

Welcome to the Mount Macedon Primary School Newsletter

Issue 25 Tuesday 19th August 2025

Table of Contents

Principal's Report
Student Reporters
Classroom Update
IB PYP
DigiTech
Premiers Reading Challenge
Production
Book Week
Playground Opening
Wellbeing & Inclusion
Working Bee
Community News
Survey
Significant Dates

FOS Events

Next Meeting
08/09/25

Father's Day
Friday 5th September

Trivia Night
October 24th

Important Term Dates

August

22nd Book Week Dress Up Day
29th JSC Fundraiser – Wear It Purple Day

September

3rd District Cricket
5th FOS Father's Day Pub Dinner event
5th STEM room Sensory Garden Working Bee
11th Playground & Flag/garden Official Opening
12th Production Full Rehearsal (during school)
18th District Hot Shots Tennis
15th Production Dress Rehearsal (during school)
15 – 18th Production
19th LAST DAY OF TERM – 2.30 finish

Term 4

October

9th – 10th Year 3 Boomerang Ranch Camp
13 – 17th Whole School Swimming Program
24th FOS Parent Night
27th SEA Parent Info Session @ 7.30pm
31st World Teachers Day

November

3rd – PUPIL FREE DAY
4th – Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday
5th 7th & 14th SEA Program
17th – 21st TBC Year 4, 5 & 6 Cottage by the Sea Camp
24th Aaron Moar Guitar Concert
18th & 25th 2026 Foundation Orientation Session

December

2nd 2026 Foundation Orientation Session
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,

Book Week: Don't forget to come dressed up on Friday to celebrate Book Week!

Buildings and Grounds: A big thank you to Brock Glenister and Victorian Rock Work for their work at the front of our school. Brock and his team have been able to lay a stone path from the front gate around towards the STEM building and Grade 5/6 classroom. The ground in that area has been levelled and rock has been laid. This work is only possible with the support of our parent community and your generous contributions to our Buildings and Ground fund at the beginning of the year.

FOS Update: FOS met last night to look ahead towards the exciting events that will take us up to the end of the year. These include our Father's Day event and our Parent Night. FOS will also be helping provide a morning tea for all to enjoy following the opening of our new playground and flag area on the Thursday the 11th of September. FOS have also worked on developing a purpose statement that encapsulates the goals and ideals of our wonderful parent association. You can find the statement below.

Father's Day Event: FOS are organising a Father's Day event to be held on the evening of Friday the 5th of September. If you are interested in being a part of this please let FOS know via the 'Mount Macedon PS Dads' WhatsApp group or come and see us in the front office. If you are not a member of the Dad's WhatsApp group you can join using the QR code just below this report.

Parent Night: Our annual Parent Night will be held on Friday the 24th of October and we are currently seeking an MC for the night. If you are interested in the role or know someone who is interested could you please reach out so we can book you/them in!

Junior School Council: After meeting with our Junior School Council a few weeks back they have decided to acknowledge 'Wear it Purple Day' to celebrate the diversity in our community. Next Friday, 29th of August, students are invited to include a purple element in what they wear to school.

Volunteers: If you are interested in or currently undertaking volunteer work here at MMPS it is important that you complete the Working With Children Check and Volunteer Induction paperwork. Volunteer work includes supporting our reading program, helping at working bees, being a part of FOS and helping at FOS events. This paperwork allows us to maintain our Child Safety requirements. The paperwork is able to be completed online using the QR code found below.

Parent Opinion Survey: Information on how to access and complete this year's Parent Opinion Survey is on your Compass newsfeed. The attached document contains the link to the survey and the login details required to access it. If you have any troubles with it, please do not hesitate to come and see me.

I hope everyone has been able to enjoy some of this beautiful sunshine!

Many thanks, Joe.



Weekly Riddle

Answer from last week- The man had hiccups, and the bartender scared him with a gun to cure his hiccups.

Question- What has a head, a tail, but has no legs.

Meerkats

Last week on Friday we had the meerkat productions come in and perform a play based on the book, 'a garden of broken things'. It was an amazing performance and we hope that everyone enjoyed watching, and for some people participating in it.



Book week

Next Friday is going to be book week, the theme is "book an adventure". So try to find a book, and a costume that matches your chosen book.

District Aths (Coco & Mirra)

Last Tuesday, some people went to District Athletics. District athletics was located at Keilor track and field. There were a variety of events like; 100m, 200m, 800m, 1500m and relay.

For the field we did discus, shot put, long jump, high jump and triple jump. There were a lot of schools there and they all tried their best and had heaps of fun, but it was still very competitive! We had a 1 person

Anti bullying

On Monday the 11th (last week), there was an anti-bullying lesson from 1:00-1:20 pm. The whole school watched a video live stream where people were talking about what to do if you are being bullied or if one of your friends are being bullied. They talked about checking if what is happening is actually bullying. They were also talking about how you are able to seek help if you are being bullied, via kids-helpline.

Recycling incursion

Last week on Monday we had another Rubbish incursion, we learned where our rubbish goes after being collected, and the different cycles that they go through to be recycled. We also had a refresher on what goes in which bin.



Jasper



Flora



4/5 Classroom UPDATE

We have had a busy start to the year.

National Science Week:

Last week was National Science Week! We carried out some exciting experiments, including exploring how different liquids have varying densities and how they interact with each other.

We also investigated the surprising results of inserting a pin into a balloon.

MISS NISH

We're excited to have Miss Nish joining us for the rest of the term! Miss Nish is a 4th-year teaching student who will be learning alongside us and supporting our learning in 4/5.

We feel very lucky to have her in our class!

Waste Ed Incursion

We had two visits from Macedon Ranges Shire Council to teach us about our new bins in our classroom. During her visits we sorted rubbish into the correct bins. We also learnt about how plastic can be reused into many different ways. We also learnt how to make more sustainable choices.

Bullying No Way: National week of action

Last week was also National week of action. We watched a video from Kids Helpline about how we can help stop bullying.

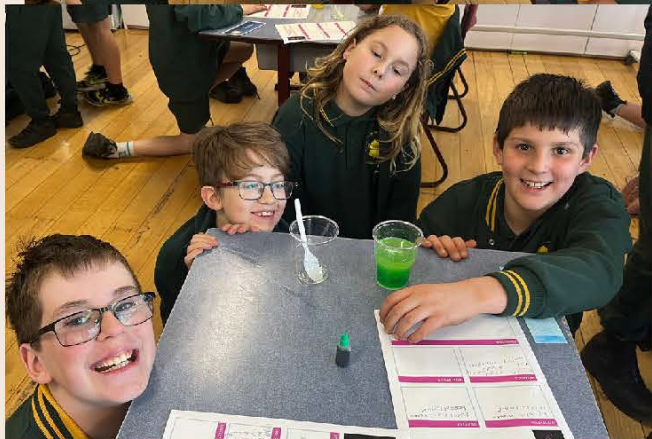
We also spoke about how we can be 'Upstanders'.



Waste Ed Incursion



Science...



Year 2/3 Inquiry update, central idea, 'Human curiosity has helped us to explore Earth and its relationship to other planets'.

In class we have been researching Space. Everyone in our class has been researching the planet of their choice.

We have been watching videos and using links for kids to get more information about the planet we have been researching. We have been using sheets full of questions and we have to answer them. Some of the questions were, 'How old is your planet?' and 'How long does your planet take to go around the Sun?'. After you were done with the questions you had to draw a diagram then you had to get a piece of lined paper and write your answers in sentences. When you are done with that we had to get a coloured piece of paper and write the name of your planet and stick the lined piece of paper on and put photos of your planets with glue.

Written by Aston and Beckett



Now that our Grade 1s have mastered usernames and logins, it was time for the next challenge: keyboards and trackpads.

Yes, we sadly discovered that not all laptops respond when you poke at the glass (who knew?). So, armed with their new login skills, students used their own accounts to sign into Minecraft Education. From there, they had to learn the tricky art of controlling their character with two hands—one on the keyboard and one on the trackpad. It took some practice, and more than a few resisted urges to tap the screen, but they got the hang of it.

A quick note for parents: to avoid any “Mr Garcia said we have to do Minecraft for homework” misunderstandings (they don’t!), students now have school logins that also work at home. If you’d like to let them explore further, you’re more than welcome.

Minecraft Education is a little different from the regular game. It has:

- Built-in limits to keep students focused on learning,
- Classroom-friendly features like safe worlds and collaboration tools,
- And of course, plenty of educational benefits—from problem-solving and creativity to teamwork and digital literacy.

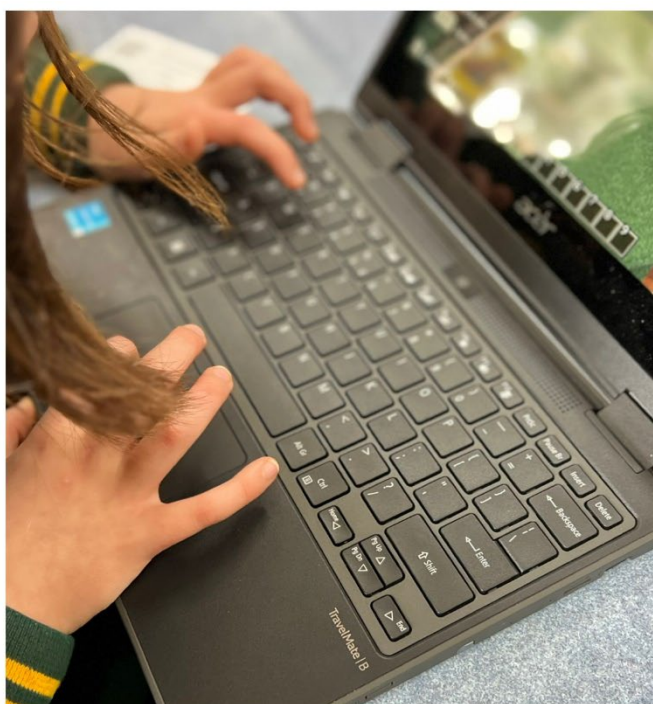
If you’d like to download it for your child at home, Minecraft Education is available for phones, tablets, and computers. You can find more details here:

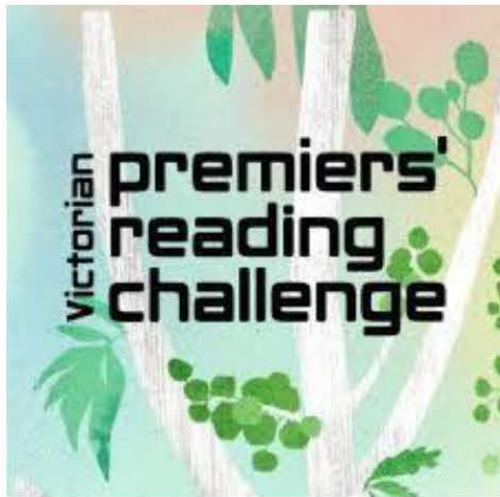
<https://education.minecraft.net/en-us/get-started/download>

Thanks,

Mr Garcia

You can see some of their finger gymnastics below (yes, it is very hard to take an exciting photo of, well, using a keyboard)





Mount Macedon Primary School is once again participating in the **Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge**. The challenge encourages students to read a set number of books over the year and record their efforts. Students who complete the challenge will receive a certificate at the end of the year. All students are participating, with junior class teachers keeping a whole class record of books read together, while senior classes (Grade 5 and 6) are adding their own books. The challenge closes at the end of Term 3, so keep reading and adding books!

<https://vprc.eduweb.vic.gov.au/home>



Production is fast approaching and we are in full swing of singing, dancing and acting rehearsals.

Costumes notes have been sent home and if your child has lines in the production, they also have a copy of their script.

If you could help your child learn their lines at home that would be a great help to build confidence.

Can all costumes please be at school, clearly labelled and in a bag by Wednesday September 10th.

Tickets will go on sale in the coming weeks, keep an eye on compass for any further updates.



Picture Yr 6 Students 2018

FRIDAY 22ND AUGUST IS BOOK WEEK

*BOOK AN
Adventure*



Children's Book Week®



16–23 August
2025

Save The Date!

**PLAYGROUND
& INDIGENOUS GARDEN
OPENING!**

MOUNT MACEDON PS
Invites you to
celebrate with us

SEPTEMBER 1TH
@ 9.30 AM



Do you have time to lend
us a hand?



Friday Sept 5th 3:30 - 5:00 pm

We need your help to plant a colourful, sensory
garden in front of the STEM room

Jobs include:

- Digging up the garden bed
- Planting new plant
- Spreading mulch



With thanks and appreciation - your School Council

Friends of the School (FOS) Purpose Statement.

MMPS FOS are a group of parents/caregivers volunteering as much or as little time as they can to support the school. In doing so the purpose of FOS aligns with the key values of the school **Care. Create. Collaborate.**

At the heart of FOS is a commitment to **care** deeply for our children, our families, and our school. We lead by example, demonstrating respect, kindness, and responsibility to inspire and guide our young learners.

We strive to **create** positive change by championing the causes we are passionate about, organising meaningful and fun events, and raising funds that directly benefit the school community. Through creativity and purpose, we build initiatives that support student growth and enrich the school experience.

We believe in the power of **collaboration**, connecting with other parents, staff, and the wider community to foster a strong, inclusive, and engaged environment. Together, we amplify our impact and ensure every voice is heard as we work toward shared goals.

Our mission is to be active partners in education, united in our dedication to nurture, support, and strengthen our school community.

Donations requested!

We are hoping to get some donations of metal (nothing plastic) kitchen pots pans and large utensils like spatulas or ladles for our new mud kitchens. We are also looking for donations of wool and other fibres to do some weaving projects with. Please drop donations off to the front office.



Lunchtime Clubs

Our student-led lunchtime clubs continue to be a much enjoyed part of our lunchtime program, with some long-running favourites and some exciting new additions this term. Students have the chance to explore their interests and develop new skills through a variety of clubs, including 3D Printing, Mindfulness/Wellbeing, Acro, Dance, AFL, Drama, and Minecraft Education.

Vaping decoded: Empowering parents and community leaders in the vaping conversation

Upcoming free webinar from Macedon Ranges Shire Council Youth Team and Macedon Ranges Health, presented by Blurred Minds on Tuesday 2nd September:

This is a 60minute webinar to support our Macedon ranges community to:

- Understand today's vaping culture & peer influences
- Hear the most frequently asked parent questions on vaping
- Learn about how vape products are marketed to young people
- Recognise the health and environmental risks associated with vaping
- Equip yourself with strategies on how to start a conversation with your child
- Gain tips and strategies for preventing vaping among young people
- Learn how you can support young people who have started vaping

For more event information and to register please visit the webpage here: [Vaping Decoded: Empowering parents in the vaping conversation - Blurred Minds](#)

WALK OR RIDE TO SCHOOL

Why walk or ride?

Physical activity is good for kids' physical and mental health

Kids that are active are more likely to continue healthy behaviours later in life

Kids who walk or ride to school have been found to be more attentive and focused in class

Kids who walk to school will have a greater connection with their community

Remember

Plan ahead
Plan with your parents or guardians so everyone knows which paths you will take, and who you will walk or ride with

Safety first
Take care when crossing roads. Always follow the road rules. Plan for hot, cold, or wet days. Wear a helmet when riding

Part way is OK
If you can't walk all the way, why not park the car a few blocks from school and walk, ride or scooter the rest of the way?

For more information visit:
walktoschool.vichealth.vic.gov.au

2025 Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey:

WE WANT OUR PARENTS / CAREGIVERS / GUARDIANS TO TELL US WHAT THEY THINK!

Our school is conducting the annual Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey offered by the Department of Education and is seeking your feedback. The survey is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behavior, and student engagement. The survey is optional, but we encourage and appreciate your participation. Our school will use the survey results to assist in identifying areas for improvement and professional development needs in the school, to target school planning and improvement strategies.

The Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey will be open online from **Monday 18 August to Friday 19 September 2025**.

All families are invited to participate in the survey.

The survey will be conducted **online**, only takes **20 minutes** to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones.

The online survey will be available in English and 10 other languages including Arabic, Greek, Hakha Chin, Hindi, Japanese, Punjabi, Simplified Chinese, Somali, Turkish, and Vietnamese. Resources are also available in additional languages to assist parents / caregivers / guardians who speak a language other than English at home. Please reach out to your child's teacher, or the school directly for survey guides in your language.

Last year we used the survey results to plan for our School review and continue to use this data to explore areas for improvement.

Information on how to access this year's PCGOS will be sent out via Compass in the coming days.

MACEDON RANGES BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

MIDWEEK JUNIOR BASKETBALL

SUMMER SEASON 2025/26

16 WEEK SEASON - STARTING 13TH OCT

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL
U10S - **\$190** OTHER AGE GROUPS - **\$215**

ENDS SUNDAY, AUGUST 31ST
AFTER THIS DATE, THE REGISTRATION FEE WILL INCREASE TO \$235

AGE GROUPS

MONDAY JUNIOR GIRLS INTERMEDIATE GIRLS	TUESDAY U10 BOYS U12 BOYS U14 BOYS U16 BOYS	WEDNESDAY U19 BOYS (NEW AGE GROUP)
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OUR DOMESTIC COMPETITION IS STILL SETTLING INTO OUR FRESH NEW LOOK! TEAM SUBMISSION DETAILS WILL BE SHARED ONCE REGISTRATIONS ARE COMPLETE!

ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

SCAN HERE

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT - WWW.MRBA.ORG.AU

HONORING THE PAST, EMBRACING THE FUTURE

Kindergarten Tours

Kindergarten tours available in September!

Drop-in sessions

Come and see our kindergarten services

No bookings required. To find out more scan the QR code or visit: mrsc.vic.gov.au/kindergarten-tours

Scan here

Decorative items

Garden Produce

Bric-a-brac

Furniture and old wares

Things you never knew you needed

GARAGE SALE

Saturday 23rd August

10am onwards @ "NANDI"

680 Mount Macedon Rd, Mount Macedon

(just next to the Church & Trading Post, enter via car gateway)

ALL PROCEEDS TO LANDCARE MACEDON & MT MACEDON

Wominjeka- Welcome

Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation

8th March – International Women's Day

17-23rd March – Neurodiversity Celebration Week

17th – 23rd March – Harmony Week

April – Autism Acceptance Month

20th May – International 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 – International Day of People with a Disability



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 World's Indigenous Peoples

3rd September (First Wednesday) – Indigenous Literacy Day



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

