

Principal – Katie Lovel

Asst Principal – Hamish
McCartney

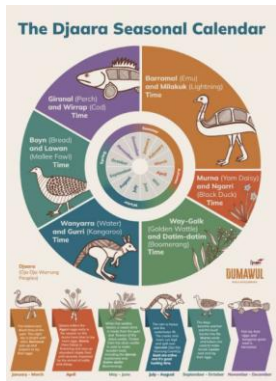


July 17th, 2026 – Issue 20

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

Miss Gallagher has finalised the teams for the Sandhurst Division Football and Netball Championships 2026. Football – Tuesday July 21st Netball – Wednesday July 29th Students will attend swimming lessons at Gurri Wanyarra Wellbeing Centre in Kangaroo Flat each day during their nominated week. Students will travel to and from the pool each day by bus.

DATES FOR JULY

- 5TH – 12TH JULY – NAIDOC WEEK. 21st-23rd Parent Teacher interviews. Booking via the Sentral portal.

PRINCIPALS AWARD

Zaiden B – congratulations on a fantastic first term of learning and leadership through being a great role model. You consistently model our school values and are polite and respectful. Keep this up!

Child Safe Message

We have ZERO tolerance of any abuse of children.



Marong Primary School

Respect | Responsibility | Honesty

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

July 17th, 2026

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to term 3! Welcome to our new Acting Assistant Principal Hamish McCartney. He comes to us from Carisbrook Primary School for the term and he's already been working hard with leadership and staff, meeting our students and families. We have lots happening this term so stay tuned for updates through Sentral and the newsletter.

GROUND'S UPGRADE

During the break we had Dez from Ladson Renovations complete the fencing for our new bike area. Students need to ensure their bikes are behind the fenced area. We are working on cover for the space next. Thanks Dez for getting this done!

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Next week we are holding Parent / Teacher Interviews. This is the second of face to face interviews formally offered for the year. Please ensure you've made your interview time on Sentral prior to Sunday when the bookings close. We can't wait to share your child's learning with you.

SWIMMING PROGRAM

Our swimming program will run from July 27th – July 31st for years 3–6 students, and from August 3rd to August 7th for Foundation – year 2 students.

SUPERVISION BEFORE SCHOOL

Students are expected to arrive at school between 8.45–8.50am. Our yard isn't supervised prior to this time. Teachers aren't on duty until 8.45am in classrooms. You are welcome to supervise your child in the yard prior to 8.45am. Bags can be left at line up areas. We appreciate your support to ensure students are safe prior to teachers being on duty.



PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION UPDATE

The next PFA meeting is Thursday 30th July at 3.30pm in the library. All welcome. Don't forget donuts are available to order each Thursday.

SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE

The next school council meeting is Wednesday 21st July at 6pm. We will be looking at the updated School Dress Code, Values review, Annual Implementation plan tracking and Communication Strategy.



GRADE PREP

What we achieved this week!

What a wonderful first week back at school our Preps have had. They have all been very excited to tell us everything they have done over the holidays. Toy Story was a big hit with lots of students.

This week during Sounds write we have started to look at VCC (vowel, consonant, consonant) and CVCC (consonant, vowel, consonant, consonant) words. Students have begun sounding out and spelling these words. Some students have even been able to identify these words in their reading.

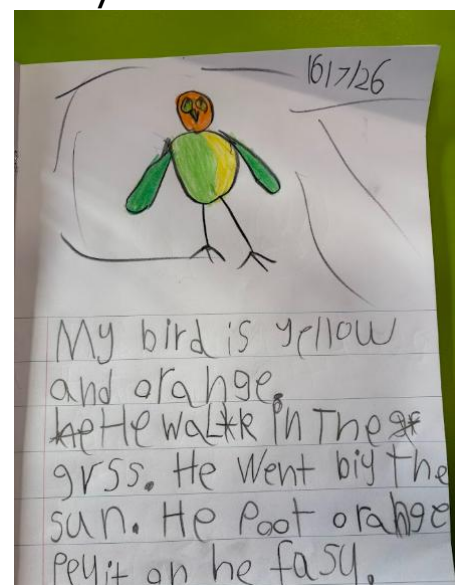
During writing we have watched and discussed different dreamtime stories. Students were able to retell or identify different parts of the story and re-write these into their books.

In Maths, we have been looking at the numbers 0-20 in word form. Students have been able to practise matching the numeral with the number in words. For example 2 - two.

This week in ICT students were introduced to a new app on the iPad called edclub. Edclub is a program that teaches students to type by recognising the letters of the alphabet and other keys on a keypad.

A reminder that next week on Thursday we will be celebrating 100 days of Prep. If students would like to dress up they can, or they can wear school uniform.

Jess, Mrs Cook, Miss Wilson, Cayla and Fraser.



GRADE 1/2

What we achieved this week!

We are back for Term 3, and it has been fabulous to see all of our smiling faces again after the break! In Sounds Write this week, Miss Thorn and Hayley's group began exploring a range of VCC and CVCC words. Miss Williams' group began exploring the /ie/ sound and its five spellings: , , , and . Mr Riordan's group looked at the /ee/ sound and its five spellings: , , , and .

In Writing, we started the week by recapping our school holidays. Students completed a comic strip showing all the amazing things they got up to during the break and then used these to share and recount their adventures. Later in the week, we focused on the book *Looking After Country with Fire*. We explored the purpose of the story and discussed the important message the book shares.

In Maths this week, we focused on 2D shapes. We explored shape names, how many sides they have, and the number of vertices each shape has. Later in the week, we had a go at drawing our own 2D shapes using geoboards and dotted paper. We also loved going on a shape hunt around the school!

In Respectful Relationships this week, we looked at recognising the differences between each other and the importance of showing respect, even when we are different. This sparked some wonderful discussions amongst students and was a very valuable lesson.

Don't forget that parent-teacher interviews are next week. If you haven't booked in yet, please do so via Sentral as soon as possible.

Have a great weekend!

Miss Williams, Mr Riordan, Miss Thorn, Hayley, Brandi, Jai, Jobe, Tamina and Toby.



GRADE 3/4



What we achieved this week!

The Grade 3/4s have started the first week with a **BANG!** They have come back from the holidays refreshed, happy, and ready to learn. They have been applying themselves to their learning, and Miss O, Mr Westcott, and Miss Lamb have been very impressed. We are very proud of all our Grade 3/4 students. A special shout-out to our Grade 3 students who received their NAPLAN results, you all did very well!

English:

In reading, we have started one of our class novels, *Storm Boy* by Colin Thiele. In writing, we wrote about our holidays, completed note-taking on NAIDOC Week, and practised sentence-level writing based on *Storm Boy*. Our partner reading this week was about FIFA, which we all enjoyed!

Math:

We are revisiting multiplication and division over the next two weeks. We have built on our knowledge of bar models, skip counting, and a range of different strategies. The CUBE strategy was our main focus this week to help us solve worded problems.

Rotations:

In Integrated Studies with Miss O, we started our topic, *Saving Earth's Resources*, by learning about the land and water on Earth. We also created our own versions of Earth while pretending to hold it up.

In ICT with Mr Westcott, we started using Minecraft Education, learning how to download the program, log in, add and remove blocks, and practise other basic movements.

Miss Lamb's rotation this term is Readers Theatre, which we are all very excited about. We began by choosing our groups and scripts before starting to learn our lines.

Reminders

- Reading diaries: Mondays (3/4W and 3/4O) and Tuesdays (3/4L)
- Parent Teacher Interviews: 21st–23rd July
- Swimming Week begins on 28th July. Please remember to pack goggles, a towel, bathers (school appropriate), underwear, spare school clothes, and extra food. Please do not send skincare or haircare products due to time constraints.



GRADE 5/6

What we achieved this week!

Welcome back to Term 3! We hope everyone had a wonderful and relaxing holiday break. It has been fantastic to see students return refreshed, ready to learn and eager to begin another exciting term. In Literacy, we have begun a novel study based on the book *Wonder*. Students are exploring the novel's characters, themes and important messages, while developing their comprehension, discussion and analytical skills through a range of engaging reading and writing activities. In Mathematics, students have started our Measurement unit. We are focusing on estimating and measuring lengths and heights accurately, as well as converting between units of measurement such as millimetres, centimetres and metres. Students are developing practical measurement skills through hands-on investigations and real-world problem-solving tasks. In Integrated Studies, students have launched our exciting Cities of the Future unit. They have begun exploring what makes a city sustainable, investigating topics such as green energy, environmentally friendly design and innovative technologies that could shape the cities of tomorrow. We look forward to seeing students apply their creativity and critical thinking as they design their own future cities.

It has been a fantastic start to the term, and we are looking forward to another busy and rewarding term of learning together.

Reminders

Parent Teacher Interviews begin next week. If you haven't already done so, please book your interview time via Sentral. We look forward to meeting with families to discuss students' progress and celebrate their learning.

5/6 football next weekend – Wednesday. Please see Miss Gallagher's message on Sentral for further information.

Miss Burton, Mr Johnstone, Mr Fry and Chelsie.



STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Grade Prep - Jess

Eadie T - Eadie has come back to school in Term 3 with enthusiasm. She was extremely motivated to earn Dojo points and set herself the goal of being a future Student of the Week. I have loved seeing her friendly smiling face each morning and the way she has made good responsible choices in the classroom. Keep up the positive attitude Eadie, we love it!

Grade Prep - Mrs Cook

Fletcher A - Fletch has had a super start to term 3 and come back ready to learn. He has demonstrated all our school values as well as wonderful leadership skill, especially when listening respectfully. He has worked incredibly well independently and also been a big help to his teachers. YOU ARE A SUPERSTAR FLETCHER!!!

Grade 1/2 Williams

Harrison S - Harrison has started Term 3 on fire! He has been incredibly motivated all week and has produced some fantastic holiday writing. Well done on a fabulous start to the term, Harrison! Keep up the great work!

Grade 1/2 Riordan

Willow B - For demonstrating all of our values this week. Willow is always kind, helpful and respectful to others. She is always working hard, putting in her best effort to all she does. What another amazing week you have had Willow! Keep it up.

Grade 1/2 Thorn and Hayley

Lilah J - This week Lilah has put fantastic effort into her learning activities. She has tried her best, stayed focused, and completed her work with care. We are so proud of her positive attitude and determination. Well done Lilah.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Grade 3/4 Miss O

Oliver P - Oliver has settled back into the term with great success. He has gotten straight back into his learning and written a great information piece on the history of NAIDOC week. Oliver has been extending himself in multiplication working in small groups developing his skills in long multiplication. Oliver is a student that others look up to and can be relied upon to uphold the values of Marong primary school. Well done legend!

Grade 3/4 Westcott

Riley M - Riley, well done on consistently completing all of your work to the best of your ability, especially your excellent note-taking. You also showed courage and maturity by speaking respectfully with your peers to resolve an issue. Well done!

Grade 3/4 Lamb

Bella J - Bella has started Term 3 with a BANG! She has been engaged in her learning and has shown great problem-solving skills, even helping Mr Westcott with some computer problems. Bella has also been working well with her peers. It has also been great to see her taking responsibility for managing her own lunchtime play and making positive choices. Well done, Bella I am so proud of you

Grade 5/6 Johnstone

Alby T - Congratulations Alby on a great start to Term 3! You've settled back into school well and shown resilience when things have been challenging. It's been great to see you giving your best and having a go each day. Keep up the awesome work!

Grade 5/6 Fry

Ebony P - Ebony has made a fantastic start to Term Three, returning to school with a positive attitude and a great willingness to learn. She has done an excellent job responding to our class novel, *Wonder*, sharing thoughtful ideas and making insightful connections to the characters and themes. Ebony has approached every task with enthusiasm and should be very proud of her efforts!

Grade 5/6 Burton

Sienna N - Sienna has started the term beautifully. She has settled straight back into classroom routines, consistently applies herself to a high standard and makes thoughtful contributions to class discussions. It's wonderful to see her enthusiasm and commitment to learning. Great job, Sienna!

Who can I talk to if someone is hurting me or making me feel unsafe or afraid?

Your teacher:



Wellbeing staff:



Your principal:



Any adult you trust at school.

vic.gov.au/protect



SCHOOL BREAKFAST CLUBS PROGRAM

BREAKFAST CLUB



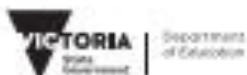
ALL STUDENTS WELCOME

DAYS: Wednesdays

TIME: 8:20am- 8:45am

ROOM: Large Decking

EAT. LEARN. SUCCEED.






fresh fruit friday



Running for over a decade,
the program now delivers
1,300kg of free fruit to
Bendigo school children
every week.

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Made possible thanks to McKern Foundation and our supporting partners:

Want to support the program? Contact us to sponsor and provide more fruit to your school.



LOOKING FOR LEGO DONATIONS



Please send any donations to Mr Westcott (Rm 7)

FOR OUR LEGO CLUB



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SENSORY SESSIONS
9:30AM  **JULY 13-JULY 17**

SENSORY-FRIENDLY ICE SKATING WITH REDUCED
NOISE, SOFTER LIGHTING AND CALMER
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STRIKERS NETBALL

MONDAY 29TH JUNE

COST \$50

6-14YO

Includes a free kids ticket to home game and some giveaways.

**BENDIGO
SOUTH EAST COLLEGE
GYMNASIUM**

KECK STREET, FLORA HILL



Clinic

1:00PM - 1:20PM	CHECK IN
1:30PM	CLINIC & ACTIVITIES COMMENCES
4:00PM	CLINIC FINISHES
4:00PM	SIGNATURES, PHOTOS & GIVEAWAYS
4:30PM	PICK UP

BYO Drink Bottle and Snack
Fruit supplied by McKern
Steel Foundation




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Fun, active programs for children 5 & Under

Maiden Gully Tennis Club

PLAY PARK

A joyful introduction to tennis for ages 5 & Under

3-Week Series

9-10am SAT

2, 9 & 16 May

Cost: \$60

- Movement-based play
- Basic tennis skills
- Build coordination & confidence
- Fun, safe, supportive setting

Only 1
series this
term!
Don't miss
out!



MINI HITTERS

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9.30-10.30AM

\$20/Session

A playful on-court session for little movers learning early tennis skills.

Runs during school terms - in conjunction with an Adult Combo Tennis session.

Casual -
turn up
when it
suits!

gianttennis.com.au

CONTACT: casey@gianttennis.com.au



KIDS LOVE BEING OUTDOORS? THERE'S GOLF FOR THAT.

BELVOIR PARK GOLF CLUB

**Time: Thursdays 4pm-4:45pm (5-9 year olds)
5:00 pm-5:45pm (10-14 year olds)**

**Dates: 30 July to 10 September 2026
(7 sessions)**

Cost: \$60

Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/36tzzcvj>

MyGolf powered by Ripper GC is Australia's beginner golf program that introduces kids to golf through games-based activities in a safe and friendly environment. Participants learn new skills, make new friends and most importantly, have fun!

Sessions are run by PGA Professionals and National Program Deliverers Australia-wide.

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**Enquires: Dave Griffin - 0407422845
email juniors@belvoirparkgc.com.au**

Find your nearest MyGolf powered by Ripper GC program at golf.org.au/mygolf