [Ranker.](#))

‘The King of Kong: A Fistful of Quarters’ - This documentary follows the intense rivalry between two gamers competing for the world record in the classic arcade game Donkey Kong. It provides a fascinating look into the world of competitive gaming and the dedication it requires.

‘Indie Game: The Movie’ - This film documents the journey of independent game developers as they create and release their games. It offers a behind-the-scenes look at the challenges and triumphs of game development, highlighting the creativity and passion involved.

‘High Score’ - A Netflix docuseries that explores the history of video games, from the early arcade days to the rise of home consoles. Each episode focuses on different pivotal moments and figures in gaming history, providing a comprehensive overview of the industry's evolution.

Gaming and mental health

[The Health Effects of Too Much Gaming](#)

[Video Games and Mental Health: Risk Factors and Benefits](#)

[Video Games: Do They Have Mental Health Benefits?](#)

[Video Games and Mental Health Explained](#)

[How Gaming Affects Your Mental Health](#)

National Simultaneous Story Time

Last week, we proudly joined over 2.28 million participants across Australia for this year's National Simultaneous Storytime event. Students and staff gathered together in the library to enjoy a special whole-school reading of *Luna Roo*.

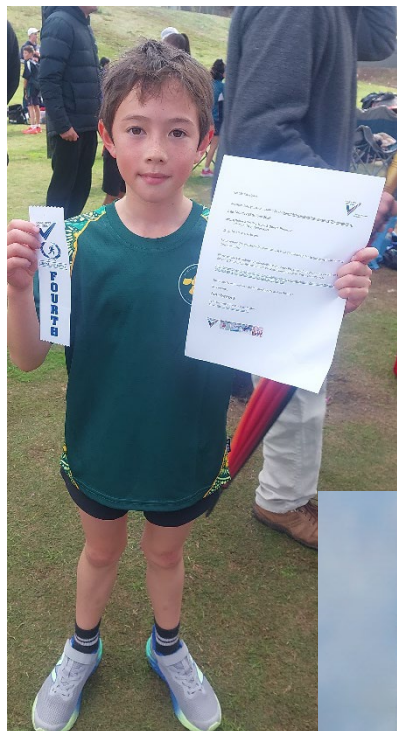
Mr Flynn brought the story to life as he read aloud to students from Foundation to Year 6, creating a wonderful shared experience that celebrated the joy of reading, storytelling and imagination. The library was filled with excitement as students listened closely and joined in the fun of this year's much-loved book.

National Simultaneous Storytime is a fantastic annual event that encourages literacy and a love of books while connecting schools, libraries and communities across the country through the shared experience of reading together at the same time.

We are proud to have been part of such a special event and thank everyone who helped make the day so enjoyable for our students!



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR STUDENTS THAT REPRESENTED MMPS IN THE DIVISION CROSS COUNTRY



On Wednesday the 27th of May, Posy, Francesca, Evelyn and I went to Division cross country.

When we got there everyone had to walk the track, so everyone knew where to go, some of it was uphill and some of it was downhill. Dixon field was easier because it wasn't uphill.

I was in the 9/10 age group I was really nervous when I got called over to start and when the race started everyone was pushing and I fell over and got back up as fast as I could. I came 4th I was out of breath, and my throat was so dry you had to come in the top ten to move on to regionals which is in Melbourne and I can't wait to do it all over again in Melbourne.



On the 27th of May, Posy, Evelyn & Aston and I all went to division cross country. Everyone was so, so amazing and we all had a fun time. Primrose and I were in the same race. We ran 4kms. It was very tiring. Overall, the top ten go to regionals. I came 13th and Primrose came 15th.

By Francesca



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS FUN AT WWP

JUNE - JULY 2026

YOGA FOR KIDS

Discover the joys of yoga across school holidays with our fun-filled classes!

Tuesday 30th June
 8.30am - 9.30am
 \$15
 10.30am - 12noon
 \$25

MONSTER BURGERS

Unleash your creativity and skills in our fun-filled activity. Fun and delicious!

Wednesday 1st July
 10.30am - 12noon
 \$35
 Prep to Grade 6

DRAMA

Join the crew at Scenic School Drama for a fun and engaging performance workshop!

Thursday 2nd July
 9.30am - 12noon
 \$35
 Prep to Grade 6

RACE WITH MARIO

2026 film come and join us for an adventure inspired by the world of Mario video game Super Mario Bros!

Tuesday 7th July
 9.30am - 12.30pm
 \$69
 Prep to Grade 4

JUNIOR ROBOTICS

LEGO Mindstorms get ready to build, code and create in this all NEW Junior Robotics workshop!

Tuesday 7th July
 1pm - 4pm
 \$69
 Grade 3 - 8

STICKER MANDALAS

Take time to relax and unwind with our fun and relaxing sticker mandala workshop!

Wednesday 8th July
 10.30am - 12noon
 \$35
 Prep to Grade 8

For more information or to make a booking, visit our website: www.woodendrill.org.au or call 5427 3845

Are you supporting a family member or friend with disability, mental illness, age or health issues? Even if it's just for a few hours every week, you could be a young carer. This may look like...

- Going with them to appointments or helping with medication
- Cleaning the house or helping with other chores
- Providing emotional support when someone feels sad
- Taking care of younger siblings

Being a young carer might feel lonely, but you're not alone. Carer Gateway has free support for young carers aged 25 and under.

Carer Gateway may support you with things like help at home, young carer social events, counselling or study help.

Free support, call now! **1800 422 737**
carergateway.gov.au

Scan to learn more

Carer Gateway | Holstrix Health | HEEH

Macedon and Mount Macedon Landcare Group

Community Planting Event - Near Macedon Kinder

Sat, 13th June, 10.00 - 12.00pm
 55 Bruce St, Macedon VIC 3440, Australia
 Parking at Macedon Kinder

Help our waterways thrive.

Join us for a community planting morning to revegetate the riverbank and improve habitat for local wildlife. Native plants help prevent erosion, filter runoff and create green corridors for birds and pollinators. It's also a great way to spend the morning!

What to bring: Weather-appropriate clothing, water bottle. All gloves and tools provided.

RSVP via Humanix or just show up on the day.

All ages welcome.

RSVP by June 12th

ALL GIRLS GROUPS AVAILABLE

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS SORTED

PLAY.AFL/HOLIDAYPROGRAMS

ROMSEY AFL SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

REGISTER HERE

THURSDAY 9th JULY 10AM-3PM
 ROMSEY RECREATION RESERVE
 BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 4-12
 \$55 PER PERSON

Scan the QR code to register

SCHOOLS OUT!

CHRISTMAS in JULY

JUN 29TH - JULY 10TH

SCHOOLSOUT! MT MACEDON PRIMARY

CELEBRATING NAIDOC WEEK

- JUNE 29** BASE DAY EXCURSION INCURSION
- JUNE 30** LEGO MASTERS
- JUNE 30** BOWLING FRENZY
- JULY 1** MOVIES, MINIONS & PJS
- JULY 2** WIZARDING SCHOOL
- JULY 3** DISCO MANIA
- JULY 6** WINTER EXPLORERS
- JULY 7** DRESS UP YOUR DREAMS
- JULY 8** SPR PRK
- JULY 9** CHRISTMAS in JULY
- JULY 10** ANIMAL MANIA w. animal incursion

SCHOOLSOUT.NET.AU | 1300 329 106 | BOOK IN NOW

WayOut Macedon Ranges

PERK

Parents Empowering Rainbow Kids

You are invited to join PERK for a free afternoon tea in Kyneton

Thursday, June 11 2026
 Kyneton location
 5.30 - 6.30pm

To register, scan the QR code or follow the link
<https://forms.office.com/e/g14sD0hLcv>

omniam | WayOut | HEY |

Pride Month

FREE Rainbow Inclusion ONLINE Workshop

Practical strategies for creating safe, welcoming and inclusive spaces

Wednesday 10 June
 Online
 3pm - 4.30pm

Scan the QR code to register

GLP | WayOut | omniam

Pride Month

RAINBOW WINDOWS COMPETITION

Register your shopfront, window or foyer in the Rainbow Windows Competition and show your support for the LGBTIQ+ community!

Competition running from: Monday 22 June to Sunday 28 June

Scan the QR code to register

Macedon Ranges | HUME | omniam

Wominjeka - Welcome

WURUNDJERI WOI WURRUNG CULTURAL HERITAGE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

26th January – Australia Day

17th February – Lunar New Year (Chinese & Vietnamese)

2nd March – Holi Festival

25th April – ANZAC Day

May – Australians Biggest Morning Tea

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

August – Daffodil Day



Key Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Dates

21st March – National Close the Gap Day

26th May – National Sorry Day

27th May – 3rd June – Reconciliation Week

June – Mabo Day

July – NAIDOC Week

August – National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children's Day

August – International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples

September (First Wednesday) – Indigenous Literacy Day



2026 Health & Wellbeing Events Calendar

June	
8-14 June	World Men's Health Week
14 June	World Blood Donor Day 
15 June	World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 
14-20 June	National Refugee Week
27 June - 3 July	World Allergy Week

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.



CLOSING THE KNOWLEDGE GAP
ABOUT FIRST NATIONS HISTORY AND
CULTURE STARTS AT SCHOOL

