

# Marong Primary School Newsletter

Volume 28 Issue 36, 10th November, 2023

	November		December
20th	MIMI-O-RAMA Performance	1st	Blast Cricket Competition, Malone Park
23rd	Colour run	6th	House Swimming Sports
13th/14th	Billabong Ranch Camp– Grade 2	8th	Curriculum Day
21st/28th	Prep Transition Program	12th	State Wide Transition
		14th	Grade 6 Big Day Out
		18th	School Concert Matinee Performance Grade 6 Graduation
		19th	School Concert Night Performance
		20th	Last Day of School– 1:30 Dismissal

***RESPECT      RESPONSIBILITY      HONESTY***

## **From the Principal**

Dear Parents and Care Givers,

### **Student resources financial contribution**

The Marong Primary School, 2023 student resources contribution levy is \$170 for Grade P-2 students and \$195 for students in Grades 3-6. For information about this levy please contact our office staff.

### **2023 School concert**

Jacqui Whatley is once again working with all of our students in order to put on an end of year concert . This concert will be presented in our Performing Arts Centre. Due to the anticipated large number of parents and extended family members who are likely to attend we will again conduct a matinee performance and an evening performance. A second matinee performance will be held if required. Bookings for the concert performances can be made at the office. Register your name and numbers attending, not including Marong PS students.

### **Congratulations Jack Wardell**

Following a successful application for a principal position I am delighted to announce that Jack Wardell has been appointed to the position of principal at the Kerang Primary School. Jack is currently the acting principal of that school. On behalf of our staff, parents and students I wish Jack all the very best for the future.

### **Chaplaincy/Welfare Officer**

Following a successful application I can now advise our community that our Chaplaincy program has been

awarded funding for the years 2024-2027 by the Federal Government. This will allow Marc to continue undertaking the many support programs he conducts for our students, staff and parents.

### **MIME-O-RAMA**

A reminder of our forth coming performance to be held in our PAC on Monday November 20th. The cost per student is \$6.00 .

### **Curriculum Day**

Parents and guardians are advised that School Council has approved Friday December 8th to be a Curriculum Day and consequently students are not required to attend school on that day. Staff will be involved in planning processes for the 2024 school year.

### **Grade 6 Big Day Out**

On Monday December 11th the Grade 6 students will participate in our annual Year 6 Big Day Out. Details re this event, activities, transport and costs currently are being finalised and will be circulated once bookings have been confirmed.

### **Grade 6 Upcoming Events**

Orientation Day: Parents of grade Six students are advised that the Statewide Orientation Day to secondary college will take place on Tuesday the 12th of December. Details re this event will be sent in the near future.

Graduation: We will be conducting our annual Graduation presentations for Grade Six students on Monday the 18th of December. The grade Six teachers will advise parents of the arrangements for this special night shortly.

### **Parent Portal on SENTRAL.**

Our school uses the free app, Sentral for Parents, powered by Sentral. This app links to our main administration platform and will allow parents to keep track of permission slips for school activities, access to academic reports, receive newsletters and even inform the school of future student absences. Families received a letter in term three outlining the process required to login to our Parent Portal on Sentral. To date, less than 50% of our families have accessed the portal. We are encouraging all families to upload the app so we can continue rolling out the use of it. If you require your family log in details again or you are experiencing difficulties please do not hesitate to contact Mr Saddler for assistance.

*Russell Jeffrey*

# STAFF PROFILES

**How long have you worked at MPS?**

Too many things to say! The students always bring a smile to my face!

**Favourite movie or TV show?**

Bluey!

**Favourite food?**

Definitely Mexican!

**What AFL team do you support?**

Geelong Cats!

**Something people might not know about you?**

I wanted to be an air hostess or hairdresser when I was younger. Then I worked out teaching sounded pretty good!



**MRS WHITE**

## **Grade Prep/One**

This week our Prep/One students have been enjoying our new iPads and have set up lots of fun apps on them to help us learn. We have been reading a ton of exciting books on get epic and testing our comprehension through the online quizzes. We have been able to complete some quick math equations on sunset essential assessments. Students have enjoyed playing on dojo island and being able to build worlds together. I am excited for Christmas to begin to enter our school, we have been contacted by santa to keep an extra close eye on behaviours.

Moyra O'Donoghue, Jess Taylor, Emma Cook and Kate Maddern

# STAFF PRO- FILE

**How long have you worked at MPS?**

7 years!

**What is your favourite thing about MPS?**

Working with the fantastic staff and the students always put a smile on my face!



**Favourite TV show or movie?**

Bridgerton.

**Favourite food?**

Something yummy from a restaurant!

**What AFL team do you support?**

My family supports Collingwood... I support Travis Kelce!

**What is something people might not know about you?**

I love Latin American ballroom dancing!

## JESS TAYLOR

## Grade 2/3!

It was a busy start to the week for the grade 2s, heading off to camp at Billabong Ranch. We started with a tour of the ranch and then got straight into our activities. We spent Monday doing some horse grooming, peddle boating, beach volleyball, bungee trampolines and animal feeding. After a very busy day, we were treated to a lovely lasagna dinner followed by marshmallows on the fire. One of the staff then gave us an exciting performance of fire twirling, whip cracking and fire breathing!

On Tuesday we woke to a bit of rain but didn't let that stop us! We had a heap of fun doing some mini golf, bouldering and archery. It was then goodbye to the camp staff and back on the bus home. Well done to the grade 2s on the way they conducted themselves and for demonstrating all our school values.

Whilst we were away the grade 3s kept working hard. They did some autobiographies, division and more exploration of space. In reading we worked on summarising.

The 2/3s have continued their sports rotations this week with hockey, soccer and T-ball in full swing. We are all looking forward to the big competition, class vs class in the coming weeks.

Mr Fry, Mrs Maher and Mr Stacey





# STAFF PROFILE



**How long have you worked at MPS?**

12 months plus 6 months in 2008!

**What is your favourite thing about MPS?**

Coming in every day to a welcoming environment and seeing all the smiling students and staff?

**Favourite movie or TV show?**

Top Gun or anything with Sly Stallone in it .

**Favourite food?**

Chicken wraps or one of Mrs Gallagher's cakes!

**What AFL team do you support?**

Dustin Martin!

**What is something people not know about you?**

I have some of the best Dad jokes going around, almost as good as Mr Saddlier!

**MR FRY**

## **Grade 4/5/6!**

### **4/5/6 Newsletter**

This week, students have been busy at work, completing a range of tasks.

Reading – analysing and critiquing texts.

Writing – letter and application writing for School and House Captain roles for 2024.

Numeracy – drawing, identifying and measuring angles (acute, right, obtuse, reflex, straight)

Integrated – Space and solar system – research and collating information on their chosen topic.

P.E/Health – Cricket skills, hitting, bowling – Help-seeking for Health.

Music – concert practise

We look forward our Mine-O-Rama performance on Monday. This should be a great performance that students are looking forward to.

Mr Riordan, Mr Johnstone, Ms Thorn and Ms Williams





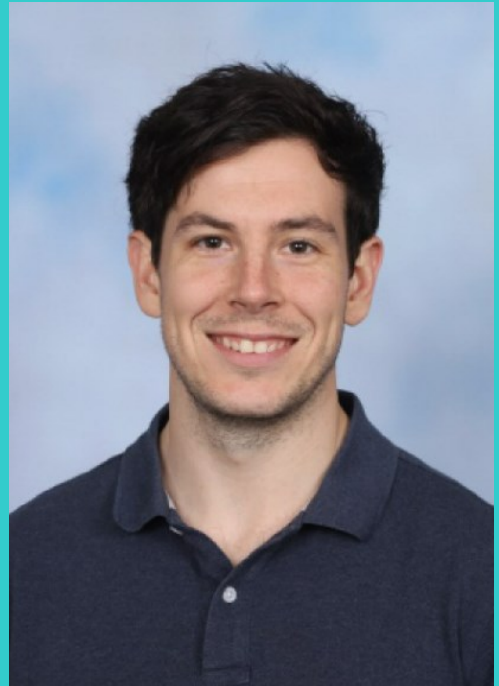
# STAFF PROFILE

**How long have you worked at MPS?**

5 years!

**What is your favourite thing about MPS?**

The amazing staff and students of course!



**Favourite Movie or TV show?**

The Simpsons!

**Favourite food?**

Golden syrup dumplings

**What AFL team do you support?**

The Bulldogs!

**What is something people may not know about you?**

I once climbed Mt Everest blind folded!

**MR JOHNSTONE**



#### **Prep/One Maddern**

Ruby G - Ruby has had another awesome week at school. I love Ruby's attitude towards learning and the way she always tries her best in all tasks. Ruby has been challenging herself in writing this week and as a result she has written some amazing pieces independently! Well done Rubes!

#### **Prep/One O**

Anna C – Anna has struggled with some sickness but has come back to school firing on all levels! Anna writing this week has been the best it has ever been in her life and I am mega proud. She has a lot of love to give to her classmates and makes others around her happy! GO ANNA!

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

Ruby H- Ruby has listened to teacher feedback and has tried incredibly hard to 'bump up her work' by improving her writing stamina, letter formation and overall neatness. We have seen a huge improvement in Ruby's writing over the last fortnight and feel incredibly proud of the effort she has been making. Keep up the fantastic work Ruby!

#### **2/3 Fry**

Macklin W- Macklin has had a fantastic week at the Billabong Camp in Echuca. His behaviour was excellent and he worked hard to touch the rock first when he was bouldering and hitting the balloon in archery. He worked well in his team and had an awesome time! Well done Macklin

#### **2/3 Stacey**

Jack H- Throughout this week, Jack has demonstrated a creditable display of school values by displaying respect, honesty and responsibility. During our STEM lesson, Jack's enthusiasm for building robot wheels was commendable. He dedicated himself to constructing his own wheel and helped others do the same. Jack's enthusiasm was profound as he demonstrated how to make the Robo wheel spin. He exhibited remarkable dedication and enthusiasm in his writing. He put in fantastic effort while creating his comics and ensured that the speech bubbles and action bubbles were integrated into his work.

#### **2/3 Maher**

Adeara S- Adeara was a stand out on camp. She embraced everything camp had to offer and represented our school well by demonstrating Respect, Responsibility and Honesty at all times. Adeara listened attentively to the camp staff and gave everything a red hot go. Keep up the great work Adeara!

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

Lainey J- Well done on a fantastic week Lainey. This week she has shown that when she concentrates and focuses on her work, she can produce high quality pieces. Super effort this week Lainey, keep it up.

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

Georgia H – I have been super impressed with Georgia's work this week, showing great focus and dedication to her work. She has been thoroughly enjoying her research into space and the solar system. Georgia always demonstrates our school values. Well done Georgia.

#### **4/5/6 Thorn & Williams**

Maddie H - Maddie has been working hard this week and as a result has completed a high standard of work. Well done and keep up the huge effort Maddie.

# STAFF PROFILE

**How long have you worked at MPS?**

Just over 5 years, September 2018.

**What is your favourite thing about MPS?**

The friendly community of the school and wider Marong.

**Favourite movie or TV show?**

Anything that will make me laugh!

**Favourite food?**

Seafood.

**What AFL team do you support?**

I don't follow AFL but because of my family I'm obligated to go for the Sydney Swans.

**What is something people may not know about you?**

I run the before and after school care at the school as well as doing education support in the classroom during the day!



**Chelsie Nixon**

# Marong Primary School Vacation Care Program

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> of January	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> of January	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> of January	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> of January	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> of January
Public Holiday Service closed	<b>Pyjama and movie day</b> Roll out of bed and straight into PJ and Movie Day.	<b>Excursion -Walk Malone Park</b> Enjoy some group games on the oval. You may bring some equipment from home.	<b>Chill out day</b> Explore all the fun things to do in the Beehive. Enjoy some time on the computers and iPads.	<b>Excursion -Bus Crook street playground</b> Explore the playground and bush area of Crook Street.

Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> of January	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> of January	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> of January	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> of January	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> of January
<b>Water splash day</b> Bring your bathers and a towel for the ultimate water fight!	<b>Talent show</b> Transform the PAC into the Australia's Got Talent stadium.	<b>Minute to win it</b> Can you complete the challenge in only 60 seconds?	<b>Excursion -Walk Malone Park</b> Bring your bike or scooter to ride to Malone Park for a play.	<b>Prima and Picasso</b> Participate in a guided drawing activity while sipping on Juice boxes.

Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> of January	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> of January	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> of January	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> of January	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> of January
<b>Excursion -Walk Malone Park</b> Enjoy some group games on the oval.	<b>Tye Dye</b> Bring in a white shirt or some white socks and go home with a unique piece of clothing.	<b>Messy play day</b> Wear your old clothes and engaged your senses in a range of messy but fun activities.	<b>Disco Party</b> Shine up your shoes and show of our dance moves.	<b>Gymnastics day</b> Transform the PAC into a gymnasium and learn some new skills.

Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> of January	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> of January	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> of January	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> of January	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> of January
<b>Excursion -Bus Rosalind Park</b> Explore Rosalind Park from hiding/finding decorated rocks to climbing the poppet head.	<b>Excursion -Walk Malone Park</b> Enjoy some time at the playground near Malone Park.	<b>Dress up day</b> Dress up as something that starts with the first letter of your name.	<b>Back to school BBQ party</b> Play some garden games then enjoy a sausage in bread for lunch!	Public Holiday Service closed.

Please note we are not providing all day care on the upcoming curriculum day on Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> of December.

We will however be providing care on the last day of term. After school care will run from 1:30-4:00 as per previous years. Please ensure you make arrangements to collect our child prior to 4:00

Vacation care will be running over January with our first day on January 2<sup>nd</sup> and our last day being the 25<sup>th</sup> of January. Bookings are currently open and will close on the 27<sup>th</sup> of November. Please collect a form from the Office or the OSHC room. Booking forms are also on our OSHC Dojo.

Chelsie and the OSHC team.

# Wellbeing |

**Developing prosocial behaviour (empathy and kindness) in our children.**

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



## Prosocial behaviour what is it?

Prosocial behaviour is doing something to benefit, help or care for someone else because you believe that other people's feelings and experiences are important.

For example, prosocial behaviour might be:

- showing kindness by speaking gently to someone
- comforting someone who's sad or hurt
- sharing things like books or toys
- donating money
- volunteering time
- offering to help someone
- cooperating with other people in a game or task
- showing care for animals and the environment.

## Why prosocial behaviour is important

Prosocial behaviour is good for children of all ages. For example, children with prosocial behaviour tend to:

- get along with other people
- feel confident about their relationships with family and friends
- feel that they belong in their communities
- have good mental health and wellbeing.

And it's good for people and communities because children with prosocial behaviour tend to:

- contribute to their communities
- care for and help other people
- be role models for other people
- be nice to be around
- follow rules that help people get along
- care for animals and the environment.

Prosocial behaviour doesn't just help your child get along with other people. In the long term, societies that have a lot of people with prosocial values are better at breaking down prejudice, overcoming disadvantage, sharing resources and including everyone. These sorts of societies benefit everyone who lives in them, including your child.

#### How prosocial behaviour develops

At around 2 years, children start learning that other people think, feel and experience things differently from themselves. Prosocial behaviour develops when children start to see other people's thoughts, feelings and experiences as important.

Prosocial behaviour starts with small actions that show consideration for others. For example, a toddler might see someone who's upset, feel upset too and want to comfort the other person or fix the problem.

Older children and adults tend to share, be kind and cooperate because they believe that it's important to contribute to other people's and society's wellbeing.

#### Helping children develop prosocial behaviour: relationships, role-modelling, practice and praise

A warm, loving relationship with you helps your child feel valued and worthwhile. And when your child feels this way themselves, they're also likely to see other people this way.

You're also your child's most important role model. If you treat people kindly, share, volunteer and help others, your child is likely to want to do those things too.

Children of all ages also need a lot of practice playing and learning to get along with others. They might sometimes need you, or other grown-ups like teachers and sports coaches, to help them resolve differences or see other people's points of view.

And at any age, your praise and encouragement helps your child develop prosocial behaviour. Eventually your child will do things for others because they believe that behaving this way makes the world a better place.

Prosocial behaviour looks different at different ages. Strategies for encouraging prosocial behaviour depend on children's ages and stages of development.

#### Toddlers developing prosocial behaviour



Toddlers often like to help. You can encourage them but also try to be realistic about their behaviour. For example, a toddler might pick up something you've dropped, but they might have trouble sharing a toy.

Here are ideas to build on this early prosocial behaviour:

- Stay close by when your toddler plays with other children so you can help children with taking turns or step in if things go wrong. Talk about why taking turns is important.
- Encourage your child's helpful behaviour and praise your child when you see it. For example, 'Can you please pass me that blanket? Thanks, that's so helpful!'
- Talk about other people's emotions. For example, 'Auntie's sad because she misses Grandpa'. This helps your child learn that other people have feelings and these feelings matter.
- Talk about how your child's behaviour affects others. For example, 'Did you hear the noise Kipper made when you took her ball? How do you think she feels? What could you do to make her feel better?'

#### Preschoolers developing prosocial behaviour

For preschoolers, prosocial behaviour can be helping others. They might also be aware of and care about how other people are feeling. For example, a preschooler might help another child complete a puzzle or tell a grown-up when another child is hurt.

You can encourage your child's prosocial behaviour with these ideas:

- Keep an eye on what is happening when your preschooler plays with other children. You can step in if things go wrong or praise children when they work out something together. For example, 'That was kind of you to listen to each other before you decided what to play. I can see you know how to be a good friend'.
- Praise your child when they put their litter in the bin and let them know why it's important. For example, 'Great job binning that wrapper. That keeps it out of the river, so the ducks will not eat it and get sick'.
- Talk about things people do that make a difference to others and why this is good. For example, 'When your baby brother was born, other people were very kind and cooked us meals to eat. That made it so much easier to settle him in to our family'.
- Talk about how your child's behaviour might affect others. For example, 'If you have all the crayons in your pile, Karan can't finish his picture. How do you think he feels? How would he feel if you shared the crayons with him?'
- Give your child opportunities to help or be kind. For example, ask your child to do a simple chore, and then praise them for helping you.
- Talk about the thoughts and feelings of characters in stories or TV shows. For example, 'Bluey is happy because her dad gave her a hug. That was a nice thing to do, wasn't it?'

### School-age children developing prosocial behaviour

At this age, children are often very keen on rules. They might show prosocial behaviour by expressing strong feelings about fairness in a game or standing up for another person who isn't getting a go.

Here are ideas to foster prosocial behaviour at this age:

- Be ready to listen if your child wants to talk about school. This can be a great chance for you to express your family values about things like kindness, respect for self and others, friendships, relationships, problem-solving and so on.
- Support your school-age child's friendships by asking your child whether there's anyone they'd like to invite to your home. Give your child prompts about how to be kind to guests. Be available to help, but also give your child and their friend time and space to learn how to get along with each other.
- Praise your child for sharing, taking turns and playing fair. Point out what your child did well. For example, 'I thought it was respectful and fair the way you shook hands with the other team at the end of the game'.
- Talk about things people do that make a difference to others and why this is good. For example, 'This is near where our car broke down that time. It was so helpful and kind of Auntie Pat to pick you up so I could wait for the tow truck'.
- Talk about how your child's behaviour might affect others. For example, 'Imagine if we only brought enough birthday cake for your friends. How would the other people in your class feel?'
- Give your child opportunities to do helpful or kind things. For example, ask your child to write a card for Grandma in hospital, and then praise them for cheering up Grandma.
- Talk about the thoughts and feelings of characters in stories or TV shows. For example, 'Standing up to the bullies looks scary. Why do you think she's doing that?'

### Pre-teens and teenagers developing prosocial behaviour

Pre-teens and teenagers are getting better at considering how their behaviour affects others. They might show prosocial behaviour by cooperating in a group for a school project or organising a social gathering.

Here are ideas for encouraging prosocial behaviour as your child gets older:

- Help your child think about how their choices affect the planet as well as other people. For example, 'I'm not just worried about the water bills. Having long showers is a waste of water. Water is precious for the environment'.
- Encourage your child to form positive friendships by praising your child when you see them being fair, trusting and supportive. For example, 'Jasper must have loved seeing you and the gang cheering for him yesterday. That's a good way to be a supportive friend'.

- Talk about things people do that make a difference to others and why you admire this. For example, 'I think your friend Amalie was brave shaving her head to support kids with cancer. It was great you donated money to support her cause'.
- Talk about how your child's behaviour might affect others. For example, 'I'm impressed that you put Mum's tools away when it started to rain. Mum would have been upset if they'd got wet. Thank you for being thoughtful and responsible'.
- Give your child opportunities to volunteer or be involved in their community. For example, they could support a charity or help coach a junior sport. Talk about why this is important.
- Show your child how to sort out differences with others by managing conflict with your child constructively.

*A reminder that [myself](#) and or Ms White are available to provide confidential advice and access to support for you and your child. Please don't hesitate to contact the school to discuss how we might be able to best help you.*

Marc Cowan

Chaplain & Student Wellbeing Officer

### **Smile Squad is coming to Marong Primary School.**

The Smile Squad team from Bendigo Health are coming to our school in Term 4 (planned for the week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> November)

Smile Squad is the Victorian Government free school dental program.

This means all students can get a free dental check-up, preventive services, and treatment at school.

#### **How to access free dental care**

We need your consent before we can provide services. Consent is usually provided by a parent or guardian.

Sign up to Smile Squad at: <https://bit.ly/smilesquadvic>

OR use the below QR code:



Paper copies of the consent form are available. Please contact the school office if you would like to request one.

The electronic consent form can be translated into more than 100 languages, and the paper form is available in 13 languages.

#### **Smile Squad dental packs**

All children deserve a healthy smile, and the Smile Squad free school dental program is working hard to help make sure this happens.

Your child(ren) will soon receive a free dental pack to bring home. The dental pack contains a toothbrush, full sized toothpaste, and an oral health brochure. Please take the time to read the brochure. It's full of helpful hints and tips to help your whole family eat well, drink well and clean well – for life.

Smile Squad provides standard strength fluoride toothpaste that is generally used by ages six and over, unless recommended by a dental or trained health professional.

If your child is under six, please talk to a dental or trained health professional to find out if your child might benefit from using this toothpaste. You can also choose to put the toothpaste away until they turn six or give it to someone else in your family to use.

#### **Do I need to attend my child's appointment?**

No, you do not need to attend your child's appointment. You can attend if you would like to, and you can take your child to the community dental clinic if you prefer.

The Bendigo Health Smile Squad team look forward to seeing you soon.



**2024 POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

# **JUNIOR NETBALL**

Newbridge FNC will have playing positions available for the 2024 season

**Under 17  
Under 15  
Under 13  
Minis**

For further info contact:-

**Larni Cleeland**

Netball Operations  
0467 597 136

**Mandy Dixon**

NFNC Vice President  
0427 856 764





# EAGLEHAWK CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

**FREE  
ENTRY**

**FRIDAY  
NOV 17, 2023**

**3PM  
TO 6PM**

ANIMAL FARM ♥ THE ZONE ROCK CLIMBING WALL  
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT ♥ ART AND CRAFT ♥ JUMPING CASTLE  
AIRBRUSH TATTOOS ♥ SPORTING ACTIVITIES ♥ CIRCUS ACTIVITIES  
TZR REPTILES AND WILDLIFE DISPLAY ♥ LUCKY DOOR PRIZES  
FACE PAINTING ♥ FREE SWIMS AT PETER KRENZ LEISURE CENTRE  
AUSLAN SESSIONS WITH THE DEAF HUB ♥ FREE GIVEAWAYS!  
BENDIGO BBQ SAUSAGES, VEGGIE BURGERS AND  
MULTICULTURAL FOOD- ALL AVAILABLE FOR A \$2 DONATION

**CANTERBURY PARK GARDENS  
3 HIGH STREET, EAGLEHAWK**



For more information contact Eaglehawk Community House on 5446 8322







# Benefitting the health and wellbeing of our Bendigo school children

School visits coming  
in TERM 4

Proudly funded by:



@mckernsteelfoundation

