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BUCHAN PRIMARY SCHOOL
IS A BARR SCHOOL (BUSHFIRE AT RISK REGISTER)

AROUND THE SCHOOL

2026 SOMERS CAMP

Our Grade 5/6 students had the incredible opportunity to head off to Somers Camp for an unforgettable nine days and eight nights! Throughout their time away, they challenged themselves, stepped outside their comfort zones, made many new friends and created memories that will last a lifetime. From exciting activities to plenty of laughs along the way, it was a wonderful experience filled with fun, friendship and adventure.

Read on to see some of the wonderful photos from camp and discover the many adventures they got up to!



BACK AT SCHOOL

Back at school, our remaining Grade 3 and 4 students spent the first week with Mr Vague and the second with Mrs Z. Our Grade 3/4s had plenty of fun, taking part in lots of hands-on inquiry activities and entertaining performances. Meanwhile, in the junior classroom, it was business as usual! Our Foundation students have been working hard as they begin moving into Grade 1 phonics, learning all about vowel teams and diphthongs, while continuing to build their confidence as readers and writers.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

We acknowledge the Gunai Kurnai people as the Traditional Owners of the land on which we work, learn and play. We pay our respect to Gunai Kurnai elders past, present and emerging and extend our respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and families of Buchan Primary School.



Term 3

As this is our final newsletter for Term 3, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of our families for your continued support throughout the term. We have achieved a great deal together, and I am incredibly proud of everything our students, staff and wider school community have accomplished. Thank you for the many ways you contribute to making Buchan Primary School such a positive and supportive place. While this is our final newsletter, there is still plenty happening over the next week and a bit, so please keep an eye on School Stream for important updates and reminders. I hope everyone enjoys a safe, relaxing and well-earned break, and we look forward to seeing you all again in Term 4!

NAPLAN:

Our 2026 NAPLAN results are in, and once again, Buchan Primary School students have achieved outstanding results. Across virtually all domains, our students performed above the state, similar schools and our area. These results are a wonderful reflection of the hard work of our students, the dedication of our staff and the ongoing support of our families. We are incredibly proud of what our students have achieved, well done to everyone involved! You can see our results on the following page.

School Visit:

Teaching and Education Support Staff from Nungurner Primary School will be visiting us on Tuesday the 15/9 to observe our literacy block. We look forward to sharing our approach with them and are sure they will receive a warm welcome.

Parent & Carer Toolkit

Ms Power, our Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader, has included a Parent & Carer Toolkit that has been attached to today's newsletter. Provided by Kids Helpline at School, the toolkit offers practical information to help parents and carers better understand, support and guide young people through a range of situations and challenges. We hope families find this a helpful and valuable resource.

Best regards,
Aidan Johnston
Principal

NAPLAN RESULTS ARE IN!



OUTSTANDING RESULTS!

We're pleased to share that our NAPLAN results are in and our students have excelled across all domains!

Our Grade 3 and 5 students have not only **comprehensively outperformed** the state, similar schools and our area, but have also achieved learning growth well beyond state benchmarks.

GRADE 3

STRONG & EXCEEDING

READING	100%	64% SIMILAR SCHOOLS 69% STATE SCHOOLS
WRITING	100%	71% SIMILAR SCHOOLS 78% STATE SCHOOLS
NUMERACY	100%	62% SIMILAR SCHOOLS 67% STATE SCHOOLS

GRADE 5

STRONG & EXCEEDING

READING	67%	67% SIMILAR SCHOOLS 74% STATE SCHOOLS
WRITING	100%	67% SIMILAR SCHOOLS 73% STATE SCHOOLS
NUMERACY	100%	68% SIMILAR SCHOOLS 71% STATE SCHOOLS

WHAT DOES ALL OF THIS MEAN?

Almost every Grade 3 and 5 student who sat NAPLAN achieved strong or exceeding proficiency in reading, writing, numeracy, spelling and grammar. As a cohort, our students outperformed the state, similar schools and our area across almost every NAPLAN measure. Equally impressive, every Grade 5 student demonstrated medium or high learning growth since Grade 3 in almost every domain, again surpassing the state, our area and similar schools. These outstanding results, achieved for the third year running, reflect the dedication and teamwork of our students, staff and parents. Well done to our school community!

East Gippsland & Wellington Grade 5/6

Somers Camp



Somer's Camp

From Tuesday the 25th of August to Wednesday the 2nd of September, our Grade 5/6 students had the opportunity to attend Somers School Camp. Somers isn't just a camp, it is a Victorian government school, operated by the Department of Education, providing residential outdoor education experiences for students across the state. Our students had a heap of fun throughout their time away, challenging themselves, trying new things and putting their best foot forward. It was fantastic to see our students embrace the experience and all that Somers had to offer. Lachie, Jackson and Mr J were also thrilled to receive the "Best Hut" award at the end of camp, recognising the hut that demonstrated the strongest sense of community, citizenship and teamwork - **GO HUT 6!** A huge thank you to Susie Grinter for making Somers happen!





Father's Day

On Thursday the 3rd of September, students spent an afternoon getting creative, making a variety of crafts and cards for the special fathers and father figures in their lives. A big thank you to Julie for once again organising our annual Father's Day Stall. We hope all our fathers had a fantastic day on Sunday.



VicSpell

Last month, Tom, Fletcher and Will travelled to Bairnsdale West Primary School to compete in the VicSpell Spelling Competition. All three students did a fantastic job, successfully making it through the first round of the competition. It was a great achievement and wonderful to see them representing Buchan Primary School with confidence. Well done, boys! We look forward to continuing to participate in this competition and giving more students the opportunity to get involved in the future.



Art

Our senior students have been continuing their fantastic mixed-media artworks, combining texture, shape and colour to create unique designs. Students have used modelling materials to build raised patterns and features on their canvases before adding paint to bring their creations to life. It has been wonderful to see their ideas develop and I cannot wait to see the finished product - hopefully in time for the Buchan Flower Show!



Book Week

We had a wonderful time celebrating our Book Week Dress-Up Day with the Early Years Learning Centre! We loved welcoming the kinder children up to the school and sharing the morning together. We started the day with stories around the school, with students enjoying a range of books together. This was followed by our much-anticipated Book Parade, where everyone had the chance to show off their fantastic costumes and favourite book characters. The fun continued with a scavenger hunt, where students worked together to find clues around the school. We then finished the morning with some creative craft activities in the Senior Room. It was lovely to see our school and kinder children spending time together, sharing stories, having fun and celebrating our love of reading.

A special congratulations to the following students:

Principal's Award: Cillian

Senior Classroom Award: Fletcher

Junior Classroom Award: Eli

Kinder Award: Ava

Most like Character Award: Ragnar

Unique: Elsie

We've shared just a small selection of photos from the celebrations on the next page. With so much happening on the day, we weren't able to capture everyone, but we loved seeing all of our students costumes!

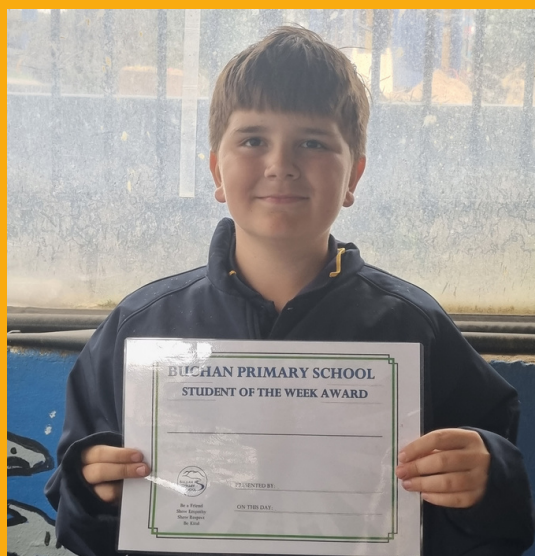




DISTRICT ATHLETICS DAY

Congratulations to Michael, Jackson and Campbell, who proudly represented our school at the Division Athletics in Bairnsdale on Monday. It was a fantastic achievement to compete at this level, and we are very proud of their efforts. We look forward to hearing the official results and finding out whether any of our students will progress to the Regional Championships next term.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK



WILL

For showing fantastic courage and perseverance throughout the nine days at Somers Camp. You challenged yourself to step outside your comfort zone and have a go at so many different activities. Well done, Will!

JOHN

For consistently setting high standards with your writing. Recently, you have been increasing the complexity of your sentences, Keep up the great work!



STUDENT OF THE WEEK



LEXI

This term, you have put in an amazing effort in Mathematics. It has been fantastic to see your understanding of multiplication grow. Keep up the great work!

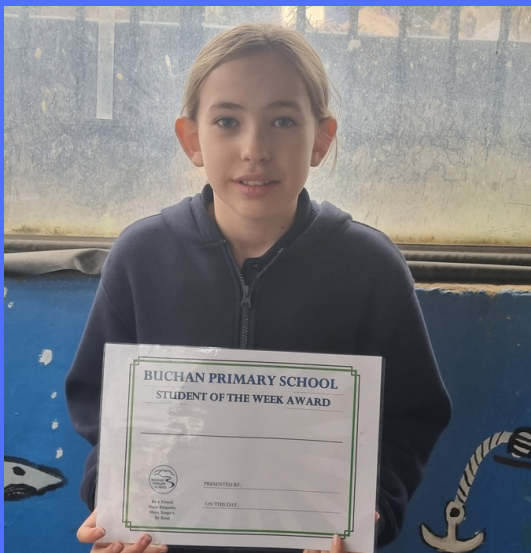
CILLIAN

For consistently pushing yourself with your learning. Last week, you wrote fantastic sentences that included boundary punctuation and verbs. Great job!



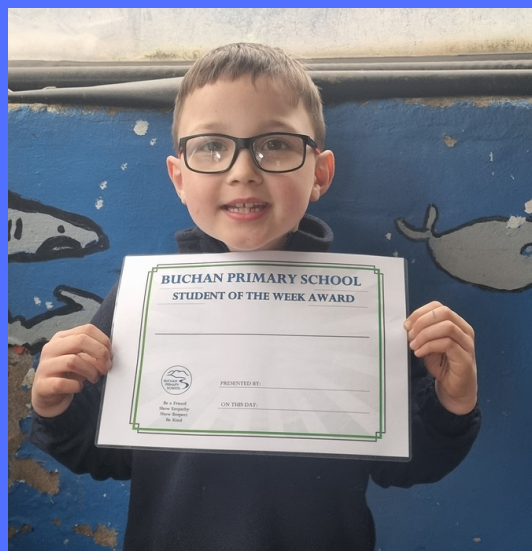
EMILY

This student has shown great resilience and perseverance, maintaining a positive attitude and continuing to give her best, even when things haven't gone as planned. A wonderful example of persistence and determination!



HUGHIE

For consistently being kind both inside and outside of the classroom. You frequently push chairs in for others, hold the door open, and use kind manners. Fantastic work, Hugh.



Parent-opinion Survey

WE WANT OUR PARENTS / CARERS TO TELL US WHAT THEY THINK!

Our school is conducting the annual Parent / Carer Opinion Survey offered by the Department of Education and is seeking your feedback. The survey is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behavior, and student engagement. The survey is optional, but we encourage and appreciate your participation.

Our school will use the survey results to assist in identifying areas for improvement and professional development needs in the school, to target school planning and improvement strategies.

The survey will be conducted online, only takes 15 minutes to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones. A survey link and PIN was sent out last week. If you did not receive this, please message Aidan who will send you another message. We would love to have more voices respond to the survey!

The online survey will be available in English and 10 other languages including Arabic, Greek, Hakha Chin, Hindi, Japanese, Punjabi, Simplified Chinese, Somali, Turkish, and Vietnamese. Resources are also available in additional languages to assist parents / carers who speak a language other than English at home. Please reach out to your child's teacher, or the school directly for survey guides in your language.

Last year, feedback from the Parent / Carer Opinion Survey helped us identify an important area for improvement. We have made a conscious effort to broaden the opportunities available to our students and provide experiences that cater for different interests, strengths and abilities. This has included extension and high-ability opportunities, additional programs, camps, sporting events, performing arts and other learning experiences beyond the regular classroom program.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
August 23rd	August 25th	August 26th	August 27th	August 28th
	Somers Camp Begin (Grade 5/6)			
August 31st	September 1st	September 2nd	September 3rd	September 4th
MARC Van		Somers Camp Ends (Grade 5/6)	Fathers Day Stall	
September 7th	September 8th	September 9th	September 10th	September 11th
Division Athletic for Jackson, Michael & Campbell			Book Week Dress Up / Roadhouse	Gippslands Biggest PJ Day
September 14th	September 15th	September 16th	September 17th	September 18th
MARC Van	School Council		Footy Colours Dress Up Day	Final Day of School 1PM Finish

Events in Term 4

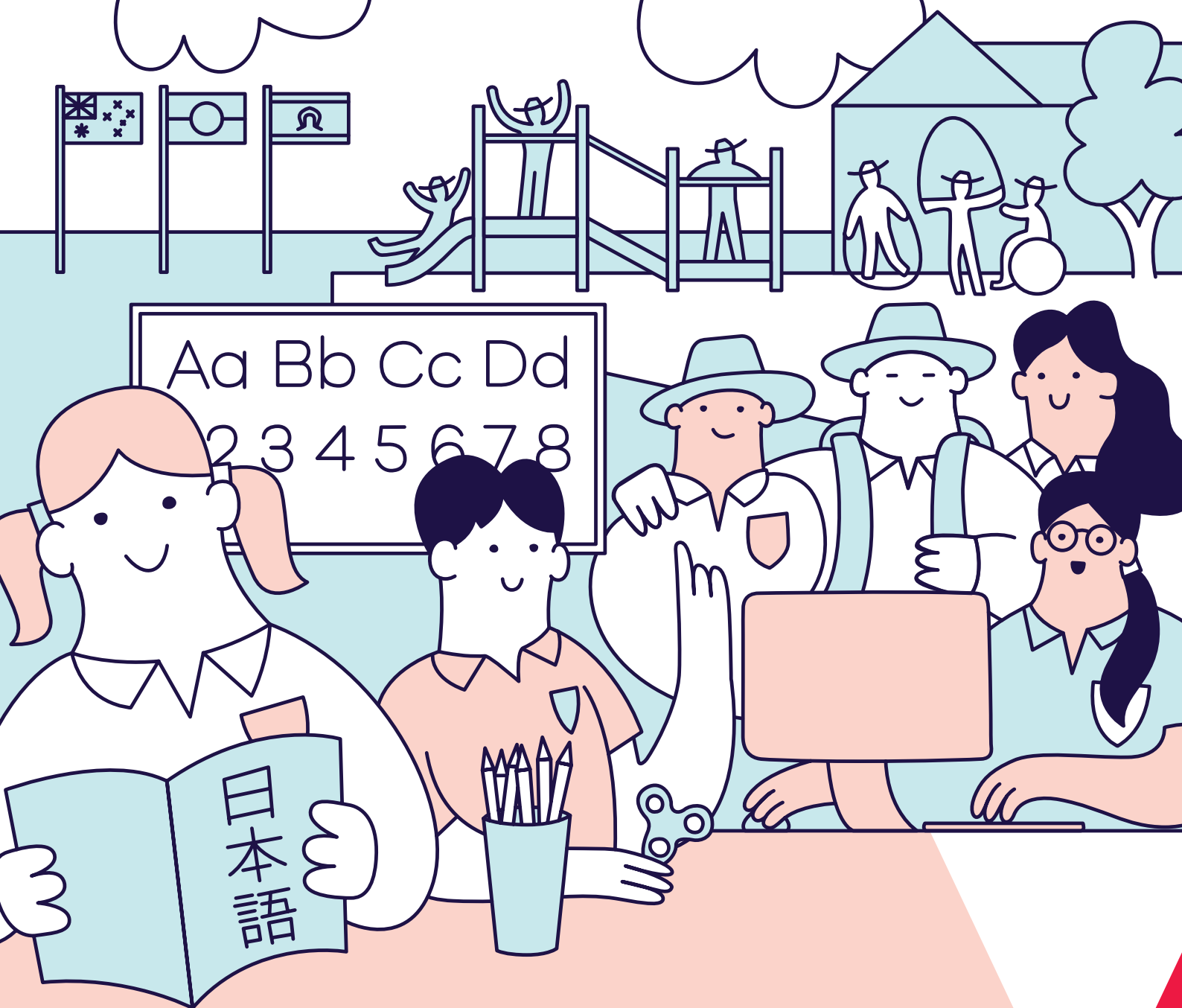


October 5th:

Term 4, Week 2

First Day of Term 4

Parent-teacher Conferences



Every day counts

Attending school every day means experiencing what counts - the learning, friendships, fun and opportunities that can shape their future.

EAST GIPPSLAND GYMNASTICS SEPTEMBER HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Join us these school holidays for
gymnastics, ninja, trampolining and loads of fun!

Scan to
Book



GYMNASTICS



NINJA/PARKOUR



TRAMPOLINE
& TUMBLING



GAMES &
ACTIVITIES

MONDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER

\$70 Per Session

9:00am – 3:00pm 6-HOUR SESSION
Prep – Grade 6

Experience all aspects of our gym including:

- Gymnastics
- Ninja/Parkour
- Trampoline & Tumbling
- Games & Activities

★ Bring your own snacks, lunch
and water bottle.

TUESDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER

\$15 Per Session

9:00am – 10:00am
KinderGym Open Session
(18 months – 6 years)

10:15am – 11:15am
Ninja / Trampoline /
Gymnastics (5 – 12 years)

11:15am – 12:15pm
Ninja / Trampoline /
Gymnastics (5 – 12 years)

12:30pm – 1:30pm
Open Gym Session (5 – 16 years)

WEDNESDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER

\$50 Per 4hr Session – \$15 Per 1hr Session

9:00am – 10:00am
KinderGym Open Session
(18 months – 6 years)

10:00am – 2:00pm
4-Hour Session (Prep – Grade 6)

2:30pm – 3:30pm
Open Gym Session (5 – 16 years)

THURSDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER

\$70 Per Session

9:00am – 3:00pm 6-HOUR SESSION
Prep – Grade 6

Experience all aspects of our gym including:

- Gymnastics
- Ninja/Parkour
- Trampoline & Tumbling
- Games & Activities

★ Bring your own snacks, lunch
and water bottle.

SESSION INFORMATION



KinderGym Open Sessions

Children under 5 years
must have a parent/
helper on the floor
with them.



Ninja / Trampoline / Gymnastics Sessions

Coach-led programs
for children
aged 5–12 years.



Open Gym Sessions

A supervised session where
children can explore all
equipment throughout the
gym. No formal coaching
class structure.



4-Hour & 6-Hour Sessions

A fun-filled program featuring
Gymnastics, Ninja/Parkour,
Trampoline & Tumbling, games
and activities throughout the day.
Bring your own snacks, lunch
& a water bottle.



8 Sharpe St
Lucknow



eastgippslandgymnastics@gmail.com



0491106584

HOLIDAY intensive SWIM PROGRAM

FAST TRACK
YOUR CHILDS
SWIMMING
ABILITY!

Monday 28 Sept - Friday 2 Oct 2026

Cost \$67.50 for ages 3 and up

On confirmation of booking a
\$20 deposit will be required to
secure your child's spot.

Enrolments due

Friday 18 September

ENROL ONLINE
OR SCAN THE
QR CODE



DAILY
30 MINUTE
LESSONS OVER
5 DAYS!



43 Palmers Road, Lakes Entrance
(03) 5155 333
lakesaquadome.com.au



ORBOST LITTLE ATHLETICS

Fun Family Fitness

SEASON 2026/2027

START UP + COME AND TRY

Be the best that you can be

Join Orbest little athletics and discover the excitement of
running, jumping, throwing and making new friends.

Date: 10th October 2026

Time: 9.30am

Location: Orbest Community College Top Oval

Program will run Saturday morning from 9.30am in the 4th term 2026 and the 1st term of
2027

Whether you're a beginner or an experienced athlete, Little Athletics helps children develop skills,
confidence, and a love of sport.

Children must turn 5 by the end of 2026 to be eligible.



SPRING HOLIDAYS AT SALTWATER CREATIVE

DESIGN AND PAINT YOUR OWN CALICO BAG - FOR ALL AGES

Mon 21st of Sept @ 12pm - 1.30pm
Thu 1st of Oct @ 10am - 11.30am

We LOVE getting artsy and this workshop is exactly about that! We take you or/and your little artist through shapes and techniques to create their unique masterpiece of textured art.

Expect messy hands!
\$65.00pp

CERAMIC FACE MUG MAKING - POTTERY FOR ALL AGES

Tue 11th of Sept @ 11am - 12.30pm

Make your very own face/monster mug in the 1.5 hour hand building clay extravaganza. Bambini will learn the fundamentals of a slab built and extended on to create their very own personalised face / monster mug. We supply the clay and a whole mess of colours and additions to create your masterpiece. Be as crazy & creative as you can!

\$65.00pp
(firing and glazing included)

KIDS POTTERY INTRO TO WHEEL THROWING

Mon 21st of Sept @ 10am - 11.30pm
Thu 24th of Sep @ 10am & 1st of Oct @ 2pm-3.30pm

Kids get to step up to the potters wheel and learn all the basics.

\$65.00pp
(firing and glazing included)

FLUID ACRYLIC SKATEBOARD PAINTING

Thu 24th of Sept @ 12.00pm - 1.30pm
Sat 26th of Sept @ 12.00pm - 1.30pm

Kids will experiment with fluid acrylic pouring techniques before executing a final design on their very own skateboard decks.

\$80.00pp
(opt for resin finish +\$30)

PARENTS + KIDS / PLATE & CUP MAKING

Sat 26th of Sep @ 10am-11.30am
Sat 3rd of Oct @ 12pm-1.30pm

Make something you can actually use together! Parent + kid clay session where you'll work side by side to create your very own matching plate and cup set.

\$70.00pp
(firing and glazing included)

Please note depending on the weather you might need to leave the pieces in the studio to dry for 24h & clay pieces will take 4-6 weeks to be fired and finished.

Park and Walk to School in October!



October is the perfect time to shake up the school drop off and pick up. We encourage you to walk, wheel, or scoot whenever you can!

Have Some Fun On Your Way To School In October

This October our school is taking part in VicHealth's *Walk to School* with a local twist: **Park and Walk!**

Families can use any safe car park, and walk the rest of the way to school, because **Part Way is OK!**

Walking helps students feel energised, healthy, and ready to learn, while making school zones safer for everyone.

What Makes It Fun?

Your activity booklet is a fun place to learn while on your October adventures.

Complete activities, learn, and draw, then share your favourite activity at the end of the month.

On our way we can experience:

- Adventure vibes - every day feels like a new quest.
- Connections - travel together and make it a moving hangout.
- Discovery - spot dogs, birds and nature wonders.
- Achievements - "I walked/wheeled/scooted in October!" is worth a celebration.

Remember: **Part Way is OK!**

Join in where you can and make it fun.

Pick your shoes or wheels and join the October fun!



Date	Time	Activity	Meeting point
Sunday 20 th September	9:00am - 10:00am	Campfire Capers Enjoy some campfire cooking with the Rangers while we learn about safe campfire behaviour. Accessibility: Pathways wide, mainly smooth earth with sections of gravel. Suitable for wheelchairs and prams.	Camp Kitchen
Wednesday 23 rd September	9:00am - 10:00am	Minibeast Discovery Discover a bug's world in the Buchan River, by getting to know some tiny critters and their importance to our environment. Get to know our Rangers and come peer through magnifying glasses into the world of an aquatic minibeast.	Camp Kitchen
Thursday 24 th September	9:00am - 10:00am	Campfire Capers Enjoy some campfire cooking with the Rangers while we learn about safe campfire behaviour. Accessibility: Pathways wide, mainly smooth earth with sections of gravel. Suitable for wheelchairs and prams.	Camp Kitchen
Sunday 27 th September	9:00am - 10:00am	Incredible Insects Get to know the incredible insects living at the Buchan Reserve. Come and peer through the magnifying glass into the world of insects and create your own insect motel to take home. Accessibility: Pathways wide, mainly smooth earth with sections of gravel. Suitable for wheelchairs and prams.	Camp Kitchen
Tuesday 29 th September	9:00am - 10:00am	Bush Detective Unravel the secrets of the bush. Join a Ranger to look for scats, tracks and traces that animals have left behind. Accessibility: Pathways wide, mainly smooth earth with sections of gravel. Suitable for wheelchairs and prams.	Camp Kitchen
Wednesday 30 th September	9:00am - 10:00am	Minibeast Discovery Discover a bug's world in the Buchan River, by getting to know some tiny critters and their importance to our environment. Get to know our Rangers and come peer through magnifying glasses into the world of an aquatic minibeast.	Camp Kitchen

All Junior Ranger activities are free, and are suitable for children aged 6-12 years.
Each child must be accompanied by a parent/carer over the age of 18 years, who is responsible for their Junior Ranger/s.
Attendees must wear sturdy closed-toe shoes and appropriate clothing.
Bookings are essential. Please visit www.parkconnect.vic.gov.au/junior-ranger/