WEEKLY NEWSLETTER # 33

THURSDAY 22ND OCTOBER, 2026

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Dear School Community,

Camp Week 1! All reports from students and staff point to some fantastic adventures, stories and opportunities for growth. ***Thank you so much to all staff*** who have made themselves available to offer these experiences. Looking after so many young people, many away for the first time is all-consuming and you have done an amazing job ensuring full care, supervision, medication schedules, routines, and fun! Upon reflection, the school has probably never spent so much time preparing our students prior to Camps, and this resulted in a much more settled and enjoyable experience for all involved.

Our Grade 4-6 students made the long trek to Swan Hill and back, using two forms of transport. This was not without its challenges but was a new experience for some and will no doubt be a memorable part of Camp for all 34 of our attending students. The one constant that I have heard repeated was that Camp staff, V/Line stations, the conductor and even members of the public ***commented about how well-behaved and respectful our students were***. Our staff have also made the observation that our students were the best camp eaters they had seen with most students trying new things and even going back for seconds. Students have been able to bring back many of the things that they made and have some brilliant souvenirs. ***Highlights*** that have been relayed to me already include the ***laser light show,*** working in a real blacksmiths smelter***, getting dressed up for olden day school photos*** and churning butter. What a great experience!

Our ***Grade 3 students also got to experience a couple of days at Billabong Ranch in Echuca***. The staff were all horse-handling cowboys and cowgirls and food was excellent. We were particularly impressed with how well students lead and groomed large horses, worked together with partners in ***pedalboats***, improved so quickly in ***archery*** and completed forward and backward flips on the ***bungee trampoline.***



Toasting marshmallows is always a hit, but the ***fire-twirling was really something else*** – I have never seen a whip on fire and cracked at the same time! Ms Kildey and I had a blast, and we were very proud of how well our students did, how supportive they were of one another and how they all tried new things and overcome challenges.

We have a ***Parents & Friends Meeting next week at 7pm in the STEM Lab*** at school on Tuesday. High on the agenda will be organising for our End of Year Raffle (Sorry, I can't say 'that word' until December because students start going crazy too early!) ***Thank you to the Parents & Friends Committee for your financial subsidies*** that have made school camps more affordable for our families. Not one student missed out because of financial concerns so thank you.

Our ***Extended Stay and Sleepover takes place for our F-2 students next Thursday*** afternoon and evening before all students (and staff) ***leave at 11am*** before Recess on Friday.

Mrs Sidebottom, Miss Hutley and Mr McKindley are all very excited about 'rounding out' our camping fortnight at Congupna Primary School. There will be important reminders delivered by classroom teachers prior to the event in addition to what has been distributed already.

Please save the dates for the following recently confirmed events this Term – ***Funfields Family Excursion (Wednesday 2nd December), the School Concert (Thursday 10th December), and our Grade 6 Graduation (Sunday 13th* December).** We have also updated the attached calendar with some other dates so please take a look.

Thanks for Reading, Adam Cleary - Principal

TERM 4 CALENDAR

October

27th	P&F Meeting - 7pm
27th	MARC Library books due
29th	Grade F-2 Extended Stay and Sleepover
30th	11am pick up for grades F - 2

November

2nd	Curriculum (Pupil free) Day
3rd	Melbourne Cup Public Holiday
5th	Kitchen Garden Program
9th	Grade 4/5/6 Yachting
10th	MARC Library books due
17th	Foundation Transition Day # 1

December

1st	Foundation Transition Day # 2
2nd	Funfields Family Excursion
8th	Statewide Transition Day
10th	School Concert
13th	Grade 6 Graduation
17th	Last day of School



Thought for the Week

Curiosity is the beginning of wisdom.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

President: Lauren Sibio
Deputy: Amy Ellis
Secretary: Wendy Sidebottom
Treasurer: Jill Richardson
Members: Adam Cleary, Brad Benton, Sam Prentice, Jaclyn McCarty, Jeremy Lee, Greg Joinbee.

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING DATES TERM 4

Monday 30th November 6:30pm

SCHOOL PARENTS & FRIENDS

President: Angie Grills
Secretary/Treasurer: Jill Richardson
Members: Amy Ellis, Lauren Sibio, Jess Benton, Bec Threlfall, Robyn Reynolds, Bernadette O'Toole, Lexi Wright, Georgina Prentice, Emily Krake, Jacinta Allen, Jayde Bannister, Melissa Hudson.



We are BRAVE Awards

Jimmy Nicoloupolus – for being comfortable and confident to demonstrate what you are able to achieve in your work. Keep it up!.

Matisse Sidebottom - for approaching every task with a great attitude and an unwavering ability to take on any new challenge.

Jaxon Krake - for showing great courage and actively sharing during class discussions. Well done Jaxon!

Lincoln Evans - for every bold step you take outside your comfort zone is building a stronger version of yourself.

Ayaan Seghal - for the excellent way in which you have been brave this week and leading by example! KEep up the great work!

Kiwanis TERRIFIC KID of the Week

Kaleb Clarke - for your amazing attitude you bring to school every day. You bring positivity, a friendly approach to all, a curiosity you love to share and a kind and caring thought for those around you. You are a TERRIFIC KID!

AUSLAN AWARDS

Scarlett Lee & Remi Blake - for signing the National Anthem.



PIONEER SETTLEMENT











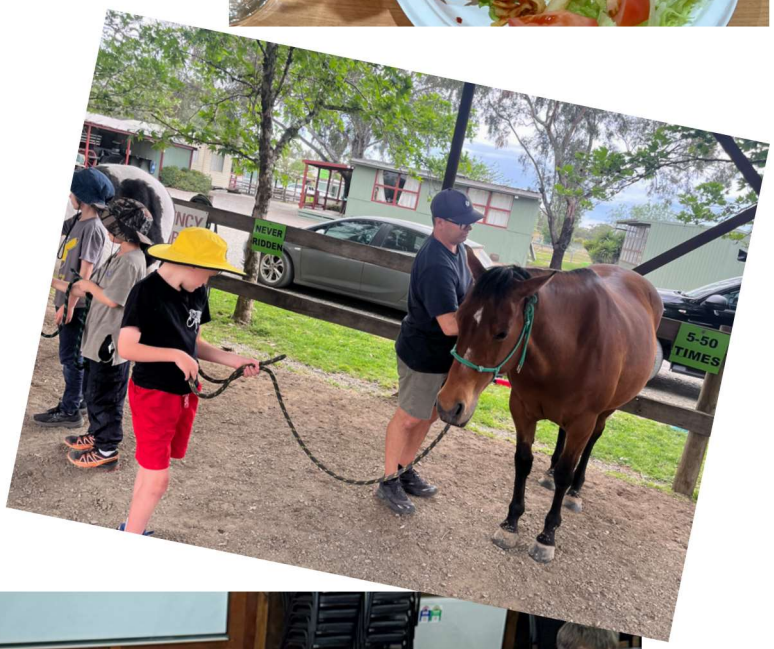
Billabong Ranch















2027
FOUNDATION TRANSITION

Please bring a **piece of fruit, snack, water bottle** and **broad brimmed hat** to each session

Tuesday 17th November (9-11am)
Tuesday 1st December (9-11am)
Tuesday 8th December (9am-1pm)

A FRIENDLY RURAL SCHOOL WITH:

- Excellent Teaching and Learning,
- Supervised School Crossing
- Out of School Hours Care program,
- Stimulating learning environment,
- Professional and dedicated staff ,
- School Chooks and Guinea Pigs,
- School Bus Run to Shepparton,
- A Buddy System with Senior Students,
- Congupna Cruzers Soccer sides,
- Art, Library, LOTE, STEM & Music
- A STEM Laboratory with Minecraft, Lego Robotics and a 3D Printer.







We are **KIND**, We are **BRAVE**, We are **CURIOUS**.

Call us on (03) 58 299 286 or visit
https://www.congupnaps.vic.edu.au/