



WANDIN NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter

Issue 8

2nd September 2025

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From the Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians.

As the grey skies linger and the temperature struggles to make double figures, we welcome Spring and celebrate that grass is growing back on the oval! I'm sure that you have had various degrees of mud coverage over the past month and we thank families who have returned the spare clothing to our first aid supply.

What a week Book Week was! As I mentioned at assembly, a big thank you to Mrs Salvitti, Ms Burrows, Ms Rankin and the Kids Council representatives for all their support behind the scenes to make the week a memorable one. We had amazing participation and quality entries for our book cover competition. Kids Council had a tough job selecting the finalists from each year level to vote on. The finalists look amazing in the office. Congratulations to the winners. Our Book Week parade was a highlight. It was fantastic to see so many characters and parents attend.

Paul Bailey ~ Principal



Diary Dates

Wednesday 3rd

September - Healesville Sanctuary Excursion Preps

IMAX Excursion Gr 5/6

Thursday 4th September -

Father's Day Stall 3:30pm—3:45 pm Gifts \$5

Friday 5th September -

Curriculum Day

No Students At School

Monday 8th—Friday 12th

September -

P-2 Swimming Program

Sunday 14th September -

Working Bee #7

9:00am—11:00am

Tuesday 16th September

- School Council

Friday 19th September -

Footy Day Free Dress &

Footy Lunch

Last Day Term 4

2:30pm Dismissal

Monday 6th October -

First Day Term 4

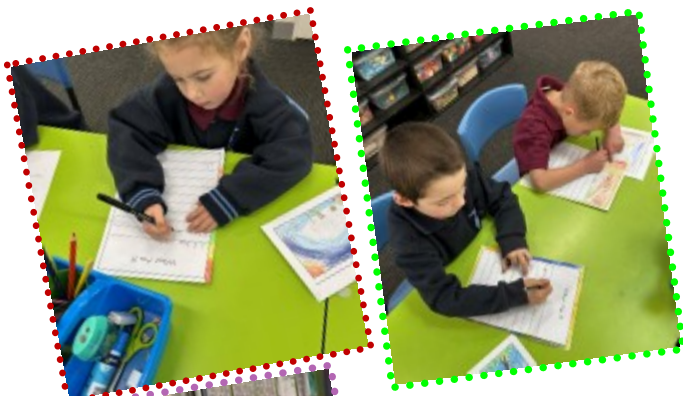
Sunday 19th October -

Working Bee #8

9:00am—11:00am

Tuesday 21st October -

School Council



Our Grade 1 students experienced their first overnight camp experience last week, participating in the Grade1 Sleepover. It was a great success! The students are still wondering how the magician from the Magic Incursion completed his tricks and students are looking in the trees to see if they can find the friendly possums that were spotted on the night walk.



I had the pressure of attending Hoop Time and watching our 5/6 students demonstrate great team play, sportsmanship and our school values of aiming high, bouncing forward and showing respect. Congratulations to all 6 teams who participated. Thank you to the staff and parents who helped with coaching and scoring. We wish our Grade 6 Boys All Star team all the best for when they compete at the regional finals.



Thank you to the parents for organising and volunteering their time to source and wrap gifts for the upcoming Father's Day stall, Thursday 4th September, it is greatly appreciated. We hope all our fathers have a great day.




FATHER'S DAY STALL

Thursday 4th September
3:30pm - 3:45pm

All gifts \$5

Undercover
area near toilets



WANDIN NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Thank you also to the families who have completed the 2025 Parent/ Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey. We value parent/caregiver/guardian input regarding what we are doing well and any areas we can improve in. The link that was posted on Compass closes Friday 19th September. Our School Council uses parent voice to make future changes to enhance our school.

Working Bee #7

**Sunday 14th
September
9:00am - 11:00am**

School Council :

Ben Caines

Families :

Blake-Goldsmith

Busst

Crampton

Cross

Davidson

Eldridge

Emblin

Gazzola

Goodchild

Hyde

Killin

Knight

Lawrence

Leckie

Lempriere

Matta

Mitchell (Frankie)

Monteith

Rangel

Roberts (Max)

Ryan (Hugo)

Sargeant (Erica)

Schwerkolt

Thomas (Zack)

Van Der Vlugt

Wheeler (Ronny)

The end to Term 3 is a busy one. Our Preps are visiting Healesville Sanctuary, and our Grade 5/6 students are going to IMAX on Wednesday. We have Prep – 2 swimming occurring next week at the Yarra Centre in Yarra Junction. Students will be completing ability base lessons focusing on skill development and water safety. Parents are welcome to observe, due to Child Safety Standards, teachers will be supporting students with changing back into their school clothes after the lessons.

On the last day of term, we have our footy day free dress and footy lunch orders.

We are welcoming 50 new Preps to Wandin North in 2026. You cannot wipe the smile off our faces as we celebrate the fact that so many families trust us with their child's education. Thank you. We are currently working through the logistics of 2026 Grades and staffing and at this stage we will be running 3 Grade Prep's with only 16/17 in each grade. I will be conducting a virtual 2026 Prep Parent Information Session in the coming weeks. Information relating to the session will be sent via Compass and emailed directly to our new families. The first of our four formal transition sessions start in October. Prep teachers for 2026 are still being finalised in addition to placement of teachers across the school. Watch this space!

Last Day Term 3

***Friday 19th September - 2:30pm Dismissal
Footy Day Free Dress & Football Lunch***

SunSmart Hats

It is an expectation all students have a Wandin North PS sunsmart hat during Terms 1 and 4. Students who do not have a hat will be required to play on the Prep decking at lunch time and attend lunch club at recess.



Child Safe

Wandin North Primary School is commitment 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.



A Community of Learners, Achieving Together

It's been a very busy term at Wandin North, with so much happening across our school community. We've had a wonderful term of learning, and the excitement from Book Week in August is still buzzing through the classrooms.

Our recent online session, run by Kelly from Toolbox, was fantastic. Thank you to all the families who attended and shared their feedback—it's greatly appreciated.

Mental Health in Primary Schools

R U OK? Day –Thursday 11th September

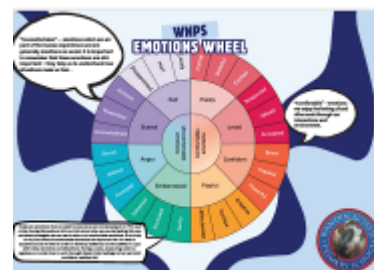
It can be difficult to manage various peer-to-peer situations that arise in the school day. The link below contains an interactive video that invites primary school students, supported by a trusted adult, to 'choose their own journey' while navigating feelings and choices during R U OK? conversations. Students will learn personal and social skills and increase their confidence to be able to have an R U OK? conversation with a friend. Simply pause the video at decision points to discuss the appropriate action.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1S-b1WCrdyWPYtktwjhuXk7OqW4G3eEe/view>

R U OK? Day is on the 11th of September 2025.

The above information sourced from: <https://www.ruok.org.au/>

The emotional wheel is a tool for you to use at home to help your child recognise, name, and express their feelings. Using the emotional wheel together can be a simple and fun way to start conversations, build emotional awareness, and support one another as a family. An attachment of the wheel will be sent out to families soon.



SLEEP

Quality sleep is as crucial as food and water and essential for children and young people's mental health. It plays a vital role in helping the brain process information, releasing growth and repair hormones, and supporting the immune system in fighting infections. However, stress and high emotions can interfere with sleep, making it harder to fall asleep or stay asleep. Sleep deprivation can have a significant impact on young people's daily functioning and mental health. Chronic sleep issues can lead to more serious problems, such as substance abuse, depression, and anxiety. As parents and carers, recognising when sleep patterns are problematic is key to preventing and managing these challenges. Addressing sleep issues early can have a positive effect on a child or young person's wellbeing. There are various ways to support better sleep, from adjusting bedtime routines to consulting with a healthcare professional or learning resilience building strategies. Continue reading here: <https://parentshop.schoolzineplus.com/parents?nid=80>



If you or anyone you know needs help or support, please reach out!

Teresa Salvitti — Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader

A Community of Learners, Achieving Together

What's On Wellbeing

What is Emotional Literacy?

At our school we use *The Resilience Project (TRP)* to support students' wellbeing. One important focus is **emotional literacy**.

Emotional literacy is the ability to recognise, understand and talk about our feelings in a healthy way.

When students build emotional literacy, they can:

- notice how they are feeling
- put words to their emotions
- understand how their feelings affect their thoughts and actions
- show empathy to others

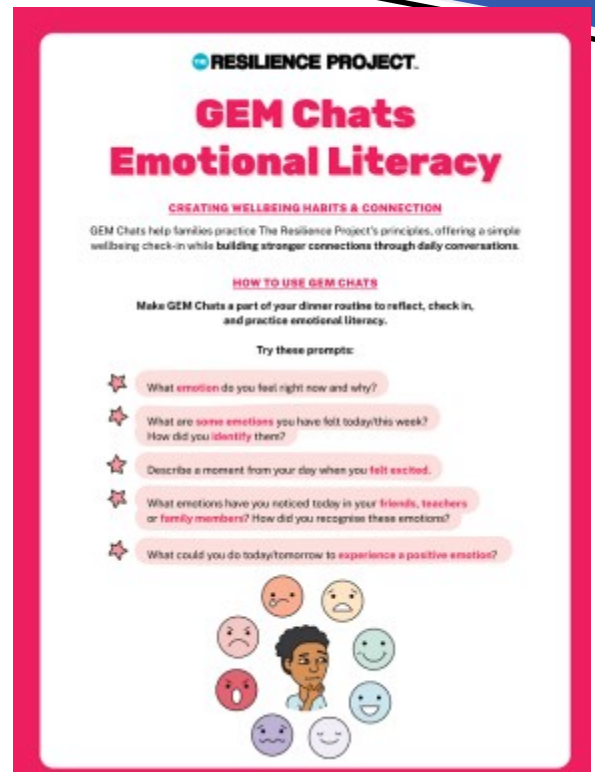
This helps children manage challenges, build stronger friendships and develop resilience.



For more information on Emotional Literacy check out this [Podcast](#) with Lael Stone from the Imperfects



Or this [Podcast](#) from Pop Culture Parenting which talks about big feelings and emotions with a twist.



Respectful Relationships

Is Respectful Relationships

Education Effective?

Best-practice respectful relationships education can shift the gendered drivers of violence at individual, school, system, policy and broader societal levels when integrated effectively into the education system.

The potential for respectful relationships education to create shifts in the gendered drivers of violence within schools is evidenced in Australian evaluations of respectful relationships education.

These have found:

- ↑ Improved student classroom behaviour
- ↑ Improved teacher-student relationships
- ↑ Increased student knowledge of positive attitudes towards and confidence in discussing issues of domestic violence, gender equality and respectful relationships
- ↓ Decreased student adherence to gender stereotypical attitudes
- ↑ Increased teacher understanding of the importance of respectful relationships education
- ↑ Increased understanding of respectful relationships, gender equality and gender-based violence among school leadership - including principals
- ↓ Decrease in bullying, including sexual bullying¹⁶

We have had such a busy and productive Term 3 so far! The preps are really settled into the routine of school and come to school ready to learn each and every day. We could not be more proud of their amazing effort!

Literacy

Reading

We have been very busy this term exploring different reading strategies to assist us in comprehending texts. The students have learnt how to use their schema to aid their understanding and what metacognition means. Additionally, they have read texts and inferred the meaning, created questions about the topics, and established the difference between fiction and non-fiction texts.

We also had a fabulous time exploring books and our love for reading during Book Week! We had an online incursion where we discovered the hidden messages and treasures of a long-lost island, dancing and singing throughout. Jess Racklyeft came to visit and shared with the Preps what being an author and illustrator is like. We all dressed up as amazing book characters, and of course the Preps LOVED their ice-cream, asking how often we get to do book week!

Writing

In Writing the students have been learning how to craft information reports. They have written a variety of pieces on different animals. Their 'Who Am I?' writing gives readers clues about what animal they are writing about with hints about the animal features, habitats, and diets. Their Australian animal information reports include amazing facts about their animal, the students are hoping they will then meet these animals when we visit Healesville Sanctuary. The students have been working on publishing, displaying their facts as a big poster with lots of colour and beautiful handwriting. They are very proud of what they have produced.

Next, students will begin learning about procedural texts. We will explore recipes, instructions and step by step tutorials to understand the importance of specific word choice when creating a procedure.

Numeracy

In Numeracy, students have been working very hard exploring the different numerical operations. We have added numbers together, subtracted numbers and have even begun looking at equal sharing into groups! Students have learnt different ways to show their thinking, using strategies to solve equations and check their answers. The preps can draw addition and subtraction stories to represent a problem, they can create number bonds to highlight part-part-whole relationships, and some students have even started writing full equations! Students have continued practicing their understanding of time, cementing their knowledge of the days of the week and which events take shorter and longer.



Dates for your Diary

Friday 29th August –
Prep Writing Celebration

Wednesday 3rd September –
Healesville Sanctuary Excursion

Friday 5th September –
Curriculum Day

Monday 8th September –
Friday 12th September –

P-2 Swimming Week

Friday 19th September –
Footy free dress day and lunch

Friday 19th September –
Last day of Term 3

Friendly Reminders:

Please continue to read your child's reader with them every night, getting them to sound out their words (particularly ones containing the sounds we have learnt), answer questions about what they read and then recording it in their yellow reading journal. Also keep practising the alphabet letters and corresponding sounds (out of order) and Magic Words (out of order and timed). Any counting practise at home is a bonus and greatly benefits your child!

Teachers: Tayla Eisele, Isabella Woodlock, Steph Burnage & Jamie Sansom

A Community of Learners, Achieving Together

LITERACY

We've been learning...

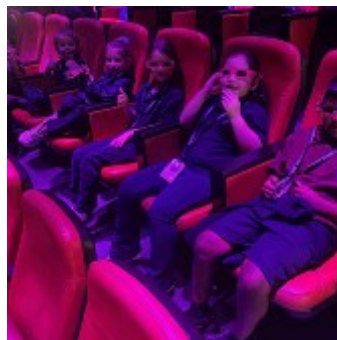
During book week, we loved exploring new texts shortlisted by the CBCA. IT was great to read a variety of different genre's of children's books, and critique our favourites!

We've been reading...

We have just begun a new mentor text, I Wanna New Room by Karen Kaufman Orloff

We've been writing...

To finish our procedure unit, students worked in groups to write a procedure for their classmates to try out. Our Authors Celebration was a hit, with students learning to make, draw or play all kinds of procedures.



NUMERACY

We've been learning...

Recently this term we have learnt about multiplication and division. We have investigated the inverse relationship between the operations, and how they work together! Check out our division portfolio task on Compass in the coming weeks to see all our hard work!

BOOK WEEK

We celebrated with some great events like an incursion, ice cream, author visit, dress up and parade!



INQUIRY/THE RESILIENCE PROJECT

At the start of the month, we ventured to Lego Land for our Science unit. We did an amazing workshop about push and pull forces, and got to create our own push car! Our next investigation, we looked at mixtures, and how properties mix together. We have conducted experiments to see how solids and liquids can or can't blend together, like coloured water and corn flour (ooblec), and dishwashing liquid, milk and colouring.

Students have recently run their own experiment to see who could make the stretchiest slime, using varying amounts of the ingredient borax.



REMINDERS

Spelling words: Students should be practicing their spelling words nightly at home. Once your child passes their retention set/s, they will commence Magic words again. Your child's tests will go home in their Magic Word books in their take home folders. Please chat to your child's teacher if you have any questions about this process and we would be happy to help.

Students should change their take home reader/good fit books each day at school to complete nightly reading.

Upcoming Dates:

SEPTEMBER-

FRI 5th—Curriculum Day

MON 8th - 12th—Prep to 2 Swimming

FRI 19th—Footy Day, Last day of school

OCTOBER-

MON 6th—First day of term 4

Teachers: Kiera Rankin, Carly Bell & Emma Hoehne

A Community of Learners, Achieving Together

What's On in 3/4

September 2025

Welcome to Edition 5, 2025 in 3/4!

The classrooms are a buzz with learning, sharing, persuasive arguments, team work and laughs. The 3/4 teachers are so proud of what the students have achieved over the past 7 weeks. And with only 2 weeks to go until holidays, can you believe it!! Time flies when you're having fun.

Literacy

READING; The Great Kapok Tree is our current mentor text. It brings up topics such as conservation, caring for our environment and the importance of preserving our natural resources. We have used this book to synthesis (how our thinking grows and changes) to help us think beyond the text and critique to help us think about the text.



Writing; students are madly working their way through the writing process and on the way to completing persuasive expositions. By picking topics they are passionate about students can dive deep into reasons to support their thinking and use evidence to explain. Quick/timed writing has also seen improvements in their persuasive structures, rich word choice and use of persuasive devices to convince readers.

Numeracy

What is the Perimeter and what is the Area? Understanding the difference between, using different strategies to measure both (formal and informal) has been awesome fun. Counting the squares inside for area has been challenging when working with $\frac{1}{2}$ s and $\frac{1}{4}$ s. Some students even solved P & A using formulas.

Fractions; what is, what is an equivalent, how many more to make a whole, adding, subtracting, comparing, which is larger and even multiplication and division have been strategies used. Using number lines, hands on materials and drawing have been the best way to work through problems and the students have done an absolutely amazing job understanding fractions on a deeper level. WELL DONE GUYS!!

**Integrated**

Our amazing topic this term is OUR HOME; EARTH!. This unit will see students investigate the Earth's rotation and the impacts this has on the Earth (climate/weather). Understanding the impact of human and natural activities on the Earth's surface. Investigating life cycles and the dependence of living things on their environment. Engagement levels are already HIGH!!

Teachers: Kirsten Burrows, Georgia DeKoning, Natalie Johnson & Kristy Kennedy

Dates Coming Up

Friday 5th September — Curriculum Day

October 9th—Division Athletics—selected students only

September 19th— Dress Up Day—AFL or Sport, Last Day of Term 3 & Whole School lunch order.



Reading

In Reading, students have begun exploring our new mentor text on Jane Goodall, as we begin to delve into biographies. Students have been learning about the features and structure of a biography, whilst being exposed to a numerous inspiring people.

Writing

In Writing, students have been delving into researching about their inspiring person, they have chosen to write a biography about. They have been researching information about their person, whilst learning all about credible and reliable sources, as well as references where they retrieved their information from. Students will be using this information, to complete their biographies.

Maths

Students have been learning all about probability, including appropriate chance language to use when talking about likelihood of events occurring, calculating total outcomes and the probability associated with these outcomes. Students have extended their knowledge even further, learning how to calculate expected frequency of events occurring over a number of trials.



Teachers: Mrs Kemp, Mrs Grisold, Mr Langley & Mrs Cooper



Hooptime

On Monday 11th August, some of our 5/6's participated in hoop time. This event provided students the opportunity to play basketball with friends and against other schools. It was fantastic to see so many smiles, great sportsmanship and encouragement from team mates. Congratulations to everyone for their fantastic effort on the day and a special congratulations to All Stars boys team and Future stars team, who won their grand finals.

Book Week

Students were very excited to begin book week celebrations with the arrival of the ice-cream truck on Wednesday!

On Thursday, Jess Rackyleft an author and illustrator visited and the students were lucky enough to be shown some remarkable drawing skills, which they utilised to create a picture.

Friday was dress up day. The students effort in designing and creating their costumes was remarkable and a true joy to see them showcasing their costumes at the parade.

What's On in *HEROES*

Water Pollution and Contamination

What a month we have had. All year levels have been learning about how our freshwater ecosystems can be contaminated through our storm water systems. The children looked at the stormwater pits around the school and were horrified to see that 7 of the 21 had litter in them. That quickly made them reconsider taking their wrappers outside!!!

We then looked at chemical contamination, and did experiments to replicate an oil spill. The children used varied techniques to try and remove the oil from the water without removing the water. In the end the general consensus was that 'it was hard' and 'took a very long time'.

OzHarvest FEAST

We are very fortunate to have been selected to be part of the FEAST program ran by OzHarvest. This amazing organisation aims to reduce food waste by using 'waste' food to cook for the vulnerable. They gave us an amazing cooking pack and a \$350 Woolworths voucher. This program caters for years 5 and 6 and we will be starting in term 4.



THANK YOU

The Taylor (Jack) family have put 'tree mounts' on all of our habitat boxes. This means that everything is finished for our 'Habitat HEROES' project. Our boxes and wildlife rope bridges WITH CAMERAS

will be installed shortly. Watch this space!



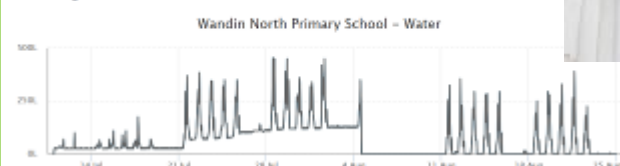
Water Leak Detected! Well done 5/6G

After the holidays we started to see some unusual data in our water usage here at school. We discussed the potential issues and what might be causing the high water usage. Each day our water usage was going up! We reached 130L per hour overnight and knew something was very wrong. Our 5/6 students searched high and low and eventually found a 'wet' area near the Art room. The plumber came out and the students were correct. There was an underground leak which is now fixed.



Wandin North Primary School - Active

Water Usage



Teacher: Laura Attrill

What's On in Global Studies

Global Studies

This term, our Global Studies lessons have been full of colour, flavour, rhythm, and adventure as we've travelled across the globe together!

We kicked off in **Italy**, rolling dough, sprinkling toppings, and making our very own pizzas before journeying through **Europe**. From there, it was on to **South America**, where we samba-ed through the streets of **Brazil**, crafted dazzling Carnevale masks, and published our own Brazilian fact books. In **Argentina**, we took to the dance floor to try the tango, pieced together bold flag collages, and wrote postcards home as though we were sending greetings from Buenos Aires itself.

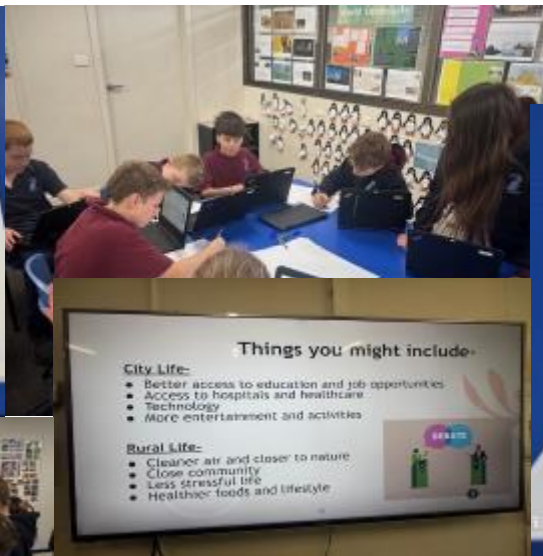
Important Dates in August

August 8—International Day of World's Indigenous Peoples

August 12—International Youth Day

August 16-23—Book Week

August 19—World Humanitarian Day



Next, we landed in **China**, where we explored the striking differences between buzzing city life and peaceful rural villages. Our Grade 3–6 students blew us away with their debating skills — some even worked rap into their arguments! Meanwhile, our Prep–2s dived into the Chinese zodiac, discovering their animals and creating vibrant masks to wear proudly.



From there, it was off to **Thailand**, where students designed colourful elephants, and then on to the mountains of **Nepal**, where we created fluttering prayer flags filled with wishes to share with the world. To top it off, our Grade 3–6 students have begun their exciting assessment task: producing a travel brochure or postcard inspired by their journeys through China, Thailand, or Nepal. And the adventure isn't over yet! In the last few weeks of term, we'll be setting sail across **Oceania** and flying off to **North America**, ready to uncover even more music, movement, art, and stories from cultures around the world!



Teachers: Steph Clarke & Donna Bucklow

A Community of Learners, Achieving Together

What's On in ART

September 2025

Portraiture - Drawing

This month in Art, students have continued to explore Portraiture through drawing. All classes having been discovering different portrait artist from the past and present. Our young artist have been practicing their drawing skills and creating some amazing portraits!

Prep Students drew their **first Self-Portrait** using their school photo to help. Inspired by Paul Klee's work, they have loved creating a layered Portrait. Recently they completed some fun oversized **Sunglass Portraits**.



Grade 3/4 Students begun our unit creating a **Side Portrait** using a silhouette. They have loved planning and drawing themselves in their **Lego Sel-Portrait** as their assessed piece. They were all so proud of their creativity!

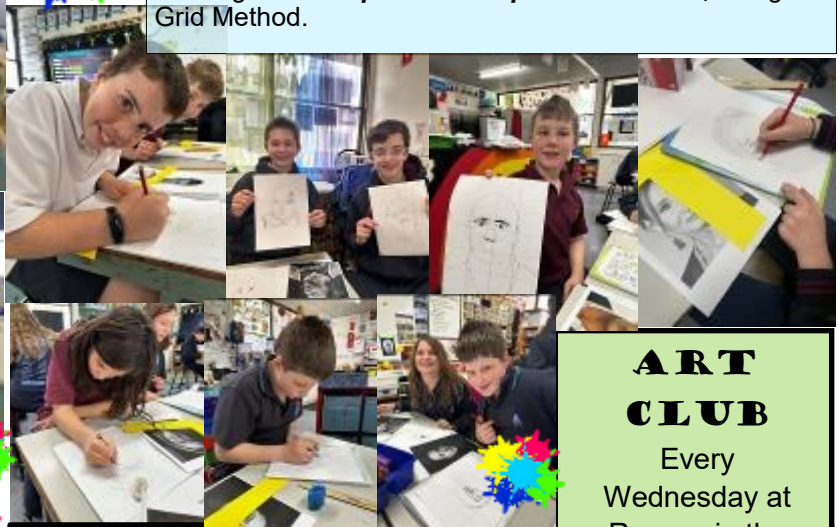


Melanie Smith & Kaitlin Saynor

Grade 1/2 Students drew a vibrant **Self-Portrait** to begin our unit. They have explored Picasso's style and created a **Picasso two-face Portrait**. Recently they designed amazing **When I Grow Up Portraits**.



Grade 5/6 Students begun our unit creating a **Side Portrait** using a silhouette. Exploring Andy Warhol, they used their school photo to make a **Pop Art Portrait**. Currently developing their drawing skills, they are working on a **People Who Inspire Us Portrait**, using the Grid Method.



Reminders

Art pieces are filling up our office area and Art Room. Please come and have a look at our artists wonderful work!

ART CLUB

Every
Wednesday at
Recess in the
Art Room.
Everyone welcome!



Hello everyone!

Over the term so far: Week 3: Pokémon– we made poke balls, learned new Pokémon through word searches and crosswords, made puppets and paintings.

Week 4: Science– The children choose all different science experiments. We had fun blowing up zip lock bags and making volcanoes.

Week 5: Zoo animals– The children picked 5 different animals for the whole week. We made those animals with all different materials.

Week 6: Japan– Erica has gone to Japan for a few weeks. She wanted to have Japanese snacks and make Japanese activities for the week before she left. We made sushi out of cotton balls.

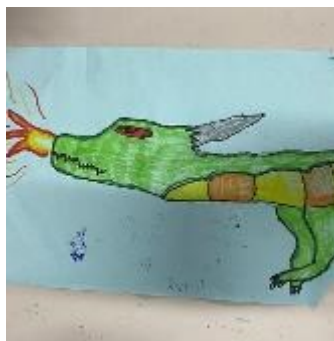
I have found each week there is a national holiday of different foods. Each week, on that day we will be having special foods. So far we have had zucchini slice, French fry chips, cake, banana bread. Each week is a surprise for the children. This week is country week, we are having a few extra foods for snack. The children have chosen America, Australia, Asia and England.

Don't forget pupil free day on Friday. Have a good long weekend.

Holiday program flyer is out now is anyone wants to check it out.

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.

Amy, BSC & ASC Coordinator



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

Holiday Program

Flyer for holiday program are out now. Check out online or come past and grab a flyer.



Charity Project T2

HUGE Thank you to everyone that donated to the Children's Ward at the Box Hill Hospital. My dad took all the items in and they were very grateful.

We appreciate any donations! Thank you!

