

# WELCOME TO THE MOUNT MACEDON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue 13 Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page 2 – [Principal's Report](#)

Page 3 – [Year 6 Student Reporters](#)

Page 4 – [IB PYP](#)

Page 5 – [Wellbeing & Yoga](#)

Page 6 – [Community News](#)

Page 7- [Significant Dates](#)

Keep an eye on  
these dates for  
any changes.

Any changes will  
be reflected on  
Compass

## FOS Dates

Neon Disco: Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June  
6:00pm – 8:00pm

## Important Term Dates

### May

15<sup>th</sup> – 5/6 Girls Program

16<sup>th</sup> – National Walk to School Day – 8.30 meet at Church

19<sup>th</sup> District Soccer

19-23 Education Week – theme 'Celebrate All Cultures'

27<sup>th</sup> Branch Out – Brainstorm Productions Performance

### June

3<sup>rd</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> Somers Camp (selected students only)

6<sup>th</sup> District Netball

9<sup>th</sup> Kings Birthday Public Holiday

24<sup>th</sup> Wurundjeri Mob Bush Foods Incursion

### July

4<sup>th</sup> LAST DAY OF TERM – 2.30 finish

Hello everyone,

What a busy few weeks it has been!

**Mother's Day Event:** It was amazing to see so many mums enjoy our FOS Mother's Day Dinner last Friday night. A big thank you to Dan Ryan and FOS for helping prepare for the evening and to Rowena Glenister for supplying such a wonderful venue for the event. I hope all of our mums got to enjoy Sunday, and your unwavering love, support, and dedication was celebrated!

**Review Update:** Yesterday was the final day of our School Review. The day centred around synthesising all of the information gathered from days one and two and setting goals, targets and Key Improvement Strategies for our next School Strategic Plan. The day was very positive and the plan that will come from the review includes input from our staff, parents and students. Watch this space for more information when the report and plan are finalised.

**Education Week:** Next week is Education Week and this year's theme is 'Celebration of Cultures'. We are asking students to reflect on their own family's cultural backgrounds and share these here at our assembly next week. We have such a rich and varied collection of cultural backgrounds here at MMPS and cannot wait to see it on full display next week. More information is below.

**PYP Leaders Meet Up:** I will be attending a PYP Leaders Conference on Friday in the city. This will be a great chance to source professional learning for our staff and have a look at what PYP Leading schools are doing in this space. As the smallest PYP school in Australia, it is always great to see what other schools are doing and bring back some great ideas to MMPS.

**Attitudes to School Survey:** During the month of June our school students in grades 4-6 will be completing the annual Attitudes to School survey. This is a DET survey that helps schools, and the Department of Education collect wellbeing data on our students. The data collected forms a significant aspect of our future planning around the wellbeing work we do here at school. More information will be sent home through Compass tomorrow.

**Walk to School Day:** This coming Friday is Walk to School day. We are inviting all students to walk to school on this day and have organised for our local Senior Leading Constable Erik Woods to meet students and parents at the Uniting Church next to the Trading Post to walk down together. Students are invited to meet there at around 8:30am to walk down to school together.

I cannot believe that we are already well into week 4! I hope everyone is travelling well and please do not hesitate to come and see me if you have any questions or concerns.

Many thanks, Joe.

## Year 2/3 Inquiry

At the end of last term, Grade 2/3 launched their Rubbish-Free Thursdays for Term 2. A HUGE thank you for everyone's support in our efforts to reduce the rubbish produced by our school.

We are also still collecting bottles/juice containers to fill our 10c PINK BIN, from recess snacks and lunch orders (an initiative the Grade 1/2s put in place with Mrs K last year 😊). When combined with the funds raised last year, we have currently raised **\$37.70** just from containers!!!

Our next Inquiry unit is all about human body systems and how they contribute to our health and survival.

Related Lines of Inquiry:

- Body systems and how they work
- How body systems are interdependent
- The impact of lifestyle choices on the body.

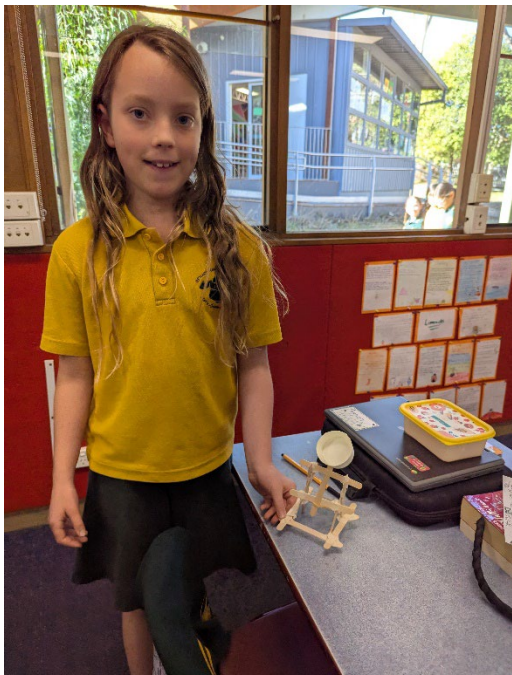
We look forward to sharing our unit as the Inquiry progresses! 😊

Thank you, Ms Probert

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## Year 5/6 STEM

In the 5/6 class this week we got stuck into STEM! We looked at levers and potential energy by creating our own mini catapults. Lots of fun was had by all, including Mr. Sonogan!





## **Incursion: Brainstorm Productions**

On the 27th of May, Brainstorm Productions will be visiting our school to put on a show about being brave and making good choices. It will be a great way to learn how to face challenges with confidence.

## **Excursion: Scienceworks**

On the 2nd of June, we'll be going on an excursion to Scienceworks in Melbourne. There will be interesting exhibits to explore and some hands-on science activities to try. Make sure permission and payment are done on Compass.

## **District Netball**

On the 4th of June, our school netball team will be playing in the District Netball competition. They've been training hard and are looking forward to representing our school.

## **District Soccer**

On the 19th of May, our soccer team will compete in the District Soccer competition. They've been practicing a lot and are ready to do their best on the field.



JASPER



FLORA

# Mother's Day Dinner



## **Branch Out – Tuning into Kids – Parent Session**

A big thank you to the many parents who came along to the first Branch Out / Tuning into Kids, parent session last Thursday evening at Macedon Primary. It was fascinating to hear Professor Sophie Havighurst talk about childhood emotional development and how we can use emotional coaching to support not only our children but ourselves in managing, at times, challenging emotions.

## **Recognising and celebrating IDAHOBIT**



The Department of Education is committed to ensuring all Victorian government schools are respectful, safe and inclusive places of learning and work for all students, staff and members of our school communities.

As part of this commitment, the department supports schools to join the many other schools and workplaces across the country to recognise International Day Against LGBTIQ+ Discrimination (IDAHOBIT) which falls on 17 May annually.

This is to support lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and gender diverse, intersex, queer, questioning and asexual (LGBTIQ+) people in our schools and the community, in accordance with obligations in the [Child Safe Standards](#) to uphold diversity and equity for everyone regardless of their background, characteristics or beliefs.

We welcome anyone at our school who wants to mark the day to do so.

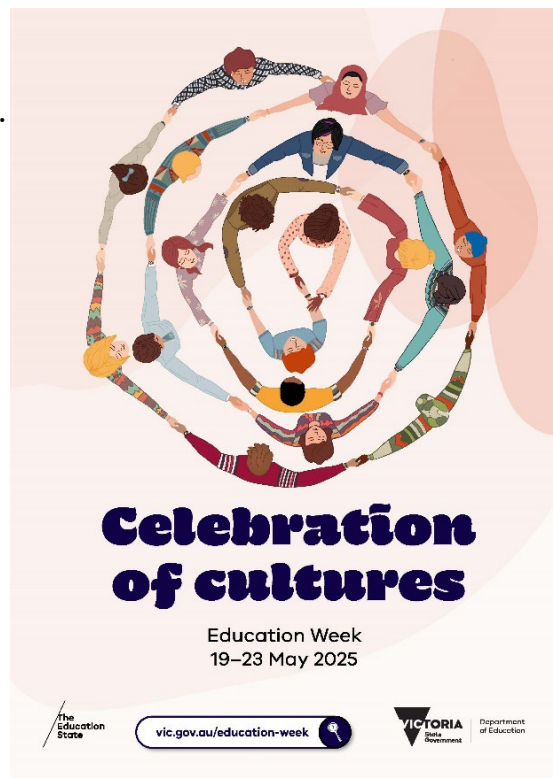
For more information, refer to the [IDAHOBIT website](#).

If you have any queries, you can contact the department by email: [enquiries@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@education.vic.gov.au)

## **Education Week**

This year, Education Week runs from Monday 19 May to Friday 23 May.

The theme 'Celebration of Cultures' highlights the diversity of our communities and the importance of every child feeling safe and welcome at school. Mount Macedon Primary will be celebrating Education Week by at assembly on Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May by showcasing performances from students. If your child would like to perform a song, dance, read a poem or story or show an artwork about their cultures or family histories, their names need to be added to the list at the front office and please encourage them to practice at home before assembly.



To find out more about Education Week 2025, visit [Education Week | vic.gov.au](https://vic.gov.au)

**The Importance of Wellbeing in Schools**

At Mount Macedon Primary School, we are committed to supporting the whole child—not just academically, but socially, emotionally and mentally.

In line with the Department of Education's Framework for Improving Student Outcomes (FISO) 2.0, we place wellbeing on equal footing with learning. This reflects a state-wide Education Department commitment to nurturing the conditions every child needs to thrive.

The FISO 2.0 framework recognises that students learn best when they feel safe, connected and supported. It highlights the importance of creating inclusive and positive learning environments where wellbeing and engagement are just as important as literacy and numeracy outcomes. When children’s mental health and wellbeing are prioritised, their capacity to engage, learn and grow is significantly strengthened.

As part of this approach, we are proud to be participating in the Mental Health in Primary Schools (MHIPS) initiative—a Victorian Government program being rolled out across all government primary schools. MHIPS supports schools to embed evidence-based mental health strategies and provide targeted assistance to students who may be experiencing difficulties. A dedicated Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader (MHWL) in each school works alongside teachers and school leadership to strengthen the mental health literacy of staff, build strong referral pathways, and provide early, targeted support for students who may be experiencing challenges. This work ensures children receive the right support, at the right time, in the right setting.

The MHIPS program is guided by a holistic, evidence-informed model which includes six key components, illustrated in the MHIPS jigsaw diagram below. These components demonstrate how the MHWL supports a whole-school approach, from preventative mental health promotion to tailored intervention and system navigation.



### What does the Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader do?

The MHWL role is structured around six key focus areas, shown in the diagram above. These include promoting mental health, supporting early intervention, coordinating targeted support, building staff capability, collaborating with families, and linking with services. This holistic approach helps create a safe, inclusive, and responsive learning environment for every child.

The MHIPS initiative is not just well-intentioned—it is evidence-based and backed by leading research institutions, including Melbourne University Graduate School of Education and the Murdoch Children's Research Institute. It is also strongly aligned with the findings of the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System, which identified schools as key settings for providing earlier support and better mental health outcomes for children and families.

We are fully supportive of this direction, knowing that wellbeing is essential to creating a safe, inclusive, and successful learning environment where all students can thrive—academically, socially and emotionally.

We thank our school community for partnering with us to deliver a balanced and thoughtful education that supports every student's overall development.

For more information, please visit:

- <https://www.mtmacedonps.vic.edu.au/wellbeing>
- FISO 2.0 Policy: <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/fiso/policy>
- Mental Health in Primary Schools: <https://www.schools.vic.gov.au/mental-health-primary-schools>
- MHIPS Official Site & MHWL Role: <https://www.mhips.org.au/the-mhips-model/the-mental-health-and-wellbeing-leader/>

## Yoga on the Mt.

It has been a delight reconnecting to share yoga Mondays and Wednesdays!

During Monday's practice, not only do we connect to movement, we also explore how kindness grows! Our trees and flowers are starting to blossom with colours and amazing ways of sharing kindness! In Wednesday's practice, building connection, we check in as to the energy the mind and body have, and then play yoga-jenga, selecting a coloured block to match the energy of the moment...there are even some creative blocks in the yoga-jenga tower, which allow a pose to be created!

Thank you to the families sharing this time, it's an honour and joy.

If there are other families curious, please feel free to connect - there are still a few mats available for the Wednesday practice, and there's also the pause for parent practice Monday afternoons - should this be useful, connect to share time and practice.

Finally, for the family who received a bunny paw in the Easter raffle, congratulations! It'd be wonderful to connect and see what may be useful! All the best for the rest of the week and coming weekend.

With peace and joy,  
Sarah



# Community News

## IDAHOBIT

INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA, BIPHOBIA, INTERSEXPHOBIA AND TRANSPHOBIA

### KYNETON FLAG RAISING

FRIDAY 16 MAY, 12PM-1PM: KYNETON MECHANICS INSTITUTE

- LIVE MUSIC
- FREE BBQ
- SPEAKERS

## KIDS CLASSES

AT THE WOODEND NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE



### ART CLUB FOR KIDS

- 2-5 years  
Wed: 2pm - 3pm
- Prep to Grade 4  
Wed: 3.45pm - 5pm
- Grade 5 & 6  
Wed: 5.15pm - 6.30pm



### YOGA FOR KIDS



### YOGA FOR KIDS

- Bendy Buddies  
2-5 years  
Tues: 9.30am - 10am
- Creative Yoga  
Prep to Grade 6  
Wed: 3.45pm - 5pm

More information: [www.woodendnh.org.au](http://www.woodendnh.org.au)

MACEDON RANGES BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

## U10'S MIDWEEK BASKETBALL

**\$50**  
PLUS BV & BA FEES,  
WHERE APPLICABLE

FUN, BEGINNER-FRIENDLY GAMES TO  
BUILD SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE

**GIRLS**  
MONDAY NIGHTS  
@ MACEDON RANGES  
SPORTS PRECINCT

**BOYS**  
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS  
@ MACEDON RANGES  
SPORTS PRECINCT

15 WEEK SEASON  
STARTING MAY 12TH  
INCLUDING GRADING & FINALS  
UNIFORM PROVIDED

REGISTER  
NOW



CLOSES  
11TH MAY

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT  
DOMESTIC@MRBA.ORG.AU

HONORING THE PAST, EMBRACING THE FUTURE

40 YEARS  
OF MRBA



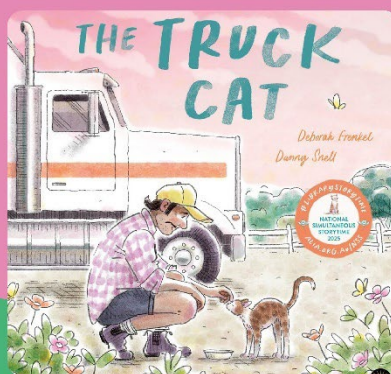
## ACTIVE KIDS ARE HEALTHY KIDS

JOIN US

FRIDAY 16 MAY 2025



Until they're ten, children must always hold  
an adult's hand when crossing the road



National Simultaneous Storytime

## THE TRUCK CAT

Young families are invited to join in the fun of National  
Simultaneous Storytime - Australia's biggest story reading  
event. While some libraries will be reading the book at  
different times, we'll still be enjoying all the fun together!

Ages 3-5 years.

More at [ncgrl.vic.gov.au/mss](http://ncgrl.vic.gov.au/mss)

Woodend Library

Wed 21 May, 12-12.45pm



11:30am Monday 9 June 2025  
St Ambrose Hall, Woodend

## CINDERELLA

Step into a magical realm where Prokofiev's "Cinderella" dances with new life. Let Inventi Ensemble sweep you off your feet with their enchanting performance, weaving together the timeless tale with Sally Whitwell's captivating composition. Like Cinderella's transformation at the stroke of midnight, experience a symphonic metamorphosis that transports you through every twist and turn of the story. With each note, you'll feel as if you're gliding across the ballroom floor, swept up in a whirlwind of emotion and melody. Join us for a night where music and storytelling converge, leaving you spellbound till the final curtain falls.

This is a family-friendly event with children's tickets available.



For tickets and more information visit  
[woodendwinterartsfestival.org.au](http://woodendwinterartsfestival.org.au)





# SIGNIFICANT DATES TO ACKNOWLEDGE

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



National Reconciliation Week is an annual event dedicated to strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians. It marks the anniversaries of two significant milestones in Australia: the 1967 referendum, which recognised Indigenous Australians in the census, and the 1992 Mabo decision, which acknowledged native title rights.

This year's National Reconciliation Week theme encourages everyone to take action towards reconciliation by learning about Indigenous histories, cultures, and contributions. Schools can participate by incorporating Indigenous perspectives into lessons, holding cultural activities, inviting Indigenous speakers, and reflecting on the importance of reconciliation.

Resources for schools can be found through [Reconciliation Australia](https://www.reconciliation.org.au)

## **Acknowledgement of Country**

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.

