

MOUNT BLOWHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue No 10

7th August 2023

Our School Vision

Our School Vision is to ensure that all students achieve their academic, social, emotional and physical potential in a supportive and purposeful learning environment, where our school values of Respect, Responsibility, Excellence and Kindness underpin all interactions. Our school believes in high expectations for all students in an atmosphere of care and support. We are committed to preparing our students to be creative, adaptable and responsible citizens of both their local and global community.

ACTING PRINCIPALS REPORT

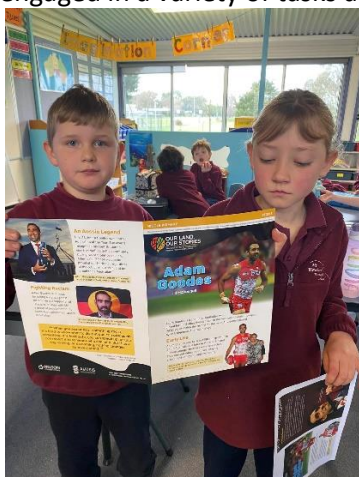
Working Bee

On the first Sunday of the school term, we had a very productive working bee. It was a beautiful morning for those who ventured out to ensure our school buildings and grounds are maintained. Thank you, Mr. Nettelbeck, for coordinating the morning and the Krammer, Myers, Loader, Kane, Griffin, Jones, Kelly, Charles, Arnel and Finnegan families for volunteering your time for our school.



NAIDOC Week

At the start of term, we integrated Our Land, Our Stories reading units and art activities with NAIDOC Week. The students engaged in a variety of tasks and activities that they thoroughly enjoyed.



NAPLAN

NAPLAN has concluded last term for students in Years 3 & 5 and families have recently received individual reports of how their child performed on each assessment. It is important to remember that NAPLAN does not define who a child is, nor their personality and individual strengths.

This snapshot is not a reflection of the grade 3 and 5 teaching, but a combination of what concepts your child has learnt throughout their schooling, which started at Preschool and Kindergarten.

As a school, we have received some initial data that is worth celebrating and validates the work we do as a learning community. For the percentage of students in the Strong or Exceeding bands, we are above similar schools and the Central Highlands Network in all areas (reading, writing, spelling, grammar & punctuation and numeracy) for both Years 3 and 5. In fact, significantly above in some areas.



Book Week

On Tuesday 22nd August the annual Book Week parade will take place in the school gymnasium. Grandparents and guests are invited to view the parade from 9:30 am to 10:00 am. Between 10:00 am-11:00 am, students will return to their classrooms and grandparents and guests are invited to join them. At 11:00am there will be a morning tea for grandparents and guests.

Students of the Fortnight

Student of the week certificates acknowledge the individual strengths and positive efforts and behaviours of the children. Well-done, everyone!

Principal's Award

Prep boys: For being organised and independent at swimming.

Olivia Gallagher: For being grateful, thoughtful and considerate.

Beau Johnston: For his leadership and caring and patient nature while supporting Prep children during tabloid sports.



Robert Walsh - Acting Principal

NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOM

Prep

We are in full swing with the Term 3 Prep learning program! In Reading, we have been learning about plants. We have learnt about plant parts, what each part's job is and the lifecycle of plants. We are using the knowledge from our readings to apply to some experiments in Science.

In Writing, we have been expanding boring sentences to make them more interesting. One of our sentences last week was 'It licked.' We expanded it by adding a when, who and where detail. Our sentence ending up being 'During the day, the piglet licked an ice cream in the backyard.'

In Maths, we have been comparing the length of objects. We have been working really hard to use the words longer and shorter to describe length instead of bigger and smaller.

Since the start of the year, we have been counting how many days the Preps have been at school so we can have a celebration when we reach 100. We are up to 95 days – not long to go!

Students of the Week:

Xenon for always trying hard with learning.

Jack for your enthusiasm towards our science experiments.

Mrs Barendsen

News from our 1/2 Classroom

Can you believe we are already in week 5! This term has been jam-filled with so much learning and fun and we are only halfway!

We have just finished a reading unit learning all about animals and their habitats. We went on an adventure with an explorer; Rattenborough, to visit the Arctic, Eucalypt Forest, Savannah, and many other habitats, while meeting other animals that live there! Students had impressive questions and fun facts to share as we read. Our next reading topic is called *The History of the Earth*. Looking forward to more wonderful discussions to come from this reading!

In Maths we have continued learning 'shared between' skills. Students found connections between 'sharing between' and fractions which have been fantastic!

For example, 12 shared between 4 groups is 3, so *one-quarter* of 12 is 3!

As a part of our well-being program, students have been exploring different grounding techniques to relax from lunchtime play. Recently one of our students requested we lay on the floor, in the darkness for 5 minutes while listening to calming music. It has been a great opportunity to practice slow breathing, silently read to relax, or simply just have a lay down before getting back into learning.

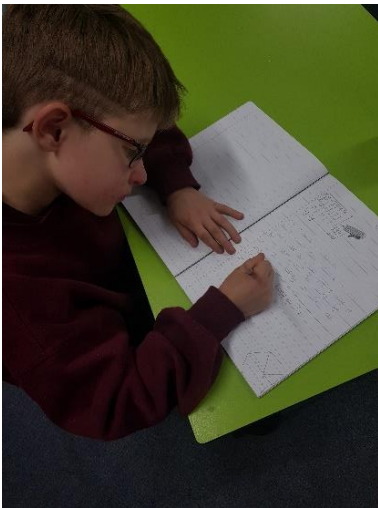
Looking forward to another wonderful and whacky week of learning!

Students of the week

Isaac for his wonderful contribution to discussions while in shared reading.

Joe for keeping his spelling book consistently neat.

Miss Allen 😊



Year 3/4 Newsletter Report

It has been a productive fortnight in the Year 3/4 classroom. We have completed a rich reading unit on the how animals are classified. The unit included engaging comprehension questions with a new vocabulary word from the text each day.

In Writing, the class completed a week of persuasive writing where the students structured and wrote longer texts. This week, we have been focusing on developing writing skills at a sentence level.

In Maths, we have been learning to calculate perimeter and area, and have been doing problem-solving activities to support their Maths Mates. The class has also been practicing their 6 times tables.

Students of the week:

Freya for her quick recall of times tables while doing multiplication squares.

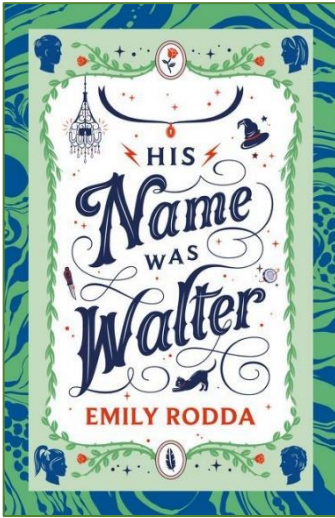
Logan for his persuasive writing.

Mr Nettelbeck

Year 5/6 Newsletter Report

This fortnight in the year 5/6 room, students have been enjoying reading our class novel *His Name was Walter*. The students are really enjoying reading this book.

Here is an insert about the book. Have a chat with your kids to find out more



From Australia's favourite storyteller comes a story, within a story, that shows us the extraordinary power of true love and solves a decades-old mystery.

While on a history excursion, an ill-assorted group of four kids and their teacher are left on a country road when their minibus breaks down. At the suggestion of a friendly tow-truck driver, the five take shelter in a nearby old, deserted mansion. There they find a little old desk with a secret drawer. Inside the drawer is a book containing a handwritten story and a series of vivid, strangely lifelike paintings. The book is called His Name Was Walter.

The story begins: 'Once upon a time, in a dark city far away, there lived a boy called Walter, who had nothing but his name to call his own.' And so begins the tale of Walter - his lonely childhood, his flight from the haunted streets of the city, his discovery of Magda the witch, his quest to find Magda's lost daughter, and his meeting with the love of his life, the mysterious, tragic girl he calls Sparrow.

As the night closes in around them and the story of Walter and Sparrow unfolds, the kids read it avidly.

Slowly the outer and inner stories begin to mesh. Slowly the story of Walter draws the five members of the group together. And in the end every one of the five plays a vital role in the uncovering of the truth.

In Maths, we have explored, collecting data and creating data sets. Finding the mean, median and mode. Students have compared data using different types of graphs. We have also started looking at cartesian planes and plotting coordinates using positive and negative integers.

In Science, we have been learning about earth's natural resources and how to protect them! Students have gathered a lot of information and have been able to take part in experiments on how to preserve and clean water, how different chemicals effect plants and how oil and fuel leaks effect the land.

We have been enjoying heading to swimming each week. Well done to all the kids on their behaviour at persistence at swimming.

Students of the week:

Harry C for his enthusiasm toward his persuasive writing to Dan Andrews about cancelling the Commonwealth Games.

Max for his hard work and persistence during maths review each day.

Mrs Box 😊

Positive Behaviour Super Star



In assembly, in weeks 3 and 7 of each term, teachers will choose a student from their class to receive the Mt Blowhard Positive Behaviour Superstar Award. This award goes to a student who consistently demonstrates outstanding positive behaviour at school and is a role model for their peers.

This student will receive the MBPS PB Superstar certificate and a small reward to share with a friend.

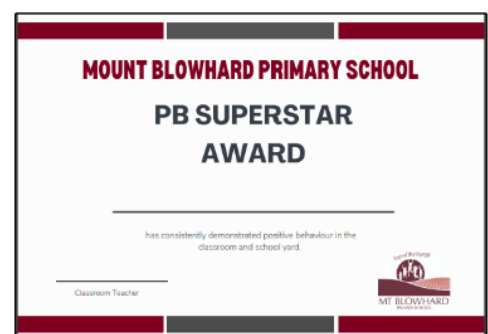
Students to receive the week 6 awards for demonstrating SAFETY were

Prep- John Gilbert

Years 1/2 – Evie Byrne

Years 3/ 4 – Molly Byrne

Years 5/6 – Lilly Derbyshire



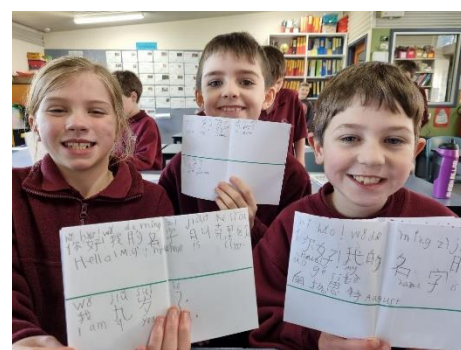
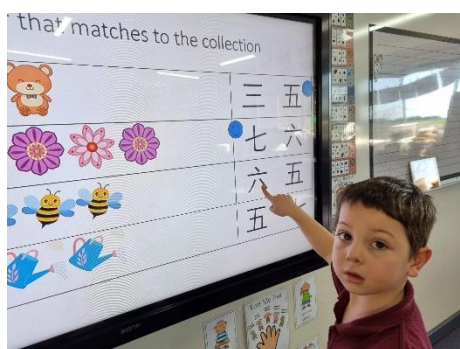
CHINESE

In Chinese, students have continued to develop their understanding of Chinese language and culture. Foundation students are learning to count the numbers 1-10. They enjoyed singing the number song while learning the gestures. Students worked extremely hard on developing their fine motor skills when writing Chinese characters, they were keen to keep all the strokes in line, neat and accurate!

Year 1/2 students created Tangram stories. They also learned the name of body parts in Chinese. They enjoyed practising the keywords and phrases by writing characters and playing memory card games.

Year 3/4 students have put in a great deal of effort into learning to introduce themselves in Chinese. They learned the basic sentence structure for introducing names, ages, family members and hobbies. They made a mini book and published their stories.

Year 5/6 students have explored the four great inventions from China. They developed greater efficiency in searching for useful information online and then summarised the learning content to complete the tasks. Students created a procedure for Chinese paper making and they can't wait to begin an experiment where we are going to make recycled paper.



Art News



Students have been very busy in Art this Term. Students created their own Rainbow Serpents using clay and items from nature around them. They all enjoyed the making process, and the finished product is fantastic!



The Year 3/4 students have created their own Dragons eye's. Students used Magic clay and a variety of tools to create their eyes. They added texture and a variety of colours.

Art News - continued



The junior students have been experimenting using charcoal to draw. They have learnt how to smudge it, so it creates implied texture in their work.



We have lots of art activities planned this Term including Book Week and Father's Day.

A date has been locked in for the **Mount Blowhard Primary School Art Show- Thursday 9th November.**

More details to come!

Looking forward to wonderful Term!!

Mrs Ackland

PE

Term 3 and we are back on track for PE.

The students have made an excellent start with full participation.

Preps are continuing on with throwing and catching and learning new minor games. They enjoy putting the netball bibs on and working as a team.

Year 1/2 are learning Netball with modifications and they are being very patient with the rules.

Year 3/4 are playing and completing soccer drills. We had some fantastic games on Friday.

Year 5/6 are busy playing basketball. Their skills and team work is coming together.

A small team of students will compete in the Eureka competition day later in the term.



PARENTS & FRIENDS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Come Join Us!

If you would like to join the P&F Committee, to help with school fundraising, organisation of social events and extra curricula activities, as well as getting to know other school families, please come along to our next meeting. Meetings are held at the school on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 2.30pm. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Catherine Chibnall on Ph 0437075112.

MT BLOWHARD COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP



The Blowhard Community Playgroup is a brilliant, volunteer run group that meets here at in the MBPS meeting room. Anyone is welcome to come along to the playgroup, you don't have to be a current parent of the school!

If you would like more information on playgroup, please contact Anita on 0466 698 703. The upcoming dates for playgroup are:

Term 3

- Friday 25th August -9.00am
- Friday 15th September – 9.00am

Term 4

- Friday 20th October – 9.00am
- Friday 17th November - 9.00am
- Friday 15th December – 9.00am

2023 DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

AUGUST

- Friday 11th Assembly
- Thursday 17th Last swimming session for years F-2
- Thursday 17th School Council
- Friday 18th School Photos
- Tuesday 22nd Book Week Parade & Grandparents' morning
- Friday 25th Playgroup – 9.00am.
- Friday 25th Assembly
- Thursday 31st P-6 Disco, 6.00 to 8.00pm

SEPTEMBER

- Friday 1st Father's Day Dinner & Dodgeball
- Thursday 7th Last swimming session for years 3-6
- Friday 8th Assembly
- Wednesday 13th to 15th 2/3/4 Cave Hill Creek Camp
- Friday 15th Playgroup – 9.00am.
- Friday 15th last day of Term 3 – 2.30pm finish

OCTOBER

- Monday 2nd Term 4 commences
- Friday 20th Playgroup – 9.00am.

NOVEMBER

- Friday 17th Playgroup – 9.00am.

DECEMBER

- Friday 15th Playgroup – 9.00am.



**DADS,
DINNER &
DODGEBALL!**

The children of Mount Blowhard Primary School would like to invite their Dads, Grandfathers, Uncles or Special Person in their life to celebrate Father's Day with a BBQ dinner and dodgeball fun.

Please advise Zelma of any dietary requirements.

Friday the 1st of September

From 5:30 at MBPS. All Welcome.

22ND ANNUAL BALLARAT
PRIMARY SCHOOLS
INDOOR SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIPS

MAJOR LEAGUE INDOOR SPORTS
502 HOWITT STREET, BALLARAT

CHOOSE YOUR DAY & WEEK TO PLAY

<p>GRADES 3 & 4 BOYS & GIRLS CHAMPIONSHIP TUES 14TH NOV 2023 OR TUES 21ST NOV 2023</p>	<p>GRADES 5 & 6 BOYS & GIRLS CHAMPIONSHIP WED 15TH NOV 2023 OR WED 22ND NOV 2023</p>
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\$10 PER CHILD

FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO NOMINATE
Primary School Championships Co-ordinators

RAY JANES 0431 485 665	TREV 0416 134 901
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NOMINATIONS CLOSE 9TH NOV 2023

Creswick & District
Pre-School

Creswick & District Preschool
24 Victoria St, Creswick 3363
5345 1164 / 0457 817 311
creswick.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au



3yo & 4yo kindergarten will be FREE at Creswick & District Preschool in 2024

Our Kinder will be offering 15 hours of free sessional kindergarten each week for 3yo's and 4yo's in 2024.

Creswick Preschool offers a play-based program which caters for and reflects the needs of the children and their families. Learn to play and play to learn. We honour what play means to each and every child and will facilitate and scaffold play in a respectful, unhurried, and genuine manner.

**ENROL NOW
for kindergarten in 2024**

To register your child to attend Creswick District Preschool please visit the ECKA website www.ecka.org.au and click 'how to enrol'

If you have any questions, please contact the ECKA office:

Office hours: 8:30am - 4:30pm
11 Grandview Grove, Wendouree, 3355
Phone: 5339 5055
Email: info@ecka.org.au
Website: ecka.org.au

"Through play, we support children to become active participants in their own education and independence"

A member of **ecka**
Enriching children's lives through learning

the day the school went under

Sat 26 Aug
Two shows only
3pm & 7.30pm
Daylesford Town Hall

The high school is flooded. 7 students are trapped in the Library. How will they survive?

The Breakfast Club meets *The Poseidon Adventure* in this comedy of errors for all the family.

Daylesford Youth Theatre

INSIDE OUT DANCE THEATRE

2023 Tickets \$15/\$10: Trybooking.com/CJYUG