

We Love Learning!



Koondrook Primary School respectfully acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we stand. We pay respects to the Barapa Barapa Elders past, present and future.

Koondrook Primary School

KPS: Respect, Responsibility, Resilience

February 24th, 2021

Issue no: 3

Principal's Report

I would like say a huge thank you to students, parents and staff for their amazing response to the lock down last week and the return to 3 days of remote learning. To respond so effectively to rapidly changing circumstances was a credit to our entire school community. Each school has responded differently to what suits their circumstances, and I think everyone is to be congratulated in adapting to allow the students learning to continue within the scope of this 3-day remote learning period.

Staffing

This week we have welcomed Mrs Michelle Howard to our teaching staff. Michelle will be running our Tutor Program until the middle of October. Michelle will be at Koondrook on Mondays and Thursdays.

Next week we will welcome Danielle Tuck to our student support staff. Danielle will be supporting students in the classroom on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

Tutor Program

The Government has given schools money this year to support students to catch up after the periods of Remote Learning last year. Mrs Howard will be working with small groups of students in consultation with their class teachers. The children will work with Mrs Howard for two 45-minute sessions each week. Groups will run for a period of five-week blocks.

Foundation/Prep Students

A reminder to all families of Prep students that this week is the last Wednesday off for them. Next week will be the first full week of school for Prep students.

Dates to Remember

Term Dates 2021

Term 1 ~ January 28th – April 1st

Term 2 ~ April 19th – June 25th

Term 3 ~ July 12th – September 17th

Term 4 ~ October 4th – December 17th

Public Holidays

March 8th – Victorian Labour Day

June 14th – Queen's Birthday

November 2nd – Melbourne Cup

School Dates to Remember

February 26th – Cluster Swimming Sports @ Koondrook Pool

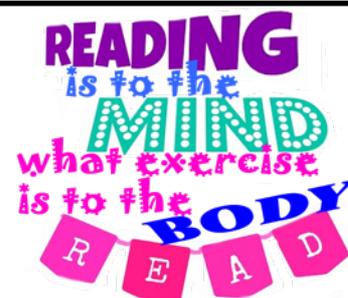
March 3rd – Dream Seeds, Yr. 5/6

March 17th – Parent/Teacher Interviews

Assemblies

March 12th – Grade 1/2

March 26th – Grade 5/6



COVID Guidelines

Please be vigilant when entering the school grounds and follow the COVID guidelines that are in place. Sanitise upon entry, wear a mask as per State Guidelines and social distance.

Stay Home When Unwell

The following is a quote from the Department of Education Covid Operations Guide:

“The most important action school communities can take to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19, is to ensure that any unwell staff and students remain at home and get tested, even with the mildest of symptoms.”

Please ensure if your child is unwell they stay at home, for the wellbeing of all students and staff.

If they are experiencing COVID type symptoms then they must get tested. People with coronavirus may experience symptoms such as: fever, respiratory symptoms, coughing, sore throat or shortness of breath.

Other symptoms can include runny nose, headache, muscle or joint pains, nausea, diarrhoea, vomiting, loss of sense of smell, altered sense of taste, loss of appetite and fatigue.

School Council Elections

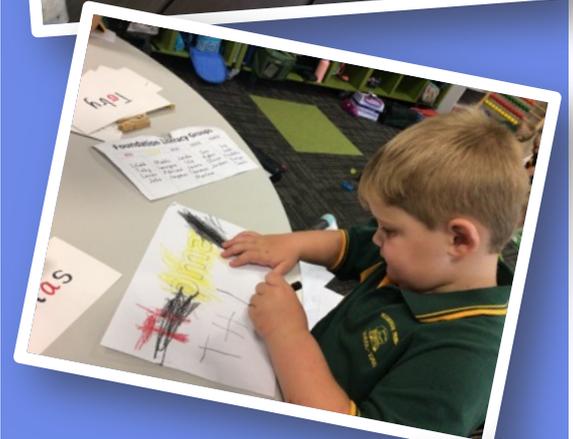
It is once again the time of year when School Council elections occur. We have four parent vacancies for the upcoming election cycle. Our outgoing members include Stephen Ralston, Tim Millard and Tracey Brennan. Outgoing members are welcome to renominate if they so choose. Bernie Monaghan's two-year term has also expired. Currently we have two staff vacancies to fill as we also have a one-year vacancy for Cassie's position. If you would like to nominate for school council there are nomination forms available at the office. Being on School Council is a great way to have input in to the direction of our great school, it is also a wonderful way to obtain an in depth understanding of the way that our school operates. Nominations open on Wednesday 24th February and close on Wednesday 3rd March.

Parent Teacher Interviews

At Koondrook Primary, Parent Teacher Interviews are conducted twice a year. Our first Parent Teacher Interviews are scheduled for Wednesday 17th March from 2:00pm. During the afternoon, the students will participate in Tabloid Sports run by Mr McLaren and the Year 6 students. A preference form for you to complete and return to school will be sent home today. We will try to allocate your preferred time as best we can.

Zone Swimming in Swan Hill

On Monday Eve, Riley, Althea, Lucy, Hunter and Charlie competed in the Mallee Zone Swimming Carnival in Swan Hill. They had a great day competing. Eve and Lucy will now represent the school and District in the Regional Carnival to be held in Swan Hill next week.





Junior Golf



Junior Golf begins on February 21st at 10am at the Barham Golf Course Clubs are supplied - \$2 per session. Any enquiries to: Irene Whelan - 0427 532 849



Cluster Swimming Sports

Don't forget our Cluster Swimming Sports are on this Friday 26th February at the Koondrook Pool. We will be competing against our Mallee Plains Cluster schools - Gunbower, Leitchville and Murrabit. Children will need to make sure they have their bathers on and to bring lunch, snacks, water bottles, towel and sunscreen. Students need to make sure they have a t-shirt or rashie to wear while not in the pool. We will take their school hats. The swimming starts at 10am so if students are coming by car they need to be at the pool **no later than 9:45am**. If students go home with parents/carers from the pool they will need to see **Amanda Bradford to sign out**. The canteen will be open during the day. Parents are welcome to join us at the swimming sports. You will either need to sign in at the pool using a QR code or the paper sign in. If you are unable to social distance you will need to wear a face mask. Parents will need to pay the pool entry fee. We have already collected the pool entry for the students. **We will need a few parents to help out with the judging of the events at the swimming sports. If you can help out please let Amanda know.**

Stephanie Alexander Garden and Cooking Program

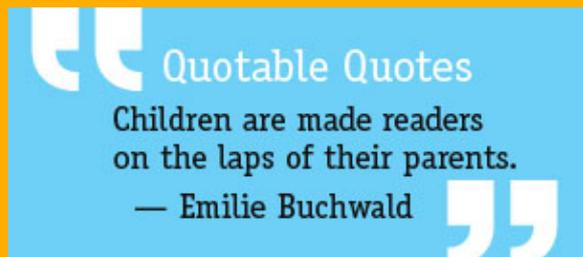
Each week the children from Years 3-6 alternate to take part in the gardening and cooking program. The children work in small groups and each week they rotate through the activities. We will be running the program from 12:35pm until 1:35pm on Wednesdays. We hope to start next Wednesday 3rd March.

Absences

Attendance at school is crucial to student achievement. If your child is absent it is a Departmental requirement that Parents notify the school on the day of the absence. Please text me on 0429329183 to notify me of your child's absence. Unexplained absences will be followed up each day as per Department Policy.

CCTV Cameras

School Council are investigating installing CCTV Cameras in the school grounds. The cameras will be installed outside the buildings. We have had a few instances of minor damage occurring outside school hours over the weekends and holiday periods. A copy of the CCTV policy is included with the newsletter today.



Healthy School Lunches

It's a great idea to talk to your children about what they would like to have in their lunchbox. Encourage your children to help prepare their lunchboxes. Older children may be able to prepare most of their lunch themselves, and younger children can help with making sandwiches or cutting up soft fruit. It is a good idea to prepare lunchboxes the evening before to allow children to participate.

Tips for healthy lunchboxes include:

Cut up large pieces of fruit and put them in a container – this makes it easier to eat, especially if your child has wobbly teeth or if they have less time to eat than they are used to. Consider giving half a sandwich or roll for morning recess, as this is an easy way to get a healthy fill. Go for colour and crunch in the lunch box by offering a variety of colourful vegetables and fruit. There are many websites where you can find ideas for a healthy and interesting school lunch.

School lunches and food safety

Food is usually stored in lunchboxes for several hours and it is important to keep the lunchbox cool so that the food stays fresh. Some tips to help keep lunchboxes safe include: Choose an insulated lunch box or one with a freezer pack. Pack a wrapped frozen water bottle or freezer brick next to foods that should be kept cold. If making lunches ahead of time, keep them in the fridge until leaving for school or freeze them in advance. If you include leftover meals such as meats, pasta and rice dishes, make sure you pack a frozen ice block in the lunch box. Ask children to keep packed lunches in their school bag and to keep their bag out of direct sunlight and away from heat, ideally in a cool, dark place such as a locker.

Amanda Bradford

Prep Class News

In the Prep classroom we have been learning how to sit and listen to instructions, to put our hand up to speak, not call out and how to be more independent with our belongings. We are also learning all of our classmates' names. We enjoy taking turns getting up in front of the class to show or tell something to everyone.

We are learning the letters and sounds of: A, E, S, I, M, N and T. To do this we first say the name of the letter, then we say the sound the letter makes and do an action (Cued Articulation) which helps us and lastly, we say a word that starts with that letter. We are getting better at changing tables during our literacy group activities and following our group.

We have been learning about numbers to 10. We are all getting much better at writing our names and pointing to the words when we read our readers. We really love stories being read to us.

Mrs Bartels

MACC News Term 1 2021

Hello everyone, it's great to be back at school and to see the return of familiar faces and to meet the new students across the cluster.

This year we will focus on the studios of Drawing, Collage, Construction and Painting with the 5/6 students completing skateboard decks in Term 4.

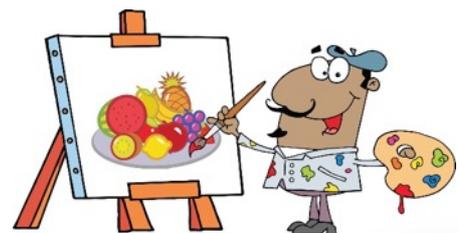
Just a quick reminder that all students will need **an art smock** for Art to protect their clothing from paints, glues and other messy materials. Please make sure smocks are labelled with your child's name.

This term we will be working on Mixed Media Portraits and how we can include the building blocks of Art – the Art Elements and Principles – in our work. These include Line, Shape, Form, Pattern, Texture, Colour, Movement, Contrast and Emphasis. You can help your child notice patterns in nature, man-made patterns, the shapes of things, and different types of lines such as curved, straight, wavy, zigzag, etc.

If anyone has any old make-up **mirrors** with protected edges that can be donated to the MACC Van, this would be greatly appreciated as they will help children draw their self-portraits. Thank you in advance.

It is also possible that Grade 5/6 students will take part in an art project with The University of Melbourne. This is to be confirmed.

Ms Sally Bentley
Murray Plains MACC
Art Teacher



CONTACT:

Koondrook Primary School
Murray Parade Koondrook,
PO Box 8, Koondrook, 3580

Phone - 03 54532428
Fax - 03 54531147

Website: koondrookps.vic.edu.au
E-mail: koondrook.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au



NDCH

Northern District Community Health

NDCH-your first port of call in the pursuit of good health!

How to help kids stay safe online!

With so many games, apps, and social media platforms now available, it is more important than ever to learn about what your children are using.

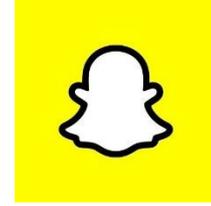
Some popular games, apps and social media sites among school aged children are:



8 to 18 recommended age
according to Roblox



10+ minimum age
according to Minecraft



13+ minimum age
according to Snapchat

**visit the eSafety Guide to decide whether an app, game or social networking site is safe for your child and family.*

Know the apps, games and social media sites your kids are using, make sure they are age-appropriate. For more advice

- The eSafety Guide ([esafety.gov.au/key-issues/esafety-guide](https://www.esafety.gov.au/key-issues/esafety-guide)) includes information to help parents and carers choose safer apps and report and block unwanted contact.

Watch and play with your child online. This will help you better understand what they are doing and it is a great time to talk about online safety.

Check the privacy settings. Make sure their profiles are turned on to the highest privacy setting. Limit who can contact your child or ask them to check in with you before accepting new friends.

Use parental controls. Parental controls are software tools that allow you to monitor and limit what your child sees and does online. For more advice visit [esafety.gov.au/parents/skills-advice/taming-technology](https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/skills-advice/taming-technology)

For more tips visit: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/>



supporting young people during COVID-19

headspace Swan Hill in partnership with headspace National, are hosting a webinar for parents and carers of young people to support their mental health through COVID-19.

Information presented will:

- Strengthen your understanding of mental health and mental health literacy.
- Build skills and strategies to support the mental health and wellbeing of your young person, including their transition to work and study.
- Build awareness of local, state and national supports available to young people.
- Showcase local headspace centre community resources.

The webinar will consist of a presentation on youth mental health, followed by a panel with guest speakers.

When

Monday 15th March 2021
7pm – 8.15pm AEDT

How do I register?

Click here to register via Eventbrite, or type the URL below into your web browser:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/swan-hill-covid-19-parent-and-carer-webinar-supporting-young-people-registration-133044735385>

After you have registered, you will receive an email confirmation from Eventbrite which will include the Zoom meeting link to access the webinar.

Contact

For more information email:
headspaceSchools@headspace.org.au



Registrations now open for Barham Koondrook Raiders!

Runs Thursdays from 5pm-6pm. Starts 22 April, 2021.

Register today and follow us on Facebook for updates and info.

 @Raiders KBFNC

In weekly sessions, Auskickers and their families will run, jump, kick, laugh and create their own special moments playing footy.

No matter their skill level, ability or knowledge of the game, Auskick is for everyone!

Registration is this simple!

1

WWW.

Visit
play.afl

2



Select
'Where to play'

3



Enter your
suburb

4

REGISTER

Find your local
club and register!

play.afl/auskick

GIRLS COME AND TRY

Are you interested in Aussie Rules Football?
Keen to try something new?
Open to ages 8-16 years of age.

Wednesday 10th March 5.00 – 6.00

Kerang Football Oval

Wednesday 17th March 5.00 – 6.00

Swan Hill Recreation Reserve

REGISTER TODAY!

[REGISTRATION FORM](#)





**INVITE YOUR FRIENDS,
ALL WELCOME!**



Coming this Summer to:
KERANG BOWLING CLUB
102 - 104 Bendigo Road, Kerang.

Bowling with Babies

Recognised as a Victorian Sport Development Initiative of the Year (2018).
A fun activity you can enjoy with your little one.

FAMILY FUN AT LAWN BOWLING

When: Thursdays: 11th Feb - 18th March

Time: Between 9.30am - 11.00am

Cost: FREE to participate!

Why?

- Meet new or old friends
- Enjoy physical activity outdoors
- All equipment provided for little ones and adults to have fun
- Child-safe environment
- REAL coffee and a chat to finish up

Contact Gayle Teasdale 0428 171 450 or
Jacqui Jenkins 0499 894 281 for more info,
or see video on website below.

Bookings are essential
Scan the code below or visit website
to register.



Find out more at
playbowlsvictoria.com.au

Scan to
find out
more &
book your
place

