

Year 5/6 Camp



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

November 15th, 2023

Issue no: 19

Principal's Report

Condolences

I would like to pass on mine and the school's condolences to Ruby and Amber and their family on the passing of their dad. This is a very hard time for them and I am sure they would appreciate any support.

Canberra

The Year 5/6 students have headed off to Canberra this week. The photos show they are having a great time.

Swimming

Just a reminder that our swimming program will start on Wednesday 29th November.

If any parents are able to help with the program please see Amanda. Parent helpers will need a Working with Children check.

Wednesday 29th November

Thursday 30th November

Friday 1st December

Wednesday 6th December

Thursday 7th December

Friday 8th December

The bus will leave the school 15 minutes before the lesson and return afterwards.

11:00am-11:30 - Year 4/5

11:30am-12:00 - Year 2/3

12:00pm-12:30 - Year 1/2

12:30pm-1:00 - Year 5/6 and Prep

Children need to bring their bathers, rashie, towel, sun cream and goggles are a good idea too. Please make sure your child's NAME is on everything.

Dates to Remember

Term Dates 2023

Term 4 ~ October 2nd – December 20th

Public Holidays

School Dates to Remember

November 13th~17th – Canberra Camp Yrs. 5 & 6

November 21st ~ 22nd – Yr.6 Transition @ BHS

November 29th – Swimming 11am – 1pm

November 30th – Swimming 11am – 1pm

December 1st – Swimming – 11am – 1pm

December 5th – Prep 2024 Transition – 9 – 11:30am

December 6th – Swimming – 11am – 1pm

December 7th – Swimming – 11am – 1pm

December 8th – Swimming – 11am – 1pm

December 12th – Step-Up Day

December 13th – Yr.6 Graduation

December 14th – Picnic on the Green

December 19th – Curriculum Day (Staff Updating First Aid)

December 20th – Last Day

Assemblies

November 24th – Grade 4/5 doing the item

December 15th – Year 6 doing the item

Barham High Transition

Students attending Barham High School next year will attend Transition Days on Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd November. Students may catch the bus to and from Koondrook Primary.

Prep 2024 Transition

The next Transition Day is on Tuesday 5th December from 9am to 11:30am (note change of day and time). Children will need to bring a fruit snack, water bottle, morning tea and hat.

New Classroom

We are still awaiting the delivery of the new portable classroom. We hope it will be delivered next week. Surely, they can't cancel for the third time!

School Council

The next School Council meeting will be a Dinner Meeting on Wednesday 6th December at 6:30pm at Koondrook Mates Hotel.

Parent Contributions 2024

School Council have decided to keep parent contributions at \$160 per student for the 2024 school year.

It has been many years since we have raised our parent contributions for students' curriculum needs. The contributions pay for student stationary and books, subscriptions to computer programs such as Mathletics, Reading Eggs, Essential Assessment and Literacy Pro. They also pay our contributions to the MARC and MACC programs.

Many schools ask parents to provide school books and stationary as well as one-to-one devices such as iPads and computers. They also charge a parent payment as well. A copy of the 2024 parent payment policy can be found on our webpage.

Lost Property

We have so many jumpers in the lost property hamper with NO NAMES! If the jumpers are not named or claimed, they will be washed and put in the second-hand box for sale. Please can you make sure your children's clothing is named so we can return them to the correct owner.

T20 Cricket

On the 10th of November (last Friday) me and most of the other year 5/6 girls went to Swan Hill to represent the school at regional T20 cricket. We played at the Swan Hill oval. Our first game we versed Kennington Bendigo but lost by 29 runs. Our second game was against St Mary's Echuca and we lost by 18 runs. Our third game was with St Mary's Swan Hill and we lost by a couple of runs. It was a great experience and we all did a very good job, but most of all we had fun.

By Zofia

T20 Cricket



School Preparations for the Bushfire Season

Each year, to prepare for bushfires and grassfires, schools and early childhood services complete a range of activities. The Department of Education runs an annual fire risk assessment of schools and early childhood services. They are allocated a category of risk (categories 0 to 4) and are published on the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR).

All schools and early childhood services listed on the BARR and Category 4 list will also close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district.

When the Bureau of Meteorology provides public fire danger rating forecasts or fire weather warnings, they use fire weather district areas. In Victoria, there are 9 fire weather districts, which are based on Local Government Area boundaries. Our school is in the **Mallee fire weather district**. As part of preparing our school for the fire season, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan and reprioritised any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire and cleared our facility's grounds and gutters.

What does this mean for our school?

Our school has been identified as being at risk of bushfire or grassfire and is a Category 3 school on the Bushfire At Risk Register.

Our school will **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating in Mallee fire district**.

What is the department's policy?

The department's [Bushfire and Grassfire Preparedness Policy](#) requires all schools and early childhood services on the BARR and the Category 4 list to close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district. All school bus routes which travel in or through a district with Catastrophic fire danger must also be cancelled.

When will our school be closed due to Catastrophic fire danger?

Our school will **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating in Mallee fire district**.

Closure of the school due to a forecast Catastrophic day will be confirmed on the day prior and we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day. Any information regarding potential or confirmed Catastrophic fire danger days will be communicated to you by **text message**.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, even if the weather forecast changes. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to be aware that:

- No one will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Catastrophic day.
- All bus routes that travel through the Catastrophic area will be cancelled.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast for fire weather district in which the camp is located, or if the travel involves passing through areas that have Catastrophic fire danger.

Families are encouraged to action their Bushfire Survival Plan on Catastrophic fire danger rating days. **On such days, children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Catastrophic days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Catastrophic day.

What can families and the school community do to help us prepare?

- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers.
- Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, checking our website and Facebook Page, by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is **closed** due to elevated fire danger or closed due to a Catastrophic fire danger. Further information can be found on the [CFA's website](#).
- Action your family's bushfire survival plan if your own triggers are met. Our school community is spread out across many areas and some families may be at higher risk than others. Your family's safety is critical, so please let us know if you are actioning your bushfire survival plan and if your children will be absent on these days.
- If your child is old enough, talk to [them about bushfires](#) and your family's bushfire survival plan.

You can find more information on emergencies, warnings and preparedness actions here:

- VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices
- VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)
- Website <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>
- Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency>)
- Twitter (<https://twitter.com/vicemergency>)
- ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters



Big Summer Read – Gannawarra Library Service

The Big Summer Read is taking place through the Gannawarra Library Service these summer holidays!

The Big Summer Read aims to arrest the ‘summer slide’ by engaging children and their families in a fun and dynamic campaign through public libraries, supported with resources such as a user-friendly website, posters, reading logs and milestone incentives. A competitive element with a statewide prize provides added incentive for participation. Distinctive state-wide branding encourages participation in the program, whether children are at home or on holidays elsewhere in Victoria. The Big Summer Read runs from 1st December 2023 until 31st January 2024. More information can be found at the Gannawarra Library Service.

Amanda Bradford



RFDS Victoria is working for better health and wellbeing across Victoria and wants to hear from you!



Have you or someone you know used RFDS Victoria's services? Or perhaps you didn't know that the Flying Doctor is in your area.

Either way - RFDS Victoria wants to hear from you!

Join us for one of four community feedback sessions across Victoria, bring a friend or a family member and chat about the future.

Find out more and RSVP at the QR code or at flyingdoctor.org.au/vic/news/hear-from-you



Tuesday 28th November 9-10am
Kerang Library

Light breakfast provided.

MARC Library Information Term 4

This term in Library we have been looking at the Young Australians Best Book Awards (YABBA) shortlist, voted for by students. Prep, 1 & 2's have been learning about the differences between fiction and non-fiction books. Grades 3, 4, 5 & 6 have been learning about the Dewey Decimal System and where to find books on the shelves. Finger knitting and knitting Nancy's have been enjoyed by all. Helen McLaren (MARC Teacher)

YABBA Shortlist

Picture Story Books



Younger Readers



Older Readers



KOONDROOK PS



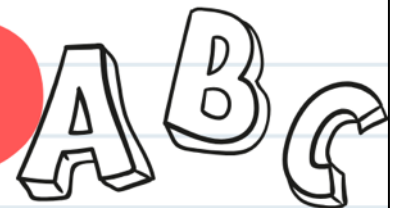
PREP
2024



TRANSITION



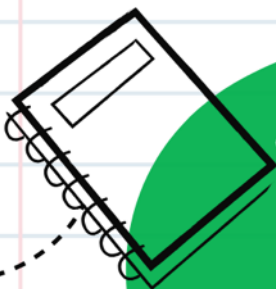
**TUESDAY 5TH
DECEMBER**



**IN THE NEW PREP ROOM
(THE 'OLD' PRESCHOOL)**

9AM - 11:30AM

**WILL NEED TO BRING FRUIT SNACK,
WATER, MORNING TEA AND HAT**



Other upcoming dates are:
• December 12th - 9am - 2:20pm

For more information
please contact us :

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