

Marong Primary School Newsletter

Volume 28 Issue 14, 12th May, 2023

| | May | | June |
|-----------|-----------------------------|------|------------------------|
| 15th-19th | Education week | 12th | Kings Birthday Holiday |
| 24th | School Council Meeting- 7pm | 16th | House Sports Day |
| 24th | SOMERS camp Students return | | |
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RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

HONESTY

From the Principal

Dear parents and care givers,

Education Week 15th May – 19th of May Once again we are very much enjoying Education Week. There was a huge turn out for our Grand parents morning tea and our guests were treated to some wonderful musical performances by our P-3 students. I wish to thank Jacqui Whatley for working with the grades in preparation for yesterday's performances. Last evening we opened up the school for an activities program. There was a wide variety of things for parents and their children to engage in, including maths and computer activities, origami, painting and physical challenges. Each family was given a ticket and invited to visit each activity and then submit their ticket for a lucky draw. Jyleigh and Jayla's ticket was first drawn and they won a family pass to the Village Cinemas Bendigo. I wish to thank everyone who attended and in particular thank the staff for preparing and supervising the activities. A special mention to our student leaders who also assisted on the night.

Thursday: 18th : Information Session for Parents of 2024 Foundation Students 4.:30pm in the PAC

Friday: 19th: School Based Sporting Activities

Year 6 Applications for Placement at a Secondary College in 2024

For the information of parents and carers with students in Grade Six a reminder that the return date for Year 6 Applications for Placement at a Secondary College in 2024. is Monday May 22nd.

School Council Meeting

A meeting of the Marong Primary School Council will take place on Wednesday May 24th, in the MPS staffroom commencing at 7pm.

From the Principal Cont'd...

Camps, Schools and Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Eligible parents and carers are invited to apply for the Camps, Schools and Excursions Fund (CSEF). Please note applications close as at the end of term two. If you hold a health care card you will most likely be eligible to apply. Funds are provided to the school for successful applicants to cover costs associated with Camps and Excursions. For more information contact our office.



Grade Prep/One

Education Week has been a very busy week indeed, but we have all dug deep and had a ball. Thank you to all those who have attended some or all of the special events over the week. We know it's a busy time and our Prep/Ones all loved seeing a special person at some point during the week. Whist not only participating in the extra activities, we ensured that we still managed our normal routine as much as possible this week.



In Maths we explored subtraction and revised our vocabulary by discussing terms such as less, takeaway, minus, etc. The Ones enjoyed some subtraction racing against time activities, whilst the Preps used manipulatives and tens frames to help them solve simple subtraction equations. This week in Smart Spelling the Preps looked at the word 'zip' and enjoyed participating in activities focusing on the word and the weekly sentence. Our Ones have a focus on the 'er' sound and have learnt that this can be made from different combinations such as 'er, ir, or, ur'. They are quickly learning how challenging our English language can be with 4 different letter combinations or digraphs making the same sound. Thanks again for another awesome week!



Grade 2/3!

The Grade 2/3s have all been very excited about Education Week and having special visitors coming in to our classroom. This week in reading we have been learning about the features of comic strips and predicting and summarising what might happen. In writing, we have been learning how to create our own comic strips! We have had a lot of fun doing this, particularly combining our writing and drawing skills. In numeracy, we have begun learning about fractions for number and we have created a bar graph and answered questions based on car colours in our community. We have been using vocabulary like most popular car colour, least popular car colour and the difference between these two. During Integrated Studies lessons, we have been continuing to explore Australia and other countries around the world. We have also been looking at continents! Thankyou for visiting us in our classroom, we hope you have enjoyed seeing what we have been learning at Marong PS!



Grade 4/5/6!

WOW! What a massive week we've had.

We started the week on a high with whole school reading outside in the glorious weather! We had some very excited students on Wednesday as they invited their Grandparents and Special Friends to our school, shared some of their work and took them on a tour of the school. A big thank you to Harry, Noah, Neve and Ruby for being our 'gate keepers', welcoming all the special visitors into our school and chaperoning them into the PAC.

This then led in to our Activity Evening where excitement levels were high as students rotated through the classrooms completing heaps of fun activities. Thank you to the various students scattered across the three senior grades for assisting Mr Saddler and making the night run smoothly.



In the classroom students have been busy!

In reading we are revisiting inferencing where we are making educated guesses and depicting information from passages of text or short video clips.

In writing we have been looking at information reports. We started by reconstructing an information report on the iPad and then had a turn at writing an information report on a chosen topic with only the information in our heads. Student choices ranged from animals, to book series and motorbikes. It is genuinely amazing the information and text specific vocabulary students already have in their minds.

In math, students have planned a 48 hour trip to Melbourne with mostly no expense to spare. Students planned their transport, activities and accommodation with the assistance of trusty Google to assist them. Transport varied between trains, taxis and private drivers and accommodation options varied from Melbourne Big 4 to a deluxe penthouse in Southbank at a cost of \$2000 per night. I know where I would rather stay!

Students were very excited about activities, with escape rooms, Melbourne Zoo, aquarium and the Melbourne Museum. Students then had to calculate the elapsed time to ensure they contained their 48 hour time slot and calculated any costs associated.

In integrated studies, students have used the knowledge they gained from the presentation last week to map out our learning and direction for our projects to be completed in the coming weeks. Its been interesting hearing the conversations about how the Aboriginals used flora and fauna for weapons, medicines and clothing.

Nate, Neve, Harry and Ruby W represented the school on Thursday afternoon when they met Lisa Chesters and received some books. Well done team!

On a personal note, Thursday was my final day at school as I have commenced maternity leave. Growing two was a little bit more draining than I anticipated. A massive thank you to Mr Wardell, Abby and all the students for throwing me my very first baby shower. The excitement levels were high as we shared party food and they practised feeding their 'baby' blind folded, putting on nappies, trying to pick students by their baby photos and giving me some written advice.

Completely overwhelmed!!

Thank you to all the students for making 2023 a very enjoyable year thus far and thanks to Matt, David and Jack for being the best working team!

I look forward to continuing to drop in over the remainder of the year and see many smiling faces.



Outside School Hours Care

It has been brought to my attention by several parents that there are a few issues with their CCS/ Accounts/ Xplor.

This will be something that the school will need to rectify. Russell as nominated supervisor is trying to change over the PRODA (My Gov for businesses) from Rose's name to his. Unfortunately given the circumstances this is proving to be quite difficult.

Russell and I are working together along with a support person from the Department of education. In the meantime I would suggest to wait until making a payment or consider making a small payment and then when it is all up and running again we will have a more accurate idea of what is owing. If you need help working out what your weekly amount should be, just let me know.

If any of these issues are affecting your account and you wish to pause your direct debit until it is fixed please let me know so I can do so.

Typically my admin time is on a Thursday. The rest of my time is spent with the children, however I will find time while the children are eating ect to pause payments etc.

Chelsie



Building confidence in pre-teens and teenage children.

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

Confidence is the belief that you'll be successful or that you've made the right choice in a particular situation.

Confidence is related to:

- self-esteem, which is feeling good about yourself and feeling that you're a worthwhile person
- resilience, which is being able to bounce back from difficult experiences and cope in hard or stressful situations
- self-compassion, which is being kind to yourself when things don't work out the way you hoped or planned.

If your child feels OK about themselves and also knows they can cope when things are hard or don't go right, they're likely to have more confidence to try new things and tackle difficult situations. It's a positive cycle.

Why building confidence is important for pre-teens and teenagers

Confidence helps teenagers feel they can make safe, informed decisions and avoid people and situations that aren't right for them.

If your child is confident, they're also more likely to be assertive, positive, engaged, enthusiastic and persistent.

Teenagers with low confidence are less likely to join in activities, more likely to hold back in class, and might be more willing to give in to peer influence. When a teenage child lacks confidence, they might expect to fail at things they try, or they might not try as hard when things get tricky.

For example, a confident teenage child who has friendship problems might be upset for a little while. But then they might realise that they can bounce back from the sadness they're feeling and focus on the positive aspects of their life, like other friends and family. A less confident child might be more upset or feel that the problems are all their fault. This could affect their self-esteem and leave them feeling that they aren't worth being friends with.

How to build confidence in pre-teens and teenagers

Here are some tips for building confidence in your child.

1. **Be practical** Look for the practical and positive things your child can do to build skills, achieve goals and experience success. Giving your child a clear strategy to improve their chances of success is a great way to do this. For example, 'Ada, if you want to be picked for the basketball team, you need to make sure you're listening to the coach and practising between sessions'.
2. **Give your child opportunities to try new things** When your child tries plenty of different things, they'll get to know what they're good at and what they enjoy. Your child will also learn that most people do well at some things and not so well at others – and that's fine.
3. **Encourage your child to keep trying** If your child fails at something, help them understand that everyone makes mistakes. It's OK if they can't do something the first time they try, because they can improve with practice. You could also encourage your child to be kind to themselves – for example, if your child is unhappy with how they played in a netball game, they could say something kind to themselves, like 'That didn't go well but I'm going to keep trying'.
4. **Model confidence in your own ability** You can be a role model when it comes to confidence. For example, you could talk to your child about what you're going to do to try to succeed at a task. For example, you might talk about how you're feeling nervous about giving a presentation at work. You could tell your child that you're practising the presentation at home so that you'll be well prepared and confident on the day.
5. **Encourage your child to act confident** Acting confident can help your child feel confident. You could coach your child to make eye contact with others, smile, dress in a way that makes them good, and think about their body posture. You can also encourage your child to do what they love, walk away from situations they know aren't good, and try not to focus on what they can't do.
6. **Practise social skills** If your child feels anxious in social situations, they might need some guidance from you. For example, showing interest in other people's activities and joining in conversations can help build confidence.
7. **Praise your child's efforts** If an exam, interview or game doesn't work out the way your child hoped, try to praise your child for the effort they put into the activity, rather than the outcome. You could also suggest some ideas about what they could do differently next time.

Teenagers still need strong relationships with parents to feel confident as they meet the challenges of adolescence. You can build this strong relationship by communicating openly and staying connected.

Getting help for teenage confidence

If your child's confidence changes suddenly, or if low confidence is stopping your child from trying new things, a good first step is to talk with your child. This will help you find out what's happening for them.

If it isn't something you can help with yourself, it might be a good idea to get help for your child from a teacher, school counsellor or psychologist.

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



Prep/One Maddern

Billy G- Billy has been showing great persistence this week during reading and writing lessons. He has been focused and has been working hard on continuing to develop and improve his literacy skills. Well done Billy, keep up the great work!

Prep/One O

Maisy K- Maisy has been rocketing ahead in her reading and has been improving daily. She is more focused in the classroom and even beginning to make up her own sentences within writing. I am proud of her and hope this new hard working Maisy is here to stay

Prep/One Mrs Cook & Jess

Theo H – Theo has had a wonderful term and we are so proud of his efforts. This week Theo has been incredibly respectful towards his fellow peers and also his teachers. We have had so many changes and different activities in the last couple of weeks and Theo just takes it all in his stride and gets the job done. Well done Theo keep up the AWESOME work!

2/3 Fry

Evie G- Congratulations Evie on a fantastic week. Evie always puts in 100% to her learning and takes on feedback on how to improve her work. She was enthusiastic to create her own Garfield comic strip and produced work of a high quality. Evie loved learning about fractions of a shape and collections. She is a terrific friend to others in grade, always treating them with kindness and respect. Great work Evie!

2/3 Stacey

Leo M- Leo is a great example of hard work paying off, he has come so far in his reading due to his dedication and focus that he has jumped a bunch of levels when being assessed. Leo has also been seen contributing to all class discussion and group activities, showing a growth in his enthusiasm for learning throughout the term. Well done Leo.

2/3 Maher

Audrey L- This week Audrey has continued her impressive work and high standards in the classroom. She has been working hard on her comic strip and has done some sensational illustrations to match. She is a kind and respectful students who is constantly setting a great example for other students. Keep up the great work Audrey!

4/5/6 Johnstone

Miller B- For demonstrating all our school and classroom values this week. Miller is a great student to have in the classroom, he's been working well and putting in the effort to produce some wonderful work. He is kind, helpful and always demonstrates respect. Well done, Miller.

4/5/6 Riordan

Matthew T- For displaying confidence in his learning this week. Matthew has been working hard in the classroom, asking questions to achieve the best work he can. Matthew has produced some great writing and reading results this week. Super work Matthew.

4/5/6 Gallagher & Wardell

Noah R – For being ever reliable and helping out all teaching staff when required. Noah always exhibits our three school values of 'Responsibility, Respect and Honesty'. He has been superb in the classroom, trying hard with all work tasks and sharing his knowledge with the grade, which has been particularly evident during Integrated Studies. It was very pleasing to gain feedback from many of the Grandparents and Special Friends as Noah welcomed them to our school, commenting on his beautiful manners and friendly nature. Well done Noah!



FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

Kangaroo Flat Family Fun Day

Sunday May 21, 2023



- Pony rides
- The Zone rock climbing wall
- Activities with AFL Central Vic
- Art and craft
- TZR reptiles and wildlife display
- Face painting
- Circus activities
- Entertainment, lucky door prizes and FREE giveaways!



**BBQ sausages,
soup and bread
roll, veggie burgers
and chicken sticks
– all \$2 each**

Thanks to the Rotary
Club of Kangaroo Flat,
Kangaroo Flat Primary
School and Hazledenes

Wominjeka Simu
Welcome
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12pm - 3pm

**Kangaroo Flat Primary
School yard**

60 Olympic Parade, Kangaroo Flat

