

MOUNT BLOWHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue No 18

18th December 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

Happy Holidays

As the school year comes to its conclusion, it certainly has once again been packed with learning and extra curricula activities! I am so proud of the whole community and what we have achieved together for our students. This fabulous little school certainly does punch above its weight in so many areas!

The staff (ES and teaching) at this school are amazing. They are so dedicated to the students and their practice. It is no secret the students achieve what they do (socially and academically) and have access to many wonderful opportunities. Thank you, staff!

Thank you to the wonderful School Council and Parents and Friends members. They work so efficiently and effectively to value add to the school. Lives are busy, and they volunteer many hours to benefit our learning community. Thank you!

We wish our departing Year 6 children all the very best for their secondary schooling and future endeavours. Next year, we look forward to officially welcoming our new Foundation children as they commence their educational journey.

The staff and I would like to wish you all a relaxing and safe festive season. We look forward to working with all the wonderful children and families of Mt Blowhard Primary School again in 2024.

Walkathon

The students and adults (staff and parents!) demonstrated true grit and MBPS spirit to complete the Walkathon in testing conditions. Once again, plenty of money was raised to support the Ryder-Cheshire Foundation, our sponsor child, Sushma, and those less fortunate than us. Thank you to everyone who came and supported our Walkathon. Once again, well done to all the students on their fantastic efforts and 'can do' attitudes!



Year 5/6 Bike Ride

Another successful Year 5/6 bike ride. Perfect weather for a 14km ride around the district. Children demonstrated perseverance once again. Thank you, Mrs Box and Mrs McErlain, for organising the event and supporting the children. Thank you to the Chibnall family for hosting and your ongoing support of the event. The short bread was pretty good too!



P/1 Stay Back

The P/1 Stay Back was enjoyed by all. Many happy children! Gymnastics, Ballarat Wildlife Park and then back to school for fruit and a play. With a movie, pizza and ice cream to finish off the evening. It was a huge day of fun! Thank you, Mrs Barendsen and Miss Allen, for organising an action-packed day for the children.



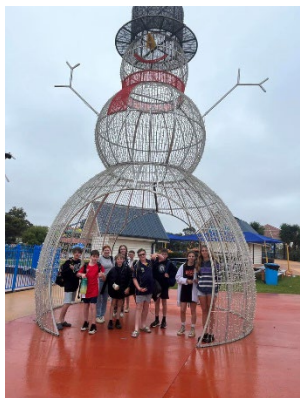
Blowhard Has Talent

What a fantastic show the students of MBPS put on today at Blowhard's Got Talent! Thanks to Mr Nettlebeck for organising it!



Year 6 Treat Day

The Year 6 Treat Day was a huge success! We all had a blast at Adventure Park, Geelong. Plenty of laughter and screaming on the Tornado and Tsunami waterslides!



Transition Day (Up Day!)

The opportunity to resource 5 classrooms across the school ensured some small classes were in action for Up Day! The students of MBPS will certainly benefit from maximised instruction and feedback in 2024.

Our 2024 Prep children completed their last transition day. Well done Miss Barendsen for planning and implementing a very successful transition program.

Our Year 6 children ventured off to start a new chapter in their life, spending the day at their 2024 secondary school. We wish all our departing Year 6 children all the very best for next year and beyond!



MARC Van General Comments

Junior - F/1/2

In Term 3, F-2 students explored their surroundings, distinguishing natural from constructed objects. They studied family and connections to their living places and learned about how First Nations people's care for the land and reflected on caring for their own environment. In Term 4, students delved into celebrations, starting with birthdays, and expanding to include other well-known celebrations. Students displayed their learning through artwork and discussion fostering cultural awareness and appreciation.

Middle - 3/4

Term 3 involved exploring local and global geography, identifying major countries and biomes, and learning about Australian explorers. They also researched Indigenous cultures, languages, and first interactions with Europeans. In Term 4, the focus was on celebration and commemoration days, both indigenous and international, promoting cultural understanding. Students crafted celebration cards, engaged in collaborative cultural collage projects, and conducted research on a celebration day to present and educate their peers.

Senior - 5/6

During Term 3, students explored geography, delving into Australian explorers' journeys, and differentiating major countries around the world. The focus was on understanding geographical distinctions between Australia and other nations and the early interactions with Indigenous cultures. Term 4 began with students investigating international holidays, identifying them on a world map and culminating in students designing their unique celebration day, promoting cultural understanding and appreciation.

Kingston Show-Rural Schools Challenge

MBPS are the Kinston Show Rural School Challenge champions for 2023. Back-to-back! Well done Jack P, Theo C, Matthew C, Thomas L and Julius H. MBPS students once again demonstrating outstanding teamwork! Thank you, parents, for supporting the day.



Clunes Show-Handwriting Competition

The staff and students of MBPS take great pride in systematically and explicitly teaching and practising handwriting. Following the Clunes Show results, the proof is in the pudding with MBPS dominating the awards!

First prize:

- Eva P
- Matilda S
- Isaac L
- Sam K
- Lori E
- Matthew C

Second prize:

Alice B
Evie B
Thomas L
Daina G

Third prize:

Finnley D
Emily G
Bella B
Alice J
Jack J
Sylvia B



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

Fletcher G: For being responsible and taking pride in the school by putting equipment away.

Robert Walsh - Acting Principal

NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOM

Prep



Students of the week:

Harley for making good choices during the last few weeks of term.

John for being a great helper with the kinder kids.

Mrs Barendsen

News from our 1/2 Classroom

Can you believe we're at the end of this incredible year in the 1/2 classroom? Let's rewind and soak in some of the magic that made this year so special! From the Prep/One stay back, to the adventures at Cavehill Creek for the Year 2, 3, 4 camp, the kids formed beautiful friendships, dived into new learning, and made memories that'll last a lifetime. We had many giggly games of Traffic Lights and challenged our luck by playing Lucky Ducks. Our Art Gallery excursion inspired many young artists, and the Spring Fete brought our school crew together for an afternoon of joy and some seriously successful fundraising. Big shoutout to everyone who played a part in making this year unforgettable. Merry Christmas and I wish you all a wonderful rest, ready for more adventures when we kick off the next school year! Miss Allen



Students of the week:

Evie for her helpfulness and initiative

Alice J for being a wonderful helper to her peers

3/4 Newsletter Report



Students of the week:

Molly B & Olivia for their consistent help in the classroom.

Jack J for writing and performing a very amusing Reader's Theatre.

Mr Nettelbeck

Year 5/6 Newsletter Report



Students of the week:

Abbey and Thomas for doing an amazing job of being school captains.

Evie for being resilient.

Mrs Box

PARENTS & FRIENDS COMMITTEE UPDATE

We need your help PLEASE!

Burrumbeet Race Day Clean Up – Tuesday 2nd January 8:30-9:30am

Similar to previous years, the Burrumbeet Race Committee have offered the school the opportunity to raise money by helping to clean up the grounds after the Burrumbeet Cup on the 2nd of January. The cleanup usually occurs in the morning and takes no longer than 1½ hours. We are calling on families to volunteer their time to assist. It is also a fun catch up, as the kids enjoy seeing each other during the school holidays and have an opportunity to play. For any families able and willing to offer their time, please let us know by texting Liz Charles on 0413930269.

Burrumbeet Race Day Monday 1st January 2024

If any MBPS families and friends are wanting to attend the Burrumbeet races on New Years Day, get your tickets through MBPS as part of the community cup. Tickets are \$30 each and entitle the holder to entry on the day plus two free beers or wines and a stubby holder. If we sell our allocated tickets, the school gets a horse in the main race which could earn our school \$2,500 if the horse finishes 1st, \$1,500 for 2nd or \$750 for 3rd.

Please note that children under 16 are free so won't require a ticket.

If you would like to know more or to purchase a ticket, please contact Jane 0412 785 589 or Catherine 0437 075 112.

Mount Blowhard 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 Jo Finnegan on 0466 698 703.

2023 DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

DECEMBER

Tuesday 19th School Reports emailed home
Tuesday 19th School Concert
Wednesday 20th, F-6 Water Fight (optional, 1:00 pm-1:30 pm)
Wednesday 20th Last day of school, class parties – 1.30pm early finish.

JANUARY 2024

Monday 29th Staff return
Tuesday 30th Years P-6 assessment day
Wednesday 31st Classes commence for Years 3-6
Wednesday 31st No Preps at school
Wednesday 31st Years 1-2 assessment day

FEBRUARY

Thursday 1st February, classes commence for Years P-2
Thursday 8th February, start of year Community Welcome Barbecue (5:45 pm-7:30 pm)

MARCH

Wednesday 27th Movie Night
Thursday 28th Last day of term-2:30 pm finish



1st Creswick Scout Group



is a vibrant, growing group with huge plans on the horizon.

To help facilitate the expansion, we are looking for adults with a thirst for adventure who want to help enable the youth of today become resilient, independent, fun loving adults of tomorrow!



Creswick Scout Group

Positions vacant include:

Leaders of Joey Scouts (aged 5-7)

Leaders of Cub Scouts (aged 8-10)

Various Group Support Committee positions

Please direct expressions of interest to Group Leader, Simon Miller.

Email: gl.1stcreswick@scoutsvictoria.com.au

<http://www.scoutsvictoria.com.au>

