



WANDIN NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Newsletter

Issue 2

5<sup>th</sup> March 2024

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## *From the Principal*

It's hard to believe we are more than halfway through Term 1! I have been impressed with our students' ability to grasp classroom routines, build new social connections with the children in their new class and the learning growth that has taken place already this term. I am always reminded of how inclusive our students are at Wandin North. Currently, we have basketball games consisting of students from years 2 to 6, football and soccer games on the oval without clashes and students from all grades playing pop up tiggly under the shelter at our assembly area.

### **Student Voice, Agency, and Leadership**

This month we have had events that have fostered the development of student voice, agency and leadership. Our Grade 2 students had a fabulous incursion ran by Ms Bell and Mr Langley. The students had a full day learning the importance of communicating clearly, working together and persisting through challenges individually and as a team. Last week, Mrs Grisold lead a special day for our Grade 3 to 6 Kids Council representatives. The students developed their leadership, public speaking and negotiation skills. Kids Council have some exciting opportunities planned. Watch this space.



Paul Bailey ~ Principal

## *Diary Dates*

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March**  
*Twilight Sports Picnic Tea*  
5:00pm Sports 5:30pm

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March**  
*No Prep Students*

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March**  
*Labour Day Public Holiday*

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March**  
*Working Bee #2*

**Harvest Market Set Up**  
12:00pm onwards

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March**  
*Harvest Market*

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March**  
*School Photo Day*  
*School Council - AGM*

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March**  
*Free Dress Easter Theme*  
*End Term1 - 2:30pm*  
*Dismissal*

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April**  
*First Day Term 2*

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**  
*District Athletics Gr 3-6*

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April**  
*ANZAC Day Public Holiday*

*A Community of Learners, Achieving Together*

## 2025 Prep Enrolments

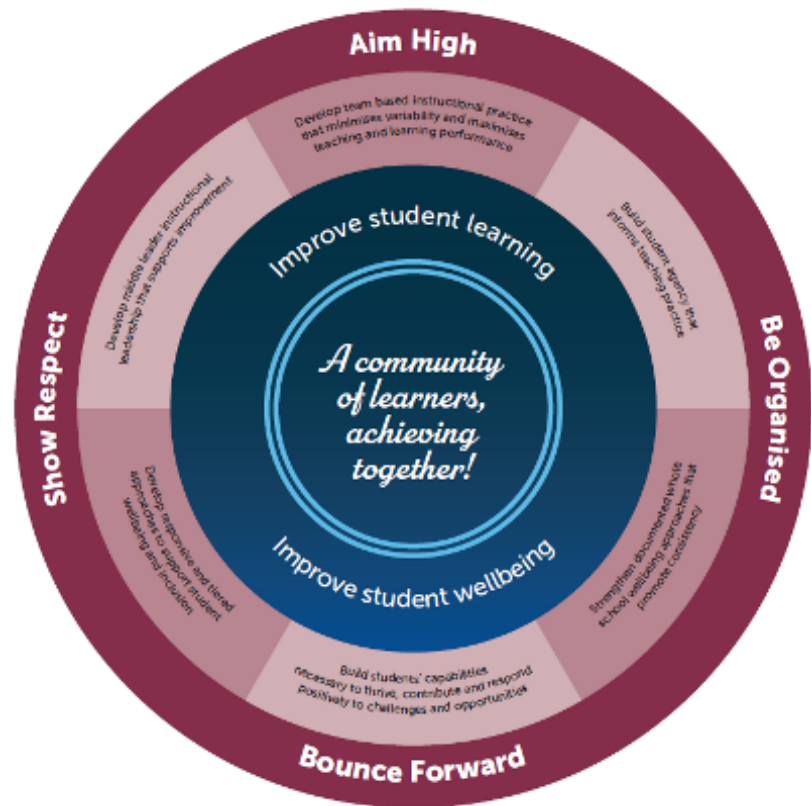
We request that parents with children starting school in 2025 notify the office as soon as possible. This will greatly assist us with ensuring you receive important information relating to your child's transition to school.

## Child Safe

Wandin North Primary School is committed to creating and maintaining a child safe organisation where children and young people are safe and feel safe. Our Code Of Conduct and Child Safe policies can be found on the school's website.

## School Strategic 4 Year Plan

Last year, we had the opportunity to celebrate and reflect on what we had achieved in the 2019 – 2023 period, when we went through our school review. I am excited to share our goals and key improvement strategies for the next 4 years. We are building upon our solid foundations of improving student wellbeing and learning.



## School Council

At Wandin North Primary School, we have a very active school council. School Councillors are expected to attend the 8 school council meetings throughout the year which are held at 6:00pm on the third Tuesday of every month.

At this time of year we need to call for parent nominations as there are a number of positions that have been made vacant by either members retiring or being up for election.

We have 1 parent vacancies. If you decide to stand for election, you can nominate yourself in the Parent category. Simply pick up a nomination form from the office if you are interested in nominating for school council.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the office before 3:00pm on the 11/03/2024. Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted after the call for nominations has closed.





To continue sharing the Resilience Project's work with the community we would like to share a bit of information on one of the key principals of G.E.M.

This week's presentation from [The Resilience Project](#) focuses on Gratitude. This is a concept that students have been learning as part of the Resilience Project lessons.

Gratitude is paying attention to the things that we have right now, and not worrying about what we don't have. We practise this by noticing the positives that exist around us.

Research shows that practicing gratitude rewires our brains to overcome the negativity bias (which can lead to anxiety and depression) and see the world for what we are thankful for. It is also shown to broaden thinking, and increase physical health through improved sleep and attitude to exercise.

View Part 2 of the series here:

Part 2 - Gratitude: <https://theresilienceproject.com.au/2023-parent-carer-hub-inspire-martin/>

There are many ways in which you can practise gratitude, including starting a gratitude journal. You can simply use a notebook to list three things that went well for you each day, or use a more comprehensive [Wellbeing Journal](#), like those created by [The Resilience Project](#).

Source: [Psychology Today](#)

For mental health resources and support information, visit [The Resilience Project's Support Page](#).

[The Resilience Project](#) invites Parents/Carers to attend a **Digital Wellbeing for Families Webinar**. This Webinar will give parents/carers the opportunity to reflect on their family's digital wellbeing. They will explore practical tips and strategies to create healthy habits around screen time to positively impact relationships and strengthen connections within the home.

The webinar is open to schools, parents/carers and will run on March 19, 2024@ 6.00 p.m for 60m. See attached flyer and use the following link to attend: [The Resilience Project parent webinar](#)

Check out these Podcasts on Wellbeing and Child Development and Wellbeing:

### The Imperfects

Teaming up with one of Australia's most successful comedians, Ryan Shelton, and his very talented brother Josh van Cuylenburg, Hugh has put together a podcast which is all about how perfectly imperfect we all are. Constantly comparing ourselves to others can not only be exhausting, but extremely harmful. However, when we share our struggles, we start to realise that everyone, no matter how successful, has something they are battling with.



In this podcast, Hugh, Josh and Ryan chat to a variety of interesting people who bravely share their struggles and imperfections, and we all learn some valuable take-aways we can apply to our own imperfect lives.

### Pop Culture Parenting

This podcast is about finding the sweet spot between the textbooks and real life when it comes to parenting. Dr Billy (a developmental pediatrician) and Nick (a developing parent) are a couple of dads having honest discussions about parenting day to day

We'll be using iconic TV and cinema scenes from the 80's & 90's to give context to Billy's parenting advice.





## *Harvest Market*

### WANTED :

We are still wanting donations of Mystery Bottle fillers Silent Auction items, toys, Lucky Star prizes, etc. Please bring your donations to the school office.

### RAFFLE :

Extra tickets are available from the office.

### ROSTER :

Please check the latest roster that was posted on Compass recently.

Can't find your name? Please contact the office so that we can notify the roster coordinator.

### FAMILY HARVEST BOX ORDERS :

All orders must be received by Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March.

## *School Photos*

Wandin North Primary School

SchoolPix is coming to photograph on:

**Tuesday, 19 March 2024**

**ORDER ONLINE AT [WWW.SCHOOLPIX.COM.AU](http://WWW.SCHOOLPIX.COM.AU)**

Early Bird orders with free delivery to your school close 5 working days after your last photography session

A postage fee will apply for orders placed after this date.

Sibling orders must be placed prior to 8am on Tuesday, 19 March 2024.

Misplaced your order flyer? Please visit [www.schoolpix.com.au](http://www.schoolpix.com.au) and use the student search to find your child's unique ID or contact our Customer Care team on 1300 766 055.

Please note: Cash orders will not be accepted



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**Wow!** What a fantastic start to school the Preps have had. Our students have settled in well to the school routine, and continue to amaze us with their increased independence and the improvements they are making. We are all so excited watching our students grow and learn.

**Literacy:** The Preps have enjoyed learning the names and sounds for the letters Ss, Ff, Mm, Aa, Nn, Tt and Ii. They have been practising writing them correctly in their books and are now recognising these letters as we read stories in class. They have also been looking for their Magic Words in texts and listening out for rhyming words.

**Numeracy:** The Preps have been busy practising counting every day. They are learning to count objects accurately up to 10 and match the number of objects with the corresponding numeral. You can help by encouraging counting at home using objects around the house, e.g. fruit, toy cars, pencils etc

**Buddies:** We have been lucky enough to start our school year eating lunch and playing with our Grade 6 buddies. We are looking forward spending some time with our buddies completing activities together.

**The Resilience Project:** We have begun learning resilience through the resilience project. We have already begun talking about what it means to be resilient and thinking about all the different emotions. We are also beginning some mindfulness activities in the classroom.



### Dates for your Diary:

**Tuesday 5th March:** Twilight Sport Picnic Tea 5pm

**Monday 11th March:** Labour Day Public Holiday

**Sunday 17th March:** Harvest Market

**Thursday 28th March:** End of Term 1

**Wednesday 13th March:** First Wednesday back at School

**Monday 15th April:** First Day of term 2

### Announcements:

Specialist timetable:

Monday: Art

Tuesday: Social Studies & Sustainability

Friday: PE

Library: Mondays

Magic Word Testing: Fridays

Diaries: checked on a Thursday

### Reminders:

Please continue to read your child's reader with them each night and record it in their yellow reading journal. Also keep practising the alphabet letters and corresponding sounds (out of order) and Magic Words as often as possible. Any counting practise at home is a bonus and greatly benefits your child!

We are looking forward to a fantastic month of learning in March before our school holidays!

Zoe Abbruzzese and Teresa Salvitti

*We have been learning about...*

In **Reading** this term, the grade 1's have begun revisiting readers workshop expectations. We have then learnt about using 'whisper phones' to read with fluency. We have also learnt about breaking down a word into little 'chunks' to improve our accuracy when reading. We have loved exploring the Cranky Bear Series throughout this unit. Coming up, we will be learning about Haiku Poems!

In **Writing** this term, we have been working on writing about a personal memory. We explored the 5 senses to add extra detail to our writing. Our grade 1's loved publishing their pieces about a memory that is very special to them.

Coming up in writing we will be learning to write Haiku poems. We will be experimenting words with different syllables and lengths.

In **Maths**, the grade 1's have loved exploring place value using different concrete materials. We have been using our place value charts to break apart numbers and understand hundreds, tens, and units. We have also begun to explore addition and subtraction. We have been using unifix, MAB, counters and number lines to show our thinking!

*Important Dates:*

March 5th Twilight Sports

March 11th Public Holiday

March 17th Harvest Market

March 19th School Photos

March 28th Free Dress Day

March 28th Last Day Term 1

Miss Emma Hoehne and Miss Kiera Rankin



### Literacy

In **Reading**, we have been focusing on accuracy strategies and reading fluently. Accuracy strategies assist students to decode unknown words and ensure they understand what they are reading.

The students have also been practising reading at an appropriate rate, using expression, stopping at punctuation and using correct phrasing to improve their overall fluency when reading aloud.

In **Writing**, the students have just finished their Memoir unit, in which they wrote about the Grade 2 water fight as part of a shared experience.

The students were focusing on ordering events in chronological order, using time connectives to move time on and constructing a variety of sentence types.

Writing Celebrations are taking place to showcase the student's fantastic effort.



### Numeracy

In **Numeracy**, we have been learning about Place Value and Addition.

In Place Value, the students are understanding what each digit in a number represents. We have achieved this by representing numbers in numerals, worded form, expanded form and constructing them with concrete materials.

We have also investigated different Addition strategies students can use when solving problems. The students have focused on showing their thinking using visual representations, using concrete materials and abstract form to consolidate their understanding of the topic.

Next up, we'll be looking at subtraction strategies.



### Team Building

Last Friday, the Grade 2's participated in a team building initiative day. The students were required to complete multiple challenges that involved communicating with each other, problem solving, cooperation and working together.

We learned that these team-building skills are not only important in our schooling but also important after we leave school too.

### Vocabulary

Children need to have a rich vocabulary that continually grows through language and literacy experiences, in order to comprehend and construct increasingly complex texts.

Our words for this unit are: Spread, Together, Sprang, Thought, Began

Please discuss the meaning of these words with your child.

### Important Dates

Twilight Sports– March the 7th

Harvest Market– Sunday March the 17th

End of Term 1– Thursday March the 28th

Carly Bell and Tim Langley

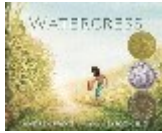
## What's On in 3-4

### Welcome to Edition 1, 2024 in 3-4!

We've all had an amazing start to the year. The students have settled into the routine of a new year and have already shown us what amazing learners they are. Please read on to find out what's been happening in 3-4!

#### Literacy

We began Term 1 by establishing high expectations and revising Readers Workshop. Using the incredible mentor text, *Watercress* by Andrea Wang, we deepened our understanding of texts to use our thinking stems using the reading strategies of metacognition, inferring and analysing. Using the genre narrative, we built up our skills of exploring different ideas, creating different plans to finally completing many quick writes. We are currently diving into Persuasives using the *TIME For Kids* website.

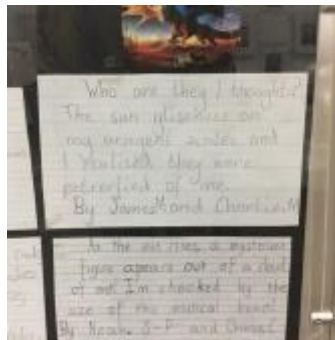


#### Numeracy

After exploring Place Value, we revised the operations of Addition and Subtraction. Students were encouraged to show their understanding using different visual methods. Our next unit was Shape. The students thoroughly enjoyed recreating 2D and 3D shapes, exploring their features and to finally creating their own towers using nets of 3D shapes.

#### Integrated Studies

Our Term 1 topic is *Me and My Team*. We began by creating a safe, and fun classroom environment by learning more about our own and each other's strengths. Making connections to *Watercress*, we discussed what culture means to us before learning about different cultures.



### Dates Coming Up

**TERM 1**

**Tuesday 5th March**—Twilight Sports 5pm

**Monday 11th March** -Labour Day– Pupil Free Day

**Wednesday 13th & 14th March** NAPLAN

**Saturday 17th March**– W.N.P.S Harvest Market

**Tuesday 19th March**—School Photos

**Wednesday 20th and 21st March**—NAPLAN

**Thursday 28th March**  
– Free Dress– Gold Coin Donation

- Last Day of Term 1, 2:30pm dismissal

**TERM 2**

**Monday 15th April**– 1st day of Term 2

**Thursday 25th April**- ANZAC DAY– Pupil Free day

**Friday 26th April**- Free Dress– Gold Coin Donation

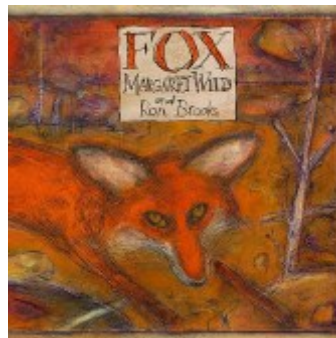
Kirsten Burrows, Georgia DeKoning, Natalie Johnson and Jenny McArdle



# What's On in 5/6

## Reading

In Reading, we explored various aspects of our first mentor text, 'Fox'. This rich story, written by Margaret Wild, is about friendship, loyalty, risk and betrayal. Using this book as a guide, students inferred meaning and analysed their own texts, while sharing their thinking through journal entries we labelled as 'spicy'. (They're not just mild or hot, but spicy, with high quality language and deep thinking ideas!)



## Writing

In Writing sessions over the past few weeks, students have been learning about narrative features and ways to drive stories with impact. Students developed a wide range of ideas and crafted short stories, working on their revising skills to enhance their work. Following on from this, we began diving into persuasive writing, supported by our second mentor text, 'Let's Save the Great Barrier Reef' by Catherine Barr.



## Maths

To start off the year in Maths, we have been working on all things related to Number and Place Value. This has included partitioning, factors, multiples, prime and composite numbers, decimals, fractions, percentages, square numbers, addition, subtraction and money!

Each week the students participate in problem solving lessons which involve identifying a range of strategies and articulating their thinking.



## Buddies

The Grade 6's have shown a remarkable amount of responsibility and care, supporting their Prep Buddies through their first few weeks of school. They thoroughly enjoyed their first activity, teaching the Preps about one of our school values, Bounce Forward.

## The Resilience Project

The Resilience Project is committed to teaching positive mental health strategies to prevent mental ill-health and build young people's capacity to deal with adversity.



<b>GRATITUDE</b> Being thankful for what you have.	<b>EMPATHY</b> Putting yourself in someone else's shoes.
<b>MINDFULNESS</b> The ability to be 'in the moment'.	

Mr Syme, Mrs Kemp, Miss Woodlock, Mrs Grisold, Mrs Eisele and Lachlan



## *What's On in PE*

March 2024

### *What have we been up to:*

What an exciting beginning to the year in Phys Ed. The excitement levels have been high all round!! The 3-6 year levels are training hard for their upcoming Athletics Day. The sports captains have taken on their roles beautifully by opening the fitness track and borrowing in the sports shed. And they are all so pumped to lead their houses at Twilight Sports.

P-2, have been working on safety, game sense, rules, and their fundamental motor skills, such as jumping, running, throwing, catching and much more.

Grade 1 enjoyed a Kilsyth Cobras basketball clinic and the whole school were lucky enough to participate in an AFL clinic.



### *Important Dates:*

- ◆ Twilight Sports Tuesday 5th March.
- ◆ 3-6 District Athletics. 28th April—Morrison Reserve Athletics Track (Term 2).

### *Practice @ Home:*

- ◆ 3-6's can work on their fitness and practice your sprinting technique, even visit the local athletics track.
- ◆ P-2's work on your underarm & overarm throwing at a target and to a partner.



Kristy Kennedy



### All About Waste!

Our focus in 2024 is to reduce the amount of waste we produce at Wandin North Primary School. We are going to tackle this by putting all **food waste** in our worm farms, compost bins and even giving it to our school chickens. We are also going to **improve our recycling efforts** with our new 'HEROES Classroom Leaders' in every class auditing our bins at the end of each day! Finally, we are going to try and minimise the amount of rubbish we bring to school with our new 'Waste Warrior' initiative. Please see what is classified as rubbish and what is not in the image on the right.



**Wandin North Waste Warriors**

Students who bring 2 pieces of rubbish or less in their lunchboxes each day will receive a bonus housepoint!

**Things that DON'T count as rubbish...**

- Muffin/Patty Pans
- Compostable packaging
- Recyclable packaging (such as foil, yoghurt tubs and paper wrappers)

Our Classroom HEROES Leaders will collect the housepoints during eating time.

#### PREP



#### GRADE 1 AND 2



#### GRADE 3/4



#### GRADE 5/6



#### Things to remember:

- Wear old shoes to HEROES
- BONUS House points for a 'low waste' lunchbox.
- Check Compass for important dates and reminders.

Laura Attrill and Kristy Kennedy



### Prep-Grade 2

In Prep to Grade 2 we have focussed mainly on local cultures in Global Studies. We have been learning about our First Nations People; the Aboriginal & Torres Straight Islander People. We have learnt about Welcome and Acknowledgement to Country and the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation on whose land we live, work & play. We have also been learning about The Dreaming and are having a story each week. We've loved acting, drawing or doing a craft activity. Finally, we explored traditional games and toys of our First Nations People. Each lesson finishes with playing a traditional Indigenous game.

### Grade 3-6

Grades 3-6 are exploring what it means to be a Global Citizen in our world and what Culture means.

After placing ourselves in the World, we are 'visiting' different countries and exploring their location on the globe. We investigate historical influences on the countries' culture and delve into their traditions, including festivals, beliefs, music, art, as well as leisure activities and traditional games. A game is chosen, which we learn and enjoy playing.



### Important Cultural Dates in March & April

#### World

- St Patrick's Day, March 17 (Irish)
- The Fallas Festival, March 15-19 (Spain)
- Nowruz–Iran NY , March 20 (Iran)
- Paro Teshechu, March 21-25 (Bhutan)
- Holi Festival, March 25 (India & Nepal)
- Songkran– Water Festival, April 13-15 (Thailand & Laos)
- Carnivale, March 1-9 (Brazil)

#### Australian Aboriginal & Torres Islander

- National Close the Gap Day, March 21
- Harmony Day- UN International day for the elimination of racial discrimination, March 21



Teacher: Chris Withers



### ***Famous Artists From Around the World***

**Term 1:** This term, our amazing Art students have been exploring Famous Artists from around the world, including Piet Mondrian, Wassily Kandinsky, Andy Warhol and Yayoi Kusama. We are currently studying the life and artworks of the renown abstract expressionist, **Jackson Pollock**. Students are now beginning to create their Art Show pieces, inspired by Jackson Pollock's **'drip technique'** (splatter art) style.

**Prep** - Exploring Piet Mondrian and creating **Coloured Shapes**. Making drip paintings inspired by Jackson Pollock's splatter art.



**Grade 1 & 2** - Grade 1s created Pop Art **Cupcakes** and **Donuts** inspired by Andy Warhol. Grade 2s designed **Pumpkins** inspired by Yayoi Kusama. They also loved making drip paintings inspired by Jackson Pollock's splatter art.



**Grade 3/4** Wassily Kandinsky inspired **Trees**. Exploring Jackson Pollock's 'drip technique' splatter art.



**Grade 5/6** Wassily Kandinsky inspired **Circles**. They also explored Jackson Pollock's 'drip technique' splatter art.



**Jo Gibson and Melanie Smith**



### **Upcoming Dates**

Art Show - Open Night Thursday 16th May

### **Reminders**

Seeking business shirt donation for Art Smocks. Please bring them to the Art Room! Thank you.





Hello everyone!

Over the term, we have been making all different activities. Each week, we have a theme that the children choose, this term has been wool, beads, houses/schools, eyes, masks, healthy eating pyramid, improving our garden. We made houses/shops/schools/ Maccas etc out of shoe boxes.

We used what we had out of the recycle trolley and what people donated us. I also made some mini foods like coke, carrots, flowers etc out of resin for the children to use in their houses.

One of the children came up with the idea of eyes as a theme. I asked her to explain she what she ment when saying eyes. She explained she wanted to put googly eyes on rocks, making glasses, masks etc. Amy bought all those supplies. The children put google eyes on all types of equipment/ materials in the room.



One of the amazing mum's gave us some big water bottles, we are going to make them into pots. I cut the tops off but I didn't want to waste them so I had the idea of making them into bird feeders. I turned them upside down. My dad drilled holes on the side to hang them up in the trees and to keep the bird seed from falling though the base, I put resin in the base.

Once we painted them; we hung them up in the trees with bird seed. Hope the birds love them.

They had a new obsession this term is- Beads. They have been making bracelets none stop. They all looked amazing.

Any second-hand toys for Harvest Market or mystery bottles. please come and talk to me. Thank you.

If anyone has any questions give me a call or come and see me anytime. Come and grab a flyer or check out the TheirCare website. Soon you can have a look at the fun things we will be doing in Vacation care!!



### Details

#### Pupil Free Days/ Vacation care:

6:30am to 6:00pm

#### Before School Care:

6:30 - 8:45am

#### After School Care:

3:30 - 6:00pm

### Charity Project

This term, we are supporting the RSPCA. While cleaning up at home or getting rid of things for hard rubbish or toys for Harvest Market.

Please keep in mind that soon enough it will be cold weather again; Dogs/cats need comfort and warmth. If anyone has any old blankets, towels, doonas etc they don't want any more please bring to school and donate to the animals at the RSPCA!

We appreciate any donations! Thank you!

Please bring by the end of term

Amy, BSC & ASC coordinator