

Principal – Katie Lovel

Asst Principal – Hamish
McCartney



Marong Primary School

Respect | Responsibility | Honesty

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

July 31st, 2026 – Issue 23

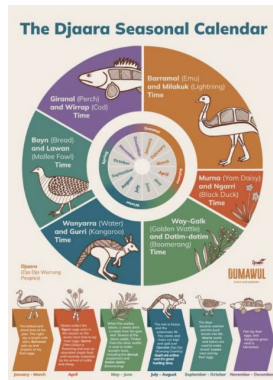
SCHOOL VALUES

Achievement – (striving for our personal best) encompassing excellence, growth, aspiration, persistence, resilience, confidence, effort

Belonging – (making everyone feel safe, valued and included) community, teamwork, inclusion, cultural safety, acceptance, friendship

Respect – (treating ourselves, others and the environment with care and respect) courtesy, gratitude, kindness, empathy, compassion, tolerance

Responsibility – (taking ownership for our actions) accountability, integrity, reliability, leadership, courage, initiative, trustworthiness



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.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We are currently looking at updating and increasing our resources for students including increasing our decodable readers, maths resources, and classroom upgrades like blinds to reduce glare. In order to do this **we are asking families who haven't paid for your child/ren's book fees for the year to please do so.** These are the books, pencils, textas, glue sticks etc that your child uses every day. We only have 20% of families who have paid these fees and we'd love to get the above upgrades under way.

Swimming program – a huge thanks to Miss Gallagher who has coordinated a fantastic first week of swimming. So many students have shown incredible resilience and determination to achieve their goals. We look forward to the junior program next week.

Netball Carnival – well done to our team who won 2 out of 5 games and lost one by only a goal. Superb effort !!

CURRICULUM DAY – Monday 17th August is a Curriculum day. Students are not required at school this day. Staff will be working on one of Annual Implementation Goals of assessment in numeracy.

PLEASE NOTE – After the Bell are unable to operate on this day due to staff being involved in the professional learning.



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DATES FOR AUGUST

- 3-7 August – Foundation –2 Swimming program
- 11 August – Cluster Athletics Day
- 17 August – Curriculum day – no students required at school
- 24 – 28 August – Book Week (Monday dress up day)

PRINCIPALS AWARD

Harvey C, Ivy, Heidi, Evelyn, Abi P – for completing random acts of kindness this week. Your thoughtfulness didn't go unnoticed and made someone else's day!

CHILD SAFE MESSAGE

Victorian government schools do NOT tolerate any form of racism.

PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION UPDATE

We held our meeting this week. Planning for the Father's Day/Special Person's day stall and the Colour Fun Run is underway. If you would like to help with any of these or find out more about PFA contact the school or chat to Erin Tine or Bianca Cola.

SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE

At our meeting this week we looked at our school's NAPLAN data, how we're tracking against our Annual Implementation Plan actions and approved the following updated policies –

Dress Code policy

Supervision policy

Communication Strategy

These will be added to the website shortly.

GRADE PREP

What we achieved this week!

We have had another busy week in the Prep classrooms this week. In Sounds Write we have moved on to looking at CCVC words. These include words such as drop, crab and skip. Our high frequency word for this week is 'to'.

In Writing we have continued to expand our sentences by including, who, what, where and when. This week we focused on the 'hear' of our senses. Students watched a funny video which included dogs barking. In Maths we have been looking at subitising numbers. We have used dice, dominoes and a collection of pictures to work out how many there are without counting each individual picture or dots.

In Integrated we have continued to explore our community. We looked at different places and shops in our community and why they are important to us.

In ICT students were introduced to the program Scratch Jr. They enjoyed getting to work with a partner to make Scratch or another character move by using different motion blocks.

A reminder that we have swimming next week. Please look at the post previously posted on Sentral about what is needed to help your child with swimming next week.

Jess, Mrs Cook, Miss Wilson, Cayla and Fraser.



GRADE 1/2

What we achieved this week!

A very busy week this week in Grade One/Two!

In Sounds Write Ms Thorn and Hayley's group explored building CCVCC and CCCVC words. Mr Williams' group explored the /oo/ sound as in bOOK and looked at their spellings u and oo. Mr Riordan's group looked at the /i/ sound and their spellings i, ui and y.

At the beginning of the week, we watched Andy Griffiths new book launch for 'You, Me and the Giant Knucklehead'. We then created our own 'You, Me and the Giant' stories and used these to create our own narratives.

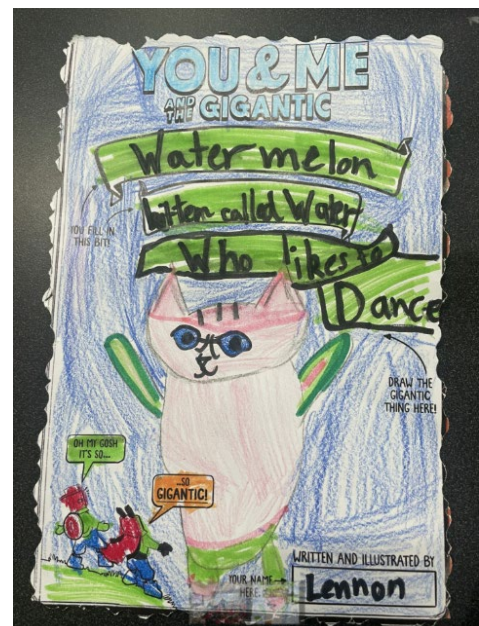
In Maths this week we focused on multiplication. We looked at arrays, repeated addition and what these equations look like.

This week in integrated we looked at identifying mini beasts and where they lived. We had a go at creating our own minibeasts and looked at matching their habitats to them.

Reminder - Grade 1/2's have swimming next week! Please bring back bus permission notes ASAP.

Have a great weekend!

Miss Williams, Mr Riordan, Miss Thorn, Hayley, Brandi, Jai, Jobe, Toby and Tamina.



GRADE 3/4

What we achieved this week!

WOW! Another busy week it has been for our Grade 3/4s with a whole week of swimming lessons. We are very proud of the resilience the Grade 3/4s displayed throughout the week, rising to challenges with a positive attitude.

Thursday was a highlight as students put their newly learned survival skills into practice by completing survival simulations while wearing their clothes. They demonstrated excellent determination and confidence as they applied the skills they had been learning all week. On Friday, the students wrapped up a fantastic week with a visit to the splash park and a range of fun activities, celebrating all their hard work and achievements in the pool.

This week, we also spent time adding more information to our information reports, completing handwriting and independent reading, learning a new maths game, and completing a pre-test in preparation for our learning about angles next week. We look forward to returning to our normal routine next week. Moyra, Leigh, Shayla, Christine, Jimmy and Charli



GRADE 5/6

What we achieved this week!

It has been a super busy week for our Grade 5/6 students, with everyone enjoying a fantastic week of swimming at the Gurri Wanyarra Wellbeing Centre.

In Literacy, we continued our novel study of *Wonder*, exploring different elements of reading comprehension, including making inferences, identifying themes, analysing characters and supporting our ideas with evidence from the text. Students also wrote thoughtful book reviews, sharing their opinions and recommendations while reflecting on the novel's important messages.

In Mathematics, students continued exploring measurement, consolidating their understanding of a range of concepts covered throughout the unit. This included working with length, mass and capacity, converting between different units of measurement, estimating and measuring accurately, and applying their knowledge to real-world problem-solving tasks.

It has been wonderful to see students' approach both the classroom and swimming program with enthusiasm and resilience throughout the week. Thank you to our families for ensuring students arrived each day prepared and ready to participate in all activities.

Miss Burton, Mr Johnstone, Mr Fry and Chelsie.



STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Grade Prep - Jess

Cohen F - Cohen has impressed us with his writing this week. He is working very hard to expand his sentences and to attempt spelling unknown words. Cohen is taking on feedback and has built his writing stamina to increase the number of sentences he writes each session. Great effort Cohen!

Grade Prep - Mrs Cook

Isla S - has had a wonderful week both in the classroom and in the yard. She consistently demonstrates our school values and is a kind, caring, and highly respected member of our class. Isla completes all of her tasks on time, always puts in her best effort, and approaches her learning with a positive attitude. She should be very proud of the fantastic example she sets for others. You are a SUPERSTAR Isla!!

Grade 1/2 Williams

Billy H - Billy has a wonderful week this week. He is always kind, helpful and incredibly hard working. I am so proud of how much effort Billy has been putting in towards his writing this week. Super work Bill! Keep it up!

Grade 1/2 Riordan

Cruze B - For demonstrating 'Responsibility' within his learning this week. Cruze had enjoyed a settled week, working well with others and putting in his best to his activities. It has been great to see you enjoying school this week. Well done!

Grade 1/2 Thorn and Hayley

Banjo P - Banjo is our student of the week. He demonstrates all our schools values both in and out of the classroom. Banjo has also put lots of effort into improving his reading fluency too. Keep up the huge effort Banjo!

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Grade 3/4 Miss O

Whole class - Christine and Miss O are beyond proud of their students this week and were so impressed with their swimming and abilities. The participation was super high and resilient was present. We loved watching the students be brave and complete swimming challenges they didn't think were possible.

Grade 3/4 Westcott

Ehlina M - Ehlina has shown excellent responsibility by organising her swimming gear each day and participating in every session with enthusiasm and a positive attitude. Well done Ehlina!

Grade 3/4 Lamb

Conor W - Conner showed great resilience in swimming this week by giving every activity his best effort. He asked questions whenever he was unsure, showing a positive attitude towards learning. We are all so proud of the confidence he has gained and shown throughout the year.

Grade 5/6 Johnstone

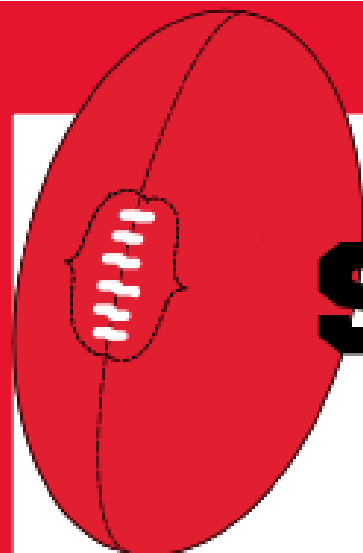
Jack H - Congratulations Jack, on being our Student of the Week! You showed great persistence during Swimming Week by giving everything a go and never giving up. Keep up the great work, Jack!

Grade 5/6 Fry

Freedom L - Freedom is our Student of the Week! We have been impressed with her resilience she showed during our swimming sessions. No matter the challenge, Freedom jumped in with a smile, gave everything a go, and never stopped trying. We are so proud of the way you challenged yourself and showed that perseverance pays off. Well done, Freedom!

Grade 5/6 Burton

Like L - Like has earned Student of the Week for his fantastic effort during swimming. He stepped outside of his comfort zone, showed resilience and courage, and approached each lesson with a positive mindset. Well done Like. We're very proud of you!



SCHOOL SPORT



Football Carnival

What a fantastic day at the Football Carnival! Congratulations to the 37 students who proudly represented our school. Throughout the day, our students demonstrated our school values by showing respect, responsibility and outstanding teamwork both on and off the field.

Every student gave their best effort, encouraged their teammates and displayed excellent sportsmanship, making the day enjoyable for everyone involved. We couldn't be prouder of the way they represented our school. Thank you to the parents who make the trek to Junortoun and supported both teams.

A sincere thank you to Jimmy, Jai, Mrs White for their assistance throughout the day. Your support helped make the carnival a wonderful success.

Congratulations to the 10 girls who proudly represented our school at the Netball Carnival on Wednesday. The team came away with two fantastic wins and three closely contested losses, but most importantly, they enjoyed a wonderful day of teamwork, determination and fun.

The girls played with great spirit and gave their all in every game, with many stepping into unfamiliar positions for the benefit of the team. Their willingness to support one another and embrace new challenges was outstanding. A huge thank you to Leah Ladson for generously volunteering her time to umpire throughout the day. Your support was greatly appreciated.

Thank you also to the parents and families who braved the cold and wet weather to cheer on our girls. Your encouragement from the sidelines made a real difference.



Who can I talk to if someone is hurting me or making me feel unsafe or afraid?

Your teacher:



Wellbeing staff:



Your principal:



Any adult you trust at school.

vic.gov.au/protect



Referrals Open Now

All our Mental Health clinicians have increased their availability and are **open** to referrals.

Referrals are accepted from your GP under a Mental Health Care Plan (Medicare rebate available), NDIS or Privately via full fee payment. Self-referrals are also accepted under a full fee payment with no Medicare rebate.

Our Team are ready to welcome you with flexible availability during and after business hours and weekends.

Natasha Garner

Accredited Mental Health Social Worker

Natasha has over 23 years experience working with children 0-18 years and their families in the mental health field. She is able to support children with Autism, ADHD, anxiety, trauma, social, mood and behavioural difficulties.

Chloe Byrne

Accredited Mental Health Social Worker

Experienced in youth mental health, Chloe draws on evidence-based interventions including Cognitive Behavioural Therapy, Dialectical Behaviour Therapy, Family Based Treatment for Anorexia Nervosa, Exposure and Response Prevention, Schema Therapy, Psychoeducation.

With a specific interest in treatment of PTSD and CPTSD, Chloe supports individuals following their traumatic experiences. Chloe supports adolescents and young adults.

Karlyanne Sherman

Accredited Mental Health Social Worker & Play Therapist

With over 16 years of experience working with children & adolescents, families and adults, Karlyanne works from an attachment-based, trauma-informed, and neuroaffirming framework. Grounded in attachment and neuroscience research, play therapy is a developmentally appropriate and evidence-based approach for supporting children with anxiety, trauma, neurodivergence, grief, and relational challenges. Karlyanne sees children and adolescents.

Patrick Byrne

Credentialed Mental Health Nurse & Clinical Family Therapist

Patrick is highly experienced, specialising in supporting individuals and families navigating relationship challenges (including couples therapy), trauma survivors, neurodiversity, First Nations mental health, and complex serious mental health conditions.

As a Credentialed and Registered Mental Health Nurse, Patrick is a person-centred counsellor with over 30 years of service across a wide range of specialties in the community mental health sector, known by his ability to connect & empower individuals and prioritise recovery. Patrick sees people of all ages.

To make an appointment, please request your GP to send a referral directly to us, alternatively, for self referrals, please contact us via email reception.bendigo@cvchildhealth.com.au or phone 5442 6612.

*** ALL WELCOME!**
No experience necessary



CARDIO + KIDS

9.30-10.30AM WEDNESDAY
@ MAIDEN GULLY TENNIS CLUB

A feel-good fitness session for adults -
With Tennis, tunes and laughs.
While the kids enjoy tennis activities too.

4 FUN FREE WEEKS! Try ONE or
Come to ALL

**WEEKLY
PRIZES!**

**29
JULY**

BRING A FRIEND

Bring a friend - enjoy a
workout and laugh together!

**12
AUG**

WINTER WARMER

Warm up with a great work out
and enjoy coffee & treats after!

**5
AUG**

COLOUR CLASH

Wear your brightest colours!
Light up the courts & your day!

**19
AUG**

CARDIO PARTY

Let's finish with a bang!
Music, games, prizes & morning tea.

BOOK ONLINE: gianttennis.com.au



SCHOOL BREAKFAST CLUBS PROGRAM

BREAKFAST CLUB



ALL STUDENTS WELCOME

DAYS: Wednesdays

TIME: 8:20am- 8:45am

ROOM: Large Decking

EAT. LEARN. SUCCEED.



Department
of Education







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

 **mckern steel[™] foundation**
 f in @mckernsteelfoundation

Made possible thanks to McKern Foundation and our supporting partners:


















Your business here



Want to support the program? Contact us to sponsor and provide more fruit to your school.



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

CONTACT: casey@gianttennis.com.au



KIDS LOVE BEING OUTDOORS? THERE'S GOLF FOR THAT.

BELVOIR PARK GOLF CLUB

MyGolf powered by Ripper GC is Australia's beginner golf program that introduces kids to golf through games-based activities in a safe and friendly environment. Participants learn new skills, make new friends and most importantly, have fun!

Sessions are run by PGA Professionals and National Program Deliverers Australia-wide.

**Time: Thursdays 4pm-4:45pm (5-9 year olds)
5:00 pm-5:45pm (10-14 year olds)**

**Dates: 30 July to 10 September 2026
(7 sessions)**

Cost: \$60

Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/36tzzcvj>

**Enquires: Dave Griffin - 0407422845
email juniors@belvoirparkgc.com.au**

RIPPER:
MyGOLF.



Find your nearest MyGolf powered by Ripper GC program at golf.org.au/mygolf