

# WELCOME TO THE MOUNT Macedon PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue 31 Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2025

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

[PRINCIPAL'S REPORT](#)

[STUDENT REPORTERS](#)

[CLASSROOM UPDATE](#)

[IB UPDATE](#)

[CAMP](#)

[DIGI TECH](#)

[FOS](#)

[WELLBEING](#)

[COMMUNITY NEWS](#)

[SIGNIFICANT DATES](#)

### FOS Events

**Trivia Night**  
October 24th

## Important Term Dates

### Term 4

#### October

13 – 17<sup>th</sup> Whole School Swimming Program

**24<sup>th</sup> PUPIL FREE DAY**

27<sup>th</sup> SEA Parent Info Session @ 7.30pm online

29<sup>th</sup> Yr 5/6 Boys Man Cave Incursion

31<sup>st</sup> World Teachers Day

Junior School Council's - Mental Health Awareness Day

District Orienteering

#### November

**3<sup>rd</sup> – PUPIL FREE DAY**

4<sup>th</sup> – Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday

5<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> SEA Program

11<sup>th</sup> SkowKo Japanese Incursion

Remembrance Day

17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> Year 4, 5 & 6 Cottage by the Sea Camp

24<sup>th</sup> Aaron Moar Guitar Concert

18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> 2026 Foundation Orientation Session

#### December

2<sup>nd</sup> 2026 Foundation Orientation Session

**5<sup>th</sup> PUPIL FREE DAY**

9<sup>th</sup> Statewide Orientation Session

12<sup>th</sup> Kids Rule The School

15<sup>th</sup> Year 6 Graduation

17<sup>th</sup> Picnic at Hanging Rock

18<sup>th</sup> End of Year Assembly & Morning Tea

**19<sup>th</sup> LAST DAY OF TERM finish @ 1.30**

Hello everyone,

**Parent's Night:** Next Friday night FOS are holding our annual parent evening. We will be having a Parent's Trivia Night in our School Hall and invite everyone to come along. The night starts at 6:30pm with trivia running through to about 8:30pm. It will be a BYO food and snacks with drinks at bar prices and should be a wonderful evening. More information is below so please jump onto CompassTix and grab yourselves a ticket!

**Basketball Court:** You may have seen work being done on the fencing surrounding our basketball court. New fencing is being installed and one of the entrance gates moved to help reduce the amount of gravel ending up on the courts. Short concrete walls will also be installed along the path-side of the courts to help reduce this as well. At the moment, the courts are out of action but should be back and ready to go by the end of the week.

**Swimming Program Update:** I was lucky enough to head down to the Gisborne Aquatic Centre with eth Grade 1 and Grade 2/3 classes yesterday to see them jump in the pool and enjoy their swimming lessons. Seeing firsthand the progress students make in these intensive swimming programs is great, especially coming into what looks to be a long, hot summer.

**Pupil Free Day:** Next Friday the 24<sup>th</sup> of October is a pupil free day. Staff will be working on a range of professional development opportunities, and the school will also be updated its library software program.

**Grade 3 Camp:** It was such a pleasure heading over to Boomerang Ranch last Friday to catch up with our grade 3 campers! We got to go on trail rides through the bushland outside of Daylesford and explore the nearby mineral springs at Tipperary Springs. A big thank you to Ms. Jessica Probert and Mrs. Laura Wenczel for helping organise a hugely fun camp! Frankie has written a recount that you can read below!

**Grade 4/5/6 Camp:** Our grade 4/5/6 students will be heading off on camp from Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> till Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup> of November. Students will be heading down to Queenscliff to explore the seaside town and all it has to offer. Students will be visiting the Fort, exploring the Marine Discovery Centre and the local marine life in a beautiful setting. Information will be going home soon via Compass. Watch this space!

**Sex Education Australia (SEA):** Students in grades 3-6 will be participating in a number of Sex Education Australia sessions being delivered in class time on November 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. We will also be holding a parent session on Monday the 27<sup>th</sup> of October at 7:30pm over Zoom (information available on Compass). SEA have been coming to MMPS for a number of years and provide curriculum-based lessons on a range of very important topics in a very engaging way. *Information about providing consent for your child to participate will go home in the coming week so please keep a look out via Compass.*

I hope everyone is settling back into the school routine, please remember, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to come in and see me.

Thanks, Joe.

**Link to Tickets:** <https://compasstix.com/e/ndovs5btvu>



## Weekly Riddle

A man is looking at a portrait. Someone asks him, "Whose portrait are you looking at?" He replies, "Brothers and sisters I have none, but that man's father is my father's son." Whose portrait is the man looking at?

## Boomerang ranch

Update by Frankie below...

## Swimming program

This week we have our school swimming lessons, all of the classes go and learn how to swim. Two terms ago we did a week of swimming. It was really fun but we didn't get to go in the big inflatable. At the end of the week there will be a big inflatable and lots of fun games.

## New fencing & basket ball court

A few days ago we got new fencing around the school. We also got new fencing around our basketball court. It is much better than our old one, and we are super happy with the end result.

## Soccer goals

Our school has bought some permanent soccer goals for the oval so the group of students who play soccer on the oval don't have to worry about using their jackets as posts.

## Teepees

In the fairy garden, we have gotten some new wooden teepees for the students to play in. There are three teepees, so lots of space to share.

## Last term of 2025

This term is the last term of the year, and it will be a busy one, especially for the year 6s. They have got camp, Graduation, Mount Macedon's got talent, Kids rule the school, hanging rock, carols by candle light, and of course, the last day of school.

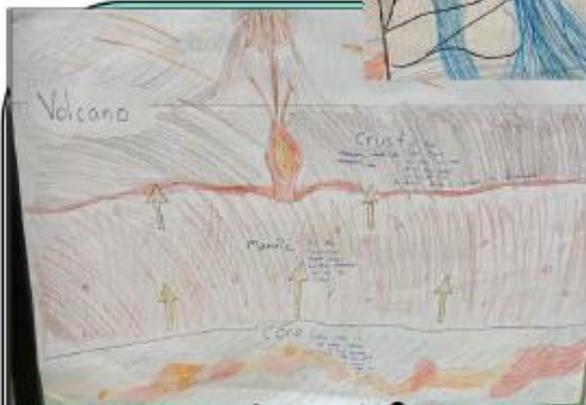
By Jasper & Flora

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## IN 4/5 Reading and Writing:

### Inquiry

This term our Inquiry focus is Earth's surface changes over time because of natural processes. We have been exploring and learning about different natural processes such as erosion, volcanoes and earthquakes.



In Reading, we have started a new classroom novel *The Folk of the Faraway Tree*. We have been exploring character development, key events, and making predictions about the text. In Writing, we have been learning about complex sentences, identifying them in our reading, and practising using them in our own writing. We have also been exploring how authors use dialogue and developing our skills in using dialogue to make our writing more engaging.

### A Story Underwater

Once upon a time in the Queensland Waters lived a prince mermaid named Shelly. Shelly lived in Water City! Were mermaids and mermen live but when they get out of the water they turn into humans and go on to the land to take over the world because they killed the Queen Shelly's mom! Rise and shine, my

### Chapter 1 Shelly's first day!

Princess "Water city awaits!"  
"Five more minutes, please!"  
"No, because it is your first day on shore!" "Ready!" Squalled Shelly.  
"Get so get ready!" "Now!"

When Shelly got ready she had breakfast, watch Jew's sea snails Shelly's first haircut. Dad were am! "Goodbye!" Said she. "Will I be going to work?" "No, you are going to a high school." "Oh ok how hard can that be?"

### Chapter 2 I was writing

When Shelly came out of the water she Princess formed into a human.

### Maths

In Maths, we have been using our multiplication and divisibility strategies to solve open-ended problems. Students have been thinking critically and showing an open-minded approach to finding solutions.

# Grade 1 Inquiry Update

Last week we started our new  
'Sharing the Planet' Inquiry.

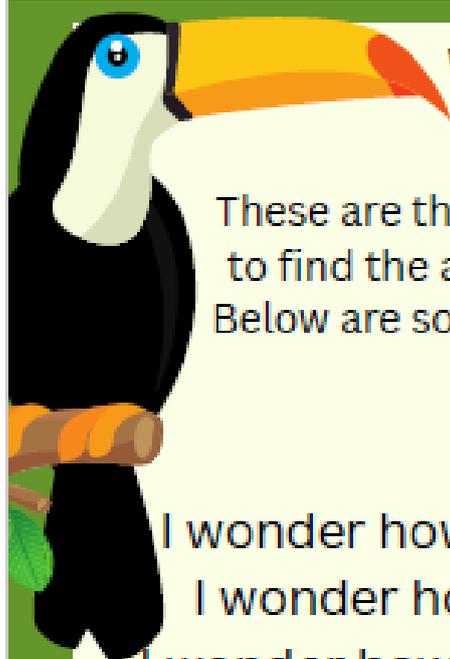
## **Our Central idea:**

Species can become endangered or extinct  
for a variety of reasons.

## **Our Lines of Inquiry:**

- the reasons animal species become extinct or endangered
- the relationship between species and their habitat
- the responsibilities humans have for the survival of other species





**We started off with our wonderings.**

These are the questions that we would like to find the answers to during our inquiry. Below are some of the wonderings that we had:

I wonder how many species are endangered?

I wonder how do plants become extinct?

I wonder how did an asteroid make dinosaurs extinct?

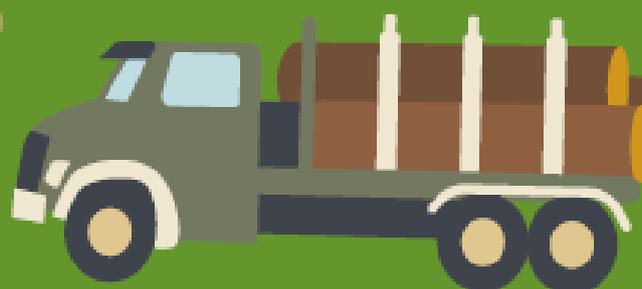
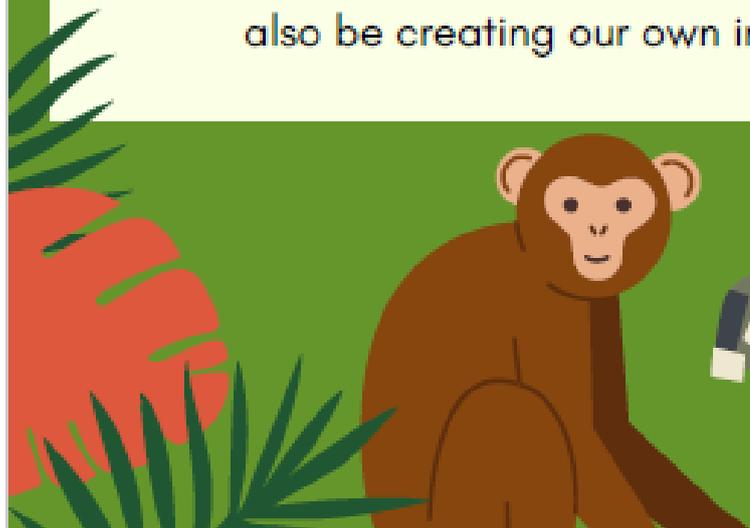
I wonder if some animals are endangered because of farms?

I wonder if sharks are endangered?

I wonder why dinosaurs are extinct?



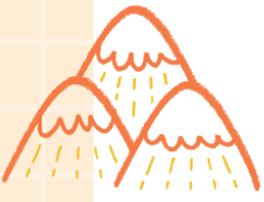
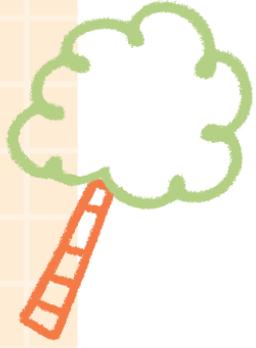
As part of this inquiry we have been reading lots of information texts about different animals, their habitats, diets and the ways that humans interact with them. We will also be creating our own information texts.





**Grade 3 Camp**  
**By Frankie Sonogan**

At camp when we were on the bus everyone was so excited! When we got there we found out who we were in a cabin with. I was in Room 8 with Heidi and Mia. Once we were all sorted the girls went horse riding. My horse was called Inky. Mia's horse was called Jewel. Cressida's horse was called Nutmeg. Heidi's horse was called Major. Ada's horse was called Betty and Daphne's horse was called Smarty. After that the boys went horse riding then we had lunch, which was sausages and chips. After lunch we went down to the big pond and we made a boat and collected sticks for hut building. We also saw baby ducklings that were so cute. While we were walking we collected sticks and bark for the fire. Then we went to the games room and made Smore's - they were delicious!!



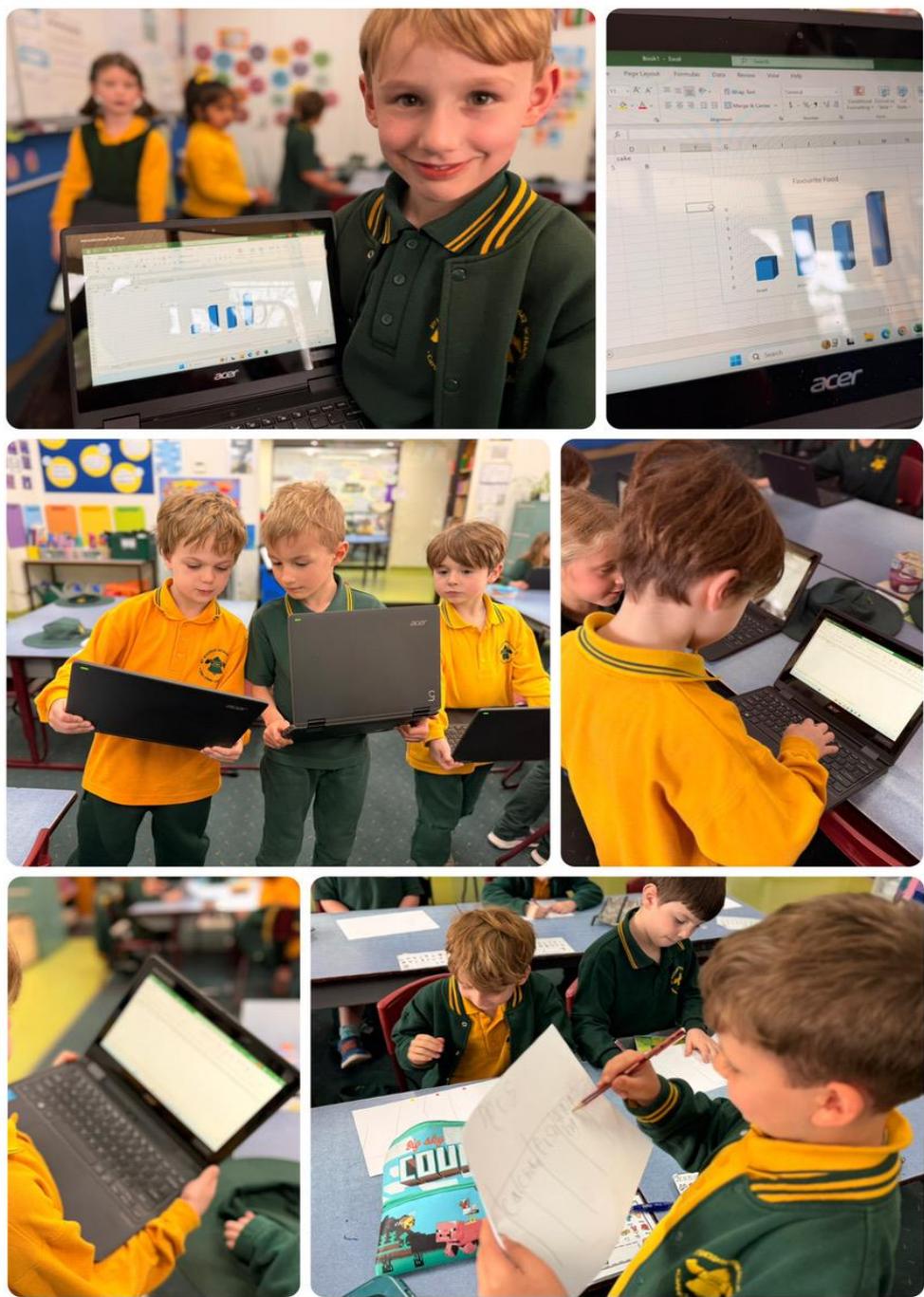
Our junior students have been getting ready for next week's **Australian Bird Count**, where they'll join thousands of people across the country to help record and track bird populations.

To prepare, students learned about how data is collected and why it's important for understanding the world around us. We ran a *practice survey* in class — students chose their own topics to investigate, such as favourite fruits, playground games, or pets — and then gathered data from their classmates.

Once the results were in, we explored how to use **Microsoft Excel** to organise and display this information. While most of us might think of spreadsheets as something rather dull, our students couldn't get enough of them — they loved turning their data into colourful **charts and graphs** and discovering how numbers can tell a story, I don't know if I would trust them to do your taxes this year, but they got the hang of it pretty fast.

Next week, we'll be putting these skills into action as we take our clipboards and devices outside to contribute to the real **Aussie Bird Count**.

Mr. Garcia





## Tickets on sale now!

Tickets are sold individually, and you will be asked to select a seat on a particular table. It would be great if you organise with friends which table you would like to all sit on and then purchase them at the link below.

BYO Food and snacks

Drinks at bar prices

**Link to Tickets:** <https://compasstix.com/e/ndovs5btvu>

## \*ATTENTION Grade 3/4/5/6 Parents\*

### Mental Health in Our Community – Mental Health Awareness Month

- **Mental health does not discriminate** — it affects people of every age, background, gender, sexuality, and culture. Some groups have higher risks of developing poor mental health but anyone could experience it at some point in their life.
- Across Australia, **almost 1 in 2 people** will experience a mental health condition in their lifetime, and **almost 4 in 10 young people (aged 16–24)** report a mental health disorder each year (ABS, *National Study of Mental Health and Wellbeing, 2022*).
- Around **75 % of mental health conditions emerge before the age of 25**, making prevention, early intervention, and open conversations vital (AIHW, 2023).
- Here in the **Macedon Ranges**, community surveys show that **1 in 4 households** are living with mental health challenges, with **anxiety the most common issue** (ACDC Project, 2022).
- These figures remind us that mental health challenges are common, but recovery and wellbeing are possible — especially when communities talk openly, reduce stigma, and support each other.

## Mental Health Services and Support

### Beyond Blue

24/7 mental health support service

**1300 22 4636**  
beyondblue.org.au

### headspace

Online support and counselling to young people aged 12 to 25

**1800 650 890**  
(9pm to 10pm daily)  
headspace.org.au

### Kids Helpline

24/7 crisis support and suicide prevention services for children and young people ages 5 to 25

**1800 55 1800**  
kidshelpline.com.au

### 1800 RESPECT

24/7 support for people impacted by sexual assault, domestic violence and abuse

**1800 737 732**  
1800respect.org.au

### QLife

LGBTIQ+ peer support and referral

**1800 184 527**  
qlife.org.au

### Lifeline

24/7 crisis support and suicide prevention services

**13 11 14**  
lifeline.org.au

### Suicide Call Back

24/7 crisis support and counselling service for people affected by suicide

**1300 659 467**  
suicidecallbackservice.org.au

### Mensline

24/7 counselling service for men

**1300 78 99 78**  
mensline.org.au

### 13YARN

24/7 crisis support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

**13 92 76**  
13yarn.org.au

If you are concerned about someone at risk of immediate harm, call 000 or go to your nearest hospital emergency department.

**THE MOUNT PLAYERS**  
PRESENTS  
by special arrangement with Origin Theatrical

**7 - 23 NOV 2025**

**PUFFS**

OR

SEVEN INCREASINGLY EVENTFUL YEARS

AT A CERTAIN S...

A PLAY B...

WRITTEN BY MATT...

DIRECTED BY CRAIG LE...

Tickets: [www.themountplay.com.au](http://www.themountplay.com.au)  
Mountview Theatre, 56 Smith St

**WOODEND NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE**

**After School Classes at the Woodend Neighbourhood House**

**ART CLUB**  
Tuesdays or Wednesdays  
3.45pm - 5pm

Prep to Grade 4  
Art Club for Kids is a fun and inspiring class where kids explore a range of themes, mediums, and techniques.

**CREATIVE YOGA**  
Wednesdays  
4pm - 5pm

Prep - Grade 6  
Creative Yoga is a welcoming class where you connect as a group, flow with your breath, and move your body with ease.

5426 4430  
5429 5544  
[tccrealestate.com.au](http://tccrealestate.com.au)

Scan to find our more!

Our Website: [www.woodendnh.org.au](http://www.woodendnh.org.au)

**JOIN THE RANGERS**

BASED IN ROMNEY

MINIROOS JUNIORS SENIORS

SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT THE WEBSITE TO REGISTER

**MACEDON RANGERS FC**

[MACEDONRANGERSFCCLUB.COM.AU](http://MACEDONRANGERSFCCLUB.COM.AU)

#HEARTOFTHERANGERS

**tcc**  
Local estate

5426 4430  
5429 5544  
[tccrealestate.com.au](http://tccrealestate.com.au)

**150 Year Festival**  
1875-2025

Saturday 15th November 2025  
10am-4pm  
67 Smith Street  
Macedon

Proudly Sponsored by TCC Real Estate

MFL, The Mount Players, Trading Post, MACEDON, Mary-Anne, The Mount Players, Community Bank, LEASER, BUNNINGS, BUNNINGS, BUNNINGS

**REGISTRATION OPEN**

**WELCOME!**

U11, U13, U15, U17

[TCLUB.ORG/JUNIORS](http://TCLUB.ORG/JUNIORS)

[TCLUB@GMAIL.COM](mailto:TCLUB@GMAIL.COM)

(BEN) 0490 023 301

**WOODEND CRICKET CLUB**  
EST. 1861

**Children's Week Mural Project**

This Children's Week, we're celebrating the theme 'Everyone Should Know About Children's Rights' by inviting local children to come together to help create a new mural at the Woodend Neighbourhood House.

**Thursday 23rd October 2025**

Prep to Grade 2  
4pm - 5pm

Grades 3 - 6  
5.15pm - 6.45pm

FREE with required booking: [woodendnh.org.au](http://woodendnh.org.au) or call 5427 1845

**Children's Week 2025 18-26 October**  
Theme: Everyone should know about Children's Rights.

WELCOME TO TERM 4

**yoga**  
connecting mind, body + breath

OM, HOW ARE YOU?

It's such a joy being back to share yoga before school + hearing of holiday happenings has been such an honour!

With spring blooming + the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of term unfolding, it's nice to notice how yoga can help us:

- movements invite the body to be strong + flexible
- breathing allows us to feel energised or calm
- while mindfulness allows us to embrace life with confidence + awareness of ourselves, each other + the world
- it helps us understand more about how the mind, body + breath work together
- this can help with coordination + balance
- which can help navigate emotions + grow friendship
- it also allows us to be curious + creative!

Shall we have a look at some of the activities shared so far???

**season to be giving**  
Each week we explore a different gift. To start a piece of paper was turned into a yoga game. Then we explored a balloon + how the body, like the balloon, rises when air goes in + falls when air goes out...Lawful when diving into the pool!

**sunny day adventure**  
Each week inspiration from the season is added to our imaginations as we go for an adventure. We've ribbon biked up in the sky, folded forwards to roll the ball, then twisted side to side to pass it round - even built strength by picking the ball up with the feet to move it!

**shanti STUDIO**

@mountmacedonprimaryschool

**MINDFUL YOGA**  
- the season to be giving -

**MONDAYS**  
THE SEASON TO BE GIVING  
With the festive season drawing near, embrace the day with appreciation for the gift of the moment.

This yoga practice invites connection to sound vibrations, movement + breath in a mindful way to build appreciation, confidence, kindness + strength.

Starting Mondays, 8.30am ball  
Where Mt Macedon PS Hall  
Investment \$10/child/week  
To enrol Contact Shanti Studio

**ENERGISING YOGA**  
- sunny day adventures -

**WEDNESDAYS**  
SUNNY DAY ADVENTURES  
Start the day connecting to the joys of imagination and movement.

This sunny day adventure series takes us on yoga inspired practices flowing through sound vibrations, movement and breath, inviting connection to the joy of sunny days!

Starting Wednesdays, 8.30am-ball  
Where Mt Macedon PS Hall  
Investment \$10/child/week  
To enrol Contact Shanti Studio

[shantistudiowoodend@gmail.com](mailto:shantistudiowoodend@gmail.com)

Like many communities in our region, Daylesford is considered one of the highest bushfire risk communities in Victoria - surrounded by heavily forested areas that have experienced severe rainfall deficiencies in recent times, leaving fuels and vegetation extremely dry and highly combustible. In these conditions, fires can be exceptionally difficult to contain and can spread with alarming speed. In December 2024, a fire in the Grampians expanded from approximately 500 hectares to more than 5,000 hectares in just a single day – despite this, like so many people in rural and regional Australia, residents still believe the “get prepared” and “have a plan” message is NOT intended for them and consequently don’t have a plan.

On Saturday, 25 October 2025 (from 10am to 2pm) I’m coordinating an Emergency Services Expo at Victoria Park Recreation Reserve in Daylesford. It will bring together all major emergency agencies — CFA, SES, Victoria Police, Ambulance Victoria, Agriculture Victoria, DEECA, Life Saving Victoria’s rescue helicopter, the Royal Flying Doctor Service flight simulator, NBN, Telstra, VicEmergency and more — to help raise the awareness of what is shaping up to be a very challenging bushfire season.

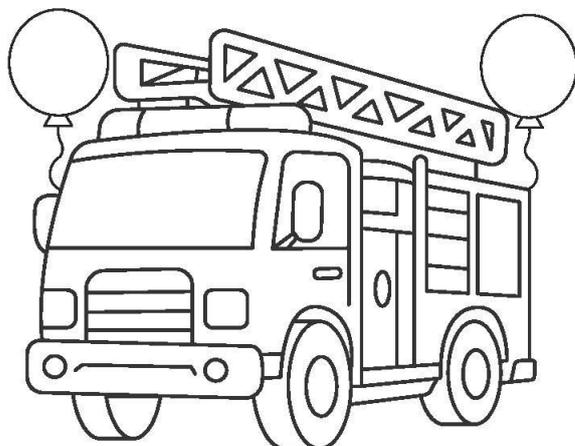
As part of the Expo, please find attached a colouring-in competition that we’re running. Entry is open to all ages, one entry per person. The winning entry will be randomly drawn, and the winner will receive a Xtreme Bounce 10 x Multi Pass, valued at \$180! Xtreme Bounce is Ballarat’s family-friendly centre with a variety of trampoline-based fun, fitness, sports, training and entertainment attractions for people of all ages.

The Expo is significantly larger than last year, featuring more than twenty exhibitors having a range of equipment on display – from the Westpac Life Saver Helicopter, CFA presenting more than 16 appliances including hourly live fire demonstration, and a range of Victoria Police, Ambulance Victoria and SES vehicles. A DEECA Unimog and a G-Wagon will be part of a display that also features our largest earth moving equipment that we use to create fire breaks (excavator, dozer and a grader). We’ve got a number of exhibitors that relate to animals this year - the Search and Rescue K9 dogs will be doing multiple demos, Agriculture Victoria is trucking in their mobile command centre and Hepburn Shire Local Laws will have lots of information about looking after your pets in an emergency.

There’s also plenty of free family fun, including 3BA outside broadcast, free show bags for all attendees, free BBQ lunch, coffee, donuts, and ice cream, plus face painting and giant games. Don’t forget to enter our Lucky Door Prize Draw at the welcome desk for your chance to win one of five Creswick Woollen Mills Fire Blankets, each valued at \$149.

**Everybody is welcome.**

# Emergency Services Expo



Victoria Park, Daylesford  
Saturday 25 October, 10 am – 2 pm  
Free entry, sausage sizzle, ice cream, doughnuts, face painting, coffee and more.  
Visit [www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/es-expo](http://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/es-expo)

# Wominjeka - Welcome

## WURUNDJERI WOI WURRUNG CULTURAL HERITAGE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

8<sup>th</sup> March – International Women’s Day

17-23<sup>rd</sup> March – Neurodiversity Celebration Week

17<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> March – Harmony Week

April – Autism Acceptance Month

20<sup>th</sup> May – International Day of Happiness

MAY – Australians Biggest Morning Tea

12-17<sup>th</sup> May – Mental Health Awareness Week

17<sup>th</sup> May – IDAHOBIT

11-15<sup>th</sup> August – Bullying No Way, National Week of Action

30<sup>th</sup> August – Wear it purple day

31<sup>st</sup> August – Daffodil Day

10<sup>th</sup> September – World Suicide Prevention Day

12<sup>th</sup> September – R U OK? Day

October – Mental Health Awareness Month

10<sup>th</sup> October – World Mental Health Day

14<sup>th</sup> November – World Diabetes Day

3<sup>rd</sup> December – International Day of People with a Disability



### Key Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Dates

20<sup>th</sup> March – National Close the Gap Day

26<sup>th</sup> May – National Sorry Day

27<sup>th</sup> May – Anniversary of the 1967 Referendum

27<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Reconciliation Week

3<sup>rd</sup> June – Mabo Day

July 6<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> – NAIDOC Week

4<sup>th</sup> August – National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children’s Day

9<sup>th</sup> August – International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples

3<sup>rd</sup> 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

