

Respect
Responsibility
Inclusiveness
Honesty

Malmsbury Primary School Newsletter

Term 1 Week 4—Friday 23rd February 2024

IMPORTANT DATES Term 1 2024

Tuesday February 27th-
Grade 3/4 Excursion– Earth Ed
Ballarat

Monday February 26 to Friday
March 1st-
Get To Know You Parent/Teacher
Interviews– 3.45pm to 5pm

Friday March 22nd -
Prep/1 and Grade 2/3 Excursion
Earth Ed Ballarat

Wednesday 27th March-
State Schools Spectacular– Mass
Choir Rehearsal

MAJOR EVENTS 2024

School Review -
Tuesday March 5, 14 & 21

Thursday March 28th -
MPS Cross Country @ Malmsbury
Cricket Ground

Saturday 14th of September -
Victorian State Schools
Spectacular



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Womin-dji-ka | Welcome

It has been a relatively quieter week as we head into the middle of Term 1. Students have really hit their stride and are fully back into the routines of school. Our Preps have settled well into school life and are making the most of every day. There is only one more week of the Prep Wednesday breaks, and we look forward to the first week of March when they become fully fledged, five-day-a-week students. I look forward to the next half of this term and seeing how our students grow and develop.

Malmsbury PS School Review March 2024:

Our School Review is coming up quickly, with the first day of the three day review on Tuesday March the 5th. As part of the 2nd day of the review on Thursday the 14th of March, the review panel holds a variety of focus group sessions to gain feedback on some Terms of Reference that are developed on Day 1. One of the focus groups will be a parent group. If you are keen to be a part of the Parent Feedback Group for the review panel on Thursday the 14th of March, please register your interest with me to add you to the list.

Again, thank you to the families who have added their feedback to the survey over the past week. Your contributions and suggestions are greatly appreciated and will be at the front of many discussions during the review process.

It would be great to continue to have many responses to the survey to help ensure we have heard all voices. If you have 5 to 10 minutes spare to provide your thoughts, please use the link below to register your responses. All responses are welcome and are anonymous.

<https://forms.gle/Av2rKCsnNbLUu6Gq9>

Get To Know You Interviews– Bookings Now Open in Sentral:

Thank you to all the families who have booked their interview times on Sentral with their teachers for next week. Interviews are being held between Monday the 26th of February through to Friday the 1st of March. These interviews are an opportunity for you and your child's teacher to discuss their learning needs and interests to help support your child's learning in the best possible way. All interview times will be after school with 15 minute blocks from 3.45 through to 5pm.

If you still need to book your time, the Sentral booking system will be open up until this Sunday afternoon. Please inform your child's teacher if you need to adjust your booking.

NAPLAN March 13th to 25th 2024:

Why do students do NAPLAN tests?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. NAPLAN tests are just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process; they do not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance.

NAPLAN tests also provide schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

You can also access more information about the assessments from the following website for parents.

<https://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/assessment/f-10assessment/naplan/Pages/parents/index.aspx>

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about your child's participation in NAPLAN this year.

Breakfast Club Volunteers Term 1:

If you are keen to help run this valuable program for our school, please either make contact with Jan or myself to organise a Term 1 roster. If you are available weekly, fortnightly, monthly or once a term, no problem at all. We would love to see you providing this support for our students. If you would like any more information on how the program runs, please don't hesitate to make contact.

Malmsbury Village Fayre – 28th April 2024:

It will be fantastic to see the Malmsbury Fayre return this year on the 28th of April after a small hiatus. The Fayre committee is in full swing, organising the event and all the activities for the celebration. The committee is seeking volunteers to help on at the Fayre. If you would like to be a part of this wonderful Malmsbury community event, you can register your interest at malmsburyfayre@gmail.com.

Somers School Camp 2024– Opportunity for students in Grade 5 or 6:

The time has finally come again for our regions bi-annual chance to be a part of the Somers School Camp. This is a camp where 160 grade 5 and 6 students from across our region are selected to attend this amazing camp. Some of our parents may have been lucky enough to attend the camp as a students as well. This is a Department of Education School Camp that runs a range of adventure activities across a nine day camp. Soon, families of Grade 5 or 6 students will be asked to nominate for their child to attend the camp. We will only get a small nomination of places allocated to our school. If we get more nominations than places available for Malmsbury PS, a random ballot system will be used to select the lucky students to attend. The camp for our region will run from the 30th of April to the 8th of May. Please stay tuned for more information, or feel free to see me for any other information.

Have a safe and happy weekend everyone and thank you for your continued support.

Travis Pool, Principal,
Travis.Pool@education.vic.gov.au

WEEKLY STUDENT AWARDS

Congratulations to this week's award winners:

Tobias, Haylee, Atticus, Maya, Thomas T, Hamish, Layla, Grade 3/4, Liam, Asha, Andrew, Louis, and Jayden



MPS HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY 2024 INFORMATION

This year our House Cross Country event will be held on the last day of Term 1, Thursday March 28th.

This is a whole school event and all students will compete to earn points for their house, **Hollows**, **Chisolm** or **Freeman**. If you are unsure of your house, please see Jan or your classroom teacher.

Students will walk down to the Malsbury Cricket Ground as a whole school for the event at 9:15 after morning classroom routines. The following events will be held:

- Prep/Year 1 – Fun Run around the inside of the oval, 1 lap, approximately 500m
- Year 2 – Fun Run around the inside of the oval, 2 laps, approximately 1km
- 9 and 10 year olds – 2km track
- 11 and 12/13 year olds – 3km track

Age groups are calculated as age turned by Dec 31 2024. The attached map shows the track, 2 laps for 9 and 10 year olds and 3 laps for 11 and 12/13 year olds.

Students will have their morning snack at the oval and we will return to school for lunch then 2:30pm dismissal. House colours can be worn, however clothing needs to be appropriate to run in and SunSmart with shoulders covered.

I have spoken with students about training ideas if they are interested. This could involve:

- Visiting the cricket ground and running the track
- Going for a jog at home on an family agreed route
- Running laps of the school oval during recess or lunch time

Closer to the date I will be asking for parent volunteers to stand at checkpoints so please check your calendars and keep it free to come along and support our students!



- Walking route
- Cross Country route

AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

Prep/1:

This week in the Prep/One room, the Preps have started looking at the sounds that letters make. We are very clever Gumnuts, so we use correct vocabulary to describe what we are learning. We are learning to match the phonemes (sound) to the graphemes (letter shape). This week we have studied the phonemes 's' and 'a', so if you hear your loved one saying "s, s, s, sun", woohoo!!! Next week, we will explore 't' and 'p' and will start to put these sounds together to work out simple words!

Fun Fact: There are at least 10 frequently used words you can make with these 4 letters, (apparently, there is 22, but some of them I have never heard of!) and then when we study 'i' and 'n' in the following week, there are 106 words that can be made using these the SATPIN phonemes!!!

Grade 1 students have been busy revising the vowel teams we learnt at the end of last term, we have looked at the long 'a' digraph, 'ai' and 'ay' and this week we have moved onto the vowel team that makes the long 'e' sound, 'ee' and 'ea'. It is really tricky to know what vowel team to use when writing our words, but an easy 'rule' can help us: Use 'ea' if the word connected to food/meals or wet words, eg. eat, feast ' and use 'ee' if it is associated things in nature, eg. tree, sheep. But with every rule there is exceptions, and there are so many exceptions in the English language!



Grade 2/3:

This week in the Grade 2/3 classroom, we have been learning how to identify different types of verbs and the way they add meaning to a sentence. We have learnt that some verbs have helping and linking roles. These roles are changed based on the subject and the tense (past, present, future) of our writing. I have been very impressed with how well the students have absorbed all this information, and how they have already started implementing this new knowledge in their writing. Next week, we will learn how to create more interesting sentences, by including an adjective in our writing

Grade 3/4:

This week has been another great week in the Grade 3/4.

In Writing we have been building our understanding of coordinating conjunctions. These are words that join two independent ideas, or clauses, together to make a compound sentence. We use the acronym FANBOYS to remember which words are coordinating conjunctions. They are: for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so. We wrote some silly sentences on beetle wings and had a go at using these words to join them together. Some of them are easier to use than others!! Check out our wacky sentences@

In maths we have focused on rounding to the nearest ten or hundred. We thought this might be pretty easy, but it was a little bit harder than we thought! We need to round numbers sometimes so that they are easier to work with, particularly if they are really big numbers!

We have also started investigating how the Earth's surface can be changed, in preparation for our exciting Earth Ed excursion next week.



Grade 5/6:

In Auslan this week, students made up their own sign for their names. Some used the signs of their interests, letters in their names, and some even used signs of cities, to create their own individual sign name.

For Inquiry this term, we are asking the question, 'How can we be the best version of ourselves?'. Students are learning what it means to have a growth mindset and have begun researching 'famous failures'.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

For 2024, school council elections must be completed by March 31st.

School Council members are elected to serve for a period of 2 years. This year we have the following members whose 2 year tenure is coming to a close:

Parent Members	DET Members	Community Members
Ryan Hemsley	Kathryn Sundblom	Nil
Evan Murley	Kate Kuyateh	
	David Oxworth	

This means that there will be a call for nominations for 4 parent positions to be filled for the next 2 years (Community Members are appointed through a different system). Vacating councillors are more than welcome to nominate for the positions again. If there are more nominations than vacant positions, we will then work through a voting process to appoint people to the positions.

Election Timeline for 2024

Monday 12th February 2024 - Notice of election and call for nominations (forms will be available from the office)

Monday 19th February 2024- Closing date for nominations

Wednesday 21st February 2024 - The date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be posted

Monday 26th February 2024 - The date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed if an election is required.

Tuesday 20th 2024 – Special first council meeting to appoint Community Members (the principal will preside) with existing members.

Monday 4th March 2024 - Close of ballot (if required)

Tuesday 5th March 2024 - Vote Count (if required)

Wednesday 8th March 2024 – Declaration of poll

Tuesday 26th March 2024– First council meeting to elect office bearers (the principal will preside) with new school council members.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for any more information about the process.

MALMSBURY PS CATASTROPHIC FIRE RATING DAY PROCEDURES

With the Bushfire Season upon us, it is important to know the following information and process.

Malmsbury PS is on the 'Bushfire At Risk' register. This means that our school is closed on any Catastrophic Day and our OSHC service will also be closed. Below is our procedure to inform our school community of any Catastrophic Rating days that are declared.

Malmsbury PS does not operate on a Catastrophic Day and no staff or students are permitted to be on the school premises.

Catastrophic Days are declared at least 24 hours in advance.

If a Catastrophic Day is declared during the school week then a note will be sent home from school to alert families to the school closure.

A follow up phone call or Sentral message requiring a confirmation will confirm each family has received the notification regarding the Catastrophic closure.

Staff will be phoned to confirm they know the school will be closed due to a Catastrophic Day being called.

If a Catastrophic day is declared over a weekend for a Monday we will use the Sentral app, Facebook and phone calls to let parents know our school will be closed. Senior staff members will have home access to parent contact numbers in a secure location to enable parents to be contacted on weekends.

Staff will be called to notify them of the Catastrophic Day closure declared over the weekend.

Parents and staff will be reminded to monitor weather warnings over weekends until the bushfire season is over.

Regular reminders will be placed in the newsletter about regularly checking the Sentral app and to follow us on Facebook for any notifications.



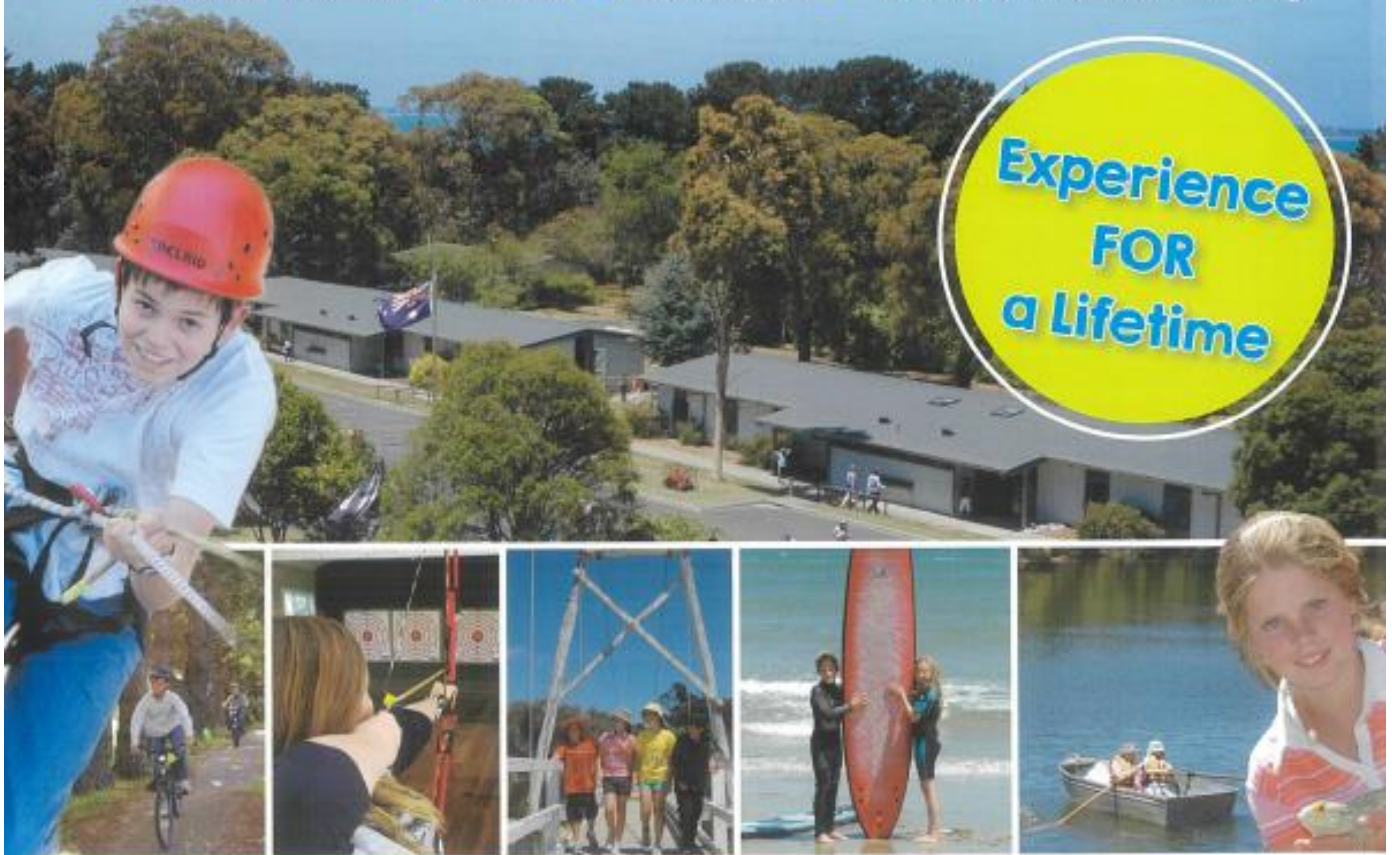
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Somers School Camp

A nine day residential outdoor and environmental experience for Year 5 & 6 students

Focusing on developing the Victorian Curriculum Capabilities

- Personal & Social
- Ethical
- Intercultural
- Critical & Creative Thinking



Inspiring optimism and developing the consciousness and care of **SELF, OTHERS and the ENVIRONMENT**

Years 5 & 6 Students from Schools in your area will be participating in the Somers Camp.

From: 30 APR 2024 To: 08 MAY 2024

FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE SENT SOON

www.somerscamp.vic.edu.au

MACEDON RANGES TWILIGHT SPRINT ORIENTEERING SERIES 2024



**RETURNS 14TH FEB 6PM
KYNETON COMMUNITY GARDENS**

COURSES

Range from 2km to 4km
There will be a course suitable for children and families without the need to cross major roads.

Events take up to 30min
Walk, jog or run it is up to you.

REGISTRATION

From 6pm, starts 6.30-7pm
Course close 8pm

COSTS

\$5 per participant
includes map & hire electronic
timing reader

EVENTS

14th FEB KYNETON
Community Gardens
Clowes St Entrance

21st FEB WOODEND
Campaspe Parklands
Info centre - Margery Cres

28th FEB MALMSBURY
Botanical Gardens
Ellesmere Place



**SCAN THE QR CODE FOR
OUR WEBSITE:**



[HTTPS://CENTRALHIGHLANDS.WEEBLY.COM](https://centralhighlands.weebly.com)

EXPLORE LOCAL PARKLANDS TRY ORIENTEERING

FEBRUARY 2024

14TH KYNETON
21st WOODEND
28TH MALMSBURY



**FEB
14TH**

Courses 2-4km

\$5 entry

Rego 6-7pm
Courses close 8pm



www.centralhighlands.weebly.com