

## MOUNT BLOWHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue No 14

23<sup>rd</sup> October 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

#### School Leaders Report to School Council

##### **Junior School Council report by Molly and Julius**

Term 4 has started nicely, we haven't had a meeting yet, but we will share a few things that are going on. We funded the revamp of the Glen Bray building. Thanks to Mrs Barendsen for doing it. It looks amazing and we love the new activities!

We funded two of the swivels for the new TVs in the classrooms. Thank you, Parents and Friends for the TVs. We can't wait until they are installed.

We are selling icy poles on Wednesdays and Fridays now that the weather is getting a bit better. The senior class is busy organising Spring Fete for late November. We are looking forward to this and it is a HUGE fundraiser for JSC.

Walk-a-thon is also another good fundraiser coming up. We are going to do a push for getting sponsors this year.

##### **School leaders report by Thomas and Abbey**

Can you believe it's term 4? Wow, this year has gone quick! It seems like a long time since the last report so there might be a lot to cover. We celebrated Book Week with a parade and grandparents' day! We couldn't believe how many people came. Thanks to Mrs A, Mr Walsh, and P&F for organising the day. Selected Years 4/5/6 students participated in a basketball day at Selkirk Stadium, where we made it to the grand final! We finished our swimming program. That was fun. The junior school had Kelly Sports come out for three weeks and run clinics with them.

We had the disco for the first time in a few years and it was SO good to see how many students came along.

Did you see the spread we had for supper? Thank you, parents, for all their plates of food.

We celebrated the end of term a bit early with Footy Colours Day and lunch orders. The Years 2, 3 & 4 students went on camp to Cave Hill Creek. We heard how much they enjoyed the whole camp, but the Canoeing and Archery especially. They loved making damper the low ropes course and the night walk.

Mr Walsh and Junior School Council planned a Master Chef Day where, in our houses, we made one of the following: rice paper rolls, sushi or pancakes. What a feast we had!

So far this term, some senior boys headed off to a golf day and Daina and Alby head to the next stage of athletics, they did a great job!

The Year 3/4 students have had an incursion, about World & Australian flags from a person from the Eureka Centre.

Finally, this week we have all been doing our best handwriting for our entries for the Clunes show next Month.

There is so much to look forward towards the end of the year, we are sure it will go quick!

##### **Parent Opinion Survey**

Preliminary Parent Opinion Survey results have been released and they are very positive. The results consist of very high positive endorsement (agree or strongly agree responses).

Thank you for completing the survey. I have been endeavouring to increase the participation rate over the years to gain an accurate reflection of community perceptions. Pleasingly, participation has increased from 6 families to 9

families, 17 families last year and 23 this year. Being approximately 50% of families. Below is a snapshot of some of the survey results:

- Parent / Caregiver / Guardian participation and involvement 97% positive endorsement
- School communication 97% positive endorsement
- General satisfaction 96% positive endorsement
- Teacher communication 91% positive endorsement
- Physical environment 100% positive endorsement
- School improvement 98% positive endorsement
- School pride and confidence 96% positive endorsement
- High expectation for success 100% positive endorsement
- Stimulating learning environment 93% positive endorsement
- Student agency and voice 96% positive endorsement
- Confidence and resiliency skills 98% positive endorsement
- Managing bullying 91% positive endorsement
- School connectedness 96% positive endorsement
- Promoting positive behaviour 98% positive endorsement

## Golf

Last week, selected students participated in an interschool golf competition at Mt Xavier Golf Course. The weather was glorious, bathed in sunshine there were plenty of KMs covered! Harry C, Jack P, Thomas L and Julius H gave their all, played with a smile and encouraged each other. In a fantastic individual performance, Jack P played a great 9 holes and only missed the next level of competition by a single shot.



### 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

**Harry C, Julius H, Thomas L & Jack P:** For being positive, supportive and demonstrating excellent sportsmanship at the interschool golf tournament.

**Robert Walsh - Acting Principal**



## Prep

It has been another busy fortnight in the Prep classroom. In Reading, we have been listening to Read-Alouds told by Good Old Earth, teaching us how to keep the earth clean. We have learnt about landfill, recycling and composting. In Writing, we have been fixing fragments and making them into sentences. We have also continued to work on story writing.

In Maths, we have been using place value to make and order 2-digit numbers.

### **Students of the Week:**

**Reuben** for your fantastic story writing ideas.

**Xenon** for your hard work making and writing 2-digit numbers

**Mrs Barendsen**

## News from our 1/2 Classroom

Oh, how the weeks have been flying by! Very exciting news in the 1/2 classroom- new TVs!

We are well into the term now, learning heaps and having fun. In Maths, students are learning to describe the properties of 2D shapes, as well as having a go at drawing 3D shapes. We have also been playing a game called flip, slide, turn!

In Shared Reading, students have been learning about First World Civilizations. We have already covered the topics of Mesopotamia, the Religion of Babylon, the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, and people of the Nile. We have many topics to go as we dive even deeper into this reading unit!

Our classroom has also been filled with exciting science experiments recently- following our Push and Pull unit. Students have tested friction and buoyancy using different materials within the classroom and around the school. It has been so much fun!

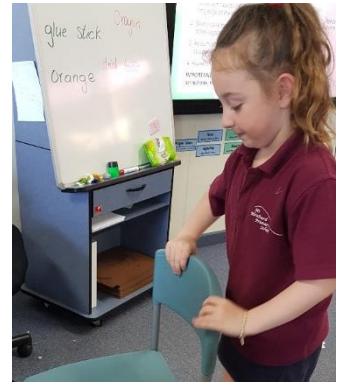
It was delightful seeing some sunshine near the end of last week! On Thursday and Friday, we had a lunch-time picnic on the fake grass to soak up the warmth before it disappeared again. Have another wonderful week!

### **Students of the week**

**Charlotte** for her incredible initiative and helpfulness within the classroom.

**Luke** for working really hard at practicing his 'rabbit syllables' in spelling.

**Miss Allen** 😊





## **Year 3/4 Newsletter Report**

It has been a busy fortnight in the 3/4 classroom. We have started a new reading unit on astronomy, where we are reading about the how the Earth and our moon rotate and orbit around the Sun. Over the next fortnight, this will extend to learning about the whole solar system and beyond. The students have been learning why we have seasons, years and eclipses. The class has been using new terminology to be able to describe these processes.

In Writing, the class has been working on persuasive writing. We have previously covered a range of single sentence/paragraph skills and now moved on to writing whole persuasive pieces.

In Maths, we have been conducting different probability investigations to predict and prove the probability of different events. We have also been learning how to convert between different forms of fractions.

Last Tuesday, we had a presenter from the Eureka Centre in Ballarat visit our classroom with resources that supported an interesting lesson about flags. We discussed the difference between icons, emblems and logos. The class then learned about the history and symbols of the various flags we have in Australia, including the Eureka Flag. The Eureka Centre is an interesting museum that explores the impact of the gold rush on Victoria. It is well worth a visit with children and offers free entry to families who live the district with postcodes: 3350-3358.

### **Students of the week:**

**Toby** for his interesting and original introduction in persuasive writing.

**Flynn** for his quick and accurate responses in maths daily review.

**Mr Nettelbeck**

## **Year 5/6 Newsletter Report**

We have had a busy start to the term in the senior class.

In Literacy, we have started reading our new class novel, *The 1000-Year-old boy*. This book is about a boy who has been living for one thousand years and lived through some of the biggest events through history. The book has a linear time sequence and follows the main character through the past and present.

In Writing, students have been writing donation letters to local business requesting their assistance with their stalls for our Spring Fete. We have also planned and written narrative stories which included some skills learnt in writing sessions.

Maths has gotten a little trickier this week, learning about the Order of Operations, and last week converting remainders in division to fractions and decimals. Well done to all the Year 5/6 students for their concentration and determination with this.

Three Year 6 students had a visit from Ballarat High School students last week to explain some of the ins and outs of the transition to becoming a 'high school kid.' It is hard to believe that these students will be in Year 7 in just over 3 months.

We are looking forward to Spring Fete! Students are thoroughly planning their stalls and organising all the things they need to get etc. Fingers are crossed for a nice day this year!

### **Students of the week:**

**Daina** for always participating in class discussions and being willing to answer tricky questions.

**Lori** for encouraging herself to speak up in class discussions.

**Mrs Box**

# SPRING FETE – DONATIONS

Hello families – Students in Year 5/6 are organising our annual MBPS Spring Fete.

If you are a new family this year, our fete is designed, organised and ran by our senior students.

We rely on donations and help from families, friends and stores to help purchase all equipment and prizes. We don't handle money on the day fete. On the week of the fete we will send home a letter about how to buy packs of tickets to use on the day.

Each ticket costs 50 cents, which we sell in bundle of 10.

A note will be sent home later in the term to explain more.

## Donation Requests:



We have one group who are asking families for glass jars they may have around the house. This group doesn't mind what size your jars are. There will be a box in the office foyer if you can put jars in there.

Also if anyone has some garden pots lying around that we can pot up plants for our Garden stall please. Again, it really doesn't matter the size of the pots. These can be left in the office foyer also.



Thank you in advance.

# Classroom – WANTED



If you have any unwanted scales in the back of the kitchen cupboard, we would love to take it off your hands. Students use them in Maths to learn to measure weight. The best type are the older scales that give students experience in reading kilograms and grams off the scale. Please see Jonathan if you can help us out.



# 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

**\*\*IMPORTANT** For Playgroup to continue into 2024 we are looking for a Co-Ordinator to organise and run Playgroup once a month during the school term. We are an informal group of mum's and it's a great opportunity to introduce new mums/parents/carers and have a cuppa and chat while the kids socialise and enjoy playing with each other. It really isn't a hard commitment and there is always someone who will help if you are unavailable.

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 4

- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November - 9.00am
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December – 9.00am



## 2023 DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

### OCTOBER

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Assembly

### NOVEMBER

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Curriculum Day (pupil free)

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> Melbourne Cup public holiday

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> Art Show (3:30pm-5:30pm)

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Day Ceremony and *We Shall Honor Them* book launch – 10.30am

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Assembly

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> School Council

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Playgroup – 9.00am.

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> Spring Fete

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Curriculum Day (pupil free)

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> Assembly -Due to Spring Fete and Curriculum Day

### DECEMBER

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> Assembly – Due to Walk-A-Thon

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> Walk-A-Thon

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> Year 6 Treat Day

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> Statewide Step up day

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> P/1 Stay-back

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Playgroup – 9.00am.

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> School Reports home

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> School Concert

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> Last day of school –  
1.30pm early finish.

MORE INFORMATION TO COME!

SAVE THE DATE

# SPRING FETE

THURSDAY 23RD NOVEMBER  
FROM 1PM

BRACELET MAKING

MINI GOLF & FOOTBALL GAMES

GUESS THE LOLLIES

NOVELTY GAMES & ANIMALS

FACE PAINTING

HOT CHIPS AND PIZZA

OBSTACLE COURSE

POTTING PLANTS & MORE!

# Book Launch-*We Shall Honor Them*

Please join us for a Remembrance Day Ceremony followed by the launch of the recently compiled book, *We Shall Honour Them*, authored by Lois D. Spenceley. With contributions to the book from various individuals in the community.

This book is a collection of stories pertaining to the Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen of the Mount Blowhard and Bald Hills whose names have been immortalised on Honor Boards created by the two schools that now hang proudly in the Mount Blowhard Primary School.

These service personnel may have been students at one or both schools, resided or worked in the area or had family members who have nominated them for recognition. All served with Honor during the Boer War, WWI, WW2 or Vietnam.



**Who:** Community members past and present.

**What:** Remembrance Day Ceremony and the *We Shall Honor Them* book launch. Following proceedings, please join us for tea, coffee, and a biscuit.

**When:** Friday November 10<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 am to 11:30 am.

**Where:** Mount Blowhard Primary School.

Please **RSVP** your attendance by phone: 5334 6354 or email: [mount.blowhard.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:mount.blowhard.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

## Learmonth Community Skills Shed

Tuesdays 10am-1pm  
318 High Street  
Learmonth

It is temporarily located behind the old school buildings at Learmonth Cider, however a new facility is in the process of being built at the Learmonth Recreation Reserve.

Enquiries to Ken Maybery (President) on ph: 0427883468  
email: [learmonthskillshed@gmail.com](mailto:learmonthskillshed@gmail.com)

All welcome!

Picture: Proposed new building. Source: City of Ballarat.





---

**MOUNT BLOWHARD  
PRIMARY SCHOOL'S**

# **ART EXHIBITION**

**November 9th  
2023**

**3.30pm-  
5.30pm**

**COME ALONG TO SEE THE  
FANTASTIC  
WORK STUDENTS HAVE  
CREATED IN ART**

**NIBBLES PROVIDED  
RAFFLE PRIZES  
ACTIVITIES TO DO**

At the Mount Blowhard  
Primary School Gym

**Entry is a gold coin  
donation**

---

**For More Details  
contact the school  
☎ 5334 6354**



MOUNT BLOWHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL  
PROUDLY PRESENTS AN EXCITING,  
FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT

# MUSICAL BINGO

The background of the poster is decorated with stylized musical notation. It features several black musical notes with orange outlines and shadows, some with small black asterisks. There are also orange circles and a large black treble clef. Grey lines representing musical staves are scattered across the page, some with notes placed on them.

HOSTED BY MAX HAMOND  
FRIDAY THE 17TH OF NOVEMBER  
LEARMONTH FOOTBALL AND NETBALL CLUB ROOMS  
MORE DETAILS TO COME...