

Principal – Katie Lovel

Asst Principal – Jake Saddler



Marong Primary School

Respect | Responsibility | Honesty

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

March 20, 2026 – Issue 8

SCHOOL VALUES

At Marong Primary School, we are committed to fostering a safe, supportive, and inclusive learning environment. Our core values guide our actions and shape our community:

- Respect: We treat everyone with kindness, consideration, and value their unique contributions.
- Responsibility: We take ownership of our actions, make responsible choices, and contribute positively to our school and community.
- Honesty: We act with integrity, communicate truthfully, and build trust in all our relationships.



On behalf of the students of Marong Primary School, we would like to respectfully acknowledge the Dja Dja Wurrung as the traditional owners of the land and pay our respects to elders past and present. We are grateful to learn, play and grow surrounded by the plants, animals & waterways that the Djaara people have watched over and cared for, over thousands of years.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Walk/Ride to School
Community Easter Event
Parent Teacher Interviews
PFA Easter Raffle

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

23/03 Grade 6 Puberty Ed
25/03 School Council AGM
27/03 Raffle Tickets Due Back
02/04 Last Day of Term / Easter Raffle Drawn

Principal's Award

Ellie W – Ellie has been a friendly and respectful member of the school community, demonstrating outstanding leadership skills. Ellie is kind and caring, and respectful of her learning at all times. Congratulations on an outstanding start to your senior years of primary school.

CHILD SAFE STANDARDS MESSAGE
Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



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SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

March 20, 2026

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Parent Teacher Interviews

Our term 1 parent teacher conferences will be held in week 9 across Tuesday 24th – Thursday 26th March. This year we will have all our classroom teachers available across the 3 days to maximise access for families to attend. Families with students in Foundation J will have bookings made available to them on Monday 23rd March, in lieu of the Wednesday evening.

Bookings are now available via our Parent Portal on SENTRAL.

Please note when making a booking through the app, select the available time you wish to request and be sure to scroll to the bottom of the page and select 'Save Booking'. Failure to save the booking will send a request to the school and an available time slot will be selected for you on your behalf.

Please see your classroom teacher or Mr Saddlier if you need any assistance.

Working Bee!

A massive thank you to those who were able to attend last Sunday's working bee. We achieved a lot in those few hours with the help of some useful machinery and hard working hands. Thanks to Stacey for cooking the snags too. It is wonderful to have our bikes and scooters stored safely away from the gate for now. I'm currently applying for a grant for increased bike and scooter racks, and helmet storage. Don't forget to get your Easter Raffle donations into the box at the office and keep selling those tickets.

Reading Club

A reminder that reading club is on each morning in Miss O's room, daily from 8:45.



SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE

Nominations are now open for school council. We have 4 parent/carer vacancies. Get your nomination forms from the office.

JSC UPDATE

we are excited to announce the completion of our new sandpit, an initiative led by JSC. The idea was first raised by students who saw the need for more play spaces in our school. JSC worked together to discuss ideas and support for the planning process. With the help of parents and helpers the idea became a reality. We are proud of JSC for their leadership and look forward to more improvements.





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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

TUESDAY 10TH MARCH 3.40PM PAC

NOMINATION & MEMBERSHIP FORMS AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICE. NOMINATION FORMS TO BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO THE AGM.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY 25TH MARCH 6PM STAFFROOM

NOMINATION FORMS AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICE.

FAMILIAR AND NEW FACES WELCOME. YOU DON'T NEED TO TAKE ON A ROLE OR A JOB. YOU MIGHT JUST HAVE SOME IDEAS, LIKE TO MEET NEW PEOPLE OR CONTRIBUTE TO OUR GREAT SCHOOL COMMUNITY.





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School Council Elections Announcement and Call for Nominations

The Marong Primary School Council election process has now commenced. Marong Primary School Council is calling for nominations for **4 parent member positions** available on our school council. Parents/carers are encouraged to nominate for a position.

Membership Category - Parent/carer representative

Number of Positions Available - 4

Length of term - March 2026 to March 2028

Nominations close - 4pm 16th March 2026

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school and communicated via Sentral.

How can I nominate? You can nominate through completing a nomination form and returning to the school office by 4pm Monday 16th March. Nomination forms are available from the office.

What do you need to do to stand for election? Parent members are required to hold a valid Working with Children Clearance (WWCC) to nominate for a position on school council. The only exception to this requirement is parents who are also teachers and currently hold VIT registration.

How do I get a Working with Children Clearance, and does it cost money? You can apply for a Working with Children Check (WWCC) through the Services Victoria website. School council members are volunteers which means that applying for a WWCC is free.

When applying for a WWCC, parents must:

- nominate the Department of Education as the organisation they are working for when applying for a Working with Children Check
- provide evidence of their Working with Children Clearance as soon as practicable after receiving it (or via the school council nomination form).

Kind regards

Katie Lovel,

Principal Marong Primary School

GRADE PREP

What we achieved this week!

Another awesome week in Prep! We are so proud of how hard the students have been working and how they are coming into the classroom each day with big smiles on their faces.

In Sounds-Write, we have begun looking at Unit 4. This week our focus sounds are d, e, f and v. We have been busy building words such as *bed*, *pet*, *van* and *fed*, and practising reading and writing these during our lessons.

In Writing, we have been building on our Sounds-Write knowledge by identifying CVC words and using them in simple sentences. We were blown away by the amazing independent work this week and the way students have been challenging themselves to have a go.

In Mathematics, we began exploring measurement. We have been learning about *tall and short*, *heavy and light*, and *capacity*. The students had lots of fun comparing heights, weighing different objects and testing how much different containers can hold.

Well done on another fantastic week, Prep!



Reminders

- Library books are to be returned each Monday for new borrowing.
- The last day of term is Thursday 2nd April, with a 2:30pm dismissal.



GRADE 1/2

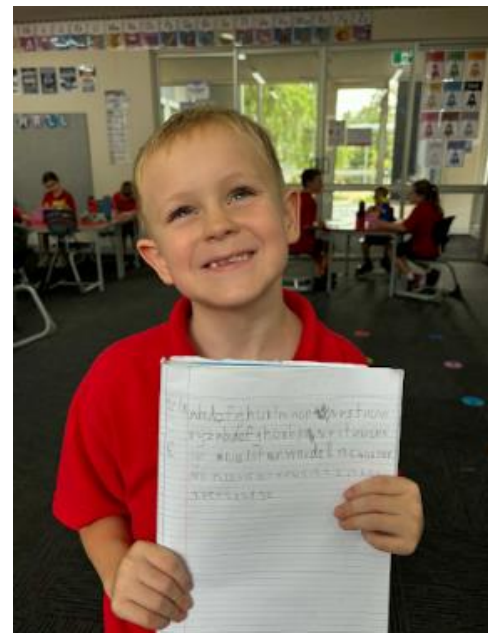
What we achieved this week!

In Sounds Write this week, our Grade 1 students continued exploring the /ea/ spelling, which can make two different sounds (<ae> and <ee>). Our Grade 2 students focused on the /ew/ spelling, making the <oo> and <ue> sounds. Students have been doing a fantastic job building words, using them in full sentences, and searching for these sounds in their reading. In Writing, we introduced alliteration and adverbs to help extend and make our sentences more exciting. We continued working with the story *The Dog and the Bone*, using these techniques to make our writing more engaging and expressive. In Mathematics, our focus was on skip counting using small collections of objects, recognising patterns, and counting by tens and fives. Students particularly enjoyed learning our new warm-up game, "5 Move to 100," which has quickly become a favourite addition to our growing collection of maths games. Integrated Studies has been especially exciting this week! Students began creating their fantastic inventions, which they have been thoughtfully planning and designing over the past three weeks. A big thank you to everyone who contributed supplies to help bring these creative ideas to life!

2 weeks to go!

Have a great weekend.

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



GRADE 3/4



What we achieved this week!

We have finished week eight, and we're all such good mates!

This week we have...

Reading- we finished our wonderful book! We loved Kensuke's kingdom and were a little emotional at the end, it was a message of hope, community and adventure and we look forward to watching the movie next Friday.

Math- Times tables and division this week with continued practise and breaking down the steps. We made array cities with times tables and are understanding how to makes groups of using repeated addition. You could help at home by beginning to practise memorising our 12 x 12's times table facts by reciting them in the car, during dinner or before home reading.

Writing- this week we made some posters from around the world. Students were allocated a country and spend some time doing research about the capital city, language, clothing, food, currently, landmarks etc. We will display these as a whole school display and it was a great activity to learn about multiple different cultures around the world.

ICT- students improved their skills navigating online, learning what information to trust and what needs to be critically assessed. Students are getting more comfortable on software systems like word and are able to produce high quality typing on the computers.

Wellbeing- students finalised their regulation brochures that included breathing strategies, positive affirmations, brain break ideas and a list of safe and positive people. They can use this tool kit to support their emotional regulation.

Integrated- students learnt about the different types of sailing boats, we studied the features and styles of the ships including 'the carrack'. Students built their own sailing ships from paper and decorated the sails.



Reminders

- We are watching the film Kensuke's kingdom on Friday 27th March, it is PG and if you have concerns please contact your teacher.
- Keep a look out on Sentral soon to book in upcoming parent teacher interviews. Time slots can be booked online once released. A reminder that if your child has had a recent SSG meeting that you won't need to book a PTI.
- Please ensure you are listening to your student read 5 SESSIONS A WEEK, reading diaries are checked weekly and make a real difference.
- End of term Thursday the 2nd of April 2:30 pick up!



GRADE 5/6

What we achieved this week!

In Literacy, students have been using Canva to design and create brochures for their political parties, applying persuasive techniques to engage and inform their audience. They have also been exploring 2- and 3-syllable words containing the /ow/ sound, building their spelling and decoding skills. As part of our vocabulary work, students investigated etymology, focusing on words with the prefix “dis” and exploring their meanings and origins.

In Mathematics, students have been developing their understanding of fractions, including identifying and creating equivalent fractions, and working with improper fractions and mixed numbers. Lessons have included explicit teaching, guided practice and independent activities to support students at a range of ability levels. Students have continued to show strong engagement and creativity in their learning, particularly in connecting their Literacy and Integrated Studies work through their political party projects.



Reminders

The Puberty Education Program – Session 2 will take place on Monday.

Parent Teacher Interviews begin on Tuesday 24th March.

Please book in via Sentral if you haven't already done so.

Miss Burton, Mr Johnstone, Mr Fry and Chelsie.



STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Grade Prep - Jess

Charlie K - Charlie has shown tremendous bravery and resilience in returning to school this week. We are so proud of your positive outlook and 'give a go' attitude! You're a superstar Charlie!!!!

Grade Prep - Mrs Cook

Siena M - Siena has been a superstar this week and is confident in everything she does. She has been a very kind friend and is always trying her hardest when completing her work independently. You are a SUPERSTAR Siena, keep it up!

Grade 1/2 Williams

Alira M - Alira has been on fire this week. Alira is a kind, friendly and positive member of our classroom who always has her best go even if somethings are challenging! Alira comes in each morning with a big smile on her face which always makes everyone feel happy and included. We love having you in our class Alira! Keep up the amazing work!

Grade 1/2 Riordan

Adalie - For demonstrating our school and classroom values. It has been wonderful to teach Adalie this year. She is kind, always participating and putting in her best during learning activities. She listens, shows focus and can always be relied upon to show her best. Well done Adalie.

Grade 1/2 Thorn and Hayley

River B - River has been a kind and caring member of our class, always showing respect and consideration for others. She does a fantastic job of recognising when she needs help and confidently asks for help, which is a great skill. Well done, River!

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

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

Shifirah T- Shifirah has gone above and beyond in sharing her kindness this week. She helped another student complete a poster on a country that she was connected to. She was playing with a lonely student in the yard and building more connections. For Harmony day Shifirah welcomed her mum and aunty into the classroom to share with us her Congolese culture. We learnt about the Congo river, wax fabrics and were able to listen to some traditional singing. Shifirah and her family also cooked fufu and chicken for all the students to enjoy. It was wonderful to learn more about you Shifirah :)

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

Zara P - Zara has had an outstanding few weeks in the classroom. She has done a fantastic job writing her story Lost in the Snow and has been smashing it in our multiplication lessons. Zara is always polite and thoughtful towards others. Well done, Zara!

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

Ruhan JV - Ruhan has had a fantastic week. He is showing a positive attitude and doing his very best, especially in Maths, where he is confidently sharing his ideas. His classmates have noticed his effort and are really proud of him. Christine has also seen him thriving in Sounds Write and Maths groups. Keep up the amazing work, Ruhan!

Grade 5/6 Johnstone

Pearl D - Pearl has had a terrific week in our grade. She is a popular student and displays kindness and respect to others. She has applied herself to all tasks this week, especially during our fraction unit, where she's been working hard to convert fractions. Great work, Pearl!

Grade 5/6 Fry

Varli H - Varli has demonstrated her leadership skills, supporting younger students across the school with kindness and care. She has also displayed great resilience in maths, working hard to improve her understanding of fractions. Well done, Varli, keep it up!

Grade 5/6 Burton

Millie H - Millie could be student of the week, every week. She embodies our school values in all that she does and treats everyone with respect and kindness. Millie has also been working really hard to improve her understanding of fractions. Great work, Mil!

EASTER FAIR

WEDNESDAY 1 APRIL 2026

4:00 - 7.00PM AT MALONE PARK MARONG

OFFICIAL OPENING AT 4.30PM

Marong is set to come alive with FREE family fun, live music, and a budget-friendly BBQ!

Enjoy Laser Tag, Face Painting, a Petting Zoo, Community Stalls, water play with the Marong CFA and lots more!

Plus - don't miss the Annual Marong Football Netball Club Easter Egg Hunt!

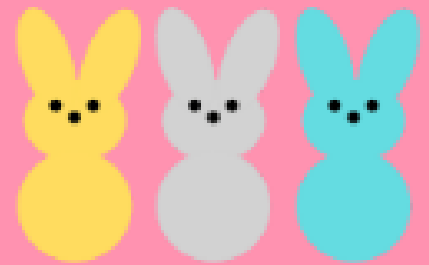
To book, please scan the QR code:



THANKYOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS:



EASTER RAFFLE



IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN WHERE WE ALL GO HOPPING MAD FOR A LITTLE CHOCCY EGG TREAT!

THAT MEANS IT'S TIME FOR OUR ANNUAL EASTER RAFFLE.

EASTER RAFFLE TICKETS WILL BE COMING HOME WITH THE ELDEST SIBLING IN EACH FAMILY NEXT WEEK, IF YOU MISS OUT OR WOULD LIKE AN EXTRA BOOK, THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE.

DONATIONS FOR THE EASTER RAFFLE CAN BE MADE VIA THE TUB AT THE OFFICE FROM THIS WEEK. YOU CAN DONATE ANYTHING EASTER RELATED (DOESN'T HAVE TO JUST BE CHOCOLATE!).

THIS IS A GREAT FUNDRAISER FOR THE SCHOOL AND A FUN WAY TO FINISH THE TERM, SO PLEASE GET THOSE DONATIONS AND TICKET SALES COMING IN! ALL FUNDS RAISED WILL BE GOING TOWARDS BOOK WEEK ACTIVITIES AND SUPPLIES AND BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY.

ALL WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE LAST ASSEMBLY OF TERM.

PLEASE HAVE RAFFLE TICKETS AND
DONATIONS RETURNED TO OFFICE

FRIDAY 27 MARCH 2026



Good Friday Appeal at

MARONG PS!



Casual Clothes

& Gold Coin Donation



**goodFriday
appeal**

THE ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL



Thursday, 2 April 2026



PROFESSIONAL
COACHING

COMPETITIVE
EXPOSURE

FITNESS SKILLS &
DEVELOPMENT

CREATE LIFE LONG
FRIENDSHIPS

INTERESTED IN PLAYING SENIOR

WOMENS FOOTBALL?


Interested?

Contact coaches

Brett | 0402 548 443

Reece | 0447 402 185

Or come on down to training

 **Wednesday & Friday 6:30pm - 7:30pm**

 **Jackal Oval, Marong**

Ages 18+

Welcoming beginners & experienced



April Vacation Care 2026

Marong

MONDAY 6TH APRIL	TUESDAY 7TH APRIL	WEDNESDAY 8TH APRIL (EX)	THURSDAY 9TH APRIL	FRIDAY 10TH APRIL
Public Holiday	Fantasy Day	Super Mario Day	Sensory Madness	Let's Move
	<p>Have you ever imagined being a famous person, superhero, singer, actor for one day? Come dressed up today may it be a Wizard, Doctor, Fairy, Superman, Fireman; Clown let your imagination flow.</p> <p>This day will be filled with Superhero challenges, movie quiz, fantasy character games and more!</p> <p>So, come dressed up and be part of this fantastic fantasy dress up day! I wonder what the educators will be dressed as????</p>	<p>Lights, camera, action! Children will enjoy a relaxing trip to the movies to watch 'The Super Mario Galaxy' on the big screen.</p> <p>Enjoy some popcorn, lolly bag, drink and experience the magic of cinema together.</p> <p>Sit back, relax and enjoy the show!</p> <p>Arrive at the program by – 9.00am Back at the program – 2.00pm *The arrival time may vary pending movie commencement time.</p>	<p>Get ready for a hands-on, high-energy experience Sensory Madness Day!</p> <p>Dive into a world of exciting textures, colours and creative exploration through a variety of sensory stations designed to spark curiosity and imagination.</p> <p>From sensory art and messy play to interactive tactile challenges, this day encourages creativity, teamwork and loads of laughter.</p>	<p>Game on for our All-Things Sport! Children will jump into a day packed with fun team games, mini matches and exciting skill challenges.</p> <p>From relay races to ball sports and obstacle courses, it's all about teamwork, sportsmanship and staying active.</p> <p>Get ready to move, compete and have a blast!</p>

www.afterthebell.com.au

Bookings to be placed through your KidSoft account

Marong April Vacation Care Program 2026

MONDAY 13TH APRIL	TUESDAY 14TH APRIL	WEDNESDAY 15TH APRIL	THURSDAY 16TH APRIL (EX)	FRIDAY 17TH APRIL
Creative Fun	Taste of Cultures	Pixar Vs Disney	Extream Energy	Disco Party Time
<p>Welcome to Creative Fun Day! It's a day bursting with imagination and artistic fun!</p> <p>Children will explore painting, crafting and hands-on creative projects designed to inspire self-expression and creativity.</p> <p>From colourful masterpieces to unique DIY creations, every child will have the chance to let their imagination shine.</p>	<p>Join us for Taste of Cultures! Children will explore flavours from around the world through fun food experiences, cultural activities and hands-on learning.</p> <p>It's a delicious way to discover different traditions, try new tastes and celebrate the diversity that makes our world so special!</p> <p>Note: Morning tea, lunch, and afternoon tea all provided</p>	<p>It's Pixar vs Disney Day! Children will choose their team and jump into a day of movie-inspired games, trivia, creative challenges and fun activities based on their favourite Pixar and Disney characters.</p> <p>Whether you're team Toy Story or team Star Wars, it's a magical day of friendly competition and big-screen fun!</p>	<p>Are you ready for jumping and a high energised excursion?</p> <p>We are off to Inflatable World where children can try out different jumping castle, inflatable mazes and different adventure inflatable games.</p> <p>Arrive at the program by – 9.00am Back at the program – 2.00pm *Please remember you must wear socks. No socks - No Play</p>	<p>Get ready to boogie at our Disco Party Day!</p> <p>Children will hit the dance floor with upbeat tunes, karaoke and fun party games. With dance-offs, musical challenges and plenty of sparkle, it's a high-energy day full of movement, laughter and confidence-building fun.</p> <p>Dress in your best disco outfit for our best dress competition!</p>

What To Pack & Bring

- Healthy morning tea & lunch
- Refillable water bottle
- SunSmart hat
- No foods containing nuts
- No food- lollies, soft drink, high sugar foods
- No foods that require refrigeration
- No foods that require heating or re-heating
- Closed toes shoes
- Appropriate weather clothing

Costs & Booking Information

Daily cost ranges per day/ child-

In-house- \$80 -- \$85
Incurstion- \$85 -- \$100
Excursion- \$110 -- \$120

*prices are reduced with the eligible Child Care Subsidy

Excursion= Incurstion= Lunch= Provided

Note: Days will operate where 15 or more bookings. The account holder will be notified via email by the 23rd March 2026 on the operational status days.

*Bookings to be made via Kidsoft

Program Information

Address:

2 Leslie Street,
Marong

Room Location:
Beehive Building

Program Number:
0428 247 072

Program Hours:
7.30am till 5.30pm

Head Office Contact
1300 977 599



GIANT
TENNIS
PLAY PARK



SATURDAY

1 HOUR OF FUN 9 - 10AM

5 YRS & UNDER

3 WEEKS - \$60
14 MAR - 21 MAR - 28 MAR

gianttennis.com.au

MAIDEN GULLY TENNIS CLUB

EASTER SUNDAY 5TH APRIL 2026

SANDEMAN BUILD

NEIL MACDONALD DRAGON MILE



MILE LONG FOOT RACE ON THE FAMOUS EASTER PROCESSION ROUTE



WHERE: PALL MALL AT GOLD MONUMENT

TIME: 10:00AM START

Scan the QR code for more information on pricing, age groups, registration and live results or visit:

<https://my.raceresult.com/377219/>

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SANDEMAN BUILD

DESIGN. CREATE. LIVE





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

PLAY.AFL/AUSKICK

Kangaroo Flat Auskick Centre

Monday | 4:30pm - 5:30pm

Starting 27th April | Dower Park

Auskick Coordinator | Stacey Thatcher



**REGISTER
NOW**





EASTER HOLIDAY PROGRAM



MERCY JUNORTOWN SPORTING PRECINCT APRIL 7 - 17

ST LIBORIUS PRIMARY SCHOOL APRIL 7 - 17

GIRTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL APRIL 7 - 17



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 **KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU**

CHECK OUT OUR DAILY SPORTS SCHEDULES AND PROGRAM INFORMATION ONLINE!

LA TROBE SPORT HOLIDAY CAMPS

LA TROBE SPORTS CAMPS (AGES 6+)

MULTI-DAY PACKAGES AVAILABLE! REGISTER FOR THE TERM I SCHOOL HOLIDAYS TODAY!







TERM I ULTIMATE SPORT CAMPS ACTIVITY SCHEDULE



TUESDAY

April 14th

Camp Olympics





-  Egg + Spoon Race
-  Obstacle Courses
-  Relay Races
-  Hula Endurance



WEDNESDAY

April 15th

Play like the Pros!





-  AFL Footy Frenzy
-  Inflatable Soccer
-  Turbo Touch Footy
-  Hit out Hockey



THURSDAY

April 16th

Eagle Explorers

-  Bouldering
-  Scavenger hunt
-  Bush Bash & Explore
-  DIY Treasure Maps



Please note: Scheduled sports and activities may be subject to change.



Purchase your Tickets Now!

Early Bird: \$60
General Admission: \$65
Packages: From \$170*



fresh fruit friday



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

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foundation**

   @mckernsteelfoundation

Made possible thanks to McKern Foundation and our supporting partners:



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