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14th FOS Colour Run @ 3pm

17th – Year 3-6 House Cross Country

26th World Maths Day

28th – Macedon Bike Ride

April

1st – District Futsal Day 2

3rd - Williamstown Bike Ride

4th – Last Day of Term finish at 2.30

Term 2

April

22nd First Day of Term 25th ANZAC Day – students invited to represent the school at Mount Macedon Cross Service

Important Term Dates

Keep an eye on

these dates for any changes.

Any changes will also be reflected

on Compass

March

13th – Dental Van Visit

25[™] – District Futsal Day 1

31st - SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

Principal's Report

Hello everyone,

I cannot believe we are already zooming through week 7!

NAPLAN: The grade 3 and 5 students have made their way through 2 of the 4 NAPLAN tests they will be completing this year. It has been so lovely to see all students approach these tests with positivity. The students will complete the following two tests next week: Conventions of Language (Spelling, punctuation and grammar) next Tuesday and then Numeracy on Wednesday. If students are absent, they will have the chance to complete all tests during catch up sessions. We make sure to work with students to remove any perceived pressure or anxiety around this type of testing, a good way to help with this is to make sure students are getting good amounts of sleep during the week.

Bike Education: Bike Ed has begun for our Grade 4 students this week with Mr Sonogan running sessions on safe riding, road rules and making sure bikes are roadworthy before getting on and going for a ride. There will be two more sessions next week (Tuesday and Wednesday) and then we will be holding our Macedon and Williamstown bike rides later in the term. Please check to see if you are available to help on those days as they are some of the best excursions we run throughout the year and we do require as many parent helpers as possible on each ride.

- Macedon Bike Ride: Friday 28th March. 9:00AM start, 11:00am finish.
- Williamstown Bike Ride: Thursday 3rd April. All day.

Colour Run: FOS will be running our annual colour run tomorrow afternoon here at school. The event coincides with the Hindu Holi festival and developed from one of our PYP units of inquiry last year. It is amazing to see the creativity students can come up with when developing an action to take following a unit of inquiry. We have had many wonderful traditions, such as the colour run and lantern festival, develop from our PYP inquiry units.

Easter Raffle: donations are being called for for our upcoming Easter Raffle. Our annual easter Raffle takes place during our final assembly of the Term, Friday 4th of April. Your child's classroom will have a donation tub that you can place your donations into. Raffle tickets will be coming home in the coming days so please look out for these.

School Council Ballot: Today you will receive a number of pieces of information regarding our school council elections. We have been blown away by the number of people putting their hands up for School Council nominations and will need to hold a ballot due to there being more nominations than vacant positions. The ballot papers you receive today will contain all information on how to vote but if you have any further questions please do not hesitate to get in touch. The ballot will close at 4:00pm on Thursday the 20th March.

World Maths Day: March 26th is World Maths day and our students will be participating in a number of numeracy based activities to mark this special day.

Uniform Reminder: Just a quick reminder that students need to be in full school uniform while here at school. There are a number of students wearing shorts and pants that are not consistent with our school uniform, can I please ask that all students wear appropriate school uniform unless special consideration has been made.

I hope everyone stays cool this coming weekend!

Thanks, Joe.

Year 6 School Reporters

Athletics carnival

On Thursday we had our athletics carnival, and all of the students did amazing and tried their best. A special congratulations to <u>Kulin</u> for winning our 2025 athletics.

NAPLAN

On Wednesday we had our NAPLAN window for grades 3 and 5 so we hope they all do well.

Colour Run

We have the 'Colour Run'. Here we have an description of the Holi Festival from Yash:

"Holi is the festival which celebrates the differences from one person to another, by putting colour on each other, you show no matter what personality someone has. This originated in India as many people there were mistreated and misunderstood, Holi also is a fun festival for everyone that celebrates it".

Labour day long weekend

On Monday we had labour day for Vic Tas and the WA and no one was at school because its a public holiday. We hope everyone had lots of fun on Monday.





Wellbeing

Celebrate Neurodiversity



<u>Neurodiversity Celebration Week</u> is from Monday 17 March to Sunday 23 March, and Autism Acceptance Month is in April. These are great opportunities to celebrate the strengths of our autistic students and other diverse learners, recognise challenges they may face and learn more about how we can support them.

Our school is committed to understanding, including and celebrating our diverse learners and value the contribution they and their families make to our school.

About Neurodiversity Celebration Week

Neurodiversity Celebration Week is a worldwide initiative that celebrates the strengths and talents of people who think and learn differently. It also reminds us of the importance of being kind, accepting and inclusive of everyone.

About one in 5 children has variations in their brain development. These variations include those seen in autism, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), dyslexia and dyscalculia. These children can be described as 'diverse' learners.

Autism Acceptance Month

Autism Acceptance Month in April is a chance to celebrate, support and include autistic students. It is an offshoot of the United Nation's sanctioned World Autism Awareness Day on Wednesday 2 April 2025.

To mark Neurodiversity Celebration Week and Autism Acceptance Month, we would like to share some resources that support inclusion that have been developed for the Department of Education by autistic-led organisations and lead researchers in autism and neurodiversity:

- · <u>ICAN</u> Education has tips for becoming a champion for neurodivergent students and a <u>graphic novel</u> to help students navigate high school
- · Yellow Ladybugs' All Brains are Different program introduces the concept of neurodiversity in an affirming way
- · <u>AllPlay Learn's Inclusive School Communities</u>: Monash University's AllPlay Learn team has developed resources on how to create inclusive school communities where everyone feels welcome and supported
- · Amaze has produced videos and fact sheets for parents on how to include families of autistic children
- · Positive Partnerships runs webinars and has practical tools and information sheets to support autistic students.

More support for autistic students

The department has established the <u>Diverse Learners Hub</u> to meet the needs of diverse learners. The hub provides evidence-based advice and resources on best-practice inclusive teaching practices for <u>supporting autistic students</u> and other diverse learners.

Community News

















SIGNIFICANT DATES TO ACKNOWLEDGE

8th March - International Women's Day

17-23rd March - Neurodiversity Celebration Week

17th - 23rd March - Harmony Week

26th March - World Maths Day

April - Autism Acceptance Month

20th May - Internation day of Happiness

MAY - Australians Biggest Morning Tea

12-17th May - Mental Health Awareness Week

17th May - IDAHOBIT

11-15th August - Bullying No Way, National Week of Action

30th August - Wear it Purple day

31st August - Daffodil Day

10th September - World Suicide Prevention Day

12th September - R U OK? Day

October - Mental Health Awareness Month

10th October - World Mental Health Day

14th November - World Diabetes Day

3rd December - Internation Day of People with a Disability



Key Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Dates

26th Jan – Invasion Day / Australia Day

20th March - National Close the Gap Day

26th May – National Sorry Day

27th May – Anniversary of the 1967 Referendum

27th May – 3rd June – Reconciliation Week

3rd June – Mabo Day

July 6th - 13th - NAIDOC Week

4th August – National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children's Day

9th August – International Day of the Worlds Indigenous Peoples

3rd September (First Wednesday) – Indigenous Literacy Day



Acknowledgement of Country

Wominjeka, Welcome.

At Mount Macedon Primary School, we would like to acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation, the traditional custodians of the land, where our school stands. The Wurundjeri people believe Bunjil the eagle, created the people, the animals, the land and the waterways. We are grateful that they cared for this land, and we commit to continuing its care and to learn and grow here with our kir-rip, friends. We pay our respect to Elders, past and present, and acknowledge their ongoing connection to biik, Country.

Nagujin, thank you.











