



RUSKIN PARK NEWSLETTER

1st May 2026



RIISING TO THE CHALLENGE

Upcoming Dates

<u>May</u>		<u>June</u>	
Monday 4 th	Production Tech Rehearsal Production Night	Tuesday 2 nd	Division Cross Country
Tuesday 5 th	Year 6 Reach Incursion Year 1 Healesville Excursion Production Night	Thursday 9 th	Year 5 Interrelate Begins
Thursday 7 th	Mother's Day Stall	Monday 8th	Kings Birthday (Public Holiday) Region Cross Country
Friday 8 th	Athletics Carnival	Tuesday 16 th	Year 5/6 Winter Sport
Wednesday 13 th	Foundation Zoo Excursion	Monday 22 nd	Year 3/4 Hooptime
Friday 15 th	Year 3-6 District Cross Country	Wednesday 24 th	Year 6 Market Day Stalls
Monday 18 th	Year 3 Scienceworks Excursion	Thursday 25 th	Disco
Tuesday 19 th	Year 4-6 Cyber Safety Incursion	Friday 26 th	Bakers Delight Free Dress (Gold Coin Donation) End of Term (2:30pm Dismissal)
Friday 29 th	Subway Lunch Crazy Hair Day (Gold Coin Donation)		

Principal's Report

It has been lovely getting started at Ruskin Park and meeting so many new faces. As I mentioned in my Compass post, I am really enjoying my time getting to know our community. Please continue to come and introduce yourselves and say hello.

Classroom Visits

Over the first two weeks, I have been able to visit all classrooms and spend some time getting to know our students. They have been incredibly welcoming and keen to connect. I have enjoyed the conversations we have had, the thoughtful questions they have asked, and the way many have continued those conversations out in the yard, helping me to get to know them and learn names.

House Cross Country

We had a lovely day on Tuesday the 28th of April, with the weather and our students both showing up in the best way. It was fantastic to see such strong participation across the school, with many students working towards achieving a personal goal. It was particularly pleasing to see the persistence shown throughout each race, and, importantly, the way students encouraged one another to achieve their best.

Thank you to all of the parent volunteers who gave up their time to support the event.

Good luck to our District representatives competing on 15 May.

Go Ruskin!

House Athletics Day

Molly Marshall is working overtime at the moment, moving from cross country straight into preparations for our whole-school Athletics Day on the 8 May at Morrison's Reserve, Mount Evelyn.

We look forward to seeing families there if you are able to make it along to cheer on our students. Whether it is giving an event a go or pushing a little further than last year, it is always great to see students striving for their personal best.

A reminder that students are encouraged to dress in their house colours on the day to show their support.

School Production

Our school production is fast approaching, with the full dress rehearsal taking place on Monday 4 May, followed by two evening performances on Monday 4 May and Tuesday 5 May.

This is always a highlight on the school calendar and a wonderful opportunity for our students to showcase the results of their hard work and many weeks of rehearsal.

Thank you to the staff involved for the time and effort that has gone into preparing the production. We look forward to seeing many of our families there to support our students.

Tickets are still available, however they are becoming limited. If you are planning to attend, we encourage you to secure your tickets as soon as possible.

First Aid Room Upgrade

There has been plenty of activity in the school office area over the holidays and into the first few weeks of term. We are now nearing completion of these works, which will see a new First Aid room in operation, along with upgraded staff toilet facilities.

We look forward to reopening the office space with improved facilities and more room to welcome our families soon.

Their Care Update

Over the break, our new coordinator, Bree, commenced in her role. Bree has made a positive start, building connections with students, and is looking forward to working with us to continue strengthening our Out of School Hours Care program.

Warmly,

Tim Mulhall
Principal

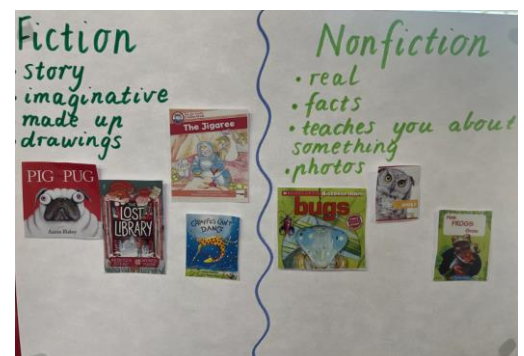
Foundation

The Foundation Team would just like to congratulate the whole cohort for the way that they have settled into Term 2! It has been so wonderful to see them rise to challenges and immerse themselves in our new learning experiences.

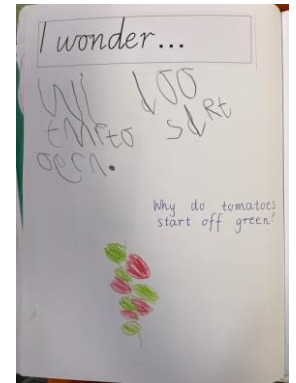
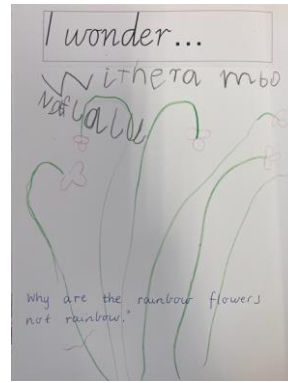
Literacy

This term, our Reading and Writing will be closely linked as we explore our nonfiction unit.

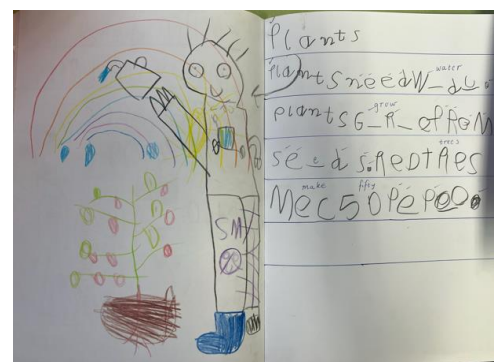
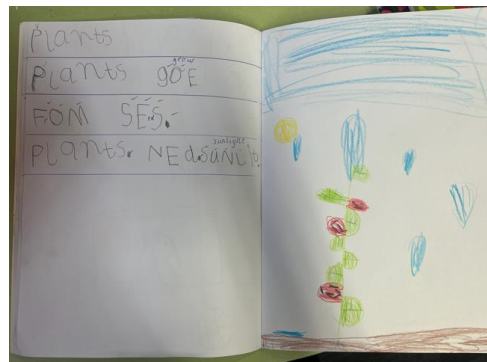
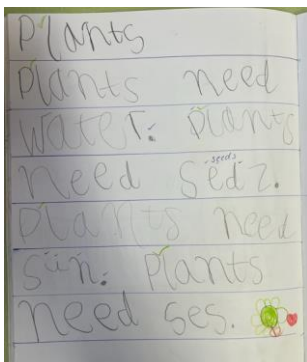
In Reading, students have been looking at the difference between fiction and nonfiction books and looking for clues on the front cover to help us distinguish what book it could possibly be. For example, fiction books having drawings and nonfiction books having photographs.



To build some of our comprehension skills, we've been making wonderings. The Foundation students have been learning that being a good reader isn't just about reading the words but understanding what is happening in our texts too! We have looked at various nonfiction books about plants and animals and have been coming up with questions that we'd like to know more about whilst listening along. Check out some of our wonderings.



In Writing, we've been using the information that we have been learning about in Reading to help us write facts, as well as information that we already know! To help assist with the structure of writing, we've been focusing on a different whole class goal each week such as using capital letters and ending our sentences with a full stop. Students have been reflecting as they are writing to think and check "Have I worked on our goal today?"



Look at some nonfiction books at home and encourage your child to share a fact that they learnt or a wondering that they had!

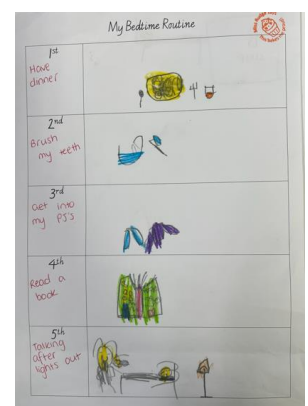
Phonics

Students have come a long way with their phonetic knowledge! It is so amazing to see. We have continued to revise letters that we have learnt and apply them in various ways to support our reading and writing. Throughout our sessions we have looked at manipulating words. For example, if we had the word 'mat', what letter would we change to make it 'hat'.

Maths

Over the past two weeks we have been exploring time. Students have been looking at times of the day such as morning, afternoon and night, and brainstorming events that we do in these times and things that we can see. For example, brushing our teeth in the morning, seeing the stars at night. We have then been using our knowledge to order events from morning to night and thinking about the order of routines that we do at home. For example, in our night time routine we might:

1. Eat dinner
2. Have a shower
3. Brush our teeth
4. Read a book



PMP

On Monday 27 April we had our first PMP session. This was such a great way to start our week and morning. Students rotated through various activities that focused on supporting their gross motor skills, short term memory, eye tracking and lots more!

Thank you to all the parent helpers who were available to assist for our first session! These programs can't run without your support. If you would still like to assist us with PMP, please speak to your child's teacher as we still have more sessions running throughout the term. You will just need a valid WWCC that is shown at the office. Other PMP dates include:

Monday 11 May (9:00-10:30)

Monday 25 May (9:00-10:30)

Monday 15 June (9:00-10:30)



The Zoo

Just a reminder that we'll be heading to the Melbourne Zoo on Wednesday 13 May. Permission and payment are due by Friday 8 May. Please complete this via Compass, or alternatively, you can visit the office for assistance.

Junior School

Year 1

Welcome back! It has been so lovely to see all the students' smiling faces back in the classroom and to watch them settle back into the school routine. We are excited for another term filled with lots of new learning and some exciting events.

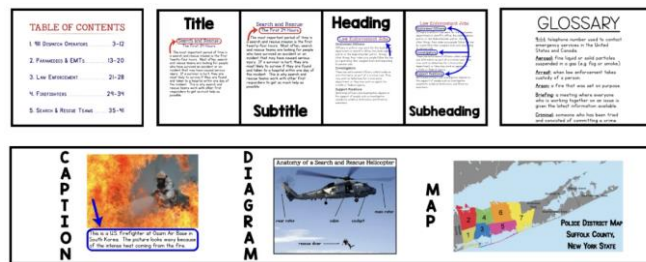
On Tuesday we had Cross Country. It was a wonderful day seeing all the students dressed in their house colours and watching them get involved and try their best. Thank you to all of the parent helpers for coming and supporting the students, these amazing days wouldn't be possible without all of your support.

Healesville Sanctuary

Just a reminder that we will be heading on our excursion to Healesville Sanctuary next week on Tuesday 5 May. Permission and payment are due by the 1st May so please ensure you have completed this via Compass or you can visit the office for assistance. We're looking forward to a wonderful day!

Literacy

In Literacy, we have started to look at Information Writing. Students have been exploring nonfiction books and identifying different text features such as contents page, diagrams, labels, facts etc. Students explored the features of nonfiction and fiction texts and sorted them based on their features. We look forward to using interesting facts learned through our Reader's Workshop to begin to develop our own information reports on a range of topics during our future lessons. If your child brings home a nonfiction reader, see if they can identify the different text features that we have explored!



In Writing, students have been busy learning how to write information reports and their latest focus has been on an Australian animal! They explored interesting facts about where they live, what they eat and how they move. Check out some of our amazing information reports below.

swimming under water.
Platypuses have a soft
long bill and big webbed
feet. Platypuses also have
a tail like a beaver.
Platypuses live in a
burrow for the
most of the time but
they also live in the
water too. Platypuses
eat tadpoles, crayfish

234.26
Platypus
A platypus is a mammal
because all animals
are a mammal. A platypus
has a bill. a platypus can
eat. a platypus lives in
a dirty swamp. a
platypus eats tadpoles.
A platypus closes their
eyes while swimming. Out
the night

Phonics

In Phonics, we have been revising the sounds we learned in Term One and introducing new sound patterns, including 'ph', 'ck', 'oo' and 'or'. Students have been practising recognising these sounds in words and using them in their reading and writing. This continued focus is helping to build their confidence and accuracy when decoding and spelling new words.

Maths

In preparation for our upcoming excursion to Healesville Sanctuary, students have been developing and applying their directional knowledge, which was our focus unit last week. We have used our hands to help us recognise 'left' and 'right' and explored prepositional terms used including up, down, in, out, under and over through a range of activities. Students have had the chance to create their own 'map' and direct a teddy bear through using the terminology explored this week. It was wonderful to see how creative and unique each design was!



This week students have been learning about different strategies to solve addition and subtraction problems, such as counting on, counting back, and partitioning numbers. They are exploring how these methods can help them work out answers more efficiently and with greater confidence. Through practice and discussion, students are beginning to choose the strategies that work best for them depending on the problem.

Digital Technologies

This term in Digital Technologies, our Year 1 students have been practising their typing skills on typing.com. They are building confidence with the keyboard while working on speed and accuracy through fun activities and games, and the students are already improving their skills!



Year 2

A huge welcome back to Term 2. We hope that everyone had an enjoyable break and took some time with family and friends. This term has started off with a bang with our excursion to Cranbourne Botanical Gardens and our Cross Country.

We were so proud of all of our students during our excursion; they were engaged, thoughtful and got a big thank you from the staff for being so polite. Well done, everyone!

We had so much fun learning about indigenous connections. We read "You, Me and Murrabee", explored different tools that indigenous people might have used and how they were made, and even learnt some new words. We learnt how different animal drawings were recorded and even did some fishing. Next, we got to explore the unique and interesting plants and animals throughout the garden.

We are also super proud of the effort from everyone during the whole school cross country. Running three laps of the oval is no small feat! Well done to everyone for putting in their best effort and achieving their individual goals! It was wonderful to see you all cheering on your house and other athletes!

Enjoy some great photos.

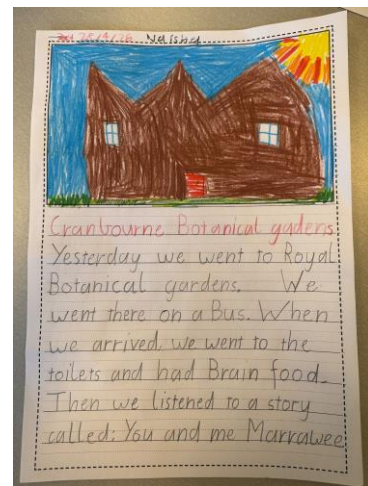
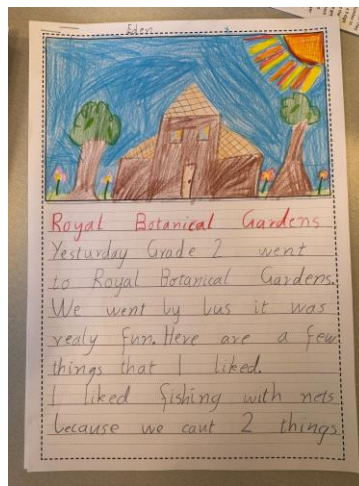
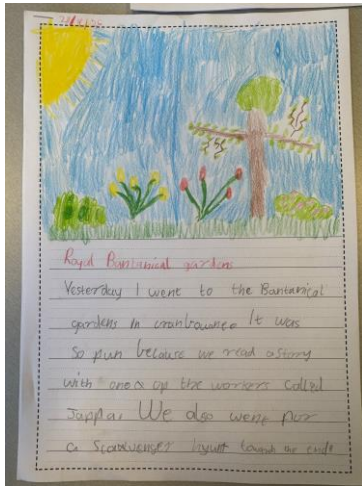




Literacy

This term, we are beginning with a look at Dreaming stories. We will investigate the language used and learn some new words. We will explore how our Traditional Landowners use these stories to hand down their beliefs and culture. We will investigate colour and language and how these are used to represent different settings and characters.

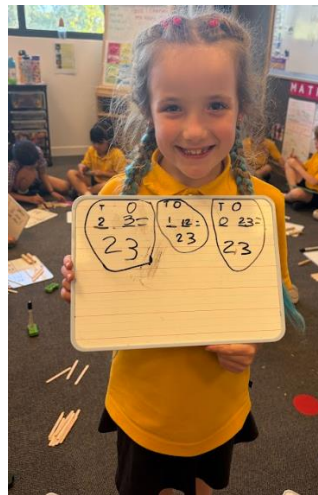
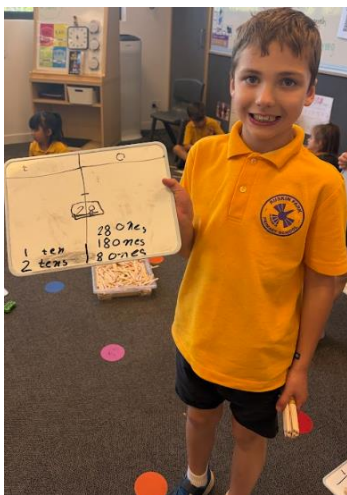
In Writing, we have been writing a recount of our excursion to the Cranbourne Botanical Gardens and included the favourite parts of the day. Soon we will write stories that teach lessons. We will use all of our knowledge to include a range of verbs and maybe even adverbs! Watch out for these in upcoming newsletters.



In Phonics, we are continuing to think about different letter patterns and the sounds they make. We are also thinking about prefixes and suffixes, what they mean, and how they change the meaning of words. So far this term, we have looked at the prefix in- and non- to mean /not/.

Numeracy

We have begun the term by revising and extending our understanding of Place Value. Students have read and written the names and numbers for 3-digit numbers and thought about the relative size of these. We are also learning about the value of each of the digits, for example, in 376, the 3 is worth 300, not just 3. We have played games to embed our understanding. Next, we are thinking about how to rename numbers using our Place Value thinking. For example, 376 could be 3 hundreds + 7 tens + 6 ones, or it could be 37 tens + 6 ones. You can continue to support your student by talking about this as you encounter different numbers.



Wellbeing

Students are exploring the topic 'Stress Management.' As stress is a normal part of life, we will look to recognise our personal signs and symptoms of stress and then think about and practise different strategies to deal with stress. We will think about how stress makes us feel and practise relaxation techniques to help us feel better.



Digi Tech

We will again begin the term with our Cybersafety lessons to help students recognise how to remain safe online. Our lessons will focus on the value of integrity, where we think about who we are when we are online and making good choices, because what we do can affect what other people think of us.

Middle School

Year 3

Literacy

At the end of last term, Year Three students learned to recognise an author's purpose in persuasive texts and how opinions can be communicated effectively. In Writing, students developed strong introductions, identified clear reasons, and practised structuring body paragraphs using the REER strategy (Reason, Evidence, Example, and Restating the Reason). They then brought their ideas together by crafting clear and convincing conclusions.

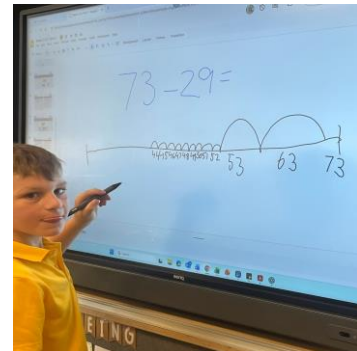
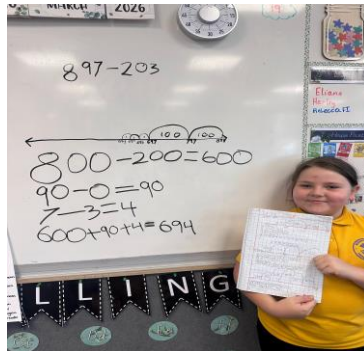
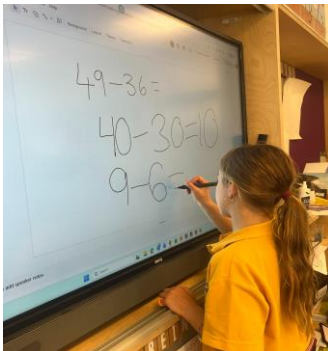


This term, our focus has shifted to the non-fiction genre. Students have begun exploring the purpose, structure, and key features of information texts. They are identifying main ideas and learning to write their own pieces on topics they know well and feel confident about.

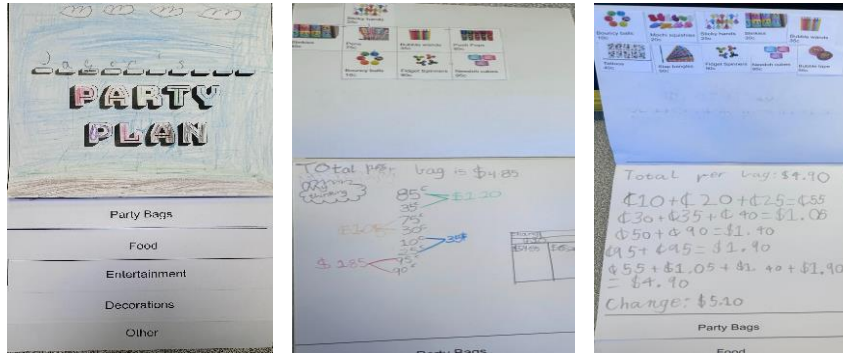
Maths

At the end of Term 1, students learned about formal units used to measure length, such as centimetres and millimetres. They explored which metric units are appropriate for measuring everyday items using rulers. We also addressed common misconceptions, including the importance of starting measurements at zero rather than at the end of the ruler. Additionally, they had opportunities to measure longer objects using measuring tapes and trundle wheels.

Students also revised the split and jump strategy to solve subtraction problems involving two- and three-digit numbers. Using the part-part-whole model, they broke numbers into hundreds, tens, and ones and built their confidence in explaining their mathematical thinking.



We have had lots of fun so far this term as we began our money unit. Students have completed activities such as planning a party, where they explored different ways to make one dollar and calculated the cost of items for a party bag using dollars and cents. The focus has been on using efficient mental strategies, including friends of 10, doubles to make 10s, 50s and 100s, and ordering numbers.



Digitech

Students have been learning about safe and responsible use of digital technologies at Ruskin Park. They explored how to protect personal information, show respect online, and make positive choices in digital spaces. Students also practised caring for devices and understanding when to ask for help. We encourage families to continue these conversations at home to support safe, respectful technology use.

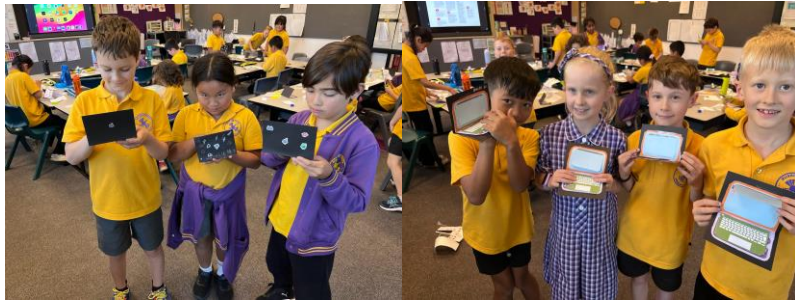


Be Safe - Be Respectful - Be Responsible - Ask For Help

In Cyber Safety, students have learnt how to identify red flags that may appear when interacting with tricky people and strangers online and understand how to respond responsibly to keep themselves safe online. Students got creative to make their own flag poster, which highlighted STOP, BLOCK and TELL when responding to red flags or strangers online.



In Digitech this term, we have been learning about computer hardware and software. Students had fun creating their own mini computers, which included components such as ROM, RAM, a hard drive, CPU, and GPU.



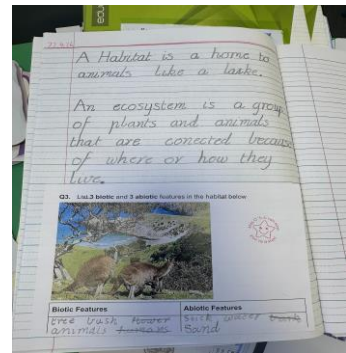
Wellbeing

Students have been learning to recognise mean-on-purpose behaviour versus ‘friendship fires’ and how to respond appropriately. They explored the difference between reporting and tattling, practised respectful ways to address unkind behaviour, and built skills in expressing feelings clearly. They have also begun Respectful Relationships activities focused on positive and negative emotions.



Humanities

At the end of Term 2, Year Threes presented their ‘Terrific Town’ projects, which include a bird’s-eye-view map and a detailed key. They explained their choices of locations and features—such as shops, recreational facilities, farms, and schools—using appropriate geographical vocabulary. Students worked collaboratively in groups, demonstrating teamwork and cooperation. This term, we have begun focusing on healthy habitats, learning terminology such as biotic (living things) and abiotic. (non-living things).



Cross Country

Last term, students practised walking around the cross-country track in preparation for the real event. It was wonderful to see so many of our students try their best to run the track. Congratulations to our Year Three students who will be going through to District Cross Country later this term.





Year 4

We have enjoyed a positive start to Term 2. With Cross Country completed this week and the school production of Porridge fast approaching, students have shown determination, encouragement towards each other and a positive mindset as they engage in the fun opportunities that whole school events provide. Thank you to the families who came along to cheer our students on at Cross Country. We look forward to seeing many of you again at the upcoming production performances. We can't wait for you to see our Year 4s on stage in their bright and colourful costumes, showcasing the items they have been hard at work to learn.



Last week, the Year 4 students also had a visit from a volunteer speaker to teach us about the spirit of the ANZACs, with Darryl proudly sharing stories from his own time serving in Vietnam, as well as his recollections from the stories of his grandfather who served in Gallipoli. We were incredibly proud of the attentive listening and respect that our cohort showed as Darryl shared his perspectives and the ways in which he has continued to support his community in a range of volunteer opportunities. Our time with Darryl was a great reminder of the power of the human spirit, and the importance of treating others with compassion.



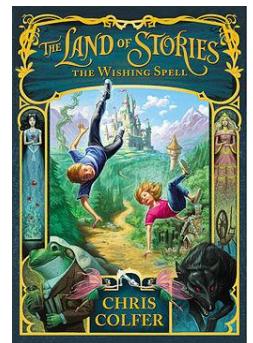


With ANZAC Day rounding up the end of Week 1, students dusted off their procedural texts knowledge to unpack the materials needed and steps to follow in order to make ANZAC biscuits. Each class gathered in the food technology space upstairs to carry out the actions listed in the recipe and left the building's other teachers and students drooling over the delicious smell that wafted through. Our students were rewarded for their hard work with a taste test of our delicious treats. It was a 'sweet' Friday in Year 4!



Literacy

We have enjoyed a very hands-on and creative approach to Literacy this term. In Reading, students have worked to identify the structure and elements included in the fantasy genre. With many keen readers of fantasy texts, including popular titles like 'Wings of Fire', 'Harry Potter' and our beloved 'Land of Stories', students were able to unpack the things they commonly come across. From allies that support our main characters, to the villains who may challenge them, we have recalled familiar characters that we have read or seen in visual texts. We shared quests that we know these characters have set out upon and the problems they may face along the way. Then, of course, there was the magic! Students shared great examples of the different forms of magic they have experienced in the literary world, from witchcraft to



special powers, and a talking animal or two!

To explore these fantasy elements in more detail, students enjoyed watching a snippet of the movie, 'Shrek', each day and investigating one element of focus. With examples from the visual text to draw upon, students created some very detailed Reader's Notebook entries to connect their thinking and explain how the elements of fantasy texts combine to captivate the audience. This week, we watched some short animations and continued reading our class novel, 'The Land of Stories', to take a closer look at the use of 'rising action' and 'falling action' within a plot line, as well the ways in which characters can grow

or change along their quest.



In Writing, students engaged in a series of three activities to create the 'magic' for their own fantasy texts. Our first activity was to create a map of a fantasy world, in which our stories could take place. With a handful of oats falling on the page to create a quirky shape, students then drew upon their experiences with fantasy texts to include places like castles, caves, tunnels, bridges to other islands and enchanted forests. Our second fantasy activity was the creation of a portal door, which our characters could use to transport from the human world into the fantasy world. Our classes were filled with descriptive phrases to 'show' what our characters would be walking into, much like the portal created in 'The Land of Stories', where our characters fall through a book into the fairytale world it contains within its pages. Finally, what would our fantasy stories be without a touch of fairy dust? Each class mixed together their own sparkly, scented fairy dust mixture to sprinkle some extra magic into our writing. Using words like, 'alacazam!', 'hocus pocus!' and 'abracadabra!', students crafted some spells to make their own wishes come true. From spells to make homework disappear, to wishes to see what their future will bring, it was a delight to see them each put their personal touches on their fairy dust spells.



While our classes are keen to finish colouring and decorating their magical creations from the activities, we have also been hard at work in our Writer's Notebooks. Whether brainstorming traits to describe their main character, their ally or the villain who may complicate the story; students have crafted phrases to describe appearances, personalities and motives. With the stars of their fantasy texts captured on paper, students then worked to brainstorm what the quest could involve. With a focus on the problem or challenge and the potential solution, students have started to dream up some thrilling adventures to explore. With a very excited bunch of writers who are brimming with ideas and creativity, we cannot wait to see how their stories will begin taking shape as we set out to start drafting them soon.

Maths

Whilst the weather this fortnight has been warm, our mathematicians have taken courageous strides 'below zero' to explore decimal numbers. With a foundation of fractional knowledge to build upon, students have explored how parts of a whole can be represented using digits and a decimal point. In Week 1, students focused on applying their knowledge of place value to understand what tenths and hundredths actually represent. With a clear focus on equal parts, students were able to use visual supports to show how many tenths or hundredths are needed to make the value of 1.0. Using tens frames, hundreds frames, place value charts, number lines and familiar MAB materials, students explored the base-10 number system in ways they hadn't before.



After linking visual representations to digits, students were able to develop a more conceptual understanding of decimal numbers. Our second week of the unit brought students opportunities to apply their growing understanding to order decimal numbers according to value. Whether lining themselves up in order from the smallest to largest value using mini whiteboards or battling an opponent in a game of 'decimal pickle', students enjoyed putting their knowledge to the test and enjoyed some laughs along the way. With this week's homework featuring one of the games we played in class last week, we hope families are able to enjoy some hands-on work with decimal numbers at home, too. We look forward to hearing from the students next Tuesday about the family member they took on as an opponent and what the outcome of the games are!



Senior School

Year 5

Term 2 is flying by in Year 5 with so many events and activities keeping us occupied! In Week 1 the Year 5s led the ANZAC Day assembly, with Ada from 5B, Tori from 5O and Ayra from 5W doing an amazing job running the assembly, explaining the history of ANZAC Day, reading poems and leading the minute of silence. The Year 5s have also begun training for our Winter Sports Gala Day. Students took part in their first practise sessions, playing netball, T-ball, soccer and aussie rules football. The whole school cross country was held on Tuesday with everyone giving it their all and achieving some personal bests! There is no doubt there will be some tired Year 5 students this weekend.





Literacy

In Reading the Year 5s have begun learning about poetry. We began by reading a range of Kennings poems that describe a person, place or thing. Students had lots of fun trying to guess the topic of the poem they were reading. We have also been learning how figurative language is used within poetry, with a focus on similes, metaphors, personification and idioms. Figurative language helps to make poems more interesting and descriptive. Students have identified different rhyming patterns used within poems, following an ABCD structure. We analysed some common rhyming examples like 'Jack and Jill' and 'I'm a Little Tea Pot'.

In Writing, we have been drafting and publishing our own Kennings poems and Shape poems. The Year 5s wrote several Kennings poems about sharks, dogs, trees, the ocean, flowers and even smelly socks! Students then had a blast writing shape poems, choosing an object to write about and then writing their poem in that shape!

"Jack and Jill" by Mother Goose

Jack and Jill went up the **hill** ----- A
 To fetch a pail of **water**; ----- B
 Jack fell down and broke his **crown**, --- C
 and Jill came tumbling **after**. ----- B
 Up Jack got, and home did **trot**, ----- D
 As fast as he could **cap**er, ----- E
 To old Dame Dob, who patched his **nob**, F
 With vinegar and brown **paper**. ----- E

I'm a little **teapot**, ----- A
 Short and **stout**, ----- B
 Here is my **handle** ----- C
 Here is my **spout** ----- B
 When I get all steamed **up**, ----- D
 Hear me **shout**, ----- B
 Tip me over and pour me **out!** ----- B
 I'm a very special **teapot**, ----- A
 Yes, it's **true**, ----- D
 Here's an example of what I can **do**, ----- D
 I can turn my handle into a **spout**, ----- B
 Tip me over and pour me **out!** ----- B

Maths

The Year 5s have been revising their understanding of division. We spent time learning about the connection between multiplication and division, and how our understanding of fact families can help us improve our knowledge of division. We began learning how to complete short division, and how each digit within a number must be in the correct place value column. We looked at trading and how to rename numbers, and how to correctly represent remainders. The Year 5s played a bingo style game called '5 Cards', where students worked in pairs to identify rows of factors for their chosen multiples.



Economics

Last week our Year 5s launched their new Humanities unit on Economics and Business. We began by unpacking the concepts of needs and wants, and how we differentiate between the two. We agreed that water is definitely a need, whereas NeedDohs and Labubus, despite being highly treasured, sadly don't qualify as life essentials.

Year 6

It's been a jam packed first two weeks back with production rehearsals, cross country and a special excursion to Lilydale High School. At Lilydale High School, students participated in a range of activities including Zoology, Humanities, Maths, STEAM, French, PE, and Art. Students loved experiencing a taste of what high school might be like, moving from one learning environment to the next and participating in subjects offered at high school. We were so proud of their efforts across all subject areas, and how they conducted themselves.





Literacy

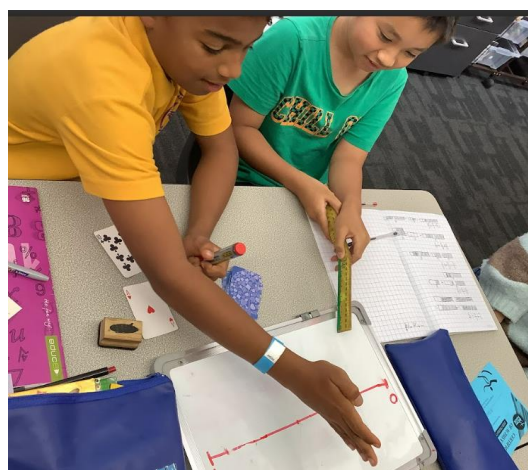
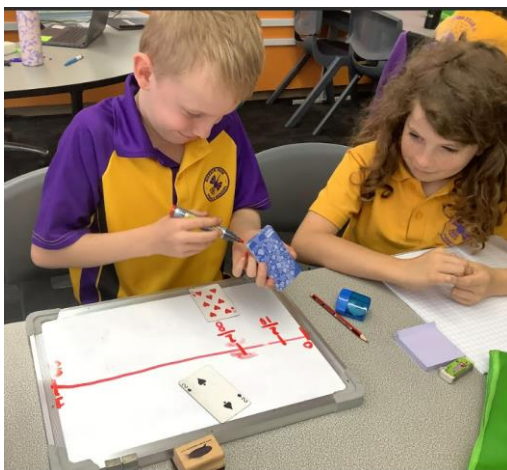
We've kicked off our Literacy units this term with a new focus on informative texts. The Year 6s have been exploring how these texts are structured, the different features they include, and their purpose. Using a mix of books and digital texts, students have been using their analytical skills to spot text features and explain why authors made certain choices. This has led to some really great discussions in pairs and as a whole class. Students have also practised important comprehension skills including determining importance.

In Writing, students have started creating their own information reports on a topic of their choice. We've seen a wide range of interests across the year level—from historical events to animals, people or places. Students spent two sessions researching key facts, before planning and drafting their information report. Students have been working on focussing on creating engaging subheadings and using specific, purposeful vocabulary to suit their audience. It's been fantastic to support and watch them develop their ideas and confidence as writers.

Maths

Students are currently diving into the world of fractions, making meaningful connections to everyday life—from deciding whether milk needs to be added to the shopping list to working out how to share chocolate fairly. Lessons have been hands-on and engaging, with students using Cuisenaire rods and a range of manipulatives to explore concepts and test the reasonableness of their answers.

They have been building confidence by estimating, placing fractions on number lines, and explaining their thinking through rich mathematical discussions. It has been fantastic to see students challenge themselves, justify their ideas, and learn from one another as they develop a deeper understanding of fractions in fun and practical ways.



Humanities

In Humanities we have commenced our unit on Economics and Business. This is an exciting unit which culminates in the Year 6 Market Stall, where students design and create a market stall based on a 'good' or 'service'.

So far, we have been building the students' understandings in economics and business and reminding them to keep their market stall idea at the forefront of their mind. Students have learned about how we are consumers and what they consume in a regular day and what makes a producer. They have learned about products/goods and services, as well as revising the needs and wants of an individual consumer. Furthermore, students looked into factors that influence consumer choices such as price, fashion, peer pressure, advertising and taste. All the while learning about these key factors in business, students have been thinking about their potential market stall and how they will attract customers on the day.

In coming weeks, students will create their business model and commence creation of their business, be it goods or services.



Physical Education

F-6 Cross Country

Congratulations to all students who participated in the House Cross Country on Tuesday! It was incredible to see the effort and resilience shown. The sea of green, yellow, red and blue students cheering on others was a sight to behold.

Students in Years 3-6 who finished in the top 10 will progress to District Cross Country on Friday 15th May. The Compass event is now live.

F - 6 Ruskin Park House Athletics Carnival

On Friday 8 May, our whole school will head to Morrisons Reserve in Mount Evelyn to participate in the athletics carnival. The Compass event is now live, where you can give consent for your child's attendance. Event schedules will be posted on Class Dojo a few days prior to the event. Students are to wear their house colours, appropriate running shoes and shorts. I can't wait to see everyone working hard to achieve personal bests and have fun challenging themselves!

Year 5/6 Winter Interschool Sports

On Tuesday 16 June, Year 5 and 6 students will participate in netball, soccer, AFL 9s and t-ball against other schools in the Montrose District in friendly competition. If you can assist with managing your child's team on the day, please make contact.

Year 3 - 6 Hoop Time.

Students who opted in to Hoop Time will begin lunchtime training and team selections this term. Students in Years 3 and 4 will begin training in Week 5, and students in Years 5 and 6 will begin training in Week 7. The Compass event is now live with more information about the day.

2026 Physical Education Dates:

Term 2

- Week 3 Friday 8th May - RPPS House Athletics Carnival
- Week 4 Friday 15th May - Year 3-6 District Cross Country
- Week 7 Tuesday 2nd June - Year 3-6 Division Cross Country
- Week 8 Thursday 11th June - Year 3-6 Region Cross Country
- Week 9 Tuesday 16th June - Year 5/6 Winter Interschool Sport
- Week 10 Monday 22nd June - Year 3/4 Hoop Time @ Kilsyth Basketball Stadium

Term 3

- Week 1 Thursday 16th July - Year 3-6 State Cross Country
- Week 3 Monday July 27th - 5/6 Hoop Time @ State Basketball Centre, Wantirna
- Week 5 August 10th - 14th - Year 4-6 Swimming Program @ Aquahub
- Week 6 Friday 21st August - Year 3-6 District Athletics
- Week 8 August 31st - September 4th F-3 Swimming Program @ Aquahub
- Week 10 September 18th - Footy Day

Term 4

- Week 1 Thursday 8th October - Year 3-6 Division Athletics
- Week 3 Thursday 22nd October - Year 3-6 Region Athletics
- Week 6 Friday 13th November - Year 5/6 Interschool Fun Sports

Molly Marshall

Physical Education Teacher

Library

Welcome back to the library for Term 2! It has been fantastic to see so many students eager to borrow books, share their reading, and continue building their love of literature.

This term, each year level has been engaging in exciting and purposeful learning during their library sessions. Our Foundation students have been exploring rhyming words in stories. They have enjoyed reading *Rhyme Crime* and will soon dive into the playful and much-loved *Oi Dog* series, building their understanding of rhythm and rhyme in a fun and engaging way.

In Years 1 and 2, students are focusing on the features of information texts. They are learning how to identify elements such as headings, contents pages, and diagrams to help them locate and understand information more effectively.



Our Year 3 students are learning about biographies, exploring the lives of interesting people and identifying key features that make these texts informative and engaging.

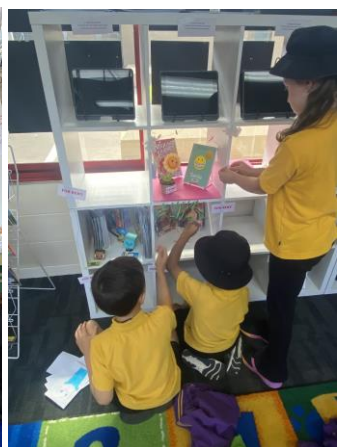
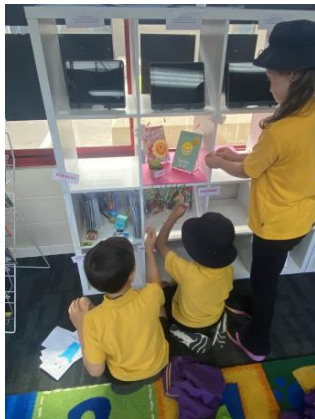
Year 4 students are immersed in a fantasy unit and are thoroughly enjoying reading *The Spiderwick Chronicles*. They are exploring the elements of fantasy and how authors create imaginative and believable worlds.

In Years 5 and 6, students are wrapping up their reading of the *Girls Survive* and *I Survived* series. They will then begin learning about the Dewey Decimal System, developing their skills in locating and organising information within the library.

Adopt-a-Shelf Program

We are excited to introduce a brand new library initiative this term - our *Adopt-a-Shelf* program! Students in Years 3-6 were invited to submit an application to design and decorate their very own themed bookshelf, showcasing and promoting the books they love.

So far, 9 groups have created fantastic displays, each reflecting their unique interests and creativity. These shelves will be swapped out twice each term, giving more students the opportunity to take part and share their favourite reads with the school community. Be sure to stop by the library and check out these wonderful displays!



Library Club

Library Club continues to be a popular and vibrant space for students to enjoy during their breaks. Running on Mondays at lunchtime and Tuesdays at recess, students have been making the most of this time by reading, drawing, building with LEGO, playing games, dancing, and participating in drama activities. It has been wonderful to see such creativity, collaboration, and enthusiasm in the library beyond regular class time.

Premier's Reading Challenge

The Premier's Reading Challenge is now open, and students in Years 3–6 have received their login details. They are encouraged to record all the books they read, both at home and at school, on the challenge website to track their progress and celebrate their reading achievements. <https://vprc.eduweb.vic.gov.au/home>.

Happy reading! 📖

Amy Matthews
Library Teacher



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

These Students have recently celebrated their birthdays

Lucy	Arthur	Phoebe	Evan	Alexander	Esther	William	Theo	Adelyn
Sibella	Alex E	Aurelia	Jonah	Jennifer	Owen	Rosy	Thomas	Cooper
Xavier	Isaac	Genevieve	Finn	Charlie	Cai	Alex G	Indi	Jordi
Adam	Bethany	Bonnie	Wyatt	Ava	Asha	Esme	Hanna	Edison
Harry	Harrison	Indi F	Ada	Toby	Ryan	Xavier YB	Addi	Tom
Sophie	Hunter	Harper	Stephanie	Kailie	Parker	Frankie	Evie	Elias
Olive	Oscar	Ruby	Lennon	Hugo				

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

PORRIDGE



Tickets Now Available

Monday 4th and
Tuesday 5th May

The Round
379-399 Whitehorse Rd,
Nunawading

Scan for tickets:



Adults \$26
Children \$14

www.theround.com.au/RuskinParkPorridge

Give Your Child the Gift of Music

Learn a Musical Instrument

here at school

Come and join in the fun of learning to play piano, keyboard, guitar, flute, clarinet, saxophone, drums or trumpet, here at Ruskin Park.

Creative Music for Schools conducts a music program here at school each week.

Small group classes or one-to-one lessons of up to 30 minutes give children an excellent grounding in music where they will learn to read music and play their chosen instrument.

Enrolments are now being accepted for limited places this term.

Interested parents should call Karen during office hours on 9818 2333 or email karen@creativemusic.com.au



www.creativemusic.com.au



WANTED UNDER 8 GIRLS

CROYDON RANGES FC



FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT

CROYDONRANGESFCJUNIORS@GMAIL.COM