

# Marong Primary School Newsletter

Volume 28 Issue 37, 24th November, 2023

	November		December
23rd	Colour Run	1st	Blast Cricket Competition, Malone Park
21st/28th	Prep Transition Program	6th	House Swimming Sports
		8th	Curriculum Day
		12th	State Wide Transition
		14th	Marong's Got Talent
		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 Recourses 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.

### **Colour Run: Spectacular**

Yesterday staff and students participated in our 3rd colour run. This fantastic event was organised and implemented by the Marong Primary School Parents and Friends group. It was thoroughly enjoyed by participants and spectators alike. I wish to thank the Parents Group and all of the people who volunteered to assist with the conduct of the colour run for providing this activity for our students.

### **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.

## **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.

## **School Bus Travel**

For parents of students who will require to travel by bus to and from school in 2024, I am posting the following information below which has been provided by the School Bus Program Coordinator. If you have any questions re bus travel please feel free to contact me at the school.

On Wednesday the automatic renewal process for travellers who did not have a 2024 application in the Student Travel Assistance Portal was activated.

Families were able to submit their own 2024 application over the last few weeks, however we also know that many families think that once they have applied the first time that is it - The renewal process ensures all traveller have an application for the coming term/ year.

**All 2024 travel applications, either submitted directly by families or auto-renewed, will be processed later today.**

Families will receive an e-mail with the outcome – either a travel offer or notification of being waitlisted until a bus seat becomes available.

- Families can log in, review and submit their 2024 applications, though this is not mandatory for them to be processed for 2024

- o Auto renewed applications will show the status of 'New'.

- o Once reviewed and submitted, the status will change to 'Submitted'

- Families are encouraged to tell us if they no longer need to access the bus

- Where a student is moving to a new school (e.g. from primary to secondary school) or has moved residential address, the family must submit a new travel application (these cannot be renewed even if they need the same bus)

- Where a student needs to attend a different campus to continue their education, the family must submit a new travel application (these cannot be renewed even if they need the same bus)

- o E.g. Catherine McAuley College, Bendigo – moving from junior secondary to senior secondary campus.

- Once families receive their travel offer, it must be accepted within 2 weeks or it will lapse, and a new application will need to be submitted.

### **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.



# STAFF PROFILES

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

5 years :)

**What's your favourite thing about MPS**

I love all the students and our new buildings!

**Favourite movie or TV show?**

Bluey or Encanto

**Favourite food?**

Pizza, you can never go wrong!

**What AFL team do you support?**

Bombers baby!

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

I have two beautiful rescue greyhounds at home.



**MISS O'DONOGHUE**



## **Grade Prep/One**

Week eight has brought us to the end of a lot of our projects in prep/one. We have now finished our spelling programs and finished a lot of our assessments. We are excited to come into the silly season of the year where we can celebrate our successes and have a lot of fun! So much to look forward to coming up with activities week, Marong's got talent, school concert and more. We need to keep in mind our school rules and routines so that we can finish the year with a bang! We are super grateful to the organisers of colour run and thoroughly enjoyed the day! Enjoy your upcoming weekend and let the Christmas countdown begin!

Moyra O'Donoghue, Miss Maddern,  
Mrs Cook and Jess Taylor



# STAFF PROFILE

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

2 years!

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

Coming in everyday to a welcoming environment. The staff and students are the best!

**Favourite TV show or movie?**

The Chase.

**Favourite food?**

Probably a steak, cheese and bacon pie from the bakery at the moment!

**What AFL team do you support?**

The Lions..... 2024 will be our year!

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

I can beat Mr Fry in an arm wrestle!!!



**FRASER STEWART**

# STAFF PROFILE

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

On and off since 2005, starting in OSHC, then as a teacher since 2009!

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

MPS has a great sense of community which it has maintained even though it is no longer a small, rural school.

## **Favourite movie or TV show?**

The Block.

## **Favourite food?**

Cheese and bacon pie!

## **What AFL team do you support?**

Carlton!

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

During my second year of university, I taught English in Malaysia for six months.

**MS THORN**

## **Grade 2/3!**

This week we have been wrapping up some writing tasks such as our Autobiographies and Biographies based off the “Little People, Big Dreams” books where students have reflected on their achievements so far and their potential dreams for the future. In Numeracy we have started designing Numeracy Board games where we combine all the topics of the semester that we have learnt to turn into a interactive game. In Reading students have been searching for homophones, prefixes and suffixes, putting their spelling knowledge to the test. Students had a blast during the colour run and we thank all those who donated!



## Grade 4/5/6!

Wrapping up another week in the seniors this week.

The reading has been looking at features of fiction and non-fiction. Particularly, how we can differentiate between the two.

For writing, our 4/5/6's has been creating a presentation on an occupation of their choosing.

Maths the focus has been around budgeting, keeping a running total, mapping and using/drawing things to scale. They have been hard at work planning Mr Johnstone's wedding( A big congratulations to Mr Johnstone who's special day is coming up very soon!).

Integrated sees us researching and creating a project around our solar system. Some examples of projects have been; Mars, Saturn, Jupiter, Milky Way, star constellations and many more. Thursday was filled with colour and fun as the whole school participated in the colour fun run. Grade 6's enjoyed their opportunity to spray colour over the teachers as they made their way around the course.

We hope you all have a fantastic weekend!



# STAFF PROFILE

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

3 years!

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

Coming in each day and seeing all the smiling faces!

**Favourite Movie or TV show?**

Can't choose between Surfs Up and Paddington... also Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs!



**Favourite food?**

Definitely a chicken parma!

**What AFL team do you support?**

Essendon

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

I have been to 12 countries but Germany is my favourite!

**MISS WILLIAMS**



### **Prep/One Maddern**

Charlotte W - Charlotte has had another awesome week at school. She is always willing to help others out and actively participates in all activities. Charlotte loves to share jokes and always puts a smile on everyone's face. She is a great role model for others in our class. Well done Charlotte!

### **Prep/One O**

Xavier T – I am so stoked with Xavier's dedication to following school rules and being able to find so much success in the classroom. Xavier has been able to produce some high-quality independent work and has been a stand out in our school concert rehearsals. I am happy to see him finishing off the year continuing to beat challenges and raise the bar. Go Xavier!

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

Theo H - Theo leads by example demonstrating all of our school values. He is friendly, polite, he listens and gives each task his best effort. We really appreciate the way Theo tries his hardest to make our class a great place. Super work Theo!

### **2/3 Fry**

### **2/3 Stacey**

Izsak H- Izsak has been demonstrating the values on a consistent basis and his calm, quiet and kind nature doesn't go unnoticed. Always eager to help, support and encourage others throughout the day Izsak shows true leadership potential heading into next year. Well done!

### **2/3 Maher**

Andy D- Andy was voted by his peers as our student of the week this week. Andy has been fantastic whilst Mrs Maher has been away, helping out the teachers and maintaining our school values. He always gives his best efforts to all tasks. Keep up the great work Andy!

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

Sharnie M- This week Sharnie has had a fantastic week and has been showing our school values in and out of the class and she continues to keep working well. Keep it up Sharnie.

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

Rhys L – For demonstrating confidence in his work this week. Rhys always works super hard in the classroom, this week helping others in getting their work done, sharing his knowledge to complete the task. Well done Rhys!

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

Oliver C– For displaying all our school values this week. Oliver can always be trusted to complete his work to the best of his ability and is a kind and caring member of our class. Keep up the great work Oliver!

# STAFF PROFILE

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

Since 2019!

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

The amazing students and incredible staff! I also love all the fun days we have look Book Week, Athletics and Colour Run.

**Favourite movie or TV show?**

Friends

**Favourite food?**

Lasagne

**What AFL team do you support?**

Essendon.

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

I love musical theatre and performing on stage!



**CHRISTINE PALMER**



# 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 |

## **Why teaching children empathy is more important than ever**



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

Empathy is the ability to put yourself in the shoes of someone else and understand what they are feeling or experiencing.

In the early years of life, young children are naturally ego-centric and are very much inclined to think mostly about themselves and their immediate needs. They're not yet ready to consider the needs and feelings of others.

But developing a sense of empathy is an important developmental process for young children, and one that can benefit them not only in childhood but well into adult life as well.

### **Why is developing empathy important for children?**

Building an understanding of what others are feeling, how their own actions can impact on others, and why someone might be experiencing feelings at a particular time is a valuable life skill for children to possess.

Helping young children to develop a strong sense of empathy is beneficial because:

- It helps them to build a sense of security and stronger relationships with other children and educators, positioning them well for learning
- It encourages tolerance and acceptance of others
- It promotes good mental health
- It promotes social harmony and can reduce the likelihood of bullying

The benefits of empathetic thinking flow into adult life too. Empathetic adults may have:

- Greater success personally and professionally
- Higher levels of overall happiness
- A better ability to understand others, like customers or co-workers
- More success in leadership positions
- More satisfying relationships and be better at dealing with conflict
- Lower levels of stress

In a nutshell, developing empathy is a vital building block in a child's ability to **regulate their emotions** and is so valuable in being able to adapt and succeed in an ever-changing world.

### **How can we help children develop empathy?**

Parents are children's first and most enduring teachers, and modelling empathetic behaviour is one of the best ways parents can teach their child this valuable skill.

Other simple ways empathy can be developed include:

- Helping your child to **name their feelings**, as understanding their own feelings is an important first step in understanding the feelings of others
- Talking to your child about how other people may be feeling, and why. This helps to build their emotional language and think about other people's perspectives.
- **Caring for animals** and plants, which helps children understand the role they play in helping another living thing survive, thrive and be happy.

Perhaps one of the simplest ways of all to help children develop a sense of empathy is by reading books together, as children learn to associate feelings and actions with their favourite characters and stories.

*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



# Free Family Community Meals

Pop on into the Hilltop Café at The Salvation Army Bendigo and join us for a hot meal

Playground and Art Space available for the kids

Takeaway meals are available

12 pm – 1 pm Fridays

Hilltop Café

65-71 Mundy St, Bendigo Victoria



Contact Brannon on 0439 576 689 for more info



# ★ ELF ACADEMY ★

CLASS IN SESSION: 16-23 DECEMBER 2023






## DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT REALLY TAKES TO BE ONE OF SANTA'S LITTLE HELPERS?

Central Deborah Gold Mine will transform into  
a Christmas wonderland from 16-23 December.

Through a series of craft activities, games and challenges,  
gain your Certificate IV in Elf Training and be elf-icially  
inducted into Santa's renowned team!



## BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW!

5443 8322 | [central-deborah.com](http://central-deborah.com) |   



### **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.





# REMINDER: HAVE YOU REGISTERED?

NAB AFL Auskick is a community run program that relies on the honesty, involvement and support of all people involved. A key part of your participation at Auskick is to ensure you are registered on our registration platform.

It is important you are registered for the following reasons:

- 1** This ensures your Auskick Coordinator knows who you are and knows how many kids to plan for and equipment to provide at each session
- 2** Registrations have the following key benefits
  - a. Insurance for any injuries sustained during play
  - b. Awesome goodies in your AFL Club colours as well as the essentials such as a footy, pump and footy cards
  - c. The option to become a Junior Member at your favourite AFL Club completely free of charge and attend selected Toyota AFL Premiership Series AFL Games and NAB AFLW Games
  - d. Exclusive offers from AFL partners
- 3** Lastly your Auskick Centre receives equipment funding and other support based on each individual registration

Register via the QR code below  
or visit [play.afl/auskick](https://play.afl/auskick)





**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





# mckern steel<sup>TM</sup> foundation

## Benefitting the health and wellbeing of our Bendigo school children

School visits coming  
in TERM 4

Proudly funded by:



@mckernsteelfoundation

