

The New Portable



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 29th, 2023

Issue no: 20

Principal's Report

Building Works

Last Thursday it was all systems go as they installed the new classroom. We are hoping that the classroom will be fitted out by the end of the school year so we can start to set up for 2024.

Also, the holes were drilled for the footings of the new shade sails that are being installed. There was plenty of activity for the children to observe between the two projects.

Step-Up Day

On Tuesday 12th December we are conducting a Step-Up Day. The 2024 Preps will attend their first full day at school. All students will step up and work with their 2024 class. This is a transition process in readiness for next year. Students attending Kerang Tech High in 2024 will be attending their final transition activity on this day too.

Foundation/Prep 2024 Transition Program

On Tuesday 5th December we will welcome the 2024 Prep students for their 3rd transition day from 9:00am-11:30pm. They will need to bring a fruit snack, water bottle, morning tea and a hat.

School Council Dinner

The School Council will meet at Mates Hotel on Wednesday 6th December at 6:30pm for the School Council dinner.

Curriculum Day

Tuesday 19th December is a pupil free day. The staff at Koondrook Primary will be joining Murrabit Group School to complete First Aid training.

Dates to Remember

Term Dates 2023

Term 4 ~ October 2nd – December 20th

Public Holidays

School Dates to Remember

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

December 15th – Year 6's doing the item

It's
Beginning
To Look
A Lot Like
Christmas



Staff for 2024

We are continuing to work on staffing for 2024. We will be running 5 classrooms next year. I would like to congratulate Miss Kelsey Archibald on her successful appointment as a classroom teacher in 2024. Mrs Bartels will be back on staff fulltime after her long service leave this year.

We congratulate Keely Wilson on her success at obtaining a teaching position in Darwin and thank her for the two years she has been at Koondrook.

Millie Gardiner will be taking leave as she awaits the arrival of her new baby and hopefully later in the year, she will be available for CRT work.

We will be advertising for a person to fill a Primary Mental Health Teacher.

On Monday 11th December we will let the children know what class they will be in for Step-up day. Hopefully this will be mostly settled however, classroom placements may change over the holidays. Miss Archibald will be joining us for Step-up Day on Tuesday 12th December. Staffing for 2024 at this point is as follows:

Amanda Bradford - Principal

Sophie Lake – Learning Specialist and Disability and Inclusion

Bernie Monaghan - Years 5/6

Kate Bartels - Years 4/5

Kelsey Archibald – Year 3

Frith Selleck - Years 1/2

Rebecca Meek – Foundation/Year 1

Jude Warren- Tutor Learning, Science

Sally Bentley - MARC Art – Wednesday

Helen McLaren - MARC Library – Tuesday

Karen Naismith – ES - Teacher/Student Support, Library, Newsletter

Danielle Tuck – ES - Teacher/Student Support

Di Shier – ES - Teacher/Student Support

Mandy Champion– ES - Teacher/Student Support

Sarah Turvey – ES - Teacher/Student Support

Kat Maclean -ES - Teacher/Student Support

Rianna Matuch- Mental Health and Wellbeing

Judi Ficken - Business Manager - Tuesday and Thursday

Anthony and Shane - Computer Technicians – Monday

House Needed

Miss Archibald is looking for a house to rent. If you know of a suitable house, please let Amanda know.

MARC Library Books

It is that time of year again when it's time to return all the library books, so the books can be cleaned and a stock take done. We have now finished borrowing. Please have a good look under beds and around the house for any MARC books. You might even find a book from a previous year, please bring that back too.

KPS Library Books

If any students have borrowed books from the School Library can they please be returned. This is especially important for the year 6 students who won't be here next year. I would really appreciate you having a good look at home and return any books.

5/6 Canberra Camp





Canberra Camp

The Grade 5/6 children had fun in Canberra whilst learning as well. Students from our school have undertaken an educational tour of the national capital. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government this year contributed \$135.00 per student under the Parliament and Civic Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

Well done to all our students who represented the school very well during their Canberra Camp. Students reported that Parliament House, seeing the Prime Minister, Questacon, Laser tag as well as the Botanical Gardens were highlights. Students also enjoyed making new friends from other schools.

I would like to acknowledge Keely Wilson and Bernie Monaghan for taking great care of our students during a very busy week. A lot of work goes into organising an interstate camp and we appreciate all the time Bernie Monaghan and Amanda Bradford took to complete the bulk of the paperwork required. A big thank you goes to all staff from other schools who looked after this large group of students.



Swimming

Just a reminder that our swimming program started today. If any parents are able to help with the program please see Amanda. Parent helpers will need a Working with Children check. Swimming dates are:

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. The times that the grades are swimming are:

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.

Year 6 Graduation Dinner

Each year the Grade 6 students celebrate the end of their Primary schooling with a dinner joined by family and staff. This year's Graduation Dinner will be on Wednesday 13th December at Club Barham.

End of Year MACC News

It's that time of year, again, when we wish the Grade 6 students all the best for secondary school and send home the Art Books. This year's Grade 6 groups have been great to work with. I hope they all enjoy their skateboard decks (for display only). Grade P-2 students have painted on a canvas board and the 3/4s have painted on mini-surfboards with stands. I've been very impressed with their creative ideas about food and their hard work. These final artworks are special to keep forever pieces.

The Art folios will go home during week 9. They have a **pink slip** attached which will need to be signed by parent/guardian and returned to the school.

- If your child has/is not returning to this school in 2024, please just return the slip. Otherwise, return the empty folder with the slip still.
- Once your child has returned the empty plastic folio and/or pink slip they will be able to take home their paintings of boards or skateboard decks.

Art smocks will need a wash and check that they still fit before next year, please. Children will need to bring their smocks back when they return to school in 2024.

Wishing you all a happy and safe Christmas season and holiday period.

Sally Bentley (MACC Teacher).

MELBOURNE ATHLETICS

I went to Melbourne on the 1/11/23 and I competed in discus for the State Championships. I think there were about 16 people competing with me and they were all very, very good. The girl who won threw a whopping 33m and her personal best is 39m, that's unbelievable! I'm pretty sure she had professional training to get that good. I didn't do my best in my throws but I'm still proud of myself for getting to State. It was a great experience, and I got an awesome jumper with a nickname on the back. Overall, I had a great day there.

By Breeze Starr

Picnic on the Green

This is a family celebration on Thursday 14th December. The whole school will get together to celebrate the achievements and successes of many of our students. The Preschool students, staff and families will also be joining us this year. This will include the Award Presentations and Formal Announcements of the 2024 School Captains. Each class will perform an item. All families are invited to attend; bring your picnic meal and celebrate a fantastic year of learning completed by our students. Picnic time commences at 6:00pm, presentations and performances at 7:00pm. Please bring along plenty of repellent because the mossies are out in force this year.

Amanda Bradford

Working with Children Checks

There are often activities and excursions where we rely on parent help. As you are aware, in order to help out with any activities, all volunteers must have a current Working with Children Check. It is free to get one and you can apply online or go to the Post Office and apply there. They do take several weeks to process, so now is the perfect time to get one if you would like to help out next year. Thank you.

Assembly

The next Assembly will be held on Friday 8th December at 3:00pm on the BV. The Year 6 students will present the Assembly.

Watering over the Holidays

During the holidays we need help watering the pot plants, vegetable garden, the gardens near the BV, the front of the school and the Preschool. It would be a shame if all our hard work wasn't cared for during the summer break. We are establishing a roster for the summer holidays. If you can help out, please send Amanda a text so we can establish a roster.

GANNAWARRA GOES ORANGE

16 Days of Activism Campaign

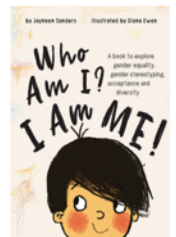
25 Nov-10 Dec

Each year Gannawarra Goes Orange for the 16 days of Activism campaign against family and gender-based violence to raise awareness and say 'NO' to family violence. The campaign runs from 25 Nov to 10 Dec.

Rigid beliefs and thinking about men and women's roles and stereotypes are a key contributor to violence. You can make a difference by having conversations with the children and people in your life - that it doesn't matter what gender they are, they can like, do or be whatever they want. Together we can create a community where everyone is safe, equal and respected.

Books that can help support these conversations:

- > *Giraffes Can't Dance* by Giles Andreae and Guy Parker-Rees
- > *No Difference Between Us* by Jayneen Saunders
- > *Who Am I? I Am Me!* by Jayneen Saunders
- > *Hunting for Dragons* by Bruce Whatley
- > *I am Enough* by Grace Byers
- > *I Could Be, You Could Be* by Karen Owen
- > *Jacob's New Dress* by Sarah and Ian Hoffman
- > *Made by Raffi* by Craig Pomranz
- > *Introducing Teddy* by Jessica Walton
- > *My Princess Boy* by Cheryl Kilodov
- > *Pearl Fairweather Pirate Captain* by Jayneen Saunders
- > *The Paper Bag Princess* by Robert Munsch



Visit the Gannawarra Library service to borrow books that promote boys and girls as equals.

Activities happening locally for Gannawarra Goes Orange

- Walk Against Family Violence. Saturday 25 November, starting at 10am. Meet at the Kerang Council Building, and walk to the Kerang Community Market.
- Story Time at the Kerang Library, Wednesday 29 November, 10.30am-11.00am.
- Empower Her event, Friday 8 December, starting at 10am at Jen's on George Cohuna. Bookings essential. Call NDCH 5451 0200 or visit our Facebook page.

SAFE + EQUAL

RESPECT

RESPECT CALL IT OUT

NOCH

GANNAWARRA
SCHOOL COMMUNITY

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