

# Marong Primary School Newsletter



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Term one Week one

FEBRUARY 2nd, 2023

Upcoming dates in March

13th- Labour Day Holiday

31st- Cross Country & Junior Fun Day

**RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY HONESTY**

## From the Principal

Welcome to the Marong Primary School 2023 school year. I particularly wish to take this opportunity to extend a very warm welcome to all our new students and their families. In addition welcome back to all our existing students and their families. Clearly 2023 will be an exciting year for our school particularly given we have so many new students and staff. As a result of the increased student numbers, I am very pleased to announce that for the 1st time in the schools history we have over 200 students enrolled at the school. In fact as of today, we have 213 students enrolled. Our new preps started today and as always it was pleasing to see the excitement on their faces today as they commenced school for the 1st time. On behalf of the staff I wish to state that we are very much looking forward to working with all our students and their families in 2023.

## Mosquito Borne Diseases

I have received advice from the Department of Education that our school is located in a high-risk area with regard to the potential of people contracting mosquito borne diseases. Listed below is some advice from the Department of health with regard to this issue. In addition I have listed the actions our school will be taking with respect to minimising the risk for everyone at the school.

## Staying Safe from Mosquitos

Recent wet and warm weather has increased mosquito breeding. Mosquitos can carry diseases that may be passed on to people through mosquito bites. A range of mosquito-borne diseases have recently been detected in mosquitos in Northern Victoria. Mosquito-borne diseases can cause serious illness, including infections of the brain.

**The best way to prevent mosquito-borne diseases is to avoid mosquito bites.**

In line with the community health advice, families can protect against mosquito bites by:

- using insect repellent that contains picaridin or DEET on all exposed skin if outdoors when mosquitos are observed from October to March.
- Wearing long, loose fitting clothing outdoors if possible if mosquitos are around and covering exposed skin as much as possible. At school it is recommended that students wear repellent on skin, not covered by school uniform. Summer school uniforms, including polos and shorts, can continue to be worn but students should use repellent in skin is exposed and mosquitos are active.

Continued.....

- limiting outdoor activity when mosquitos are active

### **What our school is doing to stay safe**

This term, our school will make insect repellent containing DEET or picaridin available for students to use when they spend time outside. Please let us know as soon as possible if your child has an allergy to DEET or picaridin or you would prefer your child not to access repellent, and we will encourage them to use other mosquito protection measures. A permission form is attached to this newsletter. If you have any questions please contact the principal.

On the advice of the Department of Health, outdoor areas will be treated with a thin insecticide spray to reduce mosquito activity on the school site. This work will be undertaken by an experienced professional at a time when students are not on site.

Similar treatments are commonly used in many public settings and when used according to product manufacturer's instructions, are safe, effective and not harmful to children.

### **Teale Hammond**

We have been advised that unfortunately, he has again had to undergo some more major surgery. Our thoughts are with Teale and his family at this time. Despite the challenges ahead of him Teale always displays a positive attitude. His courage is greatly admired. Marong Primary School will continue to offer support to Teale and his family as best we can.

### **New Staff**

I wish to welcome the following new staff members to our school.

Welcome to Marong Primary School.

Kristan Fry: Classroom teacher

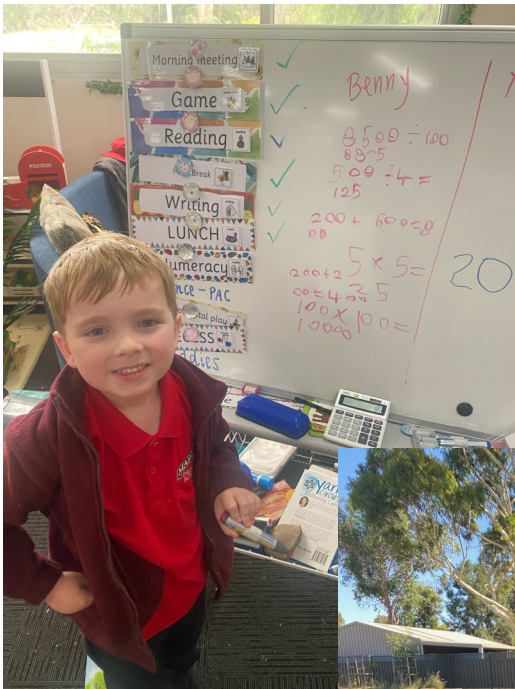
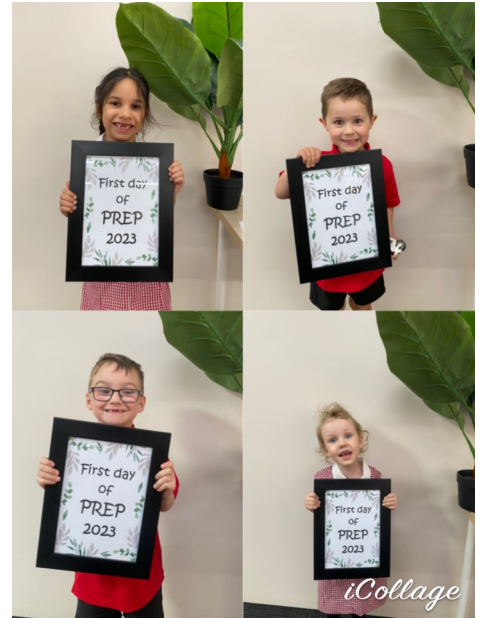
Ella Rowe: Education support staff member

Masey Martin: Education support staff member

## Grade Prep/One News

What a start to prep one! These little legends have had a great week and have been working hard to make the most of their new classrooms. Our grade ones have been perfect leaders and we are so proud of how they have assisted the preps to transition into school. We have read stories, hung out with our new buddies and worked with numbers. It has been a blast to get to know our new students and welcome back the grade one's into school. We are so looking forward to what the year will bring for us!

Mrs Cook, Miss O'Donoghue, Miss Maddern and Jess.



## Grade Two/Three News

Grade 2/3 have picked up right where they left off last year. We organised our lockers, stationary and table so we could get straight to work. Refreshing our numeracy skills with plenty of maths games, picking the right fit books and recounting our holidays in our writing books. The students thoroughly enjoyed the specialist programs of PE, Art, Chinese and Library as well as defining our school values and rules in the classroom for Integrated. We welcome Riley, Lizzie, Alex and Tessa to our school, already making plenty of friends and producing some good work as well!



## Grade 4/5 & 6 News

Welcome to our first newsletter article for 2023. we have started the year in fantastic style. In all grade 4/5/6 classrooms, students are enjoying being back at school, connecting with friends again and meeting with new classmates and teachers.

We have began setting our classroom rules and expectations and discussing important values needed for a successful year.

This week students have been learning to:

**Reading**– setting up new reading expectations and identifying positive reading behaviours.

**Writing**—interviewing and writing a biography piece about a student in the classroom.

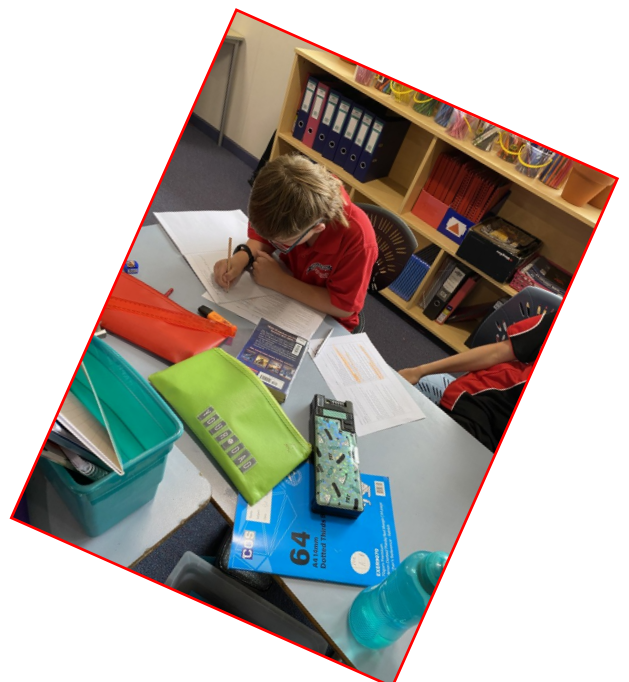
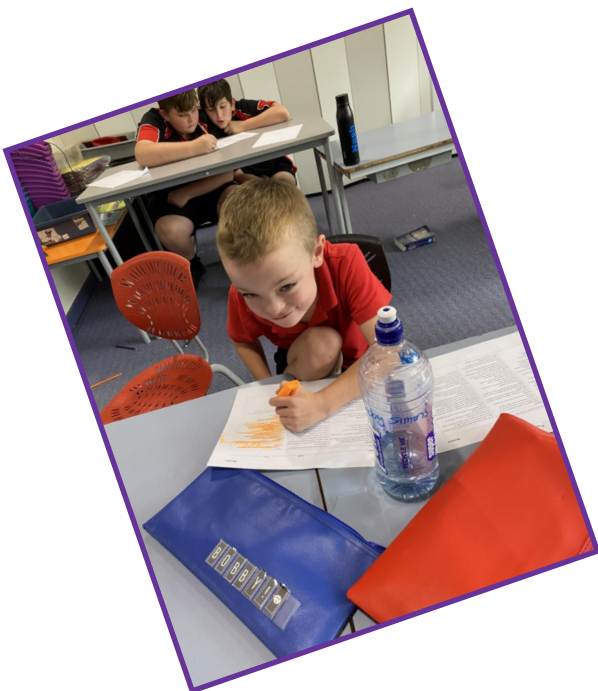
**Spelling**– base words, prefixes and suffixes.

**Numeracy**– place value (hundreds, thousands, tens of thousands, hundreds of thousands)-patterns within numbers.

**Kimochis/RRRR**-introducing our Kimochi characters and their traits.

Students loved meeting their prep buddies and even got to have lunch with them all today. Great to see the connections and friendships forming so early on!

A reminder to keep up the reading at home with an expectation of reading 5 nights a week with student diaries to be collect on a Monday and Thursday starting next week!





# The Beehive



## Outside School Hours Care News

Welcome to OSHC for 2023. we are very excited to be back and see all the happy faces on before and after school care. We have received a large amount of bookings for this year, meaning we are almost at capacity on certain days. If you are requiring casual carer its best to get in as soon as possible to avoid missing a spot.

All families must be connected to Xplor to be able to access accounts, booking information and to sign your child in and out. Please see me if you need assistance with this.

We also have a classroom dojo for OSHC so please let me know if you are not linked up.

We look forward to another fantastic year ahead!

Chelsie Nickson, Annie and Barnali



## Breakfast Club News

Breakfast will once again run on Wednesday and Friday morning this term between 8:20-8:45. this will run in the OSHC room.

We are lucky enough to receive donated food from foodbank Victoria to provide this program to all students free of charge. Marc and I look forward to seeing everyone's happy faces on Wednesday to kick off breakfast club for 2023!

