

# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023



Growth.  
Respect.  
Inclusiveness.  
Fun.

## MARCH

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>**

NAPLAN -Grades 3 & 5

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>**

NAPLAN- Grades 3 & 5

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup>**

NAPLAN-Grades 3 & 5

School Council AGM 6.30pm

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>**

Harmony Day

Parent/Teacher catchups

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Parent/Teacher catchups

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>**

Wheelbarrow Grand Prix

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup>**

Final payment for 5/6 camp

due

Grade 3/4 leave for Camp

Coolamatong

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup>**

Grade 3/4 return from camp

APRIL

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Grade 5/6 leave for Ballarat

Camp

We hope that everyone had a fantastic long weekend and got to have some family time!

### **NAPLAN**

This week our Grade 3 and 5 students are participating in NAPLAN assessments. This year, testing will be done on-line except for Grade 3 writing. Students at Nicholson have had some opportunities to familiarise themselves with the format through practise tests in an online and paper format. While we do analyse the data from NAPLAN for internal reasons, we do not see these tests as the key measurement of student progress and growth. There are many summative and formative assessments teachers use to get an accurate, precise picture of student achievements and growth

### **School Council Elections**

We have five parent vacancies available for 2023. Nominations for School Council are now open and will close this Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March. Nomination and self nomination forms are available from the office.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing councillor Kristey Ffrench, who after 10 years on council has decided to not re-elect.

### **Parent/Teacher Catchups**

Thank you to everyone for returning your request forms promptly. Allocated chat times will come home shortly. Every effort is made to accommodate requests. If for some reason the time given does not suit, please contact your child's classroom teacher to rebook.

### **Student Drop-off and Pick Up**

Student drop off time is 8.30am. While staff may be onsite prior to this time, they are not on official duty until 8.50am and are not expected to supervise children.

Pick up time is between 3.20 and 3.30pm.

The Out of Hours School Care Program is available for families. Please contact them directly for further information.

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 8:30 – 9:00am

### Playgroup:

Mondays 9:30am till 11:00am

### Lunch Orders:

Orders and payment into school by Thursday morning  
Friday is lunch order day

Congratulations and well done to our swimmers Harvey, Campbell and Jasmine who recently represented the cluster at the division swimming event.  
Big congratulations to Jasmine who finished second in her Breaststroke event!



## Birthdays

## Reading Awards

Happy Birthday  
Lincon, Joey,  
Carter and Frankie



# Classroom News

## Learner Quality- *Persist*

Persistent learners think positively, show patience, solve problems enjoy a challenge and learn from the mistakes they make. Persistent learners also stay focused on the task, try their hardest and never give up and show pride in what they achieve.

### Foundation/One

In literacy we have been working on EURHFBL sounds in texts. We have been writing these letters/sounds and have practised finding them in texts. We are continuing to practise segmenting and blending sounds in words.

In maths we are learning addition, friends of 10 and building to 10 as an efficient strategy for addition. We are also learning some new maths games that we can play to practise skills.

In writing we are learning to write recounts. We are planning our writing then putting our plan into our writing.

### Grade 1-2

This week the children were excited to have Reading Eggs as a purposeful task for the first time. Their Reading Eggs passwords are glued inside their yellow Reading Logs so that they can also access the program from home. It has been great to have students reading at home and remembering to bring their red reader bag to school every day. There has been a great improvement in daily choice writing with children able to concentrate on the task for greater lengths of time. In maths we have been working with two-digit numbers and the 'tricky teens' which don't follow the usual pattern. Students have a personal counting goal to improve their oral counting.

### Grade 3/4

In maths we have been using Unifix cubes and MAB to help us to develop our understanding of partitioning numbers into their place value components and then renaming them. So 236 is 2 hundreds 3 tens and 6 ones. It can be renamed to 2 hundreds 2 tens and 16 ones. As we have become more confident we have been renaming numbers in as many ways as possible, and have also worked with four and five digit numbers.

In reading we have continued to work on making connections. We have been discussing the text to self, text to text and text to world connections that we make when reading our guided text. We have also been practicing making connections and recording them on sticky notes during independent reading.

In writing we have planned which topics we will write about in our biographies. Ahead of NAPLAN we have also revisited what persuasive writing is and practiced brainstorming ideas for a few different topics. We have practiced planning and writing stories from picture and written prompts.

### Grade 5/6

In literacy we continue to develop the connections we make with what we read. We have also been reviewing the structure of different writing genres to prepare for NAPLAN. In numeracy, we continue our work in place value and problem solving. We have been role playing life in the 1800s by playing the Gold Game. This has proven to be a tumultuous time in our room, as many practise their resilience when they are ripped off by the troopers or are robbed by fellow diggers.

In Landcare this week, we finished the planting stage of our work on site 2. Rabbits have also been hard at work so all plantings have now been guarded.



## PE

We have begun skipping for Jump Rope for Heart! I have handed out two flyers, one with instructions on how to sign up online and one with a cash sponsorship form. You can use one or the other. Basically, we are skipping at school over Term 1 and Term 2 and learning about heart health. If you would like your child to raise money through sponsorship you can sign them up online through [www.jumprope.org.au/parents](http://www.jumprope.org.au/parents). They can track their skipping hours there if they wish. Even if your child is not being sponsored, we are all participating in skipping at school and will have a final 'Jump Off Day' next term to show off our skills.

Any other questions please don't hesitate to contact me. Please don't forget to wear suitable shoes for sport on Thursdays.

Raina Strecker

## SCIENCE

Across the school, our theme is Rocks. We have had some children interested in bringing in their own rocks to share, we welcome this, although I advise not to bring anything too precious from home. The 5/6's have been lucky enough to participate in some online interactive sessions, one looked at Ancient Australian Animals and fossils and the other we learnt about rocks on Mars and comparing those to that on Earth. The students were very engaged!



## ART

Currently, in the art room, students are continuing to work on their amazing self-portraits. In Prep/1, they have been learning about using lines and 2D shapes to draw their main features as well as drawing different-sized circles to create a colourful 'bubble effect' for the background. The Year 1/2 students are producing a self-portrait incorporating a halved photo image of themselves with the focus of recreating the other half and learning various drawing techniques to form their 'unique' skin tone and features. In Years 3/4, they are learning about the artist Romero Britto and using his famous techniques of bright colour and pattern to inspire their individualised self-portrait. The Year 5/6 seniors are also extending their drawing techniques to create a challenging 3-dimensional 'realistic' or Japanese style 'anime' self-portrait using line, shading and colour to represent their personal identities.

## 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.



*New Class*

**NEW WEDNESDAY  
AFTER SCHOOL  
DRAMA CLASS**

**CONTACT TIFF OR JENN TO BOOK  
0429 127 820 // 0439 392  
UPSTAGE@MAIL.COM**

