

# Marong Primary School Newsletter

Volume 28 Issue 15, 26th May, 2023

	<b>JUNE</b>		
12th	Kings Birthday Holiday		
16th	House Sports Day		
23rd	Last Day of Term- 2:30 Dismissal		

***RESPECT***

***RESPONSIBILITY***

***HONESTY***

## **From the Principal**

Dear Parents and Care Givers,

### **Grade 5/6 Camp**

Parents of students in grade 5/6 are advised that we have a camp planned for these students in Term Three. The camp venue is the "Cottage By The Sea" in Queenscliff at the entrance to Port Phillip Bay. The camp will depart Marong on Tuesday July 18th and return on Friday July 21st. Details re cost , transportation etc will be provided for parents next week. I am currently waiting on quotes from the bus company before prices can be finalised.

### **School Council Meeting**

A meeting of the Marong Primary School Council was rescheduled and will now take place on Tuesday May 30th in the MPS staffroom commencing at 7pm. This meeting will be preceded by a meeting of the Finance Sub Committee commencing at 6:30pm. Staffing News Bridget Gallagher has commenced Maternity leave in preparation for the birth of twins in the not to distant future. Jack Wardell has commenced teaching full time in the Grade 4/5/6 class until the end of this term. We are currently going through a process to identify a replacement teacher for Bridget and we will advise parents of the outcome as soon as possible

## **From the Principal Cont'd...**

### **Office Update**

Today Kerrie Prentice a highly experienced Business Manager, worked in our office and I am hoping we will be able access Kerry's expertise again in the near future. Bree Blake will be in our office on Wednesdays and Thursdays till the end of Term and Erin Neller will also be working with us also on a regular basis till the end of term. There will be further announcement re our office staff in the near future.

Kerry, Bree and Erin all bring a high level of expertise with school business management to our school, In addition they are each very friendly and helpful people so please make them feel welcome.

### **Kristy Orton**

Late last week we received information that Kristy Orton, a former parent at Marong Primary School had sadly passed away. On behalf of staff, students and parents of the Marong Primary School community, I extend our deepest sympathy to the Orton Family. Kristy and Jarrod's daughters, Olivia and Bella both attended Marong Primary School and both girls were very popular within our community. A number of staff from our school were able to attend the funeral, which was extremely well attended, highlighting the impact and respect Kristy had from a wide range of friends, colleagues and family members. If any one in our community, particularly students are in anyway impacted by this sad event, I wish to remind you that Marc, our chaplain is available should anyone feel the need to speak with him.

## **Grade Prep/One**

Week 5 has been another busy week in the Prep/One rooms. In reading this week the preps were introduced to the Trying Lion strategy and the grade ones have been busy reading independently and working on their fluency. In reading and writing both Preps and Ones have been completing activities to help improve students ability when recognising, spelling and writing common words. These are words that they see daily when reading, during smart spelling and words that they commonly use when writing. In numeracy students learnt about length, capacity and height and enjoyed completing many different hands on activities relating to these topics. Thanks for another wonderful week.  
Prep/One Team



## Grade 2/3!

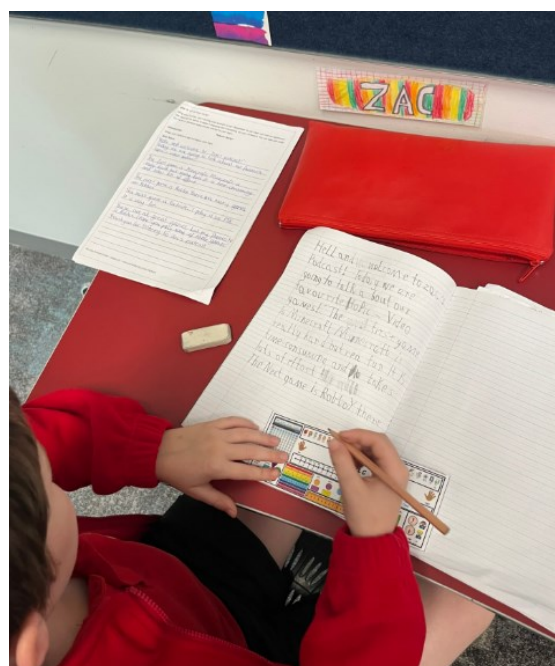
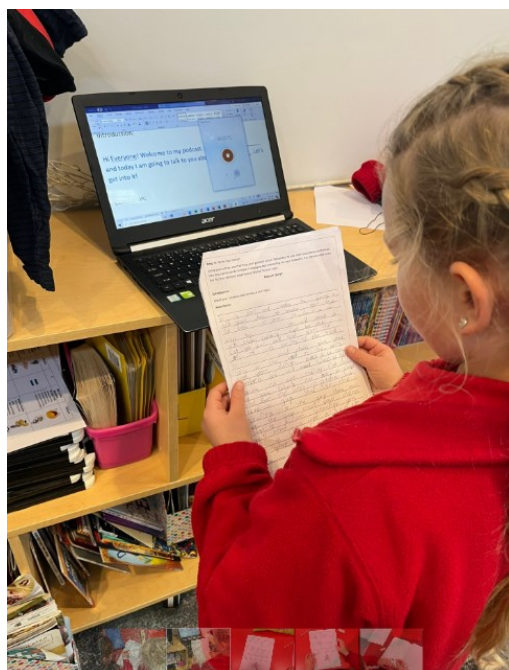
We were very glad we have such awesome heaters in our classroom this week to get our days started! This week in reading the students have been exploring the world of podcasts! We have been using our new information to summarise the main points of the podcast and things that interest us.

In writing, we have been brainstorming and creating our own podcasts.

We have enjoyed creating these and we have explored topics such 'What to do on a rainy day' and 'Our favourite animals'.

In numeracy, we have continued our learning journey about fractions and have been looking at fractions of a collection. We also have been exploring data collection and how to interpret this information about a topic of our choice.

During Integrated Studies lessons, we have been continuing to explore Australia and other countries around the world.

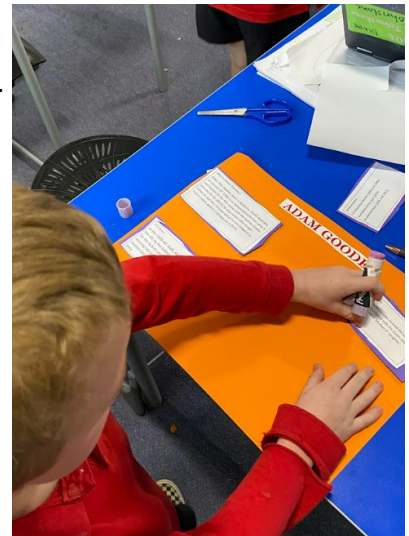




## Grade 4/5/6!

This week in the 4/5/6 classrooms, students have been busy at work, producing some wonderful work along the way.

In reading, we have been involved in Reader's Theatre, learning scripts and the art of performing. Students are enjoying their group work and are looking forward to presenting their scripts soon. In writing, our focus has been Informative texts. Students have been learning about the structure of an informative text and how to create a paragraph including a topic sentence. Students have been writing about their own passion topic, the Great Barrier Reef and other famous landmarks and wonders of Australia. We have also been looking at a range of spelling skills including adding 'ed' to change verbs to past tense verbs and other spelling topics.



In Numeracy, we have been focussing on time and money.

This week, students have completed an assessment task as well as creating a financial plan, including a budget calculating cost and change left over. We have also looked into measurement, including area of shapes and the formula to perform these calculations.

For our Integrated unit, students have planned their next 4 weeks of learning for their Indigenous unit. This week, students have begun their research into a range of topics including;

- Aboriginal tools and weapons
- Dot painting and ART
- Flora and Fauna
- Cooking and aboriginal native foods.

A reminder to all parents and students about our expectations for reading this year. Students need to return diaries to their classroom teacher at a minimum of 2 times per week. An expectation has been set for 5 nights of reading with a log recorded in their diary each time they read. Each class has a 'Nights of Reading' tally, with rewards and acknowledgement at assemblies for 100 nights of reading and beyond.



## Outside School Hours Care





## **How to help pre-teens and teenagers develop independence**

(The following article can be found at [www.raisingchildren.net.au](http://www.raisingchildren.net.au))

Independence for pre-teens and teenagers is about trying new things, taking on more responsibility, making decisions by themselves, and working out who they are and what they want to be.

### **Achieving independence is an essential part of your child's journey towards adulthood.**

There are many things that you can do to help your child develop independence:

- Show your child love and support.
- Respect your child's feelings and opinions.
- Set clear and fair family rules.
- Help your child develop skills for decision-making.
- Give your child opportunities to practise being independent and responsible.
- Work through conflicts constructively.

### **Show pre-teens and teenagers love and support**

Supportive, strong relationships help teenagers feel safe and secure. When teenagers feel safe and secure, they have more confidence to try new things, and discover who they are and what they want to do with their lives. It also makes it easier for them to bounce back from mistakes or challenges.

You can show your love and support by:

- taking a genuine interest in your child's interests, hobbies and friends
- making time to listen when your child needs to talk
- giving your child space and privacy
- regularly saying, 'I love you'.



## **Respect pre-teen and teenage emotions and opinions**

As pre-teens and teenagers go through the physical, social and emotional changes of adolescence, they often experience intense and sometimes overwhelming emotions. If you tune in to your child's emotions, you can help your child learn to understand and manage these emotions by themselves. This is an important part of becoming independent.

Exploring opinions and ideas is one of the ways your child works out where they fit in the world. Your child's opinions might be different from yours, but taking them seriously sends the message that you value your child. And different opinions can be a good chance for you to talk about how it's OK for people to have different perspectives.

Talking about your own opinions and feelings calmly can help to keep the lines of communication open between you and your child and strengthen your relationship. It also models positive ways of relating to others.

## **Set clear and fair family rules**

Clear family rules about behaviour, communication and socialising will help your child understand where the limits are and what you expect. Rules help to keep your child safe as they try new things. Likewise, rules can help you be consistent in the way you treat your child if they push the boundaries of their independence.

It's a good idea to monitor how well your child is going with independence and adjust the rules accordingly. You might need to negotiate rules and boundaries as your child gets older.

## **Help pre-teens and teenagers develop independent decision-making skills**

Independent decision-making is an important life skill. You can help your child develop and practise this skill by working through some basic steps together when they have decisions to make:

1. Find out about different options. For example, your child might need to decide on their electives for Year 8 – Italian, art, music, coding and so on.
2. Talk about the pros and cons of different options. For example, your child finds music and art relaxing but is interested in studying IT at university.
3. Weigh up the pros and cons to make the best decision. For example, is it better to relax by studying music or build skills for further study in coding?
4. Brainstorm what to do if things don't go according to plan. For example, your child might be able to make a late change to their electives.
5. Give your child feedback on how they handle the process.

It's particularly good to use these steps for big decisions that affect your child, like decisions about school, further study, staying out late and so on. If you can make those decisions with your child, rather than for your child, your child is more likely to stick with whatever you've decided together.

You can also include your child in family decision-making – for example, decisions about what to do in the next school holidays, or whether to buy a family pet. This sends the message that you value your child's input, which can be good for your child's self-esteem.



Your child's brain continues to mature into their early 20s. In particular, the decision-making part of the brain is still developing, and your child is still learning to control impulses. Teenagers, especially younger teenagers, might be less capable of understanding the consequences of their behaviour.

### **Give pre-teens and teenagers opportunities to practise being independent and responsible**

Safe, supported activities that give your child freedom and time away from you can help your child practise being independent. For example, activities like youth groups, sporting teams or clubs, school musicals, volunteer activities, casual work and so on can help or encourage your child to:

- learn new skills and test new abilities
- move around the community independently
- take positive risks
- foster a sense of belonging
- build resilience.

These kinds of activities can also give your child the chance to take more responsibility too – for example, responsibility for being somewhere on time, doing a particular role in a team, leading a group and so on.

Note that younger teenagers might think they're ready to make their own decisions, but they often haven't developed the skills to handle significant responsibility without your help. It can be a good idea to explain to your younger child why younger and older children are given different amounts and types of responsibilities.

It's also important to remember that your child needs to make some mistakes, to explore and have new experiences. This will help your child learn from experience and continue to shape their brain's development.

### **Manage conflicts constructively with independent pre-teens and teenagers**

Young people are working out their own identities, and finding where they fit in the world. Your child is likely to want more control over things like socialising, behaviour and appearance. As part of this process, your child might test boundaries and question people they see as authority figures – especially you.

A positive approach to managing conflict with teenagers can strengthen your relationship as well as help your child develop important skills for independence.

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A positive approach to managing conflict with teenagers can strengthen your relationship as well as help your child develop important skills for independence. gradually start to share the responsibility for managing medicines with children with chronic health needs.



### **Prep/One Maddern**

Archer H- Archer has been a superstar this week! He has followed instructions and listened to feedback. Archer has produced some amazing independent writing this week and we are all very proud of his efforts. Keep up the great work Archer!

### **Prep/One O**

Oliver N- Oliver always tries so hard in the classroom and is a wonderful listener. His writing has become exceptionally neat and it has been lovely to see him take an interest in drawing as well. Oliver respects all in the classroom and sets a good example of how to succeed. Go Oliver!

### **Prep/One Mrs Cook & Jess**

Ruby H - Ruby has had a wonderful week and has really been trying hard to concentrate on each activity and complete her work. It has been lovely to see how settled you have been this week Rubs, keep up the amazing work as we are very proud of you!

### **2/3 Fry**

Poppy S- Poppy always brings a smile and her energy into our classroom. She has excellent work habits and is well organised. Poppy loves to share what has happened at home and is considered as kind and caring friend by others in the grade. She loves reading and has worked really hard to improve her fluency. Poppy is a pleasure to have in our grade, keep up the great work!

### **2/3 Stacey**

Issy H- Issy has been brilliant this week in terms of her effort and enthusiasm towards tasks. She has done extremely well in keeping play and work separated when entering the classroom and has been working really hard on her podcast within her group. A fantastic week Issy!

### **2/3 Maher**

Tessa F- Congratulations to Tessa! Tessa is consistently a role model in our classroom. She always follows our classroom rules and demonstrates all the school values. Tessa has an incredible ability to assist other students with their tasks in a way that is both respectful and helpful to their learning. This was demonstrated during our podcast creation task. Keep up the incredible work, Tessa.

### **4/5/6 Johnstone**

Cogan C- Cogan has worked hard this week and has shown all of our school values. This week he has shown he has a great understanding of money and financial math. This was displayed in his budgeting task this week. Well done Cogs!

### **4/5/6 Riordan**

Tadhg C- For demonstrating 'Confidence' in his learning this week. Tadhg always works hard, shows focus and dedication to his work. Well done on another great week in our classroom

### **4/5/6 Gallagher & Wardell**

Charlotte R- for showing the values of Respect and Responsibility this week. She has had a great year this year, quietly going about her work and showing amazing learning growth. Charlotte has also been a great role model in class for other students, particularly with her hard work and kindness to others. Well done and keep up the great work Charlotte!



We are very lucky to be having Chris Kennett visit the Prep and Grade 1 students on

Monday June 5<sup>th</sup> (next Library day).

Chris is a local illustrator who has worked on LOTS of amazing projects, from Star Wars to School of Monsters. He is also responsible for the fabulous artwork on the MARC Van.

If you own any of Chris's books make sure you bring them along for him to sign on the day!

Mrs G 😊





# Kangaroo Flat Swim Club

*Swimming made fun ...*

Want to swim all year round, have you thought about joining a swim club to keep fit and healthy. Our squad focuses on ensuring kids enjoying sport and it helps develop life skills such as teamwork, sportsmanship and leadership.

It's a great place to make lasting friendships and enjoy family friendly environment. Kangaroo Flat Swim Club train in the 50m indoor pool at Gurri Wanyarra Wellbeing Centre, 9 Browning Street, Kangaroo Flat.

The squad offers a range of group swimming opportunity:

- Learn to Swim to Squad (FunSwim)
- Fitness and competitive squad levels (7 - 18 years)
- Masters Swimming (18 years plus)

**Complimentary trial sessions are available at Kangaroo Flat Swim Club. Register for a [FREE TRIAL](#) via our website.**



Email: [kfscwo@outlook.com](mailto:kfscwo@outlook.com)

Website: [www.kangarooflatswimclub.com](http://www.kangarooflatswimclub.com)



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