

# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022



Growth.  
Respect.  
Inclusiveness.  
Fun.

## **MARCH**

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup>**

District Swimming

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup>**

Welcome BBQ. 6pm onwards

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup>**

MARC Van  
Nagle Students visit to grade 5/6

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup>**

Labour Day public holiday

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>**

School Council nomination forms due.

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup>**

School Council ballot closes

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>**

MARC Van  
School Council AGM  
5.30pm

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Mitchell Cluster Cross  
Country @ Nicholson PS

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup>**

Pupil Free Day

## **Welcome BBQ**

We are looking forward to our Welcome BBQ next Monday evening when we all get the opportunity to come together to connect as a community. Classrooms will be open for students to show their families through. The evening will begin around 6pm with a BBQ supplied by the school. BYO refreshments. Hoping to see everyone there!

## **School Council Elections**

The Nicholson PS School Council is an important part of our school structure and governance.

The role of School Council is highly valued as it provides advice, support and input into the current and future direction of our school. School Council meets eight times throughout the year, and meetings run for no more than two hours. Any parent is eligible to be elected on to council. We encourage ALL parents to consider this opportunity to be involved in your school. We will have five parent vacancies available. We encourage parents to speak with our current councillors.

Nominations for school council are now open and will close on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March.

Nomination and self nomination forms are available from the office and will be available at our Welcome BBQ on Monday evening.

Further information about School Council can be found later in the newsletter or by visiting the Department of education's website.

Kind regards

*Sue Clague*

*We acknowledge the Gunai-Kurnai people the traditional owners for the land our school is built on. We pay our respects to the elders past, present and emerging and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.*



## RECURRING EVENTS:

### Breakfast Club:

Monday to Friday 8:15 – 9:00am

### Sporting Schools Program

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 3.20-5pm

### Playgroup:

Fridays, 9:30am - 11:00am

### Lunch Orders:

Orders and payment into school by Thursday. Any late orders need to be directed to the store no later than 8am Friday.

Friday is lunch order day

## Our 2022 Student Leaders



LAURA



MAALI



RILEY



SIENNA



RYDER



JEREMY

## Birthdays

## Reading Awards

## Happy Birthday

Emily, Ms Gamble, Xavier & Ella



## Well done Jack!



# Classroom News

## Foundation

We have been very busy in maths this week. We are learning to read, write, model and order numbers to five. We have been delving into all of the different ways that we can make numbers to 5 including using 10's frames to help us visualise collections. Each day we make a link to numbers that come before and after. We are also counting days of school, leading up to our '100 days of school' party. We are continuing to practise days of the week and marking off days on the calendar each day.

In reading we are establishing reading routines and exploring our gradual release model of learning. This model allows students to be explicitly shown a skill then gradually releasing responsibility of learning to the students. We start with a mini lesson ("I do, you watch"), practise the skill collaboratively ("we do together"), practising the skill independently ("you do by yourself"), then coming back together to reflect on learning.

In soundwaves we have practiced S/A/T/P/I/N sounds. We have delved into the articulation of sounds and building awareness of noticing what our mouths do when we make specific sounds. We have been focussing on identifying sounds at the beginning and end of words and sorting words into sound categories.

## Grade 1/2

### Reading

We have been revising getting our knowledge ready before reading and learning to complete purposeful tasks which practise our reading skills, independently. Students have been thinking about what they are reading and responding by creating book reports.

### Writing

We have had a big handwriting focus, practising forming letters correctly and using spaces between the words. The children have been practising writing with more stamina, having a go at writing unfamiliar words by listening to the sounds and groups of sounds in words. In Soundwaves we have been discovering alternate spelling choices for the sounds we have studied. The short e- empty egg e can be spelled with and e- egg, ea bread or even with ai- said! It can be confusing!

### Numeracy

Our main focus is on Place value. Reading, writing, modelling and manipulating numbers at the student's level. What does the = sign mean? It means "The same as" (equivalent to)!

## 3/4

### Reading

In reading we have discussed and recorded how we know if a text is just right, too easy or too hard. We know that a just right text will have some tricky words, but that we should still be able to understand what we are reading. We also brainstormed the steps we take to work out if a text is just right, including looking at the front cover, reading the title and blurb and reading the first few pages.

### Writing

In writing we brainstormed the things we like to write about and came up with many varying ideas! In our room people like to write all kinds of stories, recounts, information and persuasive texts ('when you want to try and convince your parents to get you something'). We also discussed our expectations for the presentation of our workbooks, with the grade 3's learning how to rule up a page and the grade 4's showing off their mad ruler skills!

### Maths

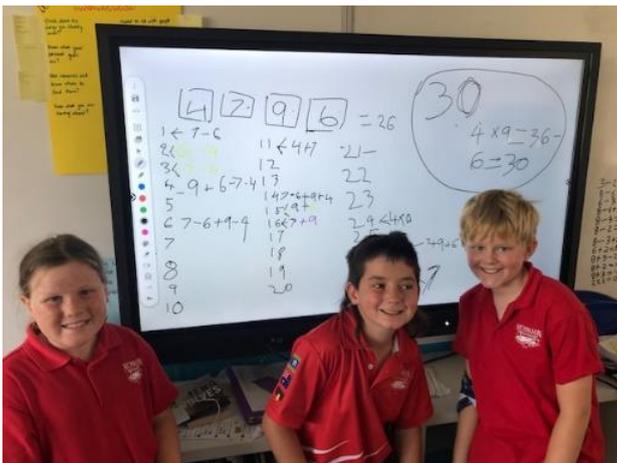
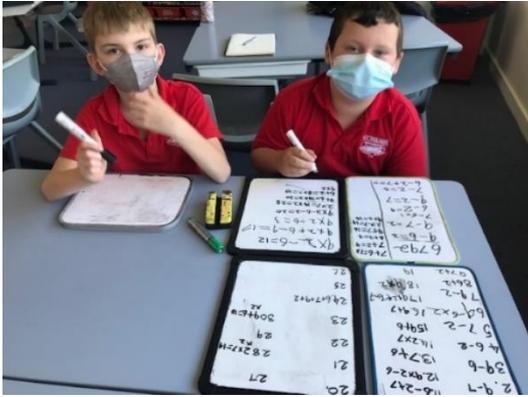
We have practiced being in and getting out of the learning pit in maths. We have been faced with some challenging tasks (like making the numbers from 1-20 using four number 4s). We have learnt how struggle can grow our brains, that believing in yourself is an essential place to start to be successful and that speed isn't important in maths.

## 5/6

In Literacy we are exploring Realistic Fiction through our classroom novel "Two Wolves". We are using clues from the text to make predictions and have attempted our first realistic fiction stories. Students provided peer feedback in the form of "Medal and Mission" slips. Students are finding the praise and constructive feedback useful in making goals for their future writing. We have also been aiming to "Show, Don't Tell" in our writing by

including the senses to help the reader feel immersed in the story. Some student writing is so vivid we struggled to hold down our lunches!

In Numeracy we have been experimenting with using Vertical Non-Permanent Surfaces or VNPS when we are working collaboratively in maths. The students enjoy the novelty of writing on the white boards and windows and energy levels during thinking has definitely had a boost. Groupings are random, giving students the opportunity to learn from different people and it's been really exciting hearing everyone's ideas and strategies when trying to get out of the "Learning Pit".



## SCHOOL CONTACTS:

Phone: 03 5156 8220

Mobile: 0447 123 744

Fax: 03 5156 8759

## Skoolbag

Do you have the Skoolbag app yet? This free app allows our school community, teachers and parents, to stay in touch. You'll find all the newsletters in the app, as well as handy forms. You can even let the school know if your child is absent. It's free, from both the Google Play Store and the App Store.



# School Council Elections - Information for Parents

## WHAT IS A SCHOOL COUNCIL AND WHAT DOES IT DO?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within state-wide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

## Who is on the school council?

For most primary school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.
- A mandated elected school employee category – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional community member category – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. Department employees are not eligible to be community members.

A small number of school councils have Nominee members.

For all schools with a Year 7 and above cohort, there is an additional category of membership: A mandated elected student member category, with two positions.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

## WHY IS PARENT MEMBERSHIP SO IMPORTANT?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

## DO I NEED SPECIAL EXPERIENCE TO BE ON SCHOOL COUNCIL?

Each member brings their own valuable life skills and knowledge to the role. Councillors may need to develop skills and acquire knowledge in areas that are unfamiliar to them. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

## HOW CAN YOU BECOME INVOLVED?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term one each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

## **WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO TO STAND FOR ELECTION?**

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term one each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual timeline has been varied by the Minister.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

Department employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election.

You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

### **REMEMBER**

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- Be sure to vote in the elections.

**Contact the principal for further information.**

# Storytime Cultural Diversity Week



Children's Storytime sessions this week will celebrate the many different cultures and faiths that call Victoria home

Since the traditional owners first inhabited the land, Victoria has been built on waves of migration. Today, almost half of Victorians were either born overseas or have at least one parent who was born overseas.

Our diverse communities have made us prosperous and strong. And our differences don't divide us, they unite us.

The free Storytime sessions include stories, songs, rhymes, dancing and a craft activity.

- Bairnsdale Library**  
Tue, 22 March at 11.00 am
- Lakes Entrance Service Centre**  
Tue, 22 March at 11.00 am
- Mallacoota Service Centre**  
Wed, 23 March at 2.30 pm
- Orbost Service Centre**  
Tue, 22 March at 10.30 am
- Paynesville Service Centre**  
Tue, 22 March at 11.00 am



TWIN RIVERS LIONS CLUB INVITES YOU TO

# FREE EVENT COUNTRY PICNIC @ NICHOLSON RESERVE

Sunday, 27 March 2022

11am to 2.30pm

Nicholson Reserve (next to Primary School)

BYO chair/rug

- Jumping Castle
- Face Painting
- Balloon Twisting

- Live Music
- Sausage Sizzle
- Egg & Bacon Rolls
- Cold Drinks



Sweet Chocky Box will be selling REAL Coffee & chockies



# Twin Rivers Lions Club

## MARKET

Nicholson Reserve

Saturday 5th March

8am - 1pm



MAKERS & GROWERS

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



# Lost in the Groove

## Free Community Music Fiesta

March 12 - March 14, 2022

Buchan March 12, Orbost March 13,  
Bruthen March 14

Bring yourselves, your family and your friends to enjoy these free pop-up music workshops with top Victorian artists, Andy Rigby and Strat & Lyndal. No experience necessary, everyone is welcome!



- Music-making for Pre-Schoolers and Preps. (Buchan and Orbost) BYO adult!
- Quirky instrument-making for all ages (Buchan and Orbost). Make your own whistle or set of pan pipes, then join in the afternoon music making and street performance.
- Sing and Strum Ensemble. All welcome. Bring your voice and/or uke, guitar if you play one. Have fun learning a song and/or some easy chords.
- Percussion and Instrument Ensemble. All welcome. Have a tinker on the marimbas or BYO your instrument to learn an easy, toe-tapping tune.
- Free concerts from top musicians, Andy Rigby, and Strat & Lyndal
- Irish jam sessions in the evenings

For the full program and more information, see the website: [quasitrad.com](http://quasitrad.com) or call Judy on 0422 868 606

Lost in the Groove is proudly presented by QuasiTrad Music, Coshendal, Bairnsdale and the East Gippsland Shire Council

