

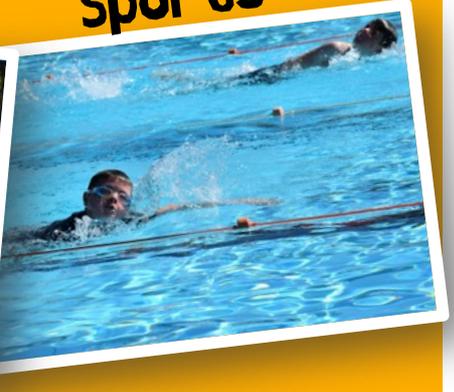
## Cluster



## Swimming



## Sports



*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**

**March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022**

**Issue no: 3**

## Principal's Report

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Millie and Chester on the safe arrival of a lovely little daughter, Gia. A granddaughter for Di to love and spoil too!

### School Council

The next meeting of the School Council is on Monday 21st March at 7:30pm in the Year 4 classroom. This will be our Annual General Meeting followed by our normal monthly meeting.

### School Council Elections

It is once again the time of year when School Council elections occur. We have six parent vacancies for the upcoming election cycle - four for 2 years and two for 1 year. Our outgoing members include Diesel, Leah Ryan, Courtney Dean and Chris D'Silva. Outgoing members are welcome to renominate if they so choose. Sophie Lake's two-year term has also expired. Currently we have two staff vacancies to fill as we also have a one-year vacancy for Millie'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 into the direction of our fantastic school, it is also a wonderful way to obtain an in depth understanding of the way that our school operates. We thank everyone who has been part of our School Council over the last year. Nominations open on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March and close on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March.

### Easter Raffle

We are holding an Easter Raffle again this year. Could all families please donate an Easter Egg or something similar to school. Raffle tickets will be sent home with the children over the next week.

## Dates to Remember

### Term Dates 2022

Term 1 ~ January 31<sup>st</sup> – April 8<sup>th</sup>

Term 2 ~ April 26<sup>th</sup> – June 24<sup>th</sup>

Term 3 ~ July 11<sup>th</sup> – September 16<sup>th</sup>

Term 4 ~ October 3<sup>rd</sup> – December 20<sup>th</sup>

### Public Holidays

March 14<sup>th</sup> – Labour Day

June 13<sup>th</sup> – Queen's Birthday

September 24<sup>th</sup> – AFL Holiday

November 1<sup>st</sup> – Melbourne Cup

### School Dates to Remember

March 22<sup>nd</sup> – Yr. 6 KTHS Transition

March 29<sup>th</sup> – Yr. 6 BHS Transition

March 30<sup>th</sup> – Billy Tea Bush Band

April 8<sup>th</sup> – Last Day Term 1

### Assemblies

March 4<sup>th</sup> – Year 1/2 Item

March 18<sup>th</sup> – Year 4 Item

April 1<sup>st</sup> – Prep Item

### Assembly

We will have Assembly this Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March at 2:30pm on Webex. Year 1/2 will be presenting the item.



## Swimming Sports

Our swimming program is now finished until the end of the year. I was very proud of all our students on Friday at the swimming carnival as they worked together to gain points for our school. The atmosphere was so positive, and everyone displayed wonderful sportsmanship. It was disappointing that we were unable to have all the parents at the sports to support the children and cheer them on but we were so pleased that we could still run the event for the children. Congratulations to Murrabit who were the school champions and thank you to Mr McLaren for all the work you put in to organising the sports. We also need to thank the teachers and support staff, Mandy, Sarah, Aneisha and Jess for their help with all the jobs that needed to be covered in order to conduct a successful swimming carnival. Thank you, Tracey and Jess, for lending their gazebos. As always, we appreciate Janice Flood's help at the finishing table. Thank you, Mandy and Annie for putting in the swimming ropes the night before the sports. This made the setup on Friday morning a lot easier and quicker for the teachers. We really appreciate Annie for changing her plans and being our lifeguard so the sports could go ahead. Thank you, Mandy, Sarah and Chris for helping with our swimming program. Without the help of these generous people, we could not run our swimming or our sports.

## Parent Teacher Interviews

At Koondrook Primary, Parent Teacher Interviews are conducted twice a year. Our first Parent Teacher Interviews are scheduled for Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March from 2:00pm. Interviews can take place onsite if you are double vaccinated. We can also arrange phone interviews if you prefer. During the afternoon, the students will participate in Tabloid Sports run by Shane, Mrs Lake, Miss Bradford, Karen, Danielle 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. **Please return the forms by Friday.**

## 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.

## Bush Dance

On Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March we are welcoming the Billy Tea Bush Band to Koondrook Primary. The cost of this incursion will be \$10 per student. During the day the band will be working with the children and teachers as they learn a variety of Bush Dances. In the evening we would like the community to join us for a BYO picnic tea followed by a family bush dance. This will be a great opportunity for all the school community to get together. Please send \$10 in a green school envelope. If you have CSEF you may use this to cover the cost of the incursion. We will have more information in the next newsletter.





### **Labour Day**

There will be no school on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March as it is the Victorian Labour Day holiday.

### **Bus Travellers**

Children who travel on the bus to and/or from school need to bring a note for Karen if they are not going to be on the bus or are going home with friends. Same goes for students who don't normally go on the bus and are going home with friends on the bus, you need a note. It is essential that we know how, or where, your children are going home. Time is wasted looking for children who are not on the bus when we haven't been informed. If it's a last-minute decision, could parents/carers please wait for your children at the bus stop so they can be marked off the roll accordingly. Your cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated. Thank you to the families who already do this.

### **Parent Payment Arrangements**

Thank you to those families that have made contributions towards your students learning for 2022. We try and keep our curriculum contributions to a minimum. The \$160 contributions pay for the student supplies that are needed in the classroom - exercise books, pencils, glue sticks, craft supplies, computer programs - Mathletics, Reading Eggs, Essential Assessment and the MARC and MACC program. Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. Nevertheless, the ongoing support of our families ensures that our school can offer the best possible education and support for our students. We want to thank you for all your support, whether that's through fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school. Within our school this support has allowed us to have a wider offering of subjects and special curriculum experiences.

### **COVID SAFE MEASURES**

We want to thank parents and students for the great job they have done so far in keeping our school as safe as possible by following important COVIDSafe measures such as mask wearing, physical distancing, ventilation, getting vaccinated and rapid antigen testing.

This has meant that our school has remained open and our students in class. This is a fantastic outcome and a testament to the hard work of parents, carers, students and school staff. To keep this happening please remember to keep your children at home if they are showing symptoms: runny nose, temperature, coughing etc, and do a test.

#### **Rapid antigen tests**

To keep schools as safe as possible, the Victorian Government has extended the COVIDSafe measures introduced for the beginning of Term 1. This includes extending the availability of free rapid antigen tests (RAT) for screening until the end of term.

*Continued overleaf...*



*Continued...*

It is anticipated an additional 24 million RATs will be provided to schools and early childhood settings to continue to support early detection and prevent infection, for use at home.

The need for this program will continue to be monitored, and may end earlier based on health advice. This is great news and will mean we're able to continue identifying COVID-19 cases as early as possible, reducing the impact on our school and individuals.

Department of Health modelling indicates that in the first two weeks of school returning, the program has already prevented more than 21,000 cases in schools alone. Their modelling indicates, assuming a 75 per cent compliance rate with screening of students, that by continuing RAT screening in schools for the full 10 weeks of Term 1, we will prevent:

- 61,000 COVID-19 infections in children aged 5 to 17
- more than 150,000 COVID-19 infections in the overall community (on average 15,000 per week over 10 weeks, or more than 2,100 per day)
- around 400 hospital admissions.

The department will continue to supply RATs to our school for your use.

Twice-a-week testing continues to be strongly recommended for both students and staff.

Testing will be conducted at home, and students and staff must report any positive result. There is no requirement to report a negative result.

#### **Vaccination**

Vaccination is another key component to protect students and staff in school settings. Vaccinations for children aged 5 to 11 are open and third dose vaccinations for 16 to 17 year olds are now available. There are lots of convenient options to access vaccinations. These include state-wide vaccination hubs, your local GP or pharmacy.

You can book your appointment in a few different ways, including:

\* online: [coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccine](https://coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccine)

\* by phone: 1800 675 398 (Coronavirus Hotline)

\* In person: talk to your local pharmacy, doctor, or attend a state-wide vaccination hub. \* using the COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Finder - COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Finder | Australian Government Department of Health

In addition, schools provide a trusted place among the community to access vaccination, particularly for families who may experience language or social barriers.

Following successful implementation of school pop-up clinics at the commencement of Term 1, more than 230 schools across Victoria are currently hosting mini-vaccination clinics led by GPs and pharmacists. Many of these clinics will also make vaccinations available to the broader school community, inclusive of families of students and school staff.

#### **Ventilation**

Improving ventilation is one of the most effective measures to keep education settings safe. 51,000 air purifiers were delivered to schools by Term 1, 2022 to support COVIDSafe settings in schools. Up to an additional 60,000 air purifiers will be rolled out to schools ahead of winter to supplement natural and mechanical ventilation during the cooler months.

The winter allocation will provide enough purifiers to cover all classrooms, in government schools and low-fee non-government schools based on current enrolments. This includes general purpose classrooms and other specialist classrooms such as art and science rooms.

Mask rules will remain the same, with students in Grade 3 and above required to wear masks – although they will not be required outdoors.

On behalf of the school, I would like to thank you again for your continued support in helping your child to complete the rapid antigen tests and other COVID Safe measures. As a result of these efforts our school can continue providing a safe environment for students and staff.

*Amanda Bradford*



# NDCH School Newsletter

## GANNAWARRA KIDS EAT WELL POSTER/COLOURING COMPETITION

### What is Vic Kids Eat Well?

A new movement to encourage healthy food and drink!

### What's involved?

Make a poster or colour in the Gannawarra Kids Eat Well poster, and go to the Cohuna Show to see your entry on display.

### Who can enter?

Open to all primary and secondary schools in Gannawarra.

### How to enter?

Send your entry to Rachel at [Rachel.brooks@ndch.org.au](mailto:Rachel.brooks@ndch.org.au) or drop it off at your school reception. Names will be displayed at the show, leave name blank if you want students to remain anonymous.

### Entries close: 16th March 2022

### Prizes include:

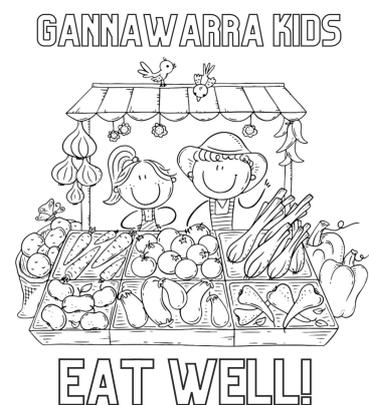
- 4 x \$25 voucher for your school from a local fruit and veg retailer in your area
- Gannawarra Kids Eat Well certificate for every child who enters
- Colouring displayed at the Cohuna Show



Example from: Grade 5,  
Epping Public School



Example from: Grade 4,  
Wahroonga Public School

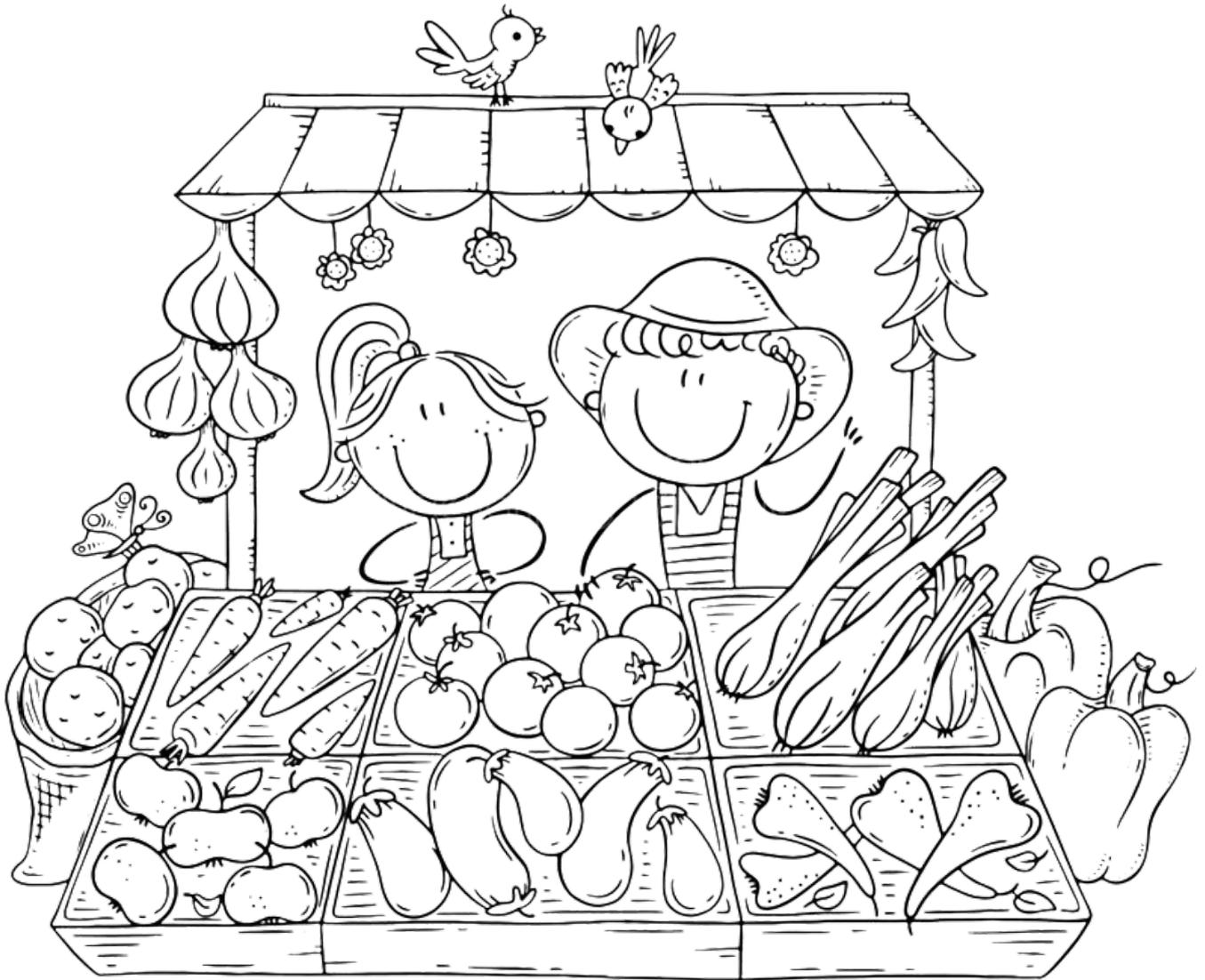


More information:



NAME: ..... SCHOOL: ..... AGE: .....

# GANNAWARRA KIDS



# EAT WELL!

More information:



29th annual



# Sunday, March 6

## Ride/Run/Walk

Factory and Field Waffles

Cohuna Bridge to Bridge

Island Road, Cohuna

[www.bridgetobridge.org.au](http://www.bridgetobridge.org.au)

If the Bridge to Bridge is cancelled, all events will revert to virtual events.

- CMA Healthy Gunbower Forest Kids K
- Dunkinway Tyrepower 6.5km Fun Run/Walk
- The Bridge Newspaper 12.5km Trail Run
- Cohuna Auto Electrical 21.1km Trail Run
- 6.5km Junior Cycle
- 25km Cycle
- Mawsons 50km Cycle
- Virtual Options for Each Event



A major fundraiser for the



with proceeds going towards a cardiac monitor.

Organised by the Bridge to Bridge Committee and



Cohuna Neighbourhood House  
The heart of our community



## PHYSIOTHERAPY



for families and children from birth to 17 years old.

Physiotherapy is available for children who may have difficulty with things such as;

- Rolling
- Running
- Coordination
- Crawling
- Sitting
- Balance
- Walking
- Gross motor skills – these include, throwing, catching, kicking, jumping, hopping, skipping, climbing, bike riding and/or playing sport.

Physiotherapy is available for children with a wide variety of conditions including, but not limited to;

- Cerebral palsy
- Developmental delay
- Down syndrome
- Acquired brain injuries
- Duchenne Muscular dystrophy
- Neurological conditions and genetic disorders
- Cystic fibrosis
- After Surgery or illness
- Toe walking
- Autism Spectrum disorder

If your child may benefit from this service you can contact Northern District Community Health on 5451 0200, alternatively any children with Physiotherapy in their NDIS plan, referrals can be sent to [NDIS@ndch.org.au](mailto:NDIS@ndch.org.au)



## GET ACTIVE VOUCHERS

Vouchers are available for eligible families and activities.

Applications for vouchers will be opening in March 2022. There will be two ways to apply:

### 1. GET REIMBURSED

If you have already paid for your child's registration fees or membership you can apply to be reimbursed for up to \$200. You can be reimbursed for expenses incurred between 1 January 2021 and 18 March 2022. Applications for reimbursement will open on 7 March and close 18 March 2022. After this date, you won't be able to be reimbursed for your expenses.

### 2. APPLY FOR A VOUCHER

Apply for a voucher up to \$200 that you can redeem with a registered activity provider. When you register or pay your membership fee to the activity provider you will provide them your voucher code and they will reduce the cost of the registration and/or membership fee up to the value of \$200.

For more information visit: [www.getactive.vic.gov.au](http://www.getactive.vic.gov.au)

### CONTACT:

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

Phone - 03 54532428  
Fax - 03 54531147

Website: [koondrookps.vic.edu.au](http://koondrookps.vic.edu.au)  
E-mail: [koondrook.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:koondrook.ps@education.vic.gov.au)