

Marong Primary School Newsletter

Volume 28 Issue 24, 11th August, 2023

	AUGUST		SEPTEMBER
21st-23rd	Grade 3 Creswick Camp	4th-8th	Whole School Swimming Program
23rd-25th	Grade 4 Creswick Camp	16th	Last Day of Term
28th	Book week Dress up & Parade		

RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

HONESTY

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Care Givers,

Parent Guardian /Carer Opinion Survey

The annual Parent, Guardian /Carer opinion survey will be available online as of the 7th of August 2023. Members of our school community are encouraged to participate in this survey as the information is used to inform and direct our future school planning and improvement. I have attached a letter to this weeks newsletter with more details and a survey link and a generic pin for your use. Please note only one Parent /Guardian /Carer from each family should complete the survey. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

School Swimming Program

In the week 4th September to the 8th September we will conduct our annual swimming program at the Gurri Wanyarra complex in Kangaroo Flat. Students will receive 45 minutes of instruction per day undertaken by qualified swimming teachers. Transport will be by bus to the pool. A program such as this would normally cost \$60 per student. However, as we have been able to access some grant money we are able to apply significant subsidies in order to reduce the cost to parents and carers.

The cost per student for this program will be \$10. Parents and carers with any funds held in credit by the school will have this amount deducted from their credit balance. Permission forms will be circulated next week for this program.

From the Principal Cont'd...

Parent Portal on SENTRAL.

Our school is delighted to introduce Sentral for Parents, powered by Sentral. This free app will allow parents to keep track of permission slips for school activities, access to academic reports and even inform the school of future student absences.

Families will received a letter last week outlining the process required to login to our Parent Portal on Sentral.

As we progress this initiative, I am confident that the Parent Portal will become more and more significant in your day to day management of your child\'s enrolment at our school. Should you experience difficulties please do not hesitate to contact Mr Saddlier for assistance. I also look forward to hearing from you about your experience with our Parent Portal, and any feedback will be gratefully received with a view to adding further functionality and improvement.



2023 Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey:

SUBJECT: Invitation to participate in the 2023 Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey

Dear Parents and Care Givers,

Your family is asked to participate in the 2023 Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey. The Department of Education has contracted ORIMA Research (ORIMA) to conduct the survey. ORIMA is Australia's leading provider of end-to-end research and data analytics services to the public and not-for-profit sector.

Each year the school conducts an opinion survey with the school community. All families are invited to participate in the survey. Results will be used to inform and direct our future school planning and improvement.

I ask you to please take the time to complete the survey as your opinions are important to us and will contribute to the future management and organisation of our school. The department will use the results from the survey for research purposes and to improve outcomes for students.

- The survey will be conducted **online** and only takes **20 minutes** to complete.
 - The survey can be completed on any internet enabled device (desktop computer, laptop, tablet or smartphone) and is compatible with most browsers.
- The survey will be open from **Monday 7 August to Friday 8 September 2023**.
- The survey is available in English and 10 other languages including Arabic, Greek, Hakha Chin, Hindi, Japanese, Punjabi, Simplified Chinese, Somali, Turkish, and Vietnamese.

Please be assured that your responses are completely confidential. The survey is conducted anonymously, and it is important to us that you complete the survey as honestly as possible. You will be provided with a PIN to complete the survey. This is to ensure that parents / caregivers / guardians only complete the survey once. The school can never see your responses linked with the PIN.

Please follow the instructions below to complete the survey. **PLEASE NOTE: Only one parent / caregiver / guardian** from your family is invited to complete the survey. Please **DO NOT** share the survey link and PIN with others, or on a public website, forum or similar.

To complete the survey, simply:

1. Click on the link below, or copy and paste the text into your browser. This link will take you directly to the survey.
<https://www.orima.com.au/parent>

PTO

2. Select the School .

School Name: Marong Primary School

Campus Name: Marong Primary School

3. Enter the School PIN below.

PIN: 827181

4. When complete, please click on the tick button at the end of the survey to submit your answers. Please note that the survey will time out after **60 minutes of inactivity**.

Thank you for taking the time to participate. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Questions?

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any general queries about the survey. For specific technical or participation-related queries, you may also contact the department or the supplier administering the survey, ORIMA Research.

- Should you have any technical queries regarding the Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey, please do not hesitate to contact ORIMA Research on 1800 654 585 (toll-free during business hours), or by email: pos@orima.com.
- Should you have any participation or survey-related queries, please contact the school, or the department by email: school.surveys@education.vic.gov.au.

The department and ORIMA protect your responses in accordance with the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014* (Vic), the *Health Records Act 2001* (Vic) and the *Public Records Act 1973* (Vic). For more information, please visit ORIMA's [Privacy Policy](#), and the department's [Schools' Privacy Policy](#).

Yours sincerely,

Russell Jeffrey

Principal
Marong Primary School

Grade Prep/One

What a wonderful week in prep/one!

In Smart Spelling, the word of the week was 'teacher'. The preps have enjoyed exploring a word that has 3 digraphs, whilst the Grade 1's have continued to work on their sound and spelling choice knowledge.

In writing, we have been looking at rhyming words. We have had lots of fun coming up with different rhyming words and how we can put them into sentences.

In Maths, we refreshed our knowledge on place value, and we have also been experimenting with different addition strategies to help solve problems.

We hope everyone has a great weekend!

The Prep/One Team.



Grade 2/3!

There has been a lot of excitement in the grade 2/3 area this week. On Tuesday morning we arrived at school to see all three classrooms had been taped off as crime scenes! We were tasked with solving the mystery of what happened and who did it using our inferencing skills that we have been practicing and improving over the last two weeks. There were lots of theories floating around and students had a chance to write a narrative about what they thing happened. Was it Mr Fry? Was it Mr Stacey? Maybe Mrs Ma-her was the culprit?



In other news, we had our poetry slam this week, giving all grade 2/3s an opportunity to read out some of their poetry on stage in the PAC for our poetry slam. It was great to see our speaking and listening skills practiced on the big stage. We also learn about chance this week, looking at things that are likely, unlikely, impossible, certain and an even chance.

We can't believe we are already half way through the term!
Have a great weekend everyone.
Mr Fry, Mrs Maher and Mr Stacey.



Grade 4/5/6!

It has been another busy week in grade 4/5/6. This week we have been focusing on improving our fluency in reading by working on our accuracy, change of tone and pace when reading aloud.

In writing this week we have been focusing on procedural writing with students producing some amazing pieces. Students researched and learnt educational Indigenous games and have used these to provide step by step instructions to teach others their chosen game.

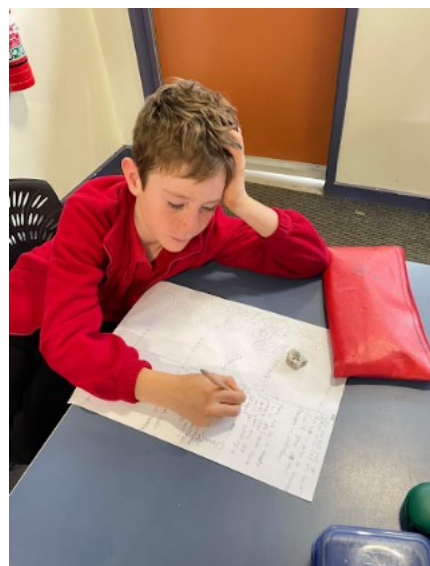
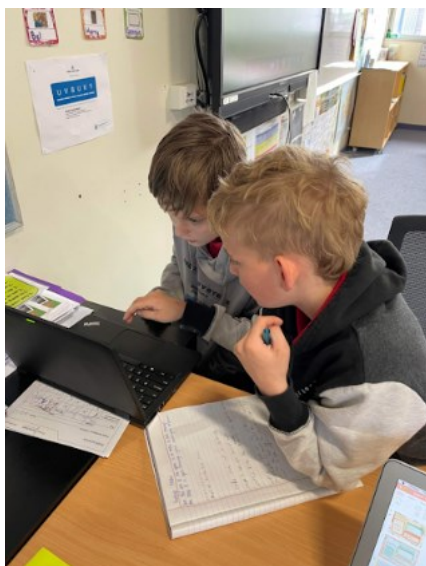
In Maths we have been looking at the connection between fractions and decimals, making fraction necklaces to support our understanding. In the second half of the week we began looking at probability, creating scenarios and assessing the chance of them happening.

We became scientists in integrated this week, observing and investigating the properties of solids and liquids. We looked at a range of things such as rice, soap, oil, sponges and flour, discussing their differences.

A reminder for grade 4 camp notes to be returned as soon as possible. If you need another note, please see our office staff to collect and return.

We hope you have a great weekend!

Mr Johnstone, Mr Riordan, Ms Thorn and Miss Williams.





Prep/One Maddern

Otis Wheadon - Otis has been a superstar this week. He has taken an enthusiastic approach to all his schoolwork and has been showing kindness towards everyone in the classroom. Well done and keep up the fantastic work Otis!

Prep/One O

Layla G – Layla is so consistent in being the best version of herself. She is so incredibly kind and enthusiastic about all tasks. I love Layla's leadership and approach to learning, she deserves to be celebrated!

Prep/One Mrs Cook & Jess

Chase N- Chase knocked our socks off with his incredible writing this week. He began his story with a sizzling start which made us keen to keep reading. Impressive work Chase, well done!

2/3 Fry

Bella A- Bella has had a terrific start to school at Marong. She is a kind and respectful student who always brings a cheerful attitude to our classroom. Bella is a keen writer who did fantastic work with her narrative about who messed up our classrooms at school. Keep up the great work, Bella!

2/3 Stacey

Alisha R- Alisha has continued to thrive in class this term and was exceptional with her poetry piece this week on Responsibility which is exactly what she's been showing with her learning, playing and attitude at school. Well done Alisha!

2/3 Maher

Sophie C- Sophie has been a superstar this week! She was very helpful to Miss Patching and has been a great friend for her peers. She has also given 100% to all learning tasks. Keep up the awesome work Sophie!

4/5/6 Johnstone

Andire C- Andrie has had an excellent couple of weeks, and I've been so impressed with his attitude and his work ethic. He has shown a determination to master his multiplication and division facts constantly asking for help and looking to get better every lesson. Well done, Andrie!

4/5/6 Riordan

Noah B – For demonstrating all of our school and classroom values this week. Noah has been working well in the classroom, taking on feedback to better and improve his work. Noah has worked confidently in the classroom this week. Well done Noah.

4/5/6 Thorn & Williams

Reegan W- Reegan has had an awesome week this week, displaying all school values in the classroom and in the yard. Reegan is always happy to help others and his kindness to his peers hasn't gone unnoticed. Well done Reegs!



Conflict management skills for you and your pre-teen or teenage child

(The following article can be found at www.raisingchildren.net.au)

Some conflict with pre-teens and teenagers is natural and healthy.

Conflict happens because your child is becoming an independent and responsible young person with their own perspective and preferences. You can expect to disagree about things like what your child wears, what they do with their time, or whether they follow your cultural traditions.

But too much conflict isn't a good thing, so conflict management is important.

Managing conflict with your child has many benefits. It can:

- help to reduce family stress levels
- make your relationship with your child stronger
- give you both the chance to explore and develop respect for each other's perspectives
- help your child learn and practise important life skills like negotiation and compromise.

It's worth picking your battles. If you can be flexible about little issues, you might be able to avoid some conflict. So even if you dislike your child's dyed hair, think about whether it's really worth arguing about. This might mean your child is more willing to listen and discuss bigger issues like safety.

Getting ready to manage conflict with pre-teens and teenagers

These tips can help you get ready to manage conflict with your child:

- Try to think back to your feelings and experiences as a young person. This can help you relate to your child.
- Remember that teenage brain development means your child might not be

- Avoid dealing with conflict when you and your child are feeling upset or angry. Wait until you feel calm instead.
- Prepare what you're going to say, and think about the words you want to use.

Family rules about communicating with others can help you manage conflict. For example, your rules might include things like using respectful language, speaking in a calm voice, and letting other people talk without interrupting.

Managing conflict with pre-teens and teenagers

Conflict is a natural part of human relationships. It's how you work through conflict that's important. If you need to manage a conflict with your child, these tips can help things go well:

- Stay calm, stop what you're doing, make eye contact, actively listen, and treat your child with respect.
- Let your child have their say. Be open to hearing your child's point of view. When your child has finished, you can talk.
- Focus on the issue or the behaviour, and avoid general statements about your child. For example, 'Taking your phone into your bedroom at night isn't following our rule about devices' rather than 'You never follow the rules'.
- Be open about your feelings. This can help your child understand why you want them to do or not do something. For example, 'I feel that it's important for our family to celebrate some of our cultural traditions'.
- Explain your view simply and briefly, making it clear that your main concern is for your child's wellbeing, now and in the future. For example, 'I need to make sure you're safe if you're out at night. It helps if you tell me where you're going and who you're with'.
- Negotiate with your child and compromise if you can. When you compromise, you demonstrate problem-solving skills. For example, your child might want to paint her bedroom black, and you hate the idea. A compromise might be painting one wall black or two walls in a dark colour.
- If you have to say no, try to do it in a calm, understanding and respectful way. For example, 'I understand that you want a belly button ring. But you're 13 and you've got a lot of time to think about it. So right now, the answer is no'.

Make the most of everyday opportunities to talk with your child about little things. This strengthens your relationship and communication with your child, which helps when you need to deal with conflict.

Managing emotions and calming down after conflict with pre-teens and teenagers

After a conflict, your child might have strong emotions. For example, they might feel really disappointed if you've said no to something they wanted. They might feel embarrassed if they've lost their temper or said something they regret. Or they might feel very angry if something seems unfair, or doesn't turn out the way they hoped.

If this happens, you can help your child calm down by noticing the strong emotion, naming it, pausing, and giving your child some space and time.

When your child has calmed down, you can address the behaviour or problem-solve the issue. For example:

- Try to negotiate a decision that you can both live with. For example, 'Yes, you can go to the concert with Nina. You can get there on the train by yourselves, but I will pick you up when it finishes'.
- If your child is upset about a rule that you won't or can't change, acknowledge your child's emotions but avoid a debate. For example, 'I know you're angry because you can't go to Jaz's party. But the rule is that you can only go to parties where there's adult supervision'.
- If your child is behaving in physically or verbally harmful ways, let them know this behaviour is unacceptable. For example, 'It's not OK to speak to me like that', or 'We'll have to patch and paint that hole in the plaster this weekend. The cost of the materials will come out of your pocket money'.

If you and your child need help managing conflict or talking through your feelings after conflict, support is available. Your child could call Kids Helpline on 1800 022 222. You could try calling Parentline on 1300 301 300. And if there's violence in your relationship with your child, you can get support by calling the National Sexual Assault, Domestic Family Violence Counselling Service on 1800RESPECT (1800 737 732). Family violence is never OK.

When pre-teens and teenagers avoid conflict

Your child might try to avoid conflict by doing things 'behind your back' or lying to you.

If you want an open and honest relationship where you and your child can talk about tough topics, you need to be ready to manage your own feelings and reactions when you hear something you don't like. It can help to plan for difficult conversations about things like broken curfews, alcohol and other drug use, cyber-bullying and so on.

Looking after yourself when there's conflict

If you feel stressed or angry during or after a conflict with your child, you might need to work on managing your own emotions. Muscle relaxation exercises or breathing exercises can help you calm down. It's also important to be kind to yourself. By role-modelling calmness and kindness to yourself, you're helping your child learn that it's OK to make mistakes, forgive yourself and try to do better next time.

Please don't hesitate to contact myself and or Ms White if you or your child are in need of support. We can provide you with confidential advice, support and information on the various services and support available to students and their families.

Marc Cowan

Chaplain & Student Wellbeing Officer



CBCA Book Week Celebrations at Marong are on

Monday August 28th

We will have a parade in the morning followed by a day of book fun! Dig through the dress up box and come as your favourite character 😊

PS: The Library is seeking any donations of good quality books.

If your family has any picture story books, fiction, non fiction books that are appropriate for junior students we would love to take them off your hands. Please bring in undamaged suitable books to the donations box at the front office to be donated.

Many thanks!

Christine, Sue and Abby.

HAVE A SWINGIN' GOOD TIME!



PAR 3 DAY MARONG GOLF CLUB

SUNDAY 20TH AUGUST 2023
9:30AM ASSEMBLY 10AM HIT OFF.

9 HOLES (2HRS)

HOLES RANGING FROM 80M-130M

NO HANDICAP NO WORRIES

LOST BALL? DROP ONE

BEHIND A TREE? KICK IT OUT.

**SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES. FAMILY FUN
EVENT**

**EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE AT NO EXTRA COST
PRIZES TO BE WON**

COST: \$5PP

**LIGHT LUNCH AVAILABLE TO
PURCHASE**

**CARD AND CASH FACILITIES
FULLY LICENSED BAR**

**Calder Alternative Highway
Marong, VIC.
3515**

More information or to register:

Joy: maronggc@hotmail.com



STRIKERS
NETBALL CLUB

Players Wanted

2023 Twilight Season

Are you an experienced netballer? Perhaps you would like to learn, or you would like to make friends in a supportive club?

We would like to hear from you.

Taking expressions of interest and questions for all genders between 9-13 (under 11, under 13).

strikerball@gmail.com

0475915450



@strikersnetballclub