

Principal – Katie Lovel

Asst Principal – Jake Saddler



# Marong Primary School

Respect | Responsibility | Honesty

## SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

May 1, 2026 – Issue 12

### 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

Do it For Dolly Day

4 School Leaders invited to ANZAC ceremony at the Shrine of Remembrance (information via sentral)

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> – School Leaders & Ms Lovel ANZAC Commemoration service Melbourne
- Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> – Mother's Day/Special Person's day stall
- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> – Do It for Dolly Day
- –2027 Foundation School Tour
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> – Grip Leadership Day
- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> – 22nd – EDUCATION WEEK





# Marong Primary School

Respect | Responsibility | Honesty

## SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

May 1, 2026

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

#### COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

This week we had a representative from the Marong Auskick program come to chat to the students about the local program. Coming up we also have some AFLW Richmond players coming to meet the students. The Marong Community Action Group are hosting a Seniors luncheon. 12 of our students have been invited to serve the meals and chat with the seniors. We look forward to being involved in this wonderful initiative. We love connecting our students to their community.



#### EDUCATION WEEK

Education Week is coming up from the 18<sup>th</sup> May – 22<sup>nd</sup> May. During this week we have the 2027 Foundation Information Evening on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> 5pm–5.45pm. On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> we will be holding an Open Family night from 5–6pm. Stay tuned for further details.

#### The Smile Squad

*The Smile Squad free school dental program is coming to our school soon.*

The Smile Squad team from Bendigo Health will be visiting soon. Smile Squad is the Victorian Government's free school dental program, providing all students with access to free dental check-ups, preventive services, and treatment at school. This week, all students have received a free oral health pack to take home, including a toothbrush, full-sized toothpaste, and an oral health brochure with practical tips to support healthy habits.

#### How to access free dental care

Consent is required before services can be provided. This is usually completed by a parent or guardian. Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/smilesquadvic>

Paper forms are also available via the school office. The electronic form can be translated into more than 100 languages, and paper forms are available in 13 languages.

### SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE

Next meeting – Wednesday  
20<sup>TH</sup> May 6pm.

### PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION UPDATE

- Mother's Day stall is the 6th (Wednesday week 3) all gifts \$5 each, Cash Only. Will do a proper spread for next week!
- Also, Donuts will now be \$2.60 and \$3.50 for GF.

### PRINCIPAL AWARDS

Ella H – Ella is an outstanding role model for kindness and positivity. She constantly brightens everyone's day with her big smile, great work and attitude towards school. Congratulations Ella!

Willow B – Willow shows wonderful kindness and a great attitude towards school. She is an amazing asset to the MPS community. Keep up the great work Willow

### CHILD SAFE STANDARDS MESSAGE

Our staff receive training and support to understand and carry out their responsibilities under the child safe standards

# GRADE PREP

## What we achieved this week!

Our Prep students have had a fantastic week of learning and are settling into Term 2 really well. They have continued working hard on classroom routines and expectations and are doing a great job showing positive learning behaviours. In Sounds-Write, students have begun a new unit exploring the letters *k*, *l*, *r*, and *u*. They have been practising these sounds and using them to build words such as *log*, *rug*, and *mug*, supporting their early reading and writing skills.

In Maths, we have been focusing on adding one more and taking away, helping students build their understanding of how numbers change.

In Literacy, students have been working on expanding simple sentences by adding more detail to make their writing more interesting.

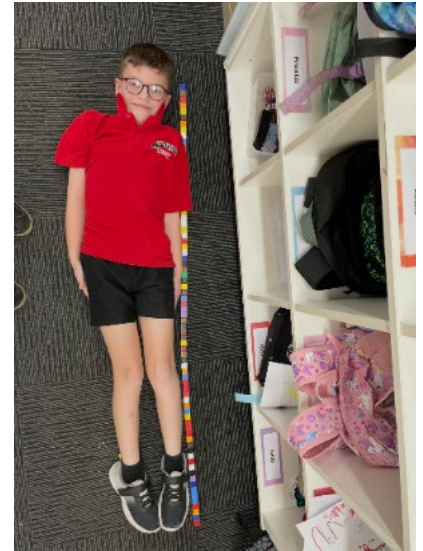
It has been a great week in Prep and we are very proud of the effort and positive attitudes shown by all students!



# GRADE 1/2

## What we achieved this week!

- A busy but settled week in Grade 1/2! Well done to everyone who has transitioned so smoothly back into routine after the holidays. In Sounds-Write this week, students have been working in their groups on a range of spelling patterns. Miss Thorns/Hayley's group explored different spellings including 'x' for /k/ /s/, 'y', 'ff', 'll', 'ss' and 'zz'. Mr Riordan's group focused on the /oe/ sound and its spellings 'o', 'oa', 'ow', 'oe' and 'o-e'. Miss Williams' group investigated the /oy/ sound using the 'oi' and 'oy' spellings. Across all groups, students have been practising recognising these sounds in words, as well as applying their knowledge to reading and spelling tasks. In Writing, we have been exploring the story "Iggy Peck Architect". Students created their own questions about the text, focusing on who, what, where, when, why and how. We also looked closely at the illustrations, discussing how the characters might be feeling and how this is shown. In Maths, our focus has been on mass. Students explored and compared the weight of different objects in the classroom, using mathematical language such as "heavier" and "lighter". They measured using both informal and formal units, and practised ordering objects by weight. In Integrated Studies, we learned about the Indus Valley Civilisation. Students discovered that it was one of the earliest civilisations, located in what is now India and Pakistan. We explored how people lived in well planned cities with strong houses, clean streets and access to the Indus River. During Respectful Relationships, we explored different emotions we might experience at school and how these can be shown through our body language. Students enjoyed role-playing various scenarios and discussing situations that might lead to these feelings. A reminder to continue reading at home each night and recording this in your child's reading diary.



## Reminders

- 1/2R and 1/2TH don't forget your library books on **Tuesdays!**
- 1/2W don't forget your library books on **Thursdays!**
- 50 house points for students who are reading 5 nights a week



# GRADE 3/4

## What we achieved this week!

Week 2 was busy with lots to do!

This week we have started our Indigenous unit by reading "Uncle Xbox" by Jared Thomas. We have learnt that family is a very important part of Indigenous culture and is also a key theme in our novel, so we started to unpack our family tree and why they are important to us.

**Integrated** - We have learning about Aboriginal dot paintings. Looking at the style the meaning and different styles of the paintings. We were inspired by the art and completed our own artwork using pins.

**Math** - We have continued learning about fractions looking at equivalent fractions, improper fractions and mixed numerals.

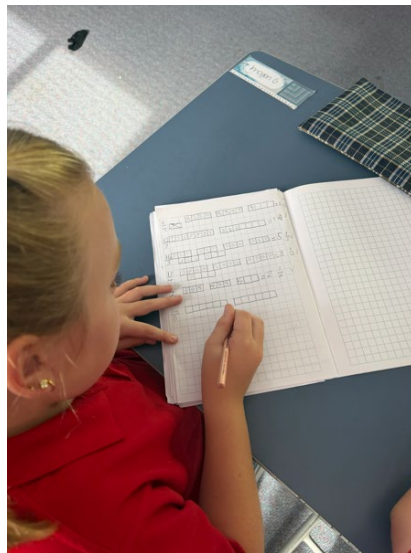
**Writing** - We have explored all the different Aboriginal countries within Australia as well as our own family tree and the importance of family.

**ICT** - We have explored the POWER OF WORDS and making positive choice online through what we say.

**Wellbeing** - We discussed two important emotions: Empathy and Embarrassment. It is always important to talk about our emotions and provide empathy to our friends by putting ourselves in their shoes.

*A message from Laila H and Ruby G from 3/4 Lamb*

*Hi everyone! This week we have been learning about fractions in math. We started learning about Indigenous culture and in reading we have started reading Uncle X-Box. We hope you looked good in your school photos today. From Laila and Ruby*



# GRADE 5/6

## What we achieved this week!

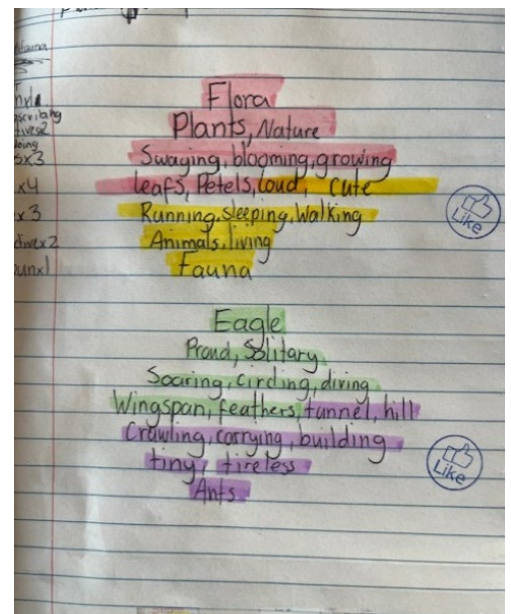
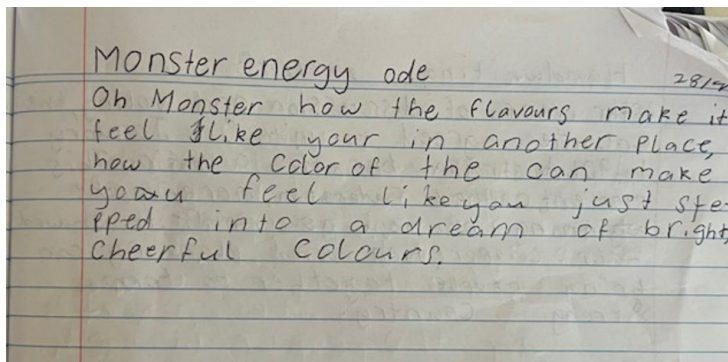
Week 2 has been a busy and engaging week of learning for our Grade 5/6 students.

In Literacy, students have been exploring a range of poetry forms, including odes and diamante poems, experimenting with structure and language to express ideas creatively. They have also continued building their understanding of etymology and morphology, breaking words apart to explore their meanings and origins through engaging word exploration activities.

In Mathematics, students have been focusing on 3D shapes, particularly prisms, investigating their properties and learning to apply formulas for volume and capacity. Through explicit teaching, guided practice and hands-on tasks, students are developing confidence in applying these concepts to solve problems.

In Integrated Studies, students have been exploring key events in Australian history, including the colonies, the Gold Rush, and Federation. Students are building an understanding of how these events shaped Australia as a nation and continue to influence society today.

It has been another positive week, with students demonstrating strong engagement and a willingness to challenge themselves across all learning areas.



## Reminders

Year 7 placement forms are due back on May 8<sup>th</sup>.



# STUDENT OF THE WEEK

## Grade Prep - Jess

Abram G - Abram has returned to school with improved focus and a wonderful attitude towards his learning. He is showing respectful listening and demonstrating persistence when completing his work. You have really impressed us this week Abram, keep up the great work!

## Grade Prep - Mrs Cook

Oscar J - Oscar has had a wonderful week and has come back this term ready and eager to learn. During whole class discussions he has been demonstrating respectful listening and great leadership skills. Oscar is always kind to others in the classroom and in the yard! Well done Oscar, you are a SUPERSTAR!

## Grade ½ Williams

Max A - We are SO PROUD of you! Over the past two weeks, Max shown just how determined and kind he is. Max has been working really hard in class and doing an awesome job in everything he takes on each day. It's been so great to see Max smashing his goals and being such a positive part of our class. Keep up the awesome work, Max!

## Grade ½ Riordan

Zoe K - For displaying all of our school values this week. Zoe has had a wonderful week, always putting in her best to all she does. She has been producing some wonderful writing and loved her work using measurement this week. Well done Zoe!

## Grade ½ Thorn and Hayley

Banjo P - Banjo is a dedicated student who always works hard and gives his best effort. He shows kindness to his classmates and upholds our school values daily. Keep it up Banjo!

# STUDENT OF THE WEEK

## Grade $\frac{3}{4}$ Miss O

Oscar N - We are so lucky to have Oscar in our classroom and at our school. He is a happy student who has worked hard to change his mindset. He is speaking so positively about himself and his learning and I am noticing his efforts pay off in his results. Well done Oscar

## Grade $\frac{3}{4}$ Westcott

Miola M - Miola has shown fantastic resilience this week. After an accident during a game, she showed great determination by returning to her learning shortly after and continuing to do her best. Well done, Miola!

## Grade $\frac{3}{4}$ Lamb

Isla S - Isla has been our Fraction Superstar this week! She has been confidently answering questions and showing fantastic effort in all her learning. Isla has also been a wonderful helper, supporting her classmates by helping teach fractions! Well done, Isla you're a future teacher in the making!

## Grade 5/6 Johnstone

Sophie C - Sophie consistently demonstrates our school values and shows outstanding leadership around the school. She is a positive role model for younger students, always setting a great example through her behaviour, kindness, and willingness to help others. Keep up the fantastic work, Sophie!

## Grade 5/6 Fry

Marlo P - We have been very proud of Marlo this week. She has shown improvement in her handwriting and has consistently given everything her best effort, showing a positive attitude and a strong willingness to improve. It's wonderful to see Marlo taking pride in her learning. Keep up the great work, Marlo!

## Grade 5/6 Burton

Poppy S - Poppy has had a fantastic week! She consistently puts her best effort into her learning by staying focused during lessons and producing high-quality work. I've been particularly impressed with her work in our poetry unit, where she has created some creative, thoughtful and imaginative poems.



# STEM RECOURSES NEEDED

Students in Grades 3–4 are currently exploring the topic of heat in STEM. In the final two weeks of this term, they will be designing and building their own prototypes and models.

To support this work, we are seeking donations of clean, reusable and recyclable materials that students can use in their creations. Suggested items include cardboard boxes (e.g. tissue, cereal or shoe boxes), other cardboard materials, aluminium foil and foil trays, bottle tops and jar lids, skewers, and paddle pop sticks.

We appreciate your support in helping provide materials for this hands-on learning experience.

Then also for Grade 5-6 students, I need a collection of small boxes and for students to bring in a torch (working) for the next couple of weeks.

Students in Grade 5-6 are exploring the topic of light in STEM. To support this work, we are seeking donations of small boxes, e.g., shoe boxes or cereal boxes etc.

We appreciate your support in helping provide materials for our lessons.

# GO BLUE TO END BULLYING!



DO IT  
FOR  
*Dolly*  
DAY '26

8 MAY 2026

Go **BLUE** and help raise funds  
to support Dolly's Dream to  
end bullying.





# **DONUT DAY!**

**\$2.60**

Fresh donuts available every  
Thursday through Qkr!  
Cut off 9am Wednesdays.

(Terms 2 & 3)

**\$3.50 GF**

# 2026 GRADE 6 INFORMATION EVENING

## MONDAY 4TH MAY

Grade 6 Information Sessions at the following  
Bendigo Secondary Colleges



6.00pm - 7.30pm  
Location: College Gymnasium

5447 7722  
[crusoecollege.vic.edu.au](http://crusoecollege.vic.edu.au)



6.00pm - 7.30pm  
Location: Global Learning Centre

5443 2133  
[weeroona.vic.edu.au](http://weeroona.vic.edu.au)



6.00pm - 7.30pm  
Location: Grieve Building

5446 8099  
[eaglehawksc.vic.edu.au](http://eaglehawksc.vic.edu.au)



6.00pm - 7.30pm  
Location: BSE Gymnasium

5443 4522  
[bse.vic.edu.au](http://bse.vic.edu.au)



# JOIN THE DEN. PLAY WITH THE PANTHERS. 2026



## JOIN OUR WOMENS FOOTBALL TEAM

- Professional coaching
- Competitive match exposure
- Fitness, skills & development
- A supportive team environment
- Lifelong friendships



Training details:

📍 Jackal Oval, Marong

📅 Wednesdays & Fridays

🕒 6:00pm – 7:15pm

Come down, give it a go, and be apart of something great!

📞 Coaches

Brett | 0402 548 443

Reece | 0447 402 185

No experience needed - just bring your energy and enthusiasm!

# Tennis FOR PRE-SCHOOLERS!

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

WEDNESDAY'S

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 Cardio Tennis session.

Casual - turn up when it suits!

[gianttennis.com.au](http://gianttennis.com.au)

CONTACT: [casey@gianttennis.com.au](mailto:casey@gianttennis.com.au)

Are you supporting a family member or friend with disability, mental illness, age or health issues?

Even if it's just for a few hours every week, you could be a

**young carer.**

This may look like....

Going with them to appointments or helping with medication

Cleaning the house or helping with other chores

Providing emotional support when someone feels sad

Taking care of younger siblings



Being a young carer might feel lonely. But you're not alone.

Carer Gateway has **free support** for **young carers** aged 25 and under.

Carer Gateway may support you with things like help at home, young carer social events, counselling or study help.



Scan to learn more

Free support, call now!

**1800 422 737**





The grass stains you get playing as a kid stay with you your whole life. So for fun, friendship, and getting your hands dirty, it's gotta be NAB AFL Auskick.

**PLAY.AFL/AUSKICK**

# Kangaroo Flat Auskick Centre

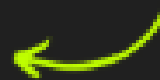
**Monday | 4:30pm - 5:30pm**

**Starting 27th April | Dower Park**

Auskick Coordinator | Stacey Thatcher



**REGISTER  
NOW**





# Victorian Miniature Railway

*The newest family attraction in the Goldfields Region*



**Open every  
Sunday**

Check online for  
seasonal hours

**Only \$5  
per person**

Children under 2  
and companion  
card holders,  
ride for free

**Located in  
Harcourt**

At 3643  
Harmony Way,  
Only 25 mins  
from Bendigo

[www.vmr.com.au](http://www.vmr.com.au)





# fresh fruit friday



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

 mckern steel  
foundation



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.