

# Marong Primary School Newsletter

Volume 28 Issue 25, 18th August, 2023

	AUGUEST		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. More details and a survey link with a generic pin for your use are once again provided within this newsletter. 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...**

### **Influenza and Illness.**

In recent weeks we have had a number of staff and children absent due to Influenza (the flu). To help keep your child and our school community safe, please take the following steps if your child has any cold or flu -like symptoms:

Ø Take a COVID-19 test and follow the current Department of Health requirements if a positive result is shown

Ø Common flu-like symptoms include a high fever, cough, runny nose, loss of appetite, body aches and feeling extremely weak and tired, please keep your child at home until their symptoms pass.

Ø Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and ask them to cover their nose and mouth when sneezing and coughing.

### **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 received a letter recently outlining the process required to login to our Parent Portal on Sentral. To date only 44 of our families have accessed the portal so as an incentive we will be provide hot chips to the class which has the most families registered by the end of August. Should you experience difficulties please do not hesitate to contact Mr Saddlier for assistance.

### **School Arrival Time**

Families are reminded that our school yard is officially supervised from 8:45am. At this time classrooms are also open for students to prepare for the start of the school day. Prior to 8:45am, while staff are not officially on duty, the school does obviously have a duty of care to our students arriving to school. That being said, no student should be arriving at school as early as 8:00am as in most cases our staff are only just arriving also. If a situation arises where your child needs to be dropped off early (for example parent work commitments) please contact the school and ask for information in relation to our Before School Care program. Our Before School Care program operates 5 days a week and opens at 7:00am.



## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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

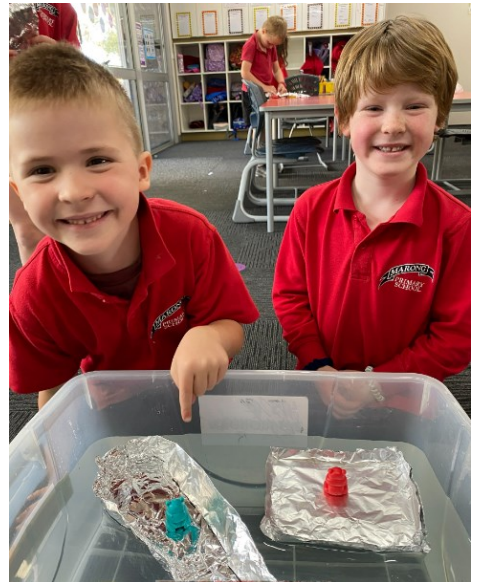
Another awesome week in prep/one!

This week we have had so much fun celebrating all things STEM. Students have been super focused during the day,

smashing out their learning goals and then putting on their lab coats in the afternoon.

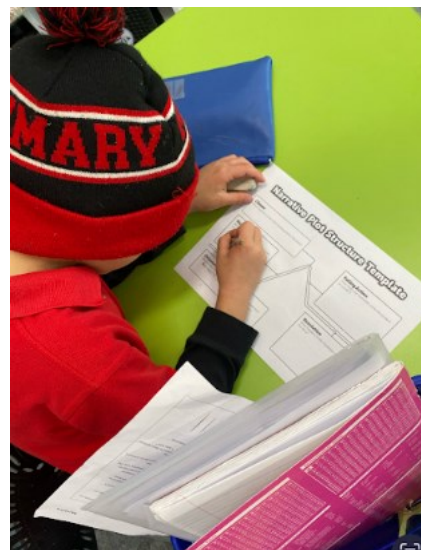
We have done some fun experiments with rainbow milk, boat building, skittles and water, and a floor is lava challenge. The students have LOVED learning new facts and have enjoyed being able to be creative and hands on. It has been awesome seeing and hearing all the different and creative ideas, the smiles, and the laughter throughout the week. We love Science Week!!!

The Prep/One Team.

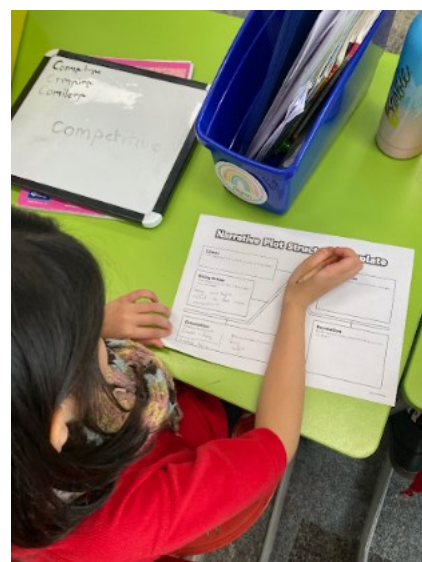


## Grade 2/3!

We had a busy week 6 this week...we often wonder where time has gone? As the Grade 3's are on the cusp of the Log Cabin camp on Monday, the excitement is certainly building. We have worked super hard with 'Bumping Up' our writing and have produced some very impressive pieces of writing. After all the evidence was taken and examined, we worked out there was a plot twist and the crime was actually committed by non-other than Paul, our wonderful cleaner!



We have learned lots about how to analyse a text in reading this week and how the author hooks in the reader using various ways. Towards the end of the week we looked further into narrative using picture prompts and the structure that authors use. We also revisited place value in maths and learnt how to identify, put in order and round numbers to the nearest 10 and 100.



Make sure you get plenty of sleep Grade 3's and don't forget your pillow on Monday morning ready for camp!

Ms Maher, Mr Stacey and Mr Fry





## Grade 4/5/6!

It has been another busy in grade 4/5/6 this week as we are preparing for our grade 4 students to head off to Creswick for camp next week.

In reading this week we have been focusing on skimming and scanning, finding important information and key words in non-fiction texts.

In writing this week we have followed along with a Science Week theme. We have been focusing on some science experiments, writing procedurals on how to do these challenges. We focused on planning and designing a ping pong pickup device as well as a writing a procedural for making an insect trap.

In maths this week we have continued to learn about fractions and how we convert them into decimals. Students are becoming more confident in converting fractions into decimals which is great to see. In the second half of the week we continued to look at probability, making predictions on the likelihood of things happening and putting these results into graphs.

Next week our grade 4 students are heading off to Log Cabin camp in Creswick from Wednesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> until Friday the 25<sup>th</sup> of August. If your child has any dietary requirements that wasn't put on their form please contact us. Also a reminder for parents to fill out and return the medication authority form that was send home with students as soon as possible.

Enjoy the weekend!

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





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

Charlie W- Charlie has had an awesome week at school. I have been very impressed with his positive attitude and dedication towards his learning. Charlie has been focused and has been listening and following instructions beautifully. Well done, Charlie!

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

Benny T – I am overwhelmingly impressed with Benny's effort this week at school. It is lovely to have him back for a full week and see how he has smashed his learning. Benny wrote his first full page of writing and has been taking on extra leadership roles in the class which is making me excited! GO BENNY!

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

Charlotte H- For always demonstrating each of our school values and showing tremendous leadership in our classroom. Super work Charlotte!

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

Evelyn S– Evelyn has had an outstanding week in our grade. She did a great job of 'bumping up' her Marong P.S. mystery and produced a fantastic piece of writing. Evelyn persisted with her spelling and took on feedback well. She is a kind and caring student and a pleasure to have in our grade!

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

Joseph L- Joseph has been producing some amazing work this week but what's been most impressive is his maturity around separating work from play, working hard and getting it done independently and in small group activities. Very responsible Joseph!

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

Skyla W- Congratulations Skyla on another fantastic week. Skyla has been working really hard on her writing this week. She has joined in class discussions about how we bump up our writing and has applied the 'Bump it Up' checklist to her own writing piece. Keep up the great work Skyla!

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

Kaleb N- Well done Kaleb on having a fantastic week. Kaleb is a quiet and respectful learner who consistently displays our school values. He always produces work of high quality, is willing to help others and is a role model to other students. Super work Kaleb!

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

Rhys L- for displaying our school value of 'Responsibility'. Rhys has worked really hard this week for all of his classroom teachers, in particular his extension maths group in which he received glowing feedback on his knowledge of fractions and decimals. Well done Rhys!

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

Darcie C- Darc has had an awesome week this week. Darc always displays all school values in the classroom and in the yard. Darc is a kind friend and shows leadership within the classroom. In particular this week, I was impressed by Darcie's dedication towards her Ping Pong pickup device and the leadership she showed designing it with her peers. Keep up the great work Darc!



# **BEEHIVE NEWS!**

on Wednesday I will be heading off on camp with the grade 4 kids. Annie, Fraser and Barnali will hold the fort while I'm gone. I won't have my computer so please contact the office to get a message to OSHC staff.

I will respond to an emails/dojo messages Monday morning.

Chelsie





## **Growth mindset for kids: helping your child embrace challenges**

(The following article can be found at <https://www.beginlearning.com>)

Developing a growth mindset for kids helps unlock a love of learning, encourages kids to embrace their natural curiosity, and leads to better learning outcomes. Instead of quickly giving up when faced with challenges, kids with a growth mindset persevere.

Research shows that this incredible way of thinking can help your child gain the confidence and courage to take on any challenge that comes their way.

In this article, our Co-Founder Stephanie Dua and Chief Learning Officer, Dr. Jody LeVos share some of their favorite tips to help your child develop this invaluable skill.

### **What is a growth mindset?**

A growth mindset helps us shift how we view our potential. It allows us to see that our abilities can improve with effort and the right strategies. This mindset focuses on personal growth, and helping your child develop it from a young age can set them up for success.

The growth mindset is a concept that was first developed by psychologist Carol Dweck and then popularized in her book *Mindset: The New Psychology Of Success*. Dweck highlights that there are two different mindsets — a growth mindset and a fixed mindset.

According to Dweck, “In a growth mindset, people believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work — brains and talent are just the starting point. This view creates a love of learning and a resilience that is essential for great accomplishment.”

On the other hand, a fixed mindset is when individuals believe that their essential qualities (like talent or intelligence) are fixed traits. They also believe that talent alone creates success.

### **Why is a growth mindset important for children?**

#### **It helps to build their self-esteem**

Self-esteem influences what we think about ourselves and the way we behave. It also relates to motivation and success.

When children have a healthy and positive view of themselves, they are more willing to try different activities or new challenges and continue developing their self-esteem.

This is especially true when it comes to their engagement with learning. A growth mindset leads to a passion for learning and personal development, while also building confidence and a resilient sense of self in the face of adversity and criticism.

### **It encourages them to work hard and not give up**

Putting in effort and working hard are essential parts of achieving the goals we set for ourselves.

Since children with a growth mindset understand that a lot can be accomplished from hard work, they are more likely to put in more effort when taking on tasks. However, although effort is essential, it's critical not to make it the only focus.

Dweck highlights that "Too often nowadays, praise is given to students who are putting forth the effort, but not learning, in order to make them feel good in the moment: 'Great effort! You tried your best!'"

Instead of just focusing on effort, it's essential that a child learns and grows from their setbacks.

For instance, when they've tried hard and are stuck, after praising their effort, you can then add something along the lines of, "Let's think about what you've been doing and what you can try now."

### **It gives them courage to take on challenges**

Setbacks are a part of life. If your child begins to embrace these challenges and view them as learning opportunities, there's no telling how far they can go!

According to Dr. Jody LeVos, "Helping to foster a growth mindset means we're developing in children the ability to bounce back after disappointments and to see themselves as life-long learners (as opposed to having a 'fixed' mindset that they're either smart or not)."

### **How to foster a growth mindset for kids**

#### **1. Read books with characters who overcome challenges**

There is so much literature with main characters that model the growth mindset!

From the dreaming Enna in *I Can't Do That, Yet* to the endearing ups and downs of *Everyone Can Learn To Ride A Bicycle*, your little one will enjoy hearing incredible stories about these determined individuals who put a lot of hard work into accomplishing their goals.

After reading these books, discuss the challenges the characters overcome to achieve their goals.

The more kids are exposed to stories of people who've overcome obstacles, the more they'll believe that they can overcome their own challenges.

## **2. Focus more on effort and process than results**

If your child didn't put in a lot of effort yet still managed to achieve a good grade in school, it could be tempting to use language like, "You're a natural."

While getting good grades should be celebrated, it's also essential to help your child understand the importance of effort.

So, remember to praise them even if they don't achieve their goals. If you noticed them studying or practicing hard at something, celebrate it!

One way to do this is by helping your child think of effort as currency — a tool that helps us get what we want. Avoid the fixed-mindset view, which sees effort as worthless or having minimal impact.

You can also try the Process Praise method, in which you praise the way a child did something more so than the results they got. For example, you might give them credit for the method they used to solve a math problem, not just for getting the answer right.

## **3. Avoid labelling your child**

Words can have a significant impact on how a child thinks or feels about themselves. While most parents are aware of this, it's not always so clear.

Have you heard people use phrases like, "Stick to what you're good at," or "Everyone can't be good at science"?

While a parent might say these things with good intentions (to help a child feel better about not doing well at a task), they can send your child the message that they shouldn't try if something doesn't come naturally to them.

Instead of labelling your child, support them in using their strengths to build confidence and work around the things that come harder to them.

For example, instead of saying, "Everyone can't be good at science" when your child gets a disappointing result, try "Well it's exciting to have something that challenges you. Next time you'll be ready."

## **4. Encourage a healthy attitude toward challenges and obstacles**

Challenges and obstacles are inevitable. We recommend encouraging your child to embrace rather than avoid challenges. Praise them when you see them taking on a new challenge.

Help frame obstacles as something your child can deal with rather than allowing them to give up. Explain that obstacles can help us find different strategies for doing something and that we'll be stronger after we've figured out a way to overcome them.

Here are a couple of ways you can achieve this with reading:

- Help your child set new goals to improve their reading (e.g., reading a page a day, rereading texts to help build fluency, etc.)



- Encourage them to try new strategies, like asking questions in class or at home when they don't understand something

When your child achieves their goal of learning how to read, they will start to understand the importance of not giving up.

## **5. Model the growth mindset**

Children are very observant. The more you step out of your comfort zone and challenge yourself, the more your child will understand that there's nothing wrong with challenges.

HOMER Co-Founder and President Stephanie Dua had this to say on the subject:

"First and foremost, we need to avoid modelling a fixed mindset. Children are watching everything we say and do. When as adults we say, 'I am not good at math,' it teaches our children to believe that skills are fixed. Instead try saying, 'I'm still enjoying learning about math,' or something more open-ended to instil the idea that learning is a lifelong skill."

Grownups can model a growth mindset by highlighting their efforts and not just their results, by talking about the different strategies they used to reach their goals, and by talking about their capabilities and their optimism for the future.

### **What to do when your child faces an obstacle**

As adults, we know that just because you work hard at something and continue trying new things doesn't mean that everything will always work out.

How can we help our kids come to accept this? Let's take a look!

### **Encourage introspection and accepting criticism**

Introspection is an essential part of a growth mindset for kids, as is constructive criticism.

"Could I have worked harder?" and "What can I do differently next time?" are some simple questions that can help children learn and grow from their failures.

Teach your child that criticism can be tremendously helpful as a way to improve. Try to provide gentle, constructive criticism and help your child see it as an opportunity to do something better next time.

### **Highlight their progress despite the failure**

If the goal was to read fluently by summer but they haven't achieved it, there may be other essential milestones to highlight.

For instance, they might have learned how to pronounce many new words, or maybe they now understand rhyming. It's essential to help your child realize how far they've come.

## **Reinforce “Yet”**

Just because they can't ride a bike right now doesn't mean they'll never be able to. Just because algebra seems confusing right now doesn't mean it will always be that way.

The word “yet” should constantly be reinforced so that your child remembers there is always room for improvement.

## **A growth mindset for kids is the way to go!**

The mind is a very powerful tool, and helping your child develop a growth mindset can set them up for an incredible learning journey!

According to Ms. Dua, “A growth mindset instils resilience, confidence and develops a true love of learning. A child that loves to learn is empowered to find answers, break down obstacles and apply solutions.”

While you're guiding your child, remember that it's OK for them not to be fully on board with this mindset. It's not easy to take on challenges!

Continue encouraging and praising their efforts and, soon, you'll have cultivated a life-long learner in your home.

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

A big congratulations to Jude, Louie, Reagan and Jaxon who play their final game for the under 10 Blue side this weekend. Well done on a great season!





CBCA Book Week Celebrations at Marong are on

**Monday August 28<sup>th</sup>**

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.



# Father's Day Stall



**Come along and buy a gift for the best dad/granddad in your life!!!**

**TUESDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> OF AUGUST**

**ALL GIFTS \$5**

**CASH ONLY**

**One gift per child, until every child has shopped and then if any children have money left to buy for someone else special in their life they can come back and shop what's left!!**



To ALL Grade 6 Students  
attending **Crusoe College** in 2024.

You are invited to our...

# Big Day Out

**When:** Tuesday, September 5th  
**9:20 am – 11:30 am**

**Start Place:** JB Osborne Theatre  
(front of Crusoe College).

On the day, you will meet the teachers, take some classes, tour the school, make new friends, and participate in fun activities!

Be in your Primary School's uniform; bring a drink bottle and a 'Can Do' attitude!

Please contact your Grade 6 teacher or the Transition Coordinator: Ms McGrath, from Crusoe College, if you want more information.



$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$





## 2023/2024 JUNIOR SEASON REGISTRATION



CRICKET  
AUSTRALIA

U11—U18



ALL GIRLS CRICKET



Master  
Blasters

Junior  
Blasters

All Inquires can be made via our JUNIOR COORDINATOR:

MICK SMITH 0427219940

Michael.smith2@education.vic.gov.au

Online Registrations visit: [play.cricket.com.au](https://play.cricket.com.au) and search Kangaroo Flat CC

New players welcome. All NEW  
players receive a FREE playing  
shirt and bucket hat.

MAJOR SPONSOR:



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](mailto:maronggc@hotmail.com)**





## Bunjil Basketball Club Inc<sup>©</sup>

Hi Everyone,

Are you looking for a fun sport for Summer that's indoors?

Bunjil Basketball Club are looking for players for the upcoming summer competition.

We welcome all levels, especially beginner players.

All you need to do is bring a smile!

### **Girls & Boys Primary:**

Under 10's (born 2015,2016)

Under 12's (born 2013,2014)

Under 14's (born 2011,2012)

### **Girls & Boys Secondary:**

Under 16's (born 2010,2009)

Under 18's (born 2007,2008)

### **Adults**

Women (Wednesday Competition)

Men (Monday Competition)

**For more information contact Amanda on 0429 944 457.**



**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](mailto:strikerball@gmail.com)

0475915450



@strikersnetballclub