



# RUSKIN PARK NEWSLETTER

4 August 2023



RIISING TO THE CHALLENGE

## Upcoming Dates

### August

Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>	ICAS Competitions Commence
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Foundation Fire Fighter Visit
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Foundation Incursion
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Sushi Lunch
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Trivia Night
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Curriculum Day</b>
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Yr 5 Excursion
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Yr 5 & 6 Hoop Time
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Book Week Dress Up Day
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Yr 5 Camp Departs

### August

Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Book Fair commences
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Foundation to Yr 2 Swimming
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Book Week Incursion
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Fathers' Day Stall

### September

Friday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Yr 3 & 4 Hooptime
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Yr 6 Camp Departs
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Yr 3 & 4 Swimming commences
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup>	District Athletics
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Yr 5 & 6 Swimming commences
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Footy Day

## Principal's Report

As you can see from the calendar above, the second half of Term 3 looks busy with a number of exciting opportunities available to our students. Please keep an eye out for key dates in upcoming newsletters and also monitor events on Compass.

Some dates to mark in your diary include:

- Trivia Night- Friday 11 August
- Curriculum Day- Monday 14 August
- Book Week Dress Up Day- Monday 21 August
- Book Week Incursion- Tuesday 29 August
- Father's Day Stall- Thursday 31 August
- Foundation to Year 2 Swimming- Monday 28 August to Thursday 31 August
- Year 3 and 4 Swimming- Monday 4 September to Friday 8 September
- Year 5 and 6 Swimming- Monday 11 September to Thursday 14 September
- Footy Day- Friday 15 September

### School Review

In 2023 our current strategic plan reaches its conclusion. This provides us with an important opportunity to reflect and celebrate our successes and look for areas to focus on in the future.

The review process will seek to capture the thoughts of staff, students and parents. As part of this process, we will be conducting a parent forum at 9:10am on Friday 1 September. The session is expected to run until approximately 10am. Further details will be provided closer to the date.

### Trivia Night- Friday 11 August at 7pm

Only one more week to go!! Our Family and Friends team is working hard to finalise plans ahead of next week's Trivia Night. We have well over one hundred members of the community booked and I strongly encourage you to

consider getting involved. Bookings will close on Monday. You do not need to form a full table to attend. If you contact the office we can help you with table allocations.

### Curriculum Day- Monday 14 August

A reminder we have a student free day scheduled for Monday 14 August. Students do not attend school on this day. Our staff will be engaging in professional learning focusing on the teaching of Mathematics. OSHC will be running a curriculum day program. Details have been sent home to families.

Andrew Moore  
Principal

### Foundation



Woooo hoooo! We have loved every day of our 100 days of school! We celebrated with number games to 100, 100 day craft crowns and ties, buddy activities and a whole heap of fun! Congratulations to all our Foundation students, we are so very proud of you all!





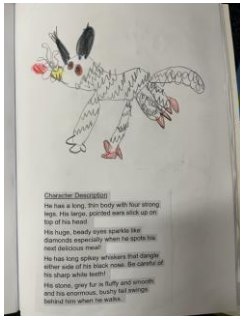
## Wellbeing

We have begun our journey to becoming 'Friendship Ninjas' through the 'Friendology' program. Foundation students have begun to explore concepts of treating themselves like a best friend and recognising and embracing positive and negative emotions.



## Literacy

In Reading, we have been exploring fairy tales and focusing on predicting and visualising strategies. Students have been visualising their own Big Bad Wolf and bringing their ideas to life through drawing. Students have been able to listen to the story, act it out, record the main events of the story and draw a story map.



In Writing, we have been learning to write a retell of The Three Little Pigs, Little Red Riding Hood and Goldilocks and The Three Bears by including the beginning, middle and end. Students are becoming proficient at using fairy tale language such as 'once upon a time' and 'they lived happily ever after' and are enjoying putting exclamation marks in their writing for dramatic effect!

## Numeracy

We have been delving into subtraction during numeracy, using a range of tools such as our fingers, number lines and game boards. We have discussed different words to describe the action of subtracting including minus, take away and less. We have practised our subtraction skills through board games and used real life scenarios to role play subtraction in action.



We are very excited for our first Firefighter visit next Wednesday! Students will get a visit from the fabulous members of Croydon Fire Station and learn all about fire safety at home! Look out for some homework from this visit too! The second visit will be August 17 for some hands on learning experiences!



Don't forget to give permission for your child to attend the Fairy Tale Fiasco incursion by DramaToolbox on August 10 as we will be dressing up and acting out fairy tales galore! This creative incursion explores the structure of narratives and personal expression using body language, verbal and visual cues. As Dwarves, Witches, Wizards, Dragons, Mice, Cats, Wolves and Pigs children will immerse themselves in this imaginative incursion and get lost in the story.



## Junior School

### Year 1

Just like that we are in Week 4 of Term 3. It will be the end of Term 3 before we know it! It has been a busy fortnight with lots of fun and exciting learning experiences.

On Friday the 4th of August it was Principal's Day. This annual day provides us with the chance to recognise the tireless efforts of our Principal Mr Moore, Assistant Principal Ms Young and acting Assistant Principal Miss Clarke! Mr Moore and Miss Clarke loved some of our surprises that we had in store on the day.





Please continue to keep regularly checking Compass and Dojo for important updates and information throughout the term.

### Wellbeing

In Wellbeing, we are continuing to learn about 'Friendology' through the URSTRONG Program. This week we learned about the '4 tricks' to make a new friend, which can be seen below. The students were given the opportunity to really delve into each trick and think about what it looks like and how they will apply their new knowledge and understanding of friendships in and out of the classroom!

*Let's learn some ninja-style tricks for making friends!*



-  **Super Introducer**
-  **Ask & Pass**
-  **Quick Question**
-  **Be a Magnet**

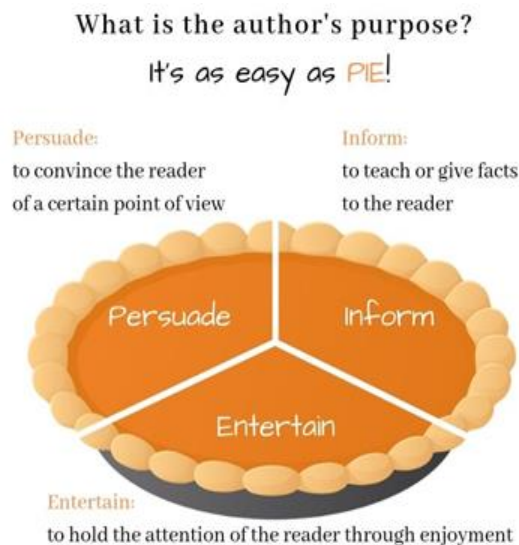
### Literacy

In Literacy we have continued to learn about Procedural Texts. Last week we wrote a procedural text that explained how to make a potion or a spell to do something exciting such as, summon a dragon, shrink the class and even turn the teacher into a banana! This week, the students eagerly engaged in the hands-on experience of making Oobleck! We started by recording the title, goal and materials then it was time to write our steps. After we wrote the steps,

we tested how effective our detail had been by asking a partner to try and follow the steps exactly how we wrote them. It was a wonderful opportunity to edit our writing and ensure that we had the correct verbs and adverbs and a good amount of detail for the steps to be followed accurately.

During our Reading sessions, we have explicitly been focusing on identifying the author's purpose and the reading strategy 'Determining Importance'. The students have been given a range of fiction and nonfiction texts to practise their skills and demonstrate their understanding of the author's purpose and determine importance using evidence from the text to support their thinking. You may like to ask your child why they think the author wrote that particular book when completing their take home readers.

See the Author's Purpose PIE example below.



Our phonics focus over that past fortnight has been the long 'i' and long 'o' vowel sounds specifically looking at how the 'bossy e' creates those sounds. (i\_e, o\_e)

When reading with your child at home, see if you can spot some of our focus blends in the take home readers!



## Maths

In Maths we have been revising Place Value. We have developed and consolidated our understanding of place value through a range of Maths investigation tasks and engaging games. The students have had multiple opportunities to play the game 'Closest to 100' and 'Stepping Stones' where they were able to practise and deepen their understanding of tens and ones and develop new counting strategies and verbalise reasoning. These Maths games can be played at home which will support your child's development of their place value understanding, ask your child to explain the games to you at home! Check out our Maths Superstars in the classroom this week.





Students are also continuing to work on their individual learning goals related to Maths. Seeing the students take pride in their achievements and demonstrate determination and persistence during independent work time is fantastic to see!

## Year 2

Another fantastic fortnight in Year 2! Lots and lots of learning is happening in our classrooms and we are excited to share our thinking with each. A reminder to pop into your diaries: Bookweek is coming up very soon and we will again have a Book Week parade so be sure to start thinking about your favourite book characters!

### Literacy

Oliver Jeffers is our Year 2 Author Study. This week saw us exploring some of his many amazing books and thinking about what we know and would like to find out. We had a go at a new strategy for summarising a book called the Six Word Summary, where we pull out six important words that we can use to summarise the book that we have read.



We are learning and practising lots of our reading strategies to help us think about and notice the similarities and differences between his characters and stories. This week we have been inferring character traits. Which of these Oliver Jeffers books is your favourite?

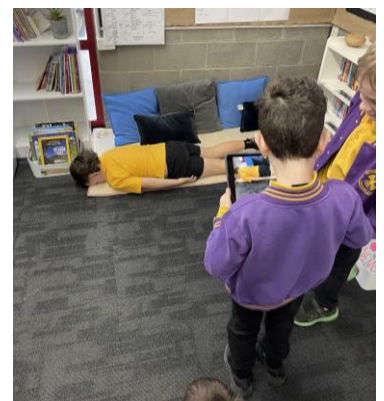
We have been exploring narratives in our writing time and working on ensuring that we have a range of writing conventions in our pieces. We have begun to use some of the characters that Oliver Jeffers uses in his pieces to include in our own stories! We can't wait to see what they get up to!



In Spelling we are working hard on the long vowel sounds. This week we are thinking about Long E and all of the letter friends which can make this sound. (Hint: there are lots!) We loved playing Kapow! Why not try making this game at home to play!

### Maths

We have been investigating Transformations in Maths and have used our bodies to show how we can 'Flip' 'Turn' and 'Slide'. We have created transformation patterns and played games with our partners to describe our transformations. Remember to be on the lookout for lots of transformations in your environment. You might notice leaves that show a transformation or something in your home. You might even like to create a 'Transformation Dance' to teach others!



## Wellbeing



This term we have begun our URStrong Friendology program. As part of this program, students discussed different emotions, and ways to calm down if you are feeling angry, or frustrated. One suggestion was that students can create a 'calm down' kit at home if they choose to. This could be a box or bag filled with things that help them to feel calm or relaxed. Items inside could include glitter jars, fidget toys, a favourite story or play doh. We have been learning all about how to make friends this week in Wellbeing by thinking about what it feels like to make new friends. We have practised friend making skills by learning how to introduce ourselves and how to ask a friend to play.



## History

We have continued to explore our community in History this fortnight. Students have looked at a range of photos showing what Croydon used to look like and thinking about how some things are the same and some are different and why this might be. We have looked at a range of landmarks including the Ringwood Clock Tower and also Main Street and the Shrine in Croydon. We have thought about why these landmarks are important and why we need to look after them.



## Digi Tech



This fortnight we met our collection of Dashes, our brand new robots! Dash is helping us learn how to program a set of instructions on the iPad for it to follow. We have had fun experimenting with the different functions that Dash has to offer, and have begun to follow and create sets of instructions, so that Dash can move, nod, blink, speak, rev his engine and so much more!

## Reminders

A friendly reminder that fruit snack needs to be brought to school in a separate small container each day as this is kept on student tables.

Please continue to complete your child's home reader and homework and return it to school each day. We love seeing the time and effort that has gone into your exploration of our spelling and maths concepts. Homework is due back at school each Friday and is sent home on Mondays.

Students are not supervised at school until 8:45am each day. If your child arrives at school before 8:45am please book them into Before School Care.



## Middle School

### Year 3

#### Literacy

In our Literacy sessions, the Year 3 students have been fully immersed in their author study on Graeme Base. Throughout this study, we have meticulously examined, compared, and contrasted various texts, delving into the diverse array of characters, settings, and themes that Greame Base skilfully incorporates into his stories.

During our recent writing sessions, the Year 3s have taken inspiration from Greame Base's writing style and embarked on planning and crafting their own narratives. As part of this process, the students have been honing their writing skills by infusing descriptive sentences to add depth and richness to their compositions. Additionally, they have been actively experimenting with compound sentences to diversify their sentence structures, making their writing more engaging and captivating. We cannot wait to see their finished narratives.

#### Maths

This week the Year 3's have continued their unit on multiplication and division.

In our maths lessons, students are enthusiastically exploring the world of multiplication and division through engaging activities that involve arrays and repeated addition and subtraction. To make the learning experience more enjoyable and hands-on, we have incorporated craft projects that not only captivate the students' attention but also reinforce the concepts they are learning.



Here are some pictures of the students who have made 'Multiplication houses'. During this activity students not only worked on their multiplication skills but they were also asked to show their working out behind the doors in at least three different ways to show their understanding.

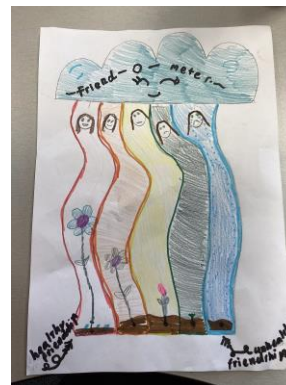
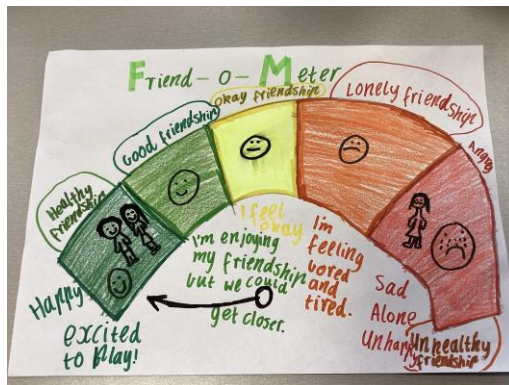


#### Digitech

In Digitech, students have been learning about coding and debugging. Debugging has become an integral aspect of their coding adventure, with students enjoying the challenge. As they encounter challenges and errors in their programs, students are encouraged to analyse and troubleshoot their code. This process fosters resilience, determination, and a growth mindset, as they learn that mistakes are an essential part of the learning process and provide valuable opportunities for improvement. It has been wonderful to see the different ways students are working through these problems and working together in small teams to find solutions to the problems.

## Wellbeing/ UR Strong

This week, the Year 3 students delved deeper into the fascinating concept of the 'Friend-o-metre.' This innovative tool is designed to equip our young learners with the necessary skills to distinguish between healthy and unhealthy friendships, which they may encounter throughout their lives. By exploring 'Friendology,' the students are gaining valuable insights into how to develop and sustain positive and supportive relationships with others. This valuable knowledge will undoubtedly empower them to foster and maintain healthy friendships as they continue to grow and learn.



## Camp

Last week we sent out a notice on Compass about the Year 3 Camp at Wombat Corner Camp in Emerald. Since then it has been wonderful to hear so many students excited about the opportunity to attend the camp and what they might be doing. Please make sure that you have a look at the notice and if you have any questions please contact your child's teacher.

## Year 4

### Literacy

Students have loved exploring our David Walliams unit! We have continued to read and analyse the book Gangsta Granny, exploring all the literary devices that David Walliams uses to engage his audiences. Further to this, students investigated the relationships of the main characters across a range of his texts, identifying that he uses a child as a



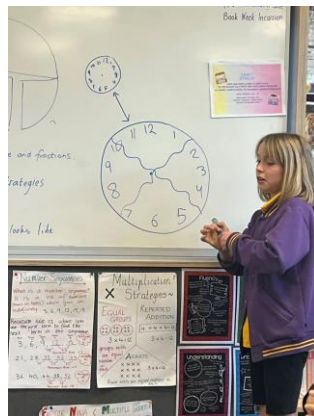
main character and a quirky adult character. In this, students analysed the similarities and differences between relationships, and how they change as the story evolves.

Using inspiration from David Walliams, students have begun to plan, draft, edit and publish a narrative designed in the style of David Walliams. In this, students have delved into how we can utilise characters, settings, themes and morals to paint a picture in the reader's mind about the story. Students will continue to publish their pieces incorporating a variety of fonts and illustrations to engage their audience.

## Maths

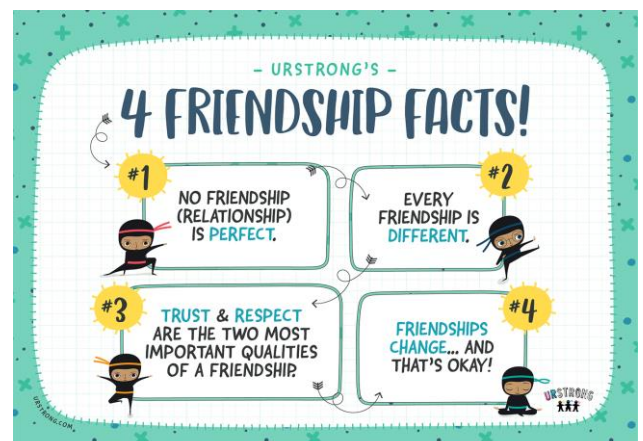
In Maths, students have been busy exploring the concept of time. Throughout this unit of work, students have been investigating time on both analogue and digital clocks, looking at the difference between 12 hour and 24 hour time, calculating the duration of time and creating timetables outlining how our time is spread across the day.

Building on this, students have applied their understanding of time through creating their own 'Yes Day'. Students were encouraged to explore what activities they would like to do on their perfect day, and were challenged to consider duration, am and pm time, and order in which they wanted to complete activities. Students were so excited to present this on a poster and share their perfect 'Yes Day' with their peers.



## Wellbeing

In Wellbeing, students have been working through the URStrong lessons and have been introduced to the 4 Friendship Facts. Discussing the importance of each fact and how their friendships have ups and downs. Students have used a WWW chart to document what works and doesn't work in their friendships and what's the plan to keep the friendship in the green-zone of the Friend-o-metre.





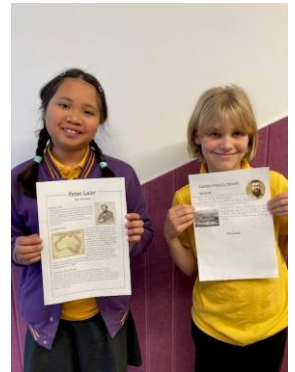
# Senior School

## Year 5

August is a very busy and exciting month in Year 5. Coming up we have an excursion to Karralyka Theatre to watch Norwood Secondary College's production '*Anastasia the Musical*'. We will also be celebrating Book Week with a whole school book parade, special activities, and an incursion. Last but not least, we are so excited to go to Sovereign Hill for our three day camp. Please continue to check Compass and Dojo for event information and reminders.

### Literacy

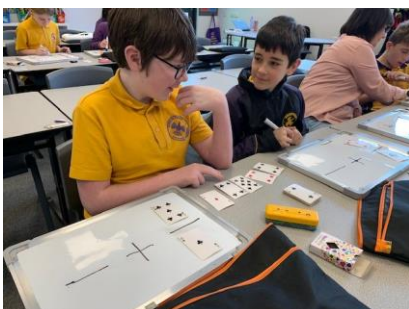
In Writing, we have been learning about the 6+1 Writing Traits. These are the traits that help make our writing the best it can be. The traits include Organisation, Voice, Ideas, Word Choice, Sentence Fluency, Conventions and Presentation. On Fridays we explore a different trait, often learning about it in the form of short, fun challenges and activities. One fun activity involved us rolling a dice and writing a sentence with that amount of words. This helps build sentence fluency and the ability to write sentences of varied lengths. We have also begun publishing our historical biographies. Students have carefully selected images, maps and timelines to complement their information, and have chosen fonts that are appropriate for their topic and audience.



In Reading, we have been working on our comprehension skills, in particular using evidence from a text to support our understanding. We have looked at various biographies, as well as our own 'Just Right Books' and have practised highlighting, annotating and noting down important aspects of a text.

### Maths

In Maths, we have continued our learning about fractions. We revised where we find fractions and what they are used for, we explored the value of different fractions and how to place various fractions on a number line. We've also practised adding and subtracting fractions. A favourite activity was playing a maths game called 'Closest to 1' or 'Closest to 0'. Students played in pairs, drawing cards from a deck and trying to add or subtract two fractions together. The closest to 1 or 0 would score a point. We encourage students to notice fractions at home wherever possible, such as cooking or in sports.



## History

The Year 5 students have been having fun learning all about Australian history, with a particular focus on the 1800s and the Gold Rush. So far this term we have discussed reasons for European migration to Australia, including the Irish potato famine and the Scottish Highland Clearance. We have learnt about convict living conditions and what the first settlers went through. Students have also participated in discussions about Indigenous Australians and how the European settlers changed their way of life. We have begun researching the places around Australia where gold was first discovered, using atlases to locate places of significance.



## Year 6

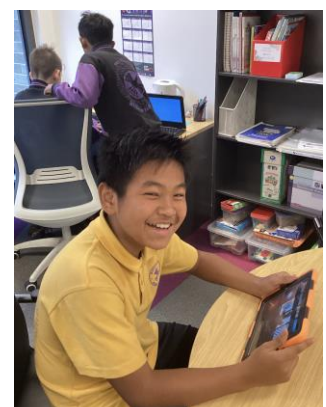
Year 7 Placements and Camp Medical Forms - We kindly remind all Year 6 students and parents to promptly return the Year 7 forms to Miss Marshall by Wednesday, August 9th. This will secure your placements for the upcoming year. Additionally, don't forget to submit the camp medical forms as soon as possible, allowing us to finalise dietary and medical requirements.

## Maths

Within Mathematics, we continue our unit on 'Fractions, Decimals, and Percentages.' Over the past few weeks, our students have made remarkable progress in grasping the concepts of adding and subtracting fractions with both same and different denominators. This week, our focus shifted to exploring fractions of a quantity, and we've now embarked on the journey of decimals and place values, exploring beyond hundredths. To enhance their skills, students can continue practising through engaging tasks on Google Classroom and Essential Assessment as part of their homework.

## Literacy

In both Reading and Writing, we've delved deep into the captivating world of information texts. Our students have done a wonderful job publishing their information reports on their chosen topics and are now embracing the art of filmmaking for their BTN style reports using iMovie. Throughout this process, we've devoted significant attention to analysing what makes a captivating report, creating effective transitions, and captivating the viewer's attention. In Reading, we continue to unravel the purpose of text features and their vital role in navigating non-fiction books.





## Action Teams

Prepare yourselves for an adventure of collaboration and growth as we gear up for our highly anticipated first lesson on Action Teams. The Year 6 students have put tremendous effort into planning and reflecting to ensure an engaging and smooth experience for the Foundation to Year 5 students. Our first Action Teams lesson commences on Tuesday, August 16th, with a special focus on 'Getting to Know You.'



## Other News

### Morning Movers

Another two weeks have passed, and we have been so lucky to have lovely mornings to enjoy moving together! We have welcomed several new Movers to our community this term, which has prompted me to let everyone know more about how Morning Movers works.

Each time you come to Morning Movers you commence your laps. Each time you pass the starting area you will be given a paddle pop stick. This indicates that you have completed 200m. At the conclusion of the session individuals move to the 'check in' station where they will find their Activity Passport to document their laps completed. Paddle pop sticks are then returned and students head to class. Everyone can see the distance they have travelled over the weeks as the passports indicate their total distance travelled. When Movers travel 10km, 25km and 50km their achievement is acknowledged with a certificate, which is presented weekly at the table. We have had close to 10 students passing the 25km mark and a small few gaining traction towards 50km since Morning Movers has commenced! A huge achievement.

The highlight for me as a facilitator this term has been having participants arrive ready to go and so enthusiastic to be involved. It is wonderful to see a lovely community forming, with students starting to form connections with others across year levels, that they may otherwise have not had the opportunity to meet. Seeing the older students encouraging and running with the younger students (including my son Hudson) is heartwarming to witness.



## Mover Moments

*"It's so fun to do and I enjoy running around with my friends. I try to get as many laps done as I can!"*

*Jacelle, Grade 5*

*"I feel like my long distance running has improved from doing Morning Movers. I like to run with my friends and do what I love to do and that's run!"*

*Blair, Grade 5*

*"I started Morning Movers so my girls could train for cross country. I enjoyed it so much that I kept doing it. I really enjoy running with my girls (even if they don't run with me). I'm really proud that I've made it to 25 kilometres. Now to catch Tora!"*

*Kylie, Parent*

Keep moving Ruskin!

Mel



## These students have recently celebrated their birthdays

Julia      Sophie      Zviko      Nawl Pi      Parker      Ashton      Aiden      Callan      Mary  
Charlotte      Lola



### School Vision

Every student at Ruskin Park Primary School is encouraged to develop their natural curiosity and imagination through new and engaging approaches to teaching. We believe a positive attitude toward learning in a friendly community promotes success today, tomorrow and into the future.

Our values are:

Respect

Honesty

Persistence

Resilience



RUSKIN PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL  
presents

# BACK *to* trivio *night*

7PM FRIDAY 11TH AUGUST  
RUSKIN PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL GYM

80S & 90S THEME  
(PRIZES FOR BEST DRESSED)

BYO DRINKS & SNACKS  
(ALCOHOL PERMITTED)

\$15PP - TABLES OF 10

PLEASE BRING \$\$ FOR GAMES,  
AUCTIONS AND RAFFLES

**BOOK NOW**

VIA





**FREE**

**COME & TRY  
CLINICS**



**NEW**

**5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11  
YEAR OLDS**

**ALL SKILL LEVELS**

**GIRLS**

**TUESDAY 15TH, 22ND, 29TH AUG & 5TH SEP**

**MELBA SECONDARY COLLEGE**

**COURT 4**

**4:30PM - 5:30PM**

**BOYS**

**WEDNESDAY 16TH, 23RD, 30TH AUG & 6TH SEPT**

**MELBA SECONDARY COLLEGE**

**COURT 4**

**4:30PM - 5:30PM OR 5:30PM - 6:30PM**

**Please RSVP Peter Cunningham on 0400 577 476**

**WWW.MAROONDAHMAGIC.COM.AU**



Maroondah Magic Basketball Club Inc



Maroondah Magic Basketball Club



HEY KIDS!



# CROYDON CAREERS CARNIVAL

12 August 2023, 10am – 12pm  
Croydon Town Square (Main Street)



Come on down for  
some fun activities and  
a free photobooth.

Find out about some  
exciting jobs you can do  
in our community.

This event is suitable for primary and preschool children



croydonmainstreet