

Respect  
Responsibility  
Inclusiveness  
Honesty

# Malmsbury Primary School

## Newsletter

Term 1 Week 6—Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024

### IMPORTANT DATES Term 1

2024

Monday 11th March-  
Labor Day Public Holiday

NAPLAN- Years 3 & 5 1  
3th to 18th March

Sunday 17th of March-  
Malmsbury Farmers Market

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

Tuesday 26th March- School Council  
AGM and First Meeting

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

### MAJOR EVENTS 2024

Malmsbury Farmers Markets:  
March 17, May 19, July 21,  
Sept 15, Nov 17, Dec 15.

School Review -  
Tuesday March 5, 14 & 21

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

Saturday 14th of September -  
Victorian State Schools  
Spectacular

### **Womin-dji-ka | Welcome**

This week, we welcomed our Preps for their first full week. Kathryn has done a fantastic job at preparing our students over the past five weeks, and this helped our preps enter a full week without any problems. We also had the first day of our school review on Tuesday. The review panel remarked at how well the students were settled and engaged in the work they were doing. A great form of feedback for our students and our staff. We are truly blessed with the staff we have at our fantastic school and the commitment they have to our students. This coming week also sees the start of the NAPLAN assessment period. Students are familiar with the platform of the assessment and are looking forward to participating in NAPLAN. I wish them all the best with the upcoming assessment. Also coming up soon is the School Cross Country on Thursday the 28th of March. Erin is once again looking for parent helpers to set up on various parts of the course. If you are available, please contact Erin on [erin.rose@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:erin.rose@education.vic.gov.au)

### **Malmsbury PS School Review March 2024:**

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. One of the focus groups will be a parent group held at 9am for approximately 30 minutes. If you are keen to be a part of the Parent Feedback session for the review panel on Thursday the 14th of March, please register your interest with me to add you to the list. Alternatively I will make use of the parents at school at drop off time. Your thoughts and suggestions are greatly appreciated.

### **Gastroenteritis Cases in School:**

Thank you to all families who have been able to stay vigilant with the illness that has crept into the school. This has helped to limit the amount of cases identified. I ask that you continue to monitor your children for any symptoms of gastroenteritis, and if evident, please keep your child at home to rest and recover. You can use the Sentral app to record any absences. Select the absences button, then the '+' button in the top right corner. Then then only need to fill in the sections, and hit the send button. Alternatively, you can email your child's teacher and myself, or call the school to record the absence.

Below is the information from the Department of Health's, School exclusion table for infectious diseases. This outlines the exclusion period for gastroenteritis. <https://www.health.vic.gov.au/infectious-diseases/school-exclusion-table>

In an outbreak of gastroenteritis, exclude until there has not been vomiting or a loose bowel motion for 48 hours, and for all other diarrhoeal illnesses exclude until there has not been vomiting or a lose bowel motion for 24 hours.

Thank you for your vigilance to help reduce the spread across our school.

### **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](mailto:malmsburyfayre@gmail.com).

### **Malmsbury Farmers Market– Sunday 17th of March:**

Our school stall will once again be running on Sunday the 17th of March from 9am - 1pm. As always, this is a great fundraising opportunity for our school so we are always looking to find a way to support it. If you are able to provide home made items to sell at the market, you are more than welcome to drop them at school by the 15th of March or bring them to the stall on Sunday the 17th. A reminder that home baked goods must have a list of ingredients with them. Any and all donations for the market are greatly appreciated.

We are also looking for volunteers who would be able to help run the stall at different times. Even if it is for 30mins or and hour or two, all help is greatly appreciated. You can book a time to help at the stall via the following link.

<https://signup.com/go/OhDuZBk>



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### **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.

### **NAPLAN March 13th to 25th 2024:**

This Wednesday the 13th of March, sees the beginning of this years NAPLAN assessment. Student in year 3 & 5 will begin with the Writing task on Wednesday (1hour), Reading on Thursday (1 hour), Numeracy on Friday (1 hour), and Conventions of Language (Spelling and Grammar– 1 hour) on Monday the 18th. The remainder of the assessment period is used to catch up on any assessments that students may miss due to absence across the assessment timeline. I wish all our students the best with the upcoming assessments, especially our year 3's who are sitting their first NAPLAN period. Please don't hesitate to make contact if you have any questions about NAPLAN.

### **Smile Squad– School Dental Van Visit:**

The Smile Squad Dental Van will be visiting our school in late March. If you would like to make use of this service, please see the more detailed information and registration link on page 3 of the newsletter.

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

Travis Pool, Principal,

[Travis.Pool@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Travis.Pool@education.vic.gov.au)

## **WEEKLY STUDENT AWARDS**

Congratulations to this week's award winners:

Roman, Luna, Eleanor, Angus, Ami, August, Audrey, Django, and Thomas S.



# SMILE SQUAD- SCHOOL DENTAL VAN

## Smile Squad is coming to this school

The Smile Squad team from Bendigo Health are coming to our school in March 2024.

Smile Squad is the Victorian Government free school dental program.

This means all students can get a free dental check-up, preventive services, and treatment at school.

## How to access free dental care

We need your consent before we can provide services. Consent is usually provided by a parent or guardian.

Sign up to Smile Squad at: <https://bit.ly/smilesquadvic>

OR use the below QR code:



Paper copies of the consent form are available. Please contact the school office if you would like to request one.

The electronic consent form can be translated into more than 100 languages, and the paper form is available in 13 languages.

## Smile Squad dental packs

All children deserve a healthy smile, and the Smile Squad free school dental program is working hard to help make sure this happens.

Your child(ren) will soon receive a free dental pack to bring home. The dental pack contains a toothbrush, full sized toothpaste, and an oral health brochure. Please take the time to read the brochure. It's full of helpful hints and tips to help your whole family eat well, drink well and clean well – for life.

Smile Squad provides standard strength fluoride toothpaste that is generally used by ages six and over, unless recommended by a dental or trained health professional.

If your child is under six, please talk to a dental or trained health professional to find out if your child might benefit from using this toothpaste. You can also choose to put the toothpaste away until they turn six or give it to someone else in your family to use.

## Do I need to attend my child's appointment?

No, you do not need to attend your child's appointment. You can attend if you would like to, and you can take your child to the community dental clinic if you prefer.

The Bendigo Health Smile Squad team look forward to seeing you soon.

# AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

## Prep/1:

What an awesome week we have had in the Prep/One room! It was great to have the Preppies here on Wednesday for their first full week of school. And they finally had the chance to experience Japanese and Art. Paul, the Art teacher was blown away by how creative and amazing they preppies are, and Jaimee, our Japanese teacher was overjoyed with how amazing they are. Of course, our wonderful Grade Ones, stepped up again and helped the Preps transition to the new spaces and new teachers. Awesome work, Gumnuts!

## Grade 2/3:

This week in the Grade 2/3 classroom, we have been learning how a compound sentence is made up of two independent clauses (a sentence that makes sense on its own) joined with a coordinating conjunction (FANBOYS – for, and, nor, but, or, yet and so). We have been using our imaginations and creative writing skills, to create compound sentences from picture prompts using the FANBOYS acronym. In Maths, we learnt an alternative addition strategy, the split strategy. This is where we separate larger numbers in to their place value, creating a more manageable way to add numbers.

In STEM, students used their engineering skills, and built a tower that could withstand the largest amount of weight. Students were required to use their problem-solving skills, to determine the best way to hold the bucket (paper cup) aloft. The tower was made out of only plastic straws and masking tape and they were required to make on-the-spot adjustments, as they see weak points of the tower buckle or collapse. Next week we will be using our engineering skills again, to create a flying contraption just like the one from book, *Rosie Revere, Engineer* by Andrea Beaty. If you have any recycling (trash) students may be able to use during this activity, please bring them in at the start of next week. Have a wonderful long weekend!

## Grade 3/4:

This week has been a busy one for the Legends of Grade 3/ 4. In Maths we have been strengthening our mental computation skills, practising using different strategies to add or subtract numbers quickly and accurately.

In Literacy we have been focused on analysing how writers use language to communicate ideas effectively. We have explored 4 different types of sentences - statements, questions, commands and exclamations, and practised finding examples of figurative language in our novels. There sure is a lot of metaphors in the English language!!

## MUSIC

This term in Music students have been focusing on Percussion Music and the different ways people can make Percussion Music including using Body Percussion, "Junk" or home-made Percussion Instruments and traditional Percussion Instruments. Grades 3&4 have made their own sets of drum sticks for use with Bucket Drums and Grades 3-6 will be designing their own instruments to make out of recycled materials to finish the term. Students in these year levels are encouraged to bring recycled items from home such as cardboard boxes, plastic bottles, bottle tops etc. More info about this will follow from classroom teachers. We hope to have a visit from Andy Rigby to share his instrument making knowledge with us.

Interested students in Grades 5/6 have formed an Ensemble and have done amazingly learning a piece for Marimbas called Sae Sae Kale.



# AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

## Grade 5/6:

Last week students noticed that we had an abundance (Vocab word - ask your kids what it means!) of tomatoes in our school vegetable patch. So, we quickly got to picking, cleaning, and then figuring out what we could make with them! Students did really well working together in small groups to think about what ingredients they needed and organised for everything to be brought in. On Monday, we cooked up a storm in the Staff Room and had a feast of salsa and 4 different pasta sauces! A special thank you to Alison, Skyla, Andrew, Parker and Lachy who helped out groups with chopping and stirring throughout the day.

We used the experience to do some creative writing in the classroom, an example from Eleanor below:

## Descriptive Pasta

The sauce oozed in my mouth as I twirled the pasta around my fork. ‘BURRRP’ ‘WILL!’ I sat down and imagined where I was.

I slid down a waterfall of saucy goodness and landed in a pool of pasta. Burp birds flying over me making a loud burping sound like cockatoos at 5.00am echoing over the mountains of meatballs. I took a dive into the pool making a splash of sauce go everywhere. I had made a mess! The smell had me gazing into my pasta.

“Eleanor!” Rosina said.

I put my hand over her mouth, “Not now,” I said. “I’m having my moment.”

I sat down on a meatball rock and closed my eyes ... ‘SLURRRRP’! Something heavy fell onto me I opened my eyes to find a string of pasta on my arm, I thought nothing of it.

I tiptoed over to Christie, my bowl empty. “Christie,” I said. “Can I have some more pasta?”

“Sure,” she replied not looking up. Christie scooped a big spoonful of pasta, she put it in my bowl and finally looked at me.

“What?” I asked confused.

Christie stared at me wide eyed, “You’ve got a little- A LOT of pasta on you!”

I touched my cheek, “So I do!”



# 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 28<sup>th</sup>.

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

# 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 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024** - Notice of election and call for nominations (forms will be available from the office)

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024**- Closing date for nominations

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024** - The date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be posted

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

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

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024** - Close of ballot (if required)

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024** - Vote Count (if required)

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024** – Declaration of poll

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> 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.



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

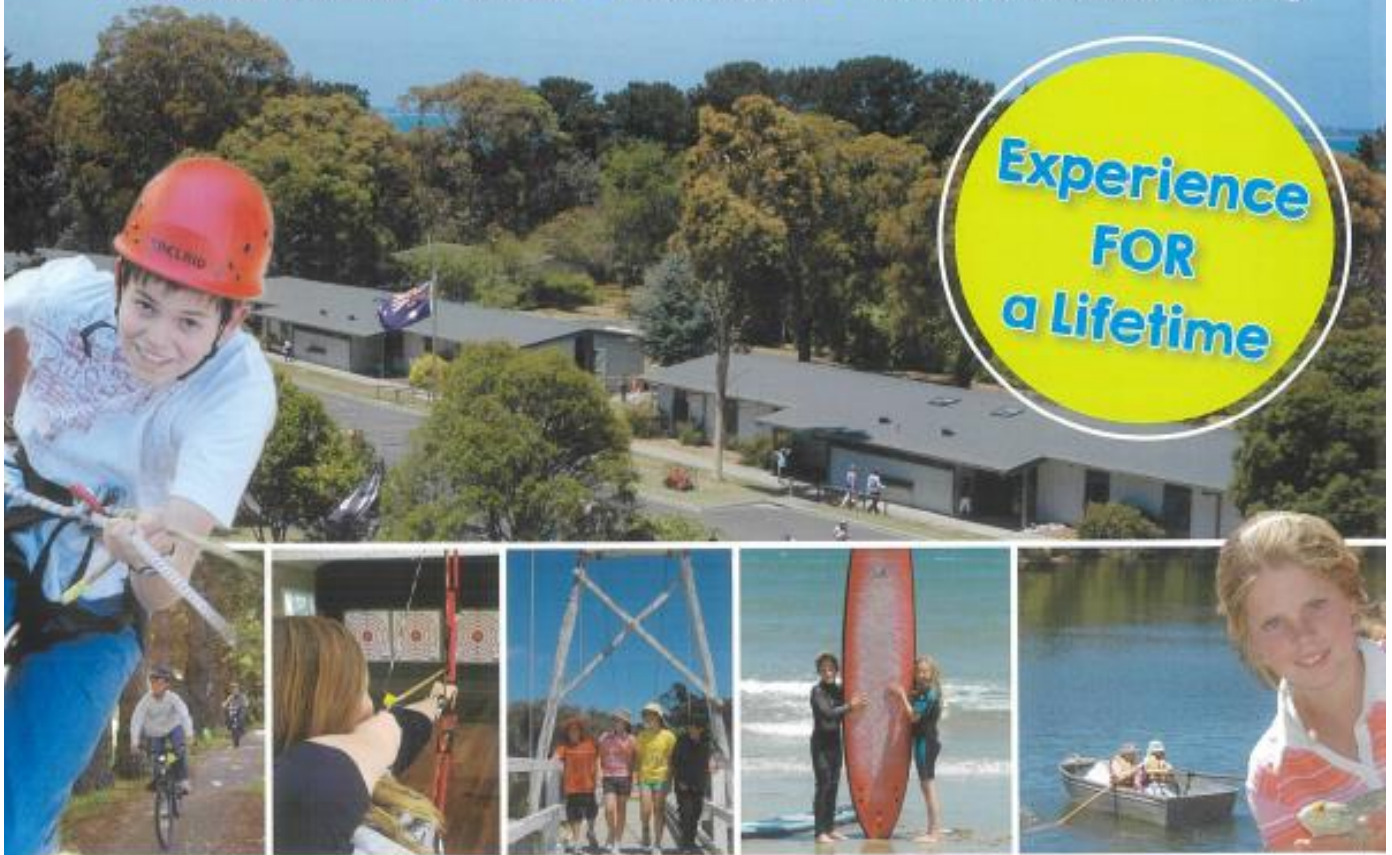
# Somers School Camp

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

Experience  
FOR  
a Lifetime



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](http://www.somerscamp.vic.edu.au)





# AUTUMN FESTIVAL LIVE & LOCAL

IN COMMUNITY HALLS

FEATURING

## THE MARTINI SET

LAURISTON HALL  
FRIDAY 26 APRIL, 6PM

DINNER AND SHOW

TWO COURSE MEAL provided  
BALD HILL ESTATE (and other) WINES, BEER and  
SOFTDRINKS available (No BYO)  
TICKETS: \$25 Under 12: \$15

[mrc.vic.gov.au/liveandlocal](http://mrc.vic.gov.au/liveandlocal)



Australian Government  
Festivals Australia

Macedon Ranges  
Shire Council

MACEDON RANGES  
NATURALLY COOL