MALDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter no. 31
October 13th, 2026

This week...

Wednesday	• Pioneer Settlement camp, Gr 3/4
Thursday	• Pioneer Settlement camp, Gr 3/4 • Cascade Art Gallery visit, Gr 5/6
Friday	• Pioneer Settlement camp, Gr 3/4 • Friday Fundraiser • NO Assembly
Tuesday	• First day Clubs, all students

Coming up...

Wednesday 21st October School Council
Monday 2nd November Curriculum Day, no students at school
Tuesday 3rd November Melbourne Cup Public Holiday
Thursday 19th November Prep late night stay
Thursday 26th November Shopping Spree fundraiser
Thursday 3rd to Friday 4th December Billabong Ranch camp, Gr 1 and 2
Tuesday 8th December Statewide transition day
Friday 11th December Student expo, 9am - 10.15am
Monday 14th December Christmas and Graduation assembly, 9.15am-10.30am

This week's parent essentials

- Grade 3/4 students need to be at the Castlemaine Railway station at 9am on Wednesday morning. Students need to be picked up from the Railway station at 4.30pm on Friday.

Grade 3 and 4 camp

Tomorrow the Grade 3/4 class head off to Pioneer Settlement in Swan Hill for their three day camp. A big thank you to Jesse and Mandy, along with parent helpers Aaron and James, for supporting this great experience. We look forward to hearing all about the camp when they return.

Grade 6 Graduation

This year, we have decided to reimagine the way we celebrate our Grade 6 students as they finish their primary school journey. While our traditional evening graduation has been a lovely occasion over the years, we feel it is time to make some changes to ensure our celebrations are inclusive, meaningful and enjoyable for everyone. This year, we will incorporate our graduation into our end-of-year Christmas Assembly, where Grade 6 students will be individually recognised and presented with their graduation certificate and gift. This will allow our whole school community, including families and younger siblings, to celebrate this important milestone together. Following the assembly, our Grade 6 students will enjoy a special morning tea with their teachers, where they can share memories and watch a slideshow celebrating their years at Maldon Primary School. This new approach also allows students to spend their final weeks enjoying their time together rather than preparing speeches and individual movies. We believe this will be a lovely way to acknowledge our Grade 6 students while keeping the focus on what matters most — celebrating their friendships, memories and time at Maldon Primary School. The Christmas and Graduation Assembly will be held on Monday 14th December, starting at 9.15am.

Maldon and Baringhup Agricultural Show

Don't forget the Maldon and Baringhup Agricultural Show is on this Sunday 18th October from 9am to 4pm. Our students have all submitted a piece of artwork into the show, which is a wonderful opportunity for us to showcase the creativity and talent of our students. We encourage families to visit the show on Sunday and take a look at the amazing entries on display. The children may get some inspiration for next year! Thank you to Grace for the great work she does with the children and the way she has continued the connections with our local community.

Snakes

With the weather warming up, snakes may be out and about. There are a few important things we can all do to stay safe around snakes, so please take some time to discuss these safety reminders with your children.

• Wear closed-in shoes to protect your feet and ankles.

• Stomp your feet more vigorously when you walk. Snakes can pick up vibrations through the ground and are inclined to slither away from you if they can feel you coming.

• Keep an eye out for snakes. Remaining alert might mean that you see the snake before it sees you.

• Leave snakes alone. People that get bitten by snakes are generally the ones doing the wrong thing. They may be trying to pick it up, throw stones at it or kill it. Snakes only bite if they feel threatened. If you leave them alone, you should have no problem at all.

Castlemaine Secondary College Year 7 Transition information

In the coming weeks, 2027 families will be sent book list information.
CSC is in the process of confirming classes and the staffing profile of their Junior School for 2027 and are looking forward to getting to know their new Year 7s.

A reminder of upcoming transition dates:

Family Information Evening – Wednesday, December 2
5:30 pm-6:30 pm in the Gym (Junior School Building)

Orientation Day – Tuesday 8 December
9:00 am to 3:15 pm

The Smile Squad free school dental program is coming to our school

The Smile Squad team from Bendigo Health is coming to our school soon.
Smile Squad is the Victorian Government's free school dental program.
This means all students can receive 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 using the QR code below

Paper copies of the consent form are also available. Please contact the school office if you would like one.
The electronic consent form can be translated into more than 100 languages, and the paper form is currently available in 13 languages.

Smile Squad oral health packs

All children deserve a healthy smile, and the Smile Squad free school dental program is working hard to help make this happen.
Your child(ren) will soon receive a free oral health pack to bring home. The pack contains a toothbrush, full-sized toothpaste, and an oral health brochure. Please take a moment to read the brochure—it is full of useful tips to help your family eat well, drink well, and clean well for life.

Smile Squad provides standard-strength fluoride toothpaste, which is generally recommended for ages six and over unless advised otherwise by a dental or trained health professional.
If your child is under six, please speak with a dental or trained health professional to determine whether this toothpaste is suitable. Alternatively, you may choose to put the toothpaste aside until they turn six or give it to another family member.

Do I need to attend my child's appointment?

No, you do not need to attend your child's appointment. You are welcome to attend if you wish, and you can choose to take your child to a community dental clinic if that suits your family better.

This week's value

This week's whole school value focus is: I am proud of who I am (be your best). Some of the areas classes will be focusing on are:

- I am proud of my achievements
- I give and receive compliments
- I can identify my strengths and weaknesses
- I accept individual differences
- I take pride in my work
- I am proud of my behaviour, words and actions
- I share the qualities that make me unique

IHere are some readings to give parents/carers tips and strategies on building their child's confidence through their strengths and interests.

How to build confidence in teenagers | Raising Children Network
Confidence for autistic children & teens | Raising Children Network
How to help your child make friends | Raising Children Network

Weekly values awards

(presented at assembly next week)

P/1: Charles for getting organised quickly for learning and staying focused for all tasks (be your best)
1/2: Messi for taking the initiative to get the classroom ready for learning (be your best)
3/4: Emily for consistently showing responsibility by staying focused, actively listening and treating others with kindness and respect (be your best)
5/6: Darien for the initiative he took in writing his Remembrance Day story (be your best)

australian transplant games 2026
LAUNCESTON

James had an incredible time at the Transplant Games in Launceston over the school holidays! Some of the highlights included:

- a Victorian team dinner where the whole family were given the lovely opportunity to meet other organ transplant recipients and their families
- James, and his kidney donor Jodi Hamilton, met and shared their story with Tasmanian Governor Caroline Wells
- James and his brother Ned had the honour of being flag bearers for Team Victoria at the Transplant Games Parade at City park, finishing at the opening ceremony at Albert Hall
- The singles lawn bowls event where James played five rounds, winning three, drawing one and losing one and coming away with a gold medal!
- The pairs/doubles event where James participated in the 50 years and over division. James partnered with Brian Donovan who started the first Australian Transplant Games in Melbourne in 1988. James and Brian won gold!
- James was awarded a sportsmanship trophy, decided by the Victorian team managers, for showing care towards other players, sharing his knowledge of the game and helping others.

James made so many new friends on his trip to Tasmania and is looking forward to the next transplant games in two years time!

The MANGO FUNDRAISER

Fresh North Queensland Mangoes

Direct from the farm to you!

Support Our ALDON PRIMARY SCHOOL Mango Fundraiser

If you *love mangoes*, here's your chance to indulge in fresh juicy Bowen special mangoes and support our fundraising drive.

We are selling 7kg trays of mangoes picked and packed during the premium harvest.

Cost per tray is $30 (12-23 mangoes)

Place your order by Friday 23rd October, 2026 using the order form sent home

Delivery expected: early November to early December

MALDON BOWLING CLUB
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*October Community BBQ &
*Barefoot Bowls
Friday OCTOBER 16th 5.30pm
Live music by
"Johnny Valentine"
$5 entry- includes bowling, use of bowls equipment, Raffle Ticket.
Children under 15 Free
*BBQ from 5.30pm
Free coaching /practice and junior Development from 4pm.

newstead community garden
Open Day
Sunday 25 October
11am - 2pm
Plant sale
Tea and cake
Garden hamper raffle
Free Printing with Nature workshop for kids
Ages 6 - 12 yrs ~ 11am - 12pm
Come and explore our garden: an organic system based on permaculture principles

162ND MALDON & BARINGHUP AGRICULTURAL SHOW
SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER, 2026
9AM - 4PM
Maldon Racecourse Reserve, Lewis Rd, Maldon
FREE CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES FROM 10am-3pm
ENTRY
$15 Adult
$35 Family (2 adults & family under 14)
$10 Pensioners/ Students
$5.00 Children (Under 14)