

Be kind, be brave, be your best

Newsletter no 15
May 28th, 2024

Principal's Chat

Hi everyone,

On Sunday 26 May, 2024 we marked National Sorry Day. On this day each year we as a nation remember the grief, suffering and injustice experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who were forcibly removed from their families and communities, whom we now know as the Stolen Generations.

This week is National Reconciliation Week and this year's theme, 'Now more than ever', reminds us that the shared fight for justice and the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will, and must, continue. Even though we have had low student numbers at school, we still went on our planned 'Reconciliation Walk' on Monday.

Ray Stevenson took us on our very first 'Reconciliation Walk'. Here is some information from Ray:

We walked on Jarra country - land of the Liarga Balug clan of the Dja Dja Wurrung cultural language group of the Kulin nation. Walking up Mt Tarrangower we took a spur to level open-wooded country, a gathering ground from which we observed neighbouring mountains and considered the meaning of reconciliation and healing.

We crossed to a beautiful gully, less damaged than most on the mountain, with dry stone workings and an old cart track. In the cutting of a disused spillway a fine and large gum grows from the sheer rock face, symbolic of living cultures, to us it is now our 'Living Cultures Tree'.

On return we made a small quartz cairn on the ground above the school thus marking our call for reconciliation. The cairn will grow.



THIS WEEK AT M.P.S.

Friday 31st May

- NO Friday fundraiser
- NO Assembly

Monday 3rd June

- Smile Squad fluoride visit



UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday 7th June

Curriculum Day

Tuesday 11th June

Quantum Excursion, Grades 3-6

Wednesday 12th June

Quantum Excursion, Grades Prep-2

Wednesday 19th June

School Council meeting

Thursday 27th June

Class Expos, 9am-9.45am

Friday 28th June

Last day term 2, 2.30pm dismissal

CHANGE OF DATE

Thursday 12th December

Grade 6 Graduation



We anticipate making this an annual tradition for National Reconciliation Week. Our gratitude goes to Ray for guiding us and to Kirby and Rainer for co-ordinating the event. **Due to absences this week, classes will undertake their planned National Reconciliation Week activities next week.**

This week has been an unusual week with a high number of absences due to illness. With illnesses such as Covid-19 and Influenza A in the community, please ensure you keep your children home if they are unwell. These illnesses are highly contagious and can spread quickly through groups of people.

Vaccination is the best way to protect yourself and others from getting the flu. Annual influenza vaccination is recommended from mid-April each year. Flu vaccinations can be booked through GPs and pharmacies, many of which can also provide COVID-19 vaccinations. Flu vaccination is recommended for everyone aged 6 months and over.

Some people are more at risk of complications from flu and are eligible for free vaccination as part of the [National Immunisation Program | Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care](#).

For more information about preventing flu, and immunisation, refer to: <https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyliving/flu-influenza-immunisation>

The COVID-19 booster dose is available for everyone aged 18 and above. Getting your booster dose remains the best way to prevent severe illness or hospitalisation, especially in people aged over 65 and those at higher risk of severe illness. You can have your booster dose 6 months after your last dose or COVID-19 infection. You can get your next Covid-19 dose at your local pharmacy or GP. To find one near you, refer to [Find a health service | healthdirect](#)

To keep our school community well, parents, carers and students are encouraged to practise prevention measures including:

- washing and sanitising hands regularly
- avoiding touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- covering nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing
- staying home if unwell and consulting a general practitioner or Nurse-on-call as required
- staying up to date with flu and COVID-19 vaccinations

Unfortunately, due to the number of illnesses, we have had to postpone our Grade 5/6 camp. This will now be held in December when everyone should be fit and healthy enough to enjoy the camp.

This week's whole school values/behaviour focus is: I am helpful (Be kind). In class, the children will be working towards meeting these 'I can' statements –

I help others

I show initiative

I co-operate with my classmates

I share with others.

I have included articles that will give parents/carers some tips and strategies on why siblings fight and how to manage these fights. Click the links to read the articles:

[Kids fighting: children and siblings | Raising Children Network](#)

[Sibling fights: how to handle them | Raising Children Network](#)

Finally, a reminder that next Friday 7th June is a Curriculum Day and no students are required at school. Teachers will be working on Semester 1 reports.

Thanks

Alisa



Reminders

Permission/payments required:

- **Grade 5/6 Castlemaine Secondary College experience day excursion permission due on uEducateUs by Tuesday, 4th June**
- **Grade Prep/1 and 1/2 Quantum excursion permission due on uEducateUs by Thursday, 6th June**
- **Grade 3/4 and 5/6 Quantum excursion permission due on uEducateUs by Thursday, 6th June**

Smile Squad six month fluoride varnish visit:

Following on from their visit last year, the Bendigo Health Smile Squad team are heading back to our school to complete six-monthly fluoride varnish applications for those students who have provided consent. Fluoride varnish applications help make sure students have the best chance of preventing tooth decay, so we're excited Smile Squad are coming back.

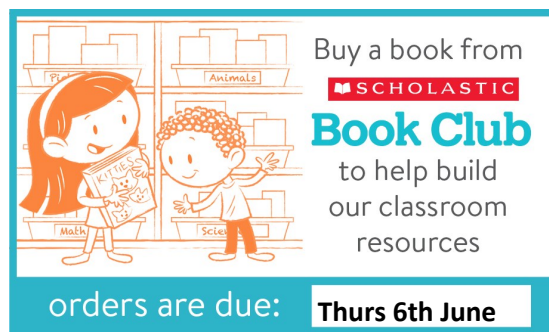
Consent for this fluoride varnish application was provided when students' initial consent forms were returned. However, if anyone has changed their mind and do not wish to receive a fluoride varnish application, they can contact Bendigo Health directly to let them know. Please contact the Smile Squad team via:

0460 729 200

dental@bendigohealth.org.au

The Smile Squad team look forward to visiting on the 3rd June.

Book Club issue 4:



Buy a book from
SCHOLASTIC
Book Club
to help build
our classroom
resources

orders are due: **Thurs 6th June**

The advertisement features a cartoon illustration of a girl and a boy in a library. The girl is holding a book, and the boy is pointing towards a bookshelf. The shelves are labeled with subjects: 'Animals', 'Math', and 'Science'. The text is in a clean, sans-serif font, with 'SCHOLASTIC' in a red box and 'Book Club' in a large, bold, blue font.

Extra curricular catch up



**Enroll
Now!**

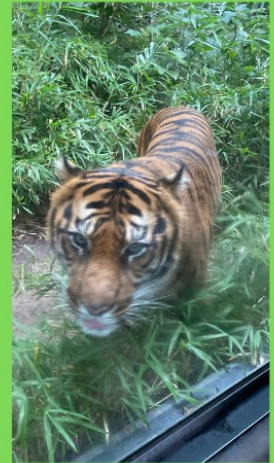
MUSIC
LESSONS

DTM
EDUCATION
FASSON. METHOD. RESULTS.

Guitar | Piano | Violin | Vocals | Drums
BASS | UKELELE | WOODWIND | BRASS | STRINGS | BANJO | HARMONICA |
MARIMBA

0407502438 | drew.dtmaustralia@gmail.com

The advertisement is a vertical poster with a torn paper effect at the top. The top half shows a person playing an acoustic guitar. Below the guitar, there are two overlapping speech bubbles: a yellow one saying 'Enroll' and a blue one saying 'Now!'. The bottom half is black with the word 'MUSIC' in large, orange, outlined letters, and 'LESSONS' in white below it. The DTM Education logo is centered, followed by a list of instruments and subjects. The contact information is at the bottom in white text on a black background.



Melbourne Zoo Excursion

Help us find a new before/after school care coordinator

Do you enjoy working with children, supporting their growth and helping them reach their full potential? If so, we have a fantastic opportunity for you!

Mt Alexander FDC is seeking a qualified Early Childhood Educator to run a Before and After School Care Program at Maldon Primary School. The program runs from Monday to Friday, and the role starts in term 3, 2024.

New educators register via Mt Alexander Family Day Care, where our leadership team provides all start-up and administration support.

If you would like further information regarding fees, compliance requirements or qualifications, please don't hesitate to contact Analeigh (Program Facilitator) at 0431 74 5097 or Lisa Girvan (Mt Alexander FDC) at 0474 315 849.

What's happening in the community?

From Diagnosis to OAM

plus a Sibling's Perspective: A Personal Autism Journey

Kyneton

Thursday 30 May 2024
6:30pm-9:30pm
(3 hour seminar including question time, doors open 6pm)

Daniel and Daniel's Dad (Daryl) will discuss Daniel's journey from diagnosis to present day giving an insight from Daniel's personal perspective of living life as an Autistic individual.

Daniel's sister (Leash) will also be sharing the sibling perspective and is a qualified educator (may be prerecorded).

Topics include diagnosis, school journey, independent living, employment and strategies used to achieve the best outcomes.

There will also be an opportunity for question time.

Early Bird Tickets until 16 May!

Presented by
Daniel Giles OAM
Order of Australia
Medal Recipient
& Autistic Self-Advocate

Daryl Giles
Daniel's Dad

Leash Purcell
Daniel's Sister
and Educator

Venue
Kyneton Bowling Club
61-79 Mollison St, Kyneton VIC

Tickets (*includes \$0.50 booking fee for online bookings)
Autistic people, family & carers
\$30.50* early bird | \$35.50* regular
Professionals (Educators/Caseworkers/Therapists - incl. CPD cert.)
\$75.50* early bird | \$85.50* regular
trybooking.com/CQWAC (or scan QR code)

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EDUCATORS – Educators can claim 3 hours of Professional Development. Australian Professional Standard for Teachers at the level of Proficient Teacher 6.4.2

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Understanding teens and tweens emotions and how to work with them

Part of the Parenting in the Modern World talks for 2024

FREE talk hosted by Castlemaine Library
Thursday 6 June 2024 | 5.30 — 7.30 pm
(5.15 pm arrival for a 5.30 pm start)

Bookings at goldfieldslibraries.com

