



Marong Primary School

Respect | Responsibility | Honesty

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

February 27, 2026 – Issue 5

SCHOOL VALUES

At Marong Primary School, we are committed to fostering a safe, supportive, and inclusive learning environment. Our core values guide our actions and shape our community:

- Respect: We treat everyone with kindness, consideration, and value their unique contributions.
- Responsibility: We take ownership of our actions, make responsible choices, and contribute positively to our school and community.
- Honesty: We act with integrity, communicate truthfully, and build trust in all our relationships.



On behalf of the students of Marong Primary School, we would like to respectfully acknowledge the Dja Dja Wurrung as the traditional owners of the land and pay our respects to elders past and present. We are grateful to learn, play and grow surrounded by the plants, animals & waterways that the Djaara people have watched over and cared for, over thousands of years.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Walk/ride to school

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

6/3/2026

Elmore colouring due back

9/3/2026-

Labour day Public holiday

11/3/2026-13/3/2026

NAPLAN- Grade 3 and 5

16/3/2026 & 23/3/2026

Puberty sessions

Grade 5/6

16/3/2026-20/3/2026

Harmony Week



REMINDERS

All students require a broad brim hat in term 1. Please ensure children have a drink bottle and a packed lunch.



Marong Primary School

Respect | Responsibility | Honesty

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

February 27, 2026

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Clean up Australia Day

We're very excited to have invited our families to join our activity today. If you were able to attend, thank you for taking the time to do so. Stay tuned for more opportunities to have families involved.

Mobile Phones & Smart watches

As per the Marong PS Mobile Phones – Student Use policy which is available on the website, students who bring mobile phones and/or wear smart watches to school **must hand these into the office during school hours**. This policy has been issued by the Minister for Education and developed in conjunction with the School Council. Whilst we know some smart watches have capacity to be put into 'school mode', this is too difficult to monitor and we are asking they are handed to the office for safe storage during the day. We appreciate your cooperation as we work to minimise distractions for our students to maximise their learning. If you believe your child meets the criteria to be granted an exception as stated in the policy, please submit this to marong.ps@education.vic.gov.au.



SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE

School council met for the first time this year. We discussed some jobs that need doing around the school and will hold a **working bee on Sunday 15th March** with further details to come. Please put the date in your diaries. We are also in the process of getting the toilets at the rear of the PAC opened and operational. The **School Council AGM will be Wednesday 25th March at 6pm**. If you are interested in joining school council, please talk to Trudy to get a nomination form.

PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION UPDATE

AGM- TUESDAY 10TH 3:40 @ PAC

Anyone wanting to nominate for a position of the PFA committee, please collect a nomination form from the office. We welcome new and returning faces! It's a great way to meet people and you don't have to take on a job!

PRINCIPALS AWARDS

Sophie K & Laura W – Congratulations on having the courage to put forward your ideas to me from the JSC to improve the school. What fantastic role models and excellent JSC reps you are proving to be

CHILD SAFE STANDARDS MESSAGE

The new child safe standards go further to the child protection arrangements did in the past.



Marong
Primary School
Respect | Responsibility | Honesty

NAPLAN 2026

We have scheduled to undertake our NAPLAN assessments for grade 3 and 5 students, during Wednesday 11th - Friday 13th March. Families wanting to know more about NAPLAN can visit the following website. <https://www.nap.edu.au/naplan>

This website also has practice tests available should your child wish to familiarise themselves with what they can expect during the assessments.

<https://nap.edu.au/naplan/public-demonstration-site>

Students will require the use of headphones during their online assessments. The school has provision for this however if students would prefer to bring their own headphones to use, this will be allowed.

Assessments will be conducted at the following times;

Wednesday 11th March Morning session before lunch	Writing Assessment
Wednesday 11th March Middle session	Reading Assessment
Thursday 12th March Morning session before lunch	Language Conventions Assessment
Friday 13th March Morning session before lunch	Numeracy Assessment

GRADE PREP

What we achieved this week!

This week in **Sounds-Write**, we have continued working on the sounds **n, o and p**. The students have been busy building new words, swapping sounds to make different words, and having a go at reading a range of words using our focus sounds. It has been fantastic to see their confidence growing each day!

In **Writing**, the students have absolutely blown us away with their ability and persistence when writing sentences. Our focus text this week was the nursery rhyme *5 Little Monkeys*. We had so much fun talking about those cheeky little monkeys and using our ideas to help us write. The effort the students are putting into stretching out words and having a go independently has been wonderful to see.

In **Mathematics**, we explored the concept of *more and less*. The students did an awesome job identifying which group of manipulatives had more or less and explaining their thinking. They should be very proud of the way they worked independently at their tables to show their new learning.

We are so proud of the fantastic effort everyone is putting into their learning. Keep up the amazing work!



Reminders

- Prep students will begin attending school for the full 5 days a week starting this Monday 2nd March.
- Please ensure library books are returned each Monday so you child can borrow a new one.



GRADE 1/2

What we achieved this week!

Week 5 has been another busy and rewarding week of learning for our wonderful Grade 1/2 students. In reading this week we have continued reading Ask Aunty Seasons and have been making meaningful connections between our four calendar seasons and the six seasons of Bardi Country. Students explored the similarities and differences between the two seasonal calendars and shared their prior knowledge to deepen their understanding.

In Writing, students have been building strong, detailed sentences about key events during the Bardi seasons. We focused on using time connectives at the beginning of sentences, such as First, Next, After that, Then, Later, and Finally, to help organise ideas clearly. It has been a busy week of assessment in Maths. When students were not completing assessments, they worked collaboratively with peers through engaging maths games including Clear the Board, 109, Card Games, Get Out of My House, and Mastermind.

In Integrated Studies, we explored writing technologies from the 1800s. Students learned about the Printing Press and ancient hieroglyphics written on papyrus scrolls. We discussed how communication and writing tools have changed over time and compared them to the technology we use today. We are very proud of the focus, effort and enthusiasm students have shown this week. Keep up the fantastic work, everyone!



Reminders

- Library Sessions - Don't forget your books!
- 1/2 Hayley/Thorn - Tuesday
- 1/2 Riordan - Tuesday
- 1/2 Williams - Friday
-



GRADE 3/4

What we achieved this week!

We have completed week five and in 3/4 we feel alive!

This week has been wonderfully enjoyable as we dig deeper into our units and prepare for upcoming NAPLAN.

This week we have...

Reading- we have been reading about maps and their usefulness in exploring. We have been looking at verbs in grammar and studying the history of words in etymology.

Math- this week is all about time. We have been looking at elapsed minutes and hours, how to read a clock and 24-hour time.

Writing- we are starting our unit on narratives and have looked at sizzling starts and characters traits. We know how to plan stories and how to engage our audience right from the start.

Integrated studies – exploring our school by going on a nature colour hunt, looking at what we can find within the grounds with magnifying glasses.

Wellbeing- students unpack emotions from the film 'Inside out' and build our own toolkits with strategies.

ICT- saving a word document to the student drive. Being able to use the server to store our online work.



Reminders

- Grade 3 NAPLAN is coming up; we are preparing in the classroom but also aiming to not overwhelm them.
- Reminder that students are not to bring toys from to school. It can cause issues in play time, and the school has plenty of resources for them to utilise.
- Encourage students to speak kind to each other and have conversations at home about not making jokes at someone else's expense.
- Please ensure you are listening to your student read 5 SESSIONS A WEEK, reading diaries are checked weekly and make a real difference.



GRADE 5/6

What we achieved this week!

This week in Literacy, students began exploring persuasive texts. We examined the purpose and structure of persuasive writing, identifying how authors use arguments, evidence and emotive language to influence their audience. Students started planning their own persuasive pieces, focusing on strong opening statements and clear reasons to support their opinions.

In our Sounds Write sessions, students investigated the /oe/ sound, identifying the different graphemes that represent this sound and applying their knowledge through reading and spelling activities.

In Mathematics, our focus was on division, with students learning and practising short division strategies. Through explicit teaching, guided practice and independent problem-solving, students worked on improving accuracy, efficiency and confidence when solving division problems.

In Integrated Studies, students formed their own political parties as part of our democracy unit. They collaborated to create a party name, design a logo, and develop a catchy slogan to represent their values and goals. This activity helped students deepen their understanding of how political parties communicate ideas and attract voters.

We are also looking forward to participating in Clean Up Australia Day on Friday, as we work together to care for our environment and contribute positively to our community.

It has been another engaging and productive week of learning across all areas.

Miss Burton, Mr Johnstone, Mr Fry and Chelsie.



STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Grade Prep - Jess

Cohen F - Cohen has challenged himself this week to put his 'Brave in Front'. He has given me a beautiful 'Good morning' when he arrives at school and this has demonstrated what a kind and friendly student he is. Cohen is such a respectful listener, takes on feedback and gives every task his best effort. I am so proud of you Cohen and I love the way you achieved your goal of becoming more confident at school drop offs. Super work!

Grade Prep - Mrs Cook

Kase T - Kase has had a tremendous week! He is coming in confident each morning and ready to start his learning. Kase is constantly demonstrating the School Values and is such a kind and caring member of our class. Keep up the awesome work Kase you are a SUPERSTAR!

Grade ½ Williams

Billy W - Since the very first day of school this year, Billy has been on fire! I'm so proud of the confidence, resilience, and leadership he has been showing in the classroom and in the yard. He has been working hard both independently and in group activities. Keep up the amazing work, Billy. I am so proud of you!

Grade ½ Riordan

Noah A - What a superstar this guy is! Noah is always trying the best in the classroom. He is kind, helpful and attempts all tasks with his very best. It has been so very wonderful to have you in our classroom this year. Keep up the amazing effort in your learning Noah.

Grade ½ Thorn and Hayley

Freddie C - Freddie is consistently respectful. He listens carefully without interruption and asks questions when he needs clarification. Freddie is kind and always willing to help when needed. Keep it up Freddie!

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Grade 3/4 Miss O

Iszak D - I am thrilled with how Iszak has begun his year. He has impressed me with his efforts in completing extra work and going above and beyond the expectations. Iszak has been interacting kindly with his peers and showing the best version of himself at school.

Grade 3/4 Westcott

Archer H - Archer has had a fantastic week in class! He completed a narrative titled The Great Escape and also beat Jimmy in our maths game, Place Value Knockout. Well done, Archer!

Grade 3/4 Lamb

Archie G - Archie has started the year off with a bang! He is always super enthusiastic, contributes regularly in class, and is quick to lend a helping hand whenever it's needed. Archie has shown wonderful leadership qualities, which have also been recognised by his peers. He is also smashing his home reading! Well done Archie!

Grade 5/6 Johnstone

Prithvu R - Congratulations Prithvi! He has made a fantastic start, settling in quickly and showing kindness and confidence. We're so glad to have you in our class, congratulations Prithvi!

Grade 5/6 Fry

Adeara S - Adeara has been a supportive friend to others in the classroom, always showing kindness and encouragement. She listens respectfully, includes others, and helps create a positive learning environment for everyone. Adeara has demonstrated fantastic persuasive skills, confidently sharing her ideas about changes to our school rules and backing them up with strong reasons. Well done, Adeara!

Grade 5/6 Burton

Mitch W - Mitch has made a strong start to Grade 6. He works hard, takes on challenges, and shows maturity in his learning. He is a positive presence in the classroom and supports his peers with kindness. Great job, Mitch!

NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY

Friday 20 March 2026

Join in the fun on National Ride2School Day by encouraging your students to ride, walk, skate or scoot to school.

National Ride2School Day is the perfect opportunity for students and school communities across Australia to embrace a healthier start and to try riding and walking to school for themselves.

Check out some of our ideas on how to plan the best National Ride2School Day ever!

Obstacle course

Set up a bike obstacle course on your basketball court or oval so students can get full use of their wheels before school starts.



Bike education

Integrate bike education and bike skills into the day (or even better - into the curriculum)!

Guest speakers

Arrange an assembly with a special guest speaker (e.g. Member of Parliament, local police officers or local riding super-stars) to inspire students to actively travel to school more often.

Healthy breakfast

Host a healthy breakfast with some tasty fruit and breakfast snacks.



Fundraising

Take the opportunity to raise funds by encouraging students to dress up (or dress up their bikes) and ask for a gold coin donation on the day. The proceeds can go towards improving the bike parking facilities at your school.



Bike parade

Host a 'decorate your bike' or 'decorate your helmet' competition and have students parade their creations at assembly.

Poster decorating

Use the colouring-in version of our poster and have students colour their own posters to put up around the school.



Active travel raffle

Hand out raffle tickets to the walkers and wheelers as they arrive at school and present a prize at the assembly.

HandsUp! count

Collect a HandsUp! count by asking your students how they travelled to school. You can use this to work out how much CO2 your school has saved by actively travelling.

We'd love to share in your celebrations and see how much fun your school had on National Ride2School Day, share your photos with us on Facebook or at ride2school@bicyclenetwork.com.au

ride2school.com.au
[#ride2schoolday](https://www.facebook.com/ride2schoolday)
[@bicycle_network](https://www.facebook.com/bicycle_network)



Hop on board and join the Roos in 2026!!!

New Junior Player Expressions of Interest Now Open

Are you interested in playing junior football at Kangaroo Flat? We want you!!!
If you are considering playing junior football next season, we would love to welcome you and your family to the Kangaroo Flat Junior Football Club.

Why Kangaroo Flat?

- We are a fun, inclusive, family friendly club
- We offer junior boys, girls & mixed football programs including in season social activities
- We have passionate, dedicated accredited coaches focused on the progressive development of players as individuals and their teams
- We provide a pathway into the Bendigo Football Netball League, the premier competition within the Greater Bendigo region
- We are located in the magnificent Dower Park facility in Station Street Kangaroo Flat, just a short 5-minute walk from the bus interchange @ Crusoe College

2026 Age Groups

(Date of Birth Requirements)

Under 9 Mixed

Born 2017, 2018 or before 30 April 2019

Under 10 Mixed

Born 2016 or 2017

Under 12 Girls or Mixed

Born 2014, 2015 or 2016

Under 14 Boys

Born 2012, 2013 or 2014

Under 15 Girls

Born 2011, 2012 or 2013

Under 16 Boys

Born 2010, 2011 or 2012

Please email enquiries to: kangarooflatjfc@hotmail.com.au



<https://www.facebook.com/KangarooFlatJuniorFC>



2026 WINTER SEASON TRAY-OUTS

Shout out to all current and NEW players!

Come and try out basketball with our amazing club, The Flamingos. We are seeking boys and girls, players of all skills- whether you're a champion or brand new to the game, we want you to help grow our club!

Come along to one of our session times listed below. Or if you would like more information, you can check out our Facebook page, or please contact us via email flamingosbasketballclub@outlook.com

SESSIONS:

THURS 5TH MARCH

6

THURS 12TH MARCH

4:15PM - 5:15PM

@ EAGLEHAWK SOCCER CLUB

STADIUM

