



# RUSKIN PARK NEWSLETTER

11<sup>TH</sup> September 2026



## RIISING TO THE CHALLENGE

## Upcoming Dates

|                                            |                                                    |                           |                                                          |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>September</u></b>                    |                                                    |                           |                                                          |
| Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>                    | Footy Day                                          | Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>    | Foundation Transition                                    |
| <b>Last Day of Term 3 (2:30 Dismissal)</b> |                                                    | (Story Time & Music)      |                                                          |
| <b><u>October</u></b>                      |                                                    | Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> | Year 5 Mooroolbark College                               |
| Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>                     | <b>Term 4 Commences</b>                            | All Rounder Day           |                                                          |
| <b>Curriculum Day – Student Free Day</b>   |                                                    | Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> | Foundation Transition                                    |
| Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup>                  | Japanese Day                                       | (Japanese and PE)         |                                                          |
| Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>                   | Year 5 Super Speak Commences<br>Division Athletics | Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>   | Colour Run                                               |
| Monday 12 <sup>th</sup>                    | Foundation Meet and Greet 4:30pm                   | Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> | Year 2 Fun Night                                         |
| Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>                 | Year 5/6 Division Summer Sport                     | Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>   | Subway Lunch                                             |
| (Hot Shots & Softball)                     |                                                    | Monday 30 <sup>th</sup>   | Foundation Information Night                             |
| Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>                    | Subway Lunch                                       | <b><u>December</u></b>    |                                                          |
| Year 5/6 Regional Hooptime                 |                                                    | Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup>   | Foundation Transition                                    |
| Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>                    | Year 4 Camp Departs                                | (Meet the Teachers)       |                                                          |
| Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup>                 | Year 4 Camp Returns                                | Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Art Show & Christmas Concert                             |
| Glasses in Schools                         |                                                    | Friday 4 <sup>th</sup>    | Whole School Transition                                  |
| Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>                  | Regional Athletics                                 | Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>    | Year 3 Camp Departs                                      |
| Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup>                    | Foundation Transition                              | Foundation Graduation     |                                                          |
| (Number Fun)                               |                                                    | Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>   | Year 3 Camp Returns<br>Statewide Year 6-7 Transition Day |
| Year 3/4 Regional Hooptime                 |                                                    | Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> | Whole School Transition                                  |
| Friday 30 <sup>th</sup>                    | Bakers Delight Lunch                               | Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup>  | Year 6 Graduation                                        |
| <b><u>November</u></b>                     |                                                    | Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> | Year 6 Fun Day                                           |
| Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup>                     | <b>Curriculum Day</b>                              | Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>   | <b>Last Day Term 4</b>                                   |
| Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>                    | <b>Cup Day (Public Holiday)</b>                    | <b>1:30 Dismissal</b>     |                                                          |
| Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>                  | Foundation Transition                              |                           |                                                          |
| (STEM and Art)                             |                                                    |                           |                                                          |

## Principal's Report

### Kids on Parade

Congratulations to our Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 students who performed in our **Kids on Parade** soiree this week. It was wonderful to see our students truly '**Rise to the Challenge**', having the confidence to perform in front of an audience of approximately 600 students, parents and carers.

The variety and quality of performances made for a wonderful show and, most importantly, provided our younger students with an opportunity to experience the excitement and challenge of performing for a large audience.

We are incredibly proud of every student who took part and thank our families and staff for supporting and encouraging them along the way.

### **Last Day of Term Arrangements - Footy Day**

Our final day of Term 3 will be Friday 18th of September, with students finishing at the earlier time of **2:30 pm**. We will finish the term with our annual Footy Day celebrations. Rather than holding a formal assembly, we will begin the day with our Footy Parade in the gym shortly after 9:00 am. Students are encouraged to dress in the colours or gear of their favourite football team or code - whether that be AFL, soccer, rugby, gridiron or another football code. We warmly welcome parents and carers to join us for the parade and help us start the day with plenty of colour and enthusiasm.

Throughout the remainder of the day, our PE program has organised a variety of activities for students to participate in and enjoy with their peers.

We look forward to a fun and positive way to celebrate the end of Term 3 together. Please remember that students will be dismissed at 2:30 pm on this day. TheirCare will operate after-school care from the earlier dismissal time for families who require care.

### **Parent Opinion Survey - there's still time!**

Thank you to the families who have already completed this year's Parent Opinion Survey. At this stage, we have received responses from approximately 17% of our school families, and I would really encourage more families to take the opportunity to share their thoughts and experiences with us.

The greater the number of families who participate, the more representative the feedback becomes and the better we can understand what we are doing well, where we can improve, and where we should focus our attention moving forward. Your feedback contributes directly to our school improvement planning and helps inform priorities for professional learning and future development.

We genuinely value the views of our parents and carers and would love to hear about your experience of Ruskin Park.

There is still time to have your say. The survey link and login details can be found in the Parent Opinion Survey post in your Compass News Feed.

### **Fathers & Special Persons Day Stall**

A huge thank you to our Family and Friends team for organising this year's Fathers & Special Persons Day Stall. A great deal of work goes on behind the scenes to organise an event like this, and we really appreciate the time and effort that went into providing this opportunity for our students.

Thank you also to the volunteers who gave their time to assist with the stalls and help make the day such a success. I hope all of our Ruskin Park dads, grandfathers and other special people enjoyed being celebrated, and had a wonderful day with their families last Sunday.

### **Whole-School and Year 6 Graduation Photos**

On Thursday the 17th of September, we will be taking our whole-school photograph, bringing all of our students and staff together for what will be a memorable record of our school community in 2026.

While we expect students to be in full school uniform each day, we ask families to take particular care on this day to ensure students arrive in full, clean and presentable school uniform, ready for the photograph.

Our Year 6 students will also have their individual Graduation photos taken on the day as they prepare to celebrate the end of their primary school journey later this year.

### **Enjoy the Term Break**

As we come to the end of Term 3, I hope the school holidays provide our families with an opportunity to slow down and enjoy some valuable time together.

Thank you for your continued support of our school throughout the term. I hope all of our Ruskin Park families have a safe and enjoyable break, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back for our final term of 2026.

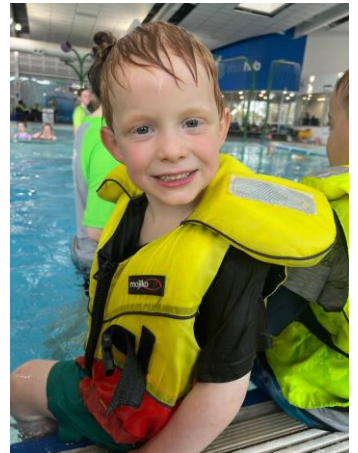
Tim Mulhall  
**Principal**

## Foundation

Let's talk about ending the term with a bang! The last few weeks have been jam-packed and filled with lots of excitement.

### Swimming

The Foundation students had a wonderful time at swimming last week! It was fantastic to see their independence and confidence continue to grow throughout the week. Students worked hard to develop their swimming skills while also building their understanding of water safety. They finished the week with a fun-filled water session, enjoying games and an exciting inflatable obstacle course.



### Incursion

We had an absolute ball at our Books to Life incursion last week. We were amazed to see how Tony Bones brought the story 'Being Indi' to life through dance, songs, props etc. Some of our Foundation students also had the opportunity to get up and help out with telling the story.



## Maths

This fortnight, the students have revisited data. They started with understanding what data is and how and why we collect it. Students participated in a range of activities, including collecting their eye colours, tallying them, and answering questions about the data we collected. We also had discussions around why our data may be different to someone else's and how we can make it more accurate.



## Writing

Within our busy week full of exciting events, our Foundation students had an opportunity to write a recount about the mesmerising Tony Bones incursion. We have been working on including more ideas in our writing pieces and continuing to focus on writing our letters with correct formation and using accurate punctuation. We are now thinking hard about including adjectives (describing words) in our sentences. See if your child can tell you some adjectives that they have started to use.

## Reading

The Foundation students continue to amaze us with their developing skills in reading. We are seeing lots of dedicated focus, and our decoding and understanding are growing. Last week we enjoyed working on twisted fairy tales, thinking about what parts were similar and different to the fairy tales we've studied recently. It was fun to create some artwork to accompany these stories also.



## PMP

With the conclusion of our PMP program for the year, we want to extend a huge thank you to our parent helpers for their support throughout the year. Our students have loved having your help and encouragement while participating in the activities. The teachers would also like to thank you for your help with the pack up of our activity stations, which has helped to make the whole process run smoothly.

### **Kids on Parade**

Congratulations to all the Foundation students who participated in their first Kids on Parade this week. We are so proud of the enthusiasm and confidence that you showed throughout the performances.



## **Junior School**

### **Year 1**

There have been so many amazing activities happening lately! It has been a busy and exciting week with swimming, Kids on Parade and the incredible Tony Bones Incursion. The students had an absolute blast, especially during the interactive performance, which was filled with plenty of audience participation, laughter and fun!





### Swimming

Students were super excited to take part in our swimming program this week! We are incredibly proud of how they embraced the experience, demonstrated their growth mindsets and approached new challenges with such positive attitudes. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they develop new skills and enjoy their time in the pool!

### Literacy

In Literacy, we have been exploring the different features that make a poem unique and engaging. Students have been learning about rhyming, repetition, patterns and rhythm, and have enjoyed identifying these features in a range of texts. We have also been identifying nouns, adjectives and verbs in texts and discussing how these word types help to add detail to the text.

In Writing, students have been creating their own texts using repeating patterns inspired by stories we have read in class, including *Wombat Stew*. This week, students have been putting their creativity to work by writing their own poems using rhyming words. It has been wonderful to see students experimenting with words and sounds to create fun and imaginative poems!

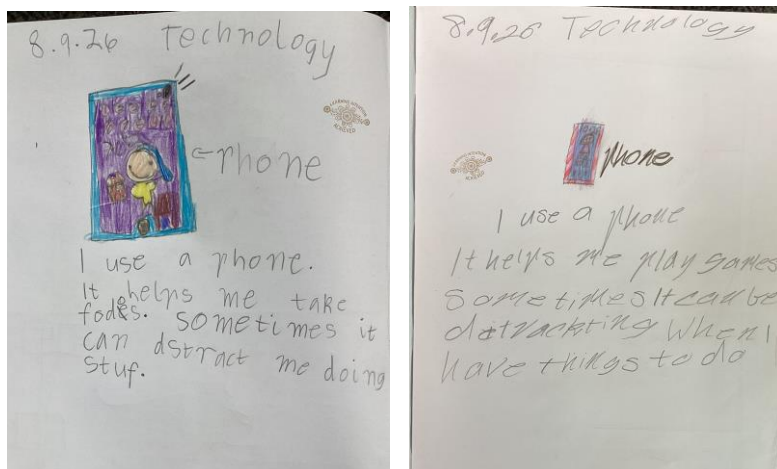
### Maths

This week we have been learning to make equal groups with and without concrete materials. Our focus has been equal sharing of numbers and being able to show our thinking in various different ways. We have been challenging ourselves by using key vocabulary when explaining our thinking about what equal sharing is. We loved using the concrete materials around our classrooms when making equal groups. Can you think of a time when you would need to make equal sharing? Why is it important to make a fair share?



## History

This week in History, we have been learning about how technology has changed over time and the impact it has on our everyday lives. Students had the opportunity to reflect on a technology they use regularly, considering how it helps them and the positive ways it impacts their lives. They also explored some of the negative impacts and challenges that technology can have in our everyday lives.



## Wellbeing

This week, we have been learning about kindness and exploring different ways we can show kindness in our classroom and out in the yard. Students had the opportunity to reflect on their own strengths and qualities and identify positive affirmations that describe themselves. It was wonderful to see students recognising the special qualities they bring to our classroom community and celebrating what makes each of them unique.

## Kids on Parade

The Year 1 students did such an amazing job performing in Kids on Parade this week! It was wonderful to see them up on stage, showing off their confidence and enthusiasm. We were so proud of the way they performed and supported each other throughout the experience.

A big thank you to all of the parents who made their way to school to come and watch, and to Mr Nunis and Ms Quaass for all of their hard work organising the performance. The students had such a great time and should be very proud of themselves!

## Year 2

We can't believe the term is almost over! Congratulations to these superstars for receiving the Principal Award this fortnight! We are so proud of the way you continue to demonstrate our school values and give your very best each day.



We would also like to congratulate all students on a successful week of swimming last week. While changing our usual routines can sometimes be a little tricky, students did a wonderful job showing flexibility and demonstrating a growth mindset both in and out of the pool.



As we head into the school holidays, we wish all our families a safe, restful and enjoyable break. We hope everyone has the opportunity to relax, recharge and enjoy some special time together!

### Reading

In Reading, students have been exploring rhyming words and text structures as part of our poetry unit. We have been using the hilarious mentor text *No One Really Knows a Capybara* by Laura Sieveking, to investigate how authors use rhyme, repetition, rhythm and humour to entertain their readers. Students have enjoyed identifying the different rhyming patterns and noticing how the author has invented playful new words to create humour and bring the text to life. They have also been thinking about how these choices make a poem more enjoyable and memorable for the reader.

## Writing

During Writing, students have begun using the structure and style of *No One Really Knows a Capybara* as inspiration to create their own imaginative poems about animals. Students have been developing their creativity by combining different animal features and characteristics to invent unique creatures, while experimenting with made-up words and descriptions. They are working hard to maintain a rhyming pattern and use repetition and humour to entertain their readers. It has been wonderful to see the students embrace the playful nature of this writing and confidently share their creative ideas!

## Numeracy



In Numeracy, students have been developing their understanding of fractions, with a particular focus on halves, quarters and eighths.

Students have been learning to recognise and represent these fractions using both different shapes and collections of objects, while considering how a whole can be divided into equal parts. A highlight of our learning was creating a collaborative 'fractions quilt'.

Each student was given a large paper square and challenged to represent examples of  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $\frac{1}{8}$

using coloured paper. Students carefully arranged their pieces to show equal parts before joining their squares together to create a colourful Year 2 quilt. This hands-on activity helped students see how fractions can be represented in different ways and reinforced the importance of making sure each part is equal.



## Digital Technologies

In Digital Technologies, students have continued to build their confidence and independence when using laptops. They have been practising logging into Google Classroom and navigating Google Docs, developing their ability to access, create and edit digital documents. Students have also begun creating a front cover for their end of year writing portfolio folder, allowing them to apply their digital skills while personalising their work and preparing to celebrate their writing achievements from throughout the year.

| Container                                                                             | Capacity | Test Mate | Actual   | Mores or Less |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-----------|----------|---------------|
|  | 150 mL   |           | 600 mL   | Less          |
|  | 170 mL   |           | 1.115 mL | More          |
|  | 1 L      |           | 1.85 mL  | More          |
|  | 500 mL   |           | 450 mL   | Less          |



## Swimming

The Year 3s thoroughly enjoyed last week at the swimming pool, developing their water confidence, swimming skills and independence. We were so impressed by the positive attitude and enthusiasm they demonstrated during each lesson. It was fantastic to watch the students practise new swimming techniques and become increasingly comfortable in the water. A big congratulations to all our Year 3s on a fantastic week! You should be very proud of the progress you made and the confidence you have developed in the water.





## Digitech

In Digitech, we have been learning about the importance of finding a healthy balance between our online and offline time. Students have explored how taking regular breaks from screens can support our overall wellbeing, helping us to stay focused, connected and ready to learn. Students have been developing their understanding of strength and how it can help us make positive choices when we feel tempted to keep playing or spending more time online. They have discussed different strategies for taking breaks and balancing screen time with other activities. To put their learning into practice, students have been designing creative solutions to help manage screen time. They have enjoyed sharing their ideas and explaining how their solutions could help themselves and others develop healthy digital habits.



## Year 4

### What an amazing term we have had!

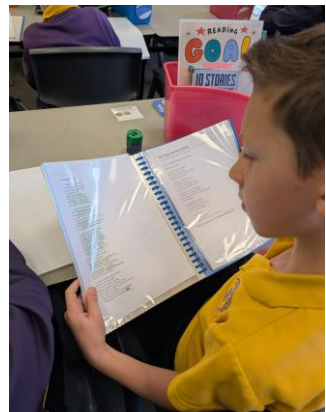
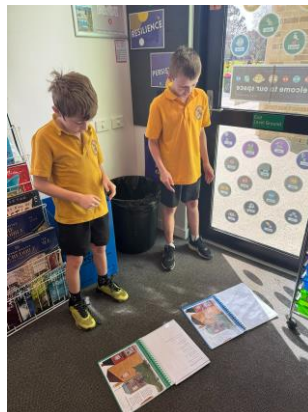
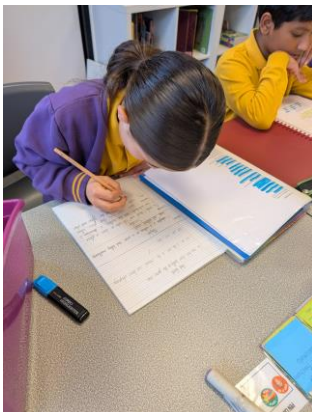
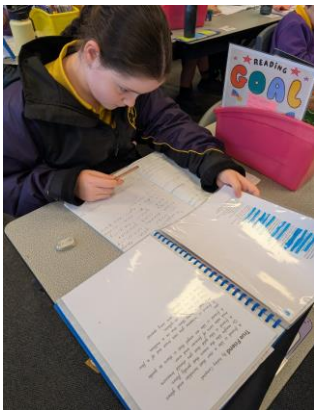
Term 3 brought many fantastic opportunities, including Parent-Teacher Interviews, Science Open Night, Swimming, Book Week, the Books to Life incursion, the Fathers' Day Stall, District and Division Athletics, and, to wrap it all up, we are looking forward to Footy Day on the final day of term.



## Literacy

Having concluded our David Walliams Author Study unit, we are now focusing on poetry in Reading and Writing lessons. Students each have their own poetry anthology folder, which they add to daily with a wide variety of poetry styles to read and enjoy. They are identifying how the literary devices of onomatopoeia, alliteration, simile, metaphor, and repetition are used in poetry to express big ideas with few words.

This week, our Year 4 students have been developing their poetry reading skills! Students chose a poem that they connected with and have been practising reading it aloud with expression. They have been experimenting with tone, pitch, volume, pace and pauses to bring their poems to life and engage their audience. It has been wonderful to see students building confidence and discovering how their voices can help communicate the meaning and emotions within a poem.



During writing, students have been challenged to take their brainstorming to the next level by making associations between strong emotions and the world around them, producing powerful poetic language. Next week, students will plan, draft, and publish Colour Poems, connecting language to their five senses. We can't wait to see the rich language and imagery they create.

## Maths

What are the chances of the students beating their teachers in maths games over the last two weeks of term? It's highly likely, as we wrap up Term 3 with an exploration of chance and probability!

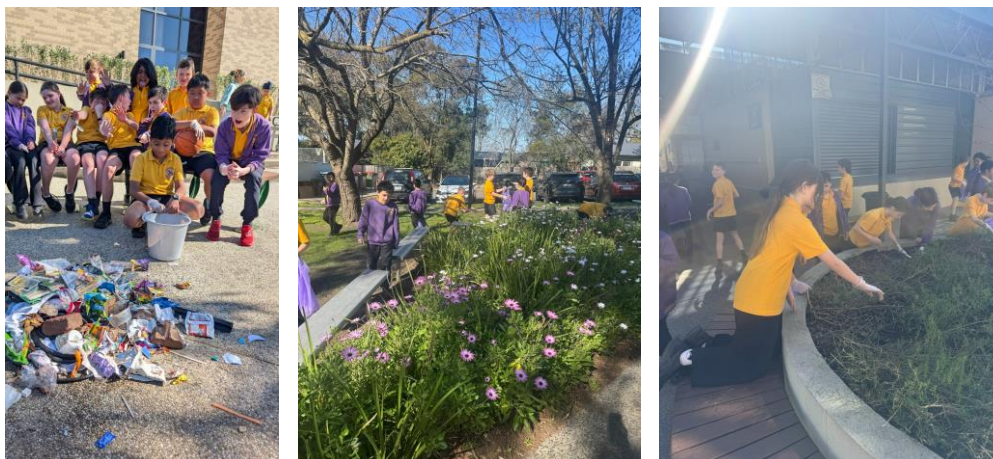
Students have been describing everyday events in terms of likelihood and creating a 'probability scale' for reference. They are investigating possible outcomes of chance experiments and identifying independent and dependent events. They are also ordering outcomes by likelihood, conducting repeated chance experiments, and exploring patterns and variation in results. In our class discussions, students are explaining and justifying the likelihood of outcomes while describing relationships and variations observed in their experiments.



## Geography

As part of our Geography unit on sustainability, our Year 4 students recently became Rubbish Detectives! We investigated the school grounds, collecting and sorting rubbish to discover just how much waste was being left around our yard. We were certainly surprised by what we found! Our investigation has helped us think about the impact of our everyday choices and how we can work together to keep our school clean and sustainable. But how much rubbish did we actually collect? You'll have to wait until the first assembly next term to find out the results!





### **Year 4 Camp - CYC Forest Edge**

Students are getting very excited about camp as we begin discussing plans with them. Please make sure you have checked the Compass event and keep an eye out for forms coming home to be completed.

Forms, permission, and payment are due by Wednesday 16 September. If you are interested in assisting us on camp, please send a message to your child's teacher to express your interest. We hope to confirm parent helpers before the end of term, once final numbers are known.

## **Senior School**

### **Year 5**

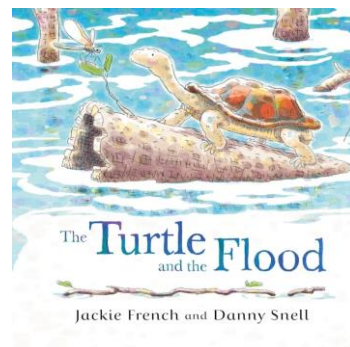
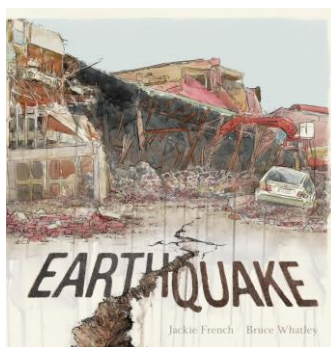
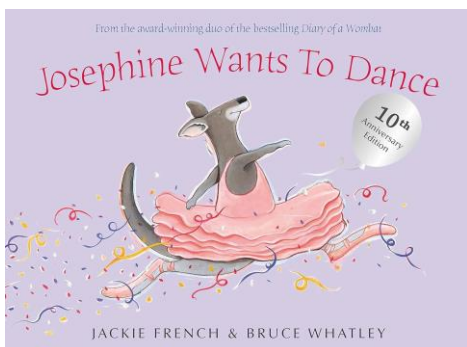
The Year 5s have had a very eventful few weeks! We started off by attending the Tony Bones 'Books to Life' incursion, where students were asked up onto the stage to help perform a live action version of the award winning book 'Being Indy'. Everyone then carefully chose gifts for their dads or a special person in their life from the Father's Day stall. We also had a blast seeing the Foundation students and Junior school perform at 'Kids on Parade' on Thursday afternoon!





## Literacy

In Reading the Year 5s have continued analysing Jackie French texts. We read 'Josephine Wants to Dance' and discussed the different text placements throughout the book. We looked at the images and how they were organised in 'The Turtle and the Flood'. We also read 'Earthquake' and discussed the different metaphors French uses to describe the devastation left by the disaster.



Our picture storybooks are coming along very nicely in Writing. Students have completed their drafts in the form of storyboards and are well underway with publishing their texts using Canva. We are having lots of fun generating AI images in the style of Jackie French and Bruce Whatley, making sure each page flows nicely and matches our vocabulary choices.

## Maths

The Year 5s have been busy developing their division skills in Maths! We have been learning different strategies to solve division problems, including using the division algorithm, solving worded problems and working with remainders. Students have enjoyed putting these skills to the test through a range of challenges and partner activities. We also jumped into Minecraft Education, where students used their understanding of division to complete a building challenge and demonstrate their learning in a fun and creative way!





### Digi-Tech

The Year 5s have been learning about being kind online. Last week, students had fun coming up with interesting abbreviations for kind comments that could be used online. Some of these included:

YATB - you are the best

ITYRA - I think you are amazing

WTG! - way to go!

We have also been learning about the different values we should be displaying online, including responsibility, integrity, strength and empathy, or RISE. Students worked together to brainstorm all the different ways we can show these values online.

### Year 6

The big highlight from the past fortnight is of course, our Year 6 Camp to Golden Valleys Adventure Camp in Flinders. It was an action packed 3 days filled with teamwork, challenges, fun and laughter. Students rotated through a range of activities including archery, a vertical climbing challenge, the leap of faith, a giant swing, hut building, and various sports activities such as beach volleyball, human foosball, soccer and frisbee. A theme throughout camp was the idea of fear and our mindset. Some of the activities were quite challenging and scary - particularly for those who are afraid of heights. The camp facilitators were fantastic in encouraging students to see what they are capable of and to not let fear stop them from giving things a go. Another strong theme was supporting each other and noticing the good in everyone. These are great lessons to reflect on and take into high school. We are so proud of everyone who attended camp. They embraced camp with a positive attitude and demonstrated our school values while away.







## Literacy

We have continued learning about poetry, analysing and writing limericks and ballads. Students have learnt to identify the effect of various poetic devices such as rhythm, rhyme, figurative language, descriptive language and structure (stanzas). We were particularly impressed when some students created limericks and ballads to share with us at camp!

## Maths

Last week, students revised the order of operations, using the acronym BIDMAS (**B**rackets, **I**ndex notation, **D**ivision/**M**ultiplication, **A**ddition/**S**ubtraction). Students worked through a range of tasks where they consolidated their understanding of mixed operations and multi-step equations and applied it in open ended problem solving tasks. This was a great reminder to students to ensure they are confident in their times tables so that they can apply this knowledge to more complex problems.

## Visual Arts

### Foundation

During Term 3, Foundation students have studied the art of Eric Carle, famous for “The Very Hungry Caterpillar”. We have looked at a different story each week and created artwork inspired by his use of vibrant colours and organic shapes. Students created 100 pieces of food, using collage, to represent their 100 “Hungry” days of school. They made caterpillars using balloons and paint to print the shapes and added details to make each one unique. Students explored monochromatic collage by choosing to do the “brown bear”, “the purple cat”, “the green frog” or “the blue horse” from Eric Carle’s stories. They were guided to fill the templates using a mix of crayon, pencil and scrap paper. Finally, students explored textiles while using scrap paper and fabric to create vibrant, abstract butterflies.



## Year 1 and 2

Year 1 students have spent Term 3 learning about the work of French impressionist Claude Monet. Through the study of his art, they have learnt about the elements of a balanced composition when creating landscapes. They have brainstormed details to include in modern garden scenes for our class murals using a mix of paint and textiles. We are very excited to display these in the school for all to enjoy! Students have further explored the concept that a landscape is made up of foreground, middle ground and background by creating simple landscapes using a mix of mediums.

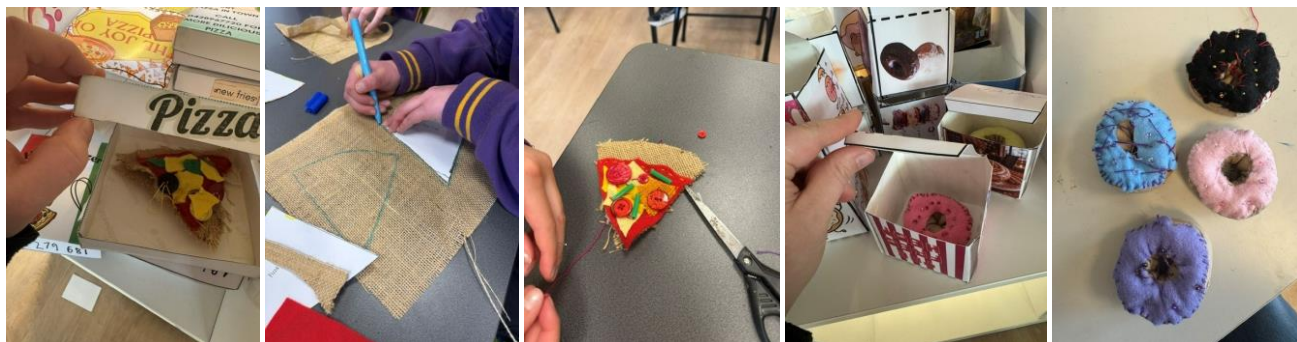


Year 2 students have thrown themselves into the craft of finger knitting with such enthusiasm. It has been wonderful to see them all have a go and master the skill. We also explored the concept of an art installation and the act of “yarn bombing”. After many suggestions and wonderful ideas, we decided to wrap our knitting around some artificial trees so that they can be enjoyed as an installation for an extended time. The students are about to finish the term off with some weaving, and we know that they will embrace this new skill with a great mindset.



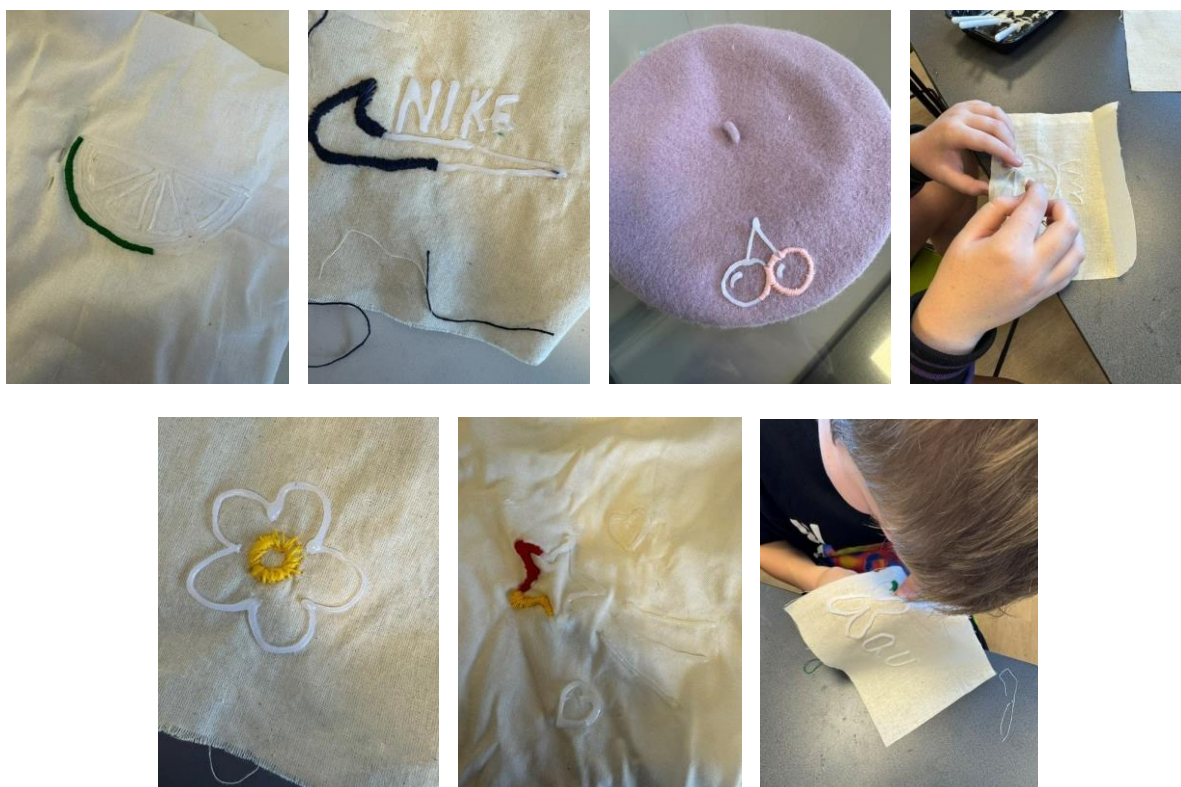
## Year 3 and 4

This term in Visual Arts, our Year 3 and 4 students have been exploring textiles and design. Students began by using Canva to design their own food packaging before developing their hand sewing skills. Year 3 students have been creating colourful sock donuts, while Year 4 students have been constructing felt pizza slices, learning how to thread a needle, stitch, join materials and add creative details along the way. We can't wait to see their finished creations packaged up in their very own designs!



## Year 5 and 6

Year 5/6 students have been exploring Pop Art this term before moving on to textiles and embroidery. Inspired by Pop Art, students worked on simplifying their ideas into line art designs using as few lines as possible, ready to be stitched. They then learned how to thread a needle, tie knots and embroider over their designs. Some students brought in their own items, including t-shirts, hats and bags, while others created their artwork on fabric squares. It has been great to see such a variety of individual designs come to life!



## Premier's Reading Challenge

The Premier's Reading Challenge came to an end on September 4th, and what an incredible six months of reading it has been! Our students collectively read an amazing 14,777 books across the school!  

I was so impressed by the wonderful reading recorded and the thoughtful book reviews that were written. It was fantastic to see students discovering new books and sharing their love of reading.  

Special congratulations to Evelyn (4CB) and Luca (6C) for the impressive number of books they read throughout the challenge!  

Well done to everyone who participated and helped make this year's challenge such a fantastic celebration of reading!  

Amy Matthews  
Library Teacher

## Growing Wellbeing Activity Day

Next date: Thursday, 01 October 2026 | 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM



Council's free [Growing Wellbeing Activity Day](#) is back! Join us during the second week of the school holidays on **Thursday 1 October 2026, 11 am to 2 pm** at **Ringwood Town Square and Realm**.

Enjoy a fun day celebrating positive mental health and wellbeing for people of all ages and backgrounds. Discover simple, creative ways to look after your wellbeing, while learning how to support your family and friends to thrive. A range of local organisations will be there to share information about the mental health and wellbeing services and programs available in our community.

### Main stage - no bookings required

- 11 am - Sing along with *Croydon Hills Primary School Pop Choir*
- 12 pm - Enjoy magic for all ages with *Wizz Fizz the Magician*
- 1 pm - Join our *Dance & Dash* interactive dance fitness class

**Enjoy a variety of free activities, including:**

- **Bead Catch Cup:** Build a simple toy using cardboard.
- **Drawing of Nature:** Drop in and enjoy a relaxing drawing session with Gabby Willmott.
- **Face Painting:** Enjoy free face painting.
- **Growing Wellbeing Book:** Collect wellbeing stickers to complete your book, then pick up your free popcorn.
- **Meditative Clay Activity:** Create your own sensory object with Gabby Willmott, artist, meditation guide and mindfulness teacher.
- **Smoothie Bikes:** Make your own smoothie using the adult or children's bikes.
- **The Fitting Connection:** Learn how to reuse old materials by making your own gift wrap and pet toys.
- **Youth Hangout Space:** Relax, connect and spend time with other young people.
- **Zine Workshop:** Make your own small booklet or magazine in The Cave at Realm Library.

### Free Workshop - bookings are essential

Join our *Get Tinny workshop with the Fermented Mother*, **10 am to 11.30 am** to transform basic canned goods—such as chickpeas, beans, tomatoes and tuna—into delicious meals. Enjoy free tastings and take-home recipe cards. Book here - [Get Tinny with the Fermented Mother | Maroondah City Council](#)

## Chat to local organisations about their services and programs

ArcVic

Big Little Buddies

Communities of Wellbeing

Each

Eastern Community Legal Centre

Eastern Volunteers

Headspace Knox and Lilydale

Interchange Outer East

Living our best life

Maroondah Toy Library

Mental Health & Wellbeing Local

Mullum Mullum Aboriginal Gathering Place

Yarra Valley Water (YVW) - Bring along your water bill, chat to a representative from YVW and see if you can make some savings!

Come along, try something new, connect with your community and discover positive ways to grow your wellbeing.  
**Everyone is welcome!**

This event is presented by Council in partnership with Eastland and Your Library.

## Japanese

### Foundation

During Term 3, the Foundation students continued to build on their knowledge of numbers and colours. They also learned how to ask someone's name and introduce themselves.

The students were introduced to the ELLA apps, which are play-based language learning apps. They explored the first three apps:

- In the Playroom – introduces the characters alongside greetings, basic introductions, farewells, and likes and dislikes.
- At the Beach – explores outdoor settings and introduces colours, numbers, and beach-related vocabulary.
- At a Party – focuses on numbers, age, and typical party and celebration dialogue.

They were also introduced to two new Japanese folk tales, *How the Old Man Lost His Wen* and *The Monkey and the Crab*. They learned about the Tanabata Festival and some of its traditions.



The students began learning the names of body parts and sang songs and played games to reinforce their understanding of this vocabulary. They also learned to perform the Japanese exercise routine, Rajio Taisō.



### Year 1

During Term 3, the Year 1 students learned about the Tanabata Festival and made an origami lantern. They continued to develop their knowledge of Japanese numbers, extending into the hundreds and thousands, and learned to recognise and name Japanese coins and notes.



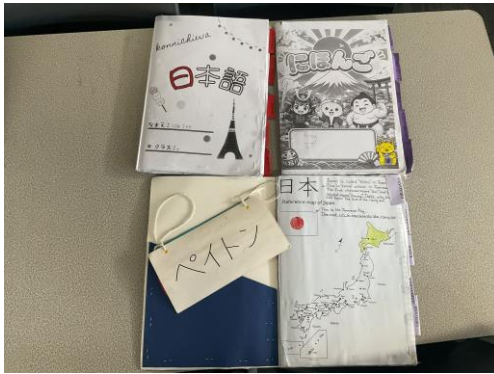
Building on this understanding, they began simple shopping conversations, learning to ask, “How much is it?”, and participated in role-plays involving the buying of classroom objects and food.



They also learned to perform a self-introduction, including their name and age. The students consolidated their knowledge of body parts and learned to recognise the corresponding words in romaji. They also learned to perform the Japanese exercise routine, Rajio Taisō.

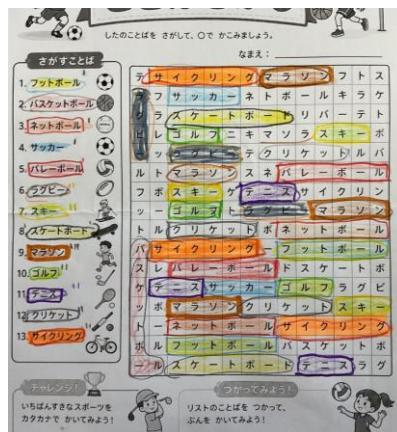
### Year 2

During Term 3, the Year 2 students continued to develop their understanding of hiragana characters and began combining them to make simple words.



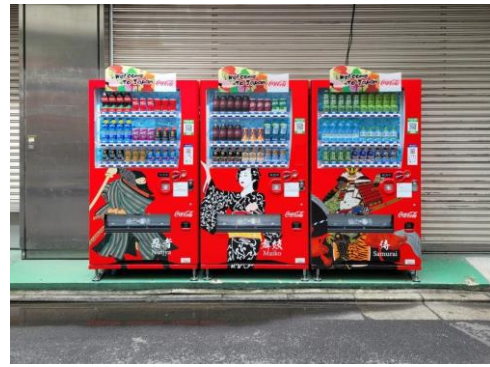
The students also learned to perform the Japanese exercise routine, Rajio Taisō.

During Term 3, students extended their understanding of likes and favourites and discussed their favourite school subjects, foods, animals and sports. They learned the kanji character for “like” and incorporated it into Japanese sentences.



A completed purple origami crane is shown from a side profile. It has a long, pointed beak, a large eye, and long, elegant wings. The crane is standing on its two feet, which are folded into a stable base. It is positioned on a white surface, casting a soft shadow to its right.

Students also learned about “Conbini” (convenience stores) and “Jidohanbaiki” (vending machines), and played a traditional Karuta card game.



They also learned to perform the Japanese exercise routine, Rajio Taisō.

### Japanese Language Assistant – Chihiro Nagashima

For four weeks during Term 3, we were very fortunate to host a Japanese Language Assistant, Ms Chihiro Nagashima.



Chihiro was a wonderful addition to our Japanese program, enthusiastically teaching students about Saitama, the area of Japan where she is from, as well as *conbini* (convenience stores), *jidohanbaiki* (vending machines) and *karuta*. She also introduced Japanese money to the Year 1 students, coached the Film Club students with their Japanese pronunciation and helped run the Japanese Club.

Our students greatly benefited from these authentic experiences with Japanese language and culture, and we sincerely thank Chihiro for all her enthusiasm, hard work and contribution to our school.

### Japanese Day – Wednesday 7 October

We will have a fantastic start to Term 4 with our Japanese Day on Wednesday 7 October.

Students will participate in Japanese cultural activities throughout the day, including a costume parade, karate, kendo, manga drawing, rice ball and bento making, origami, sumo wrestling, games and craft activities.

Students are invited to dress in something “Japanese”, such as a kimono, karate outfit, favourite anime or Pokémon character, ninja outfit, or anything else inspired by Japanese culture.

Prizes will be awarded for the best costumes in each year level.

Parents are warmly invited to attend the costume parade at the beginning of the day in the gym.

### Japanese Film Club

Our Film Club students have been giving up many of their lunchtimes to create a Japanese-language film for the Video Matsuri competition.

This year, the film must include a “flower”, and we have almost finished our film, titled *Flower Power*.

We will find out the competition results during Term 4 and will show the film at a school assembly at that time.

A big thank you to all our Film Club members for their enthusiasm, creativity and hard work!

## Family & Friends

### Father's Day Stall

On Thursday 3 September, Family and friends held the Father's Day Stall.

Each class came to the courtyard with excitement, ready to choose a present for their Dad/ Special Person.



### Trivia Night

On Saturday, August 29, Ruskin Park held our annual Trivia Night, and what a fantastic night it was!

A huge **thank you to everyone who attended**. With just over **150 guests** joining us on the night. We hope you all had a memorable evening filled with fun, laughter and great company — both old friends and new. We look forward to seeing you all again next year!

The night was packed with plenty of entertainment, including:

- 3 rounds of Trivia
- Games led by our fantastic host
- Coin Toss Game
- 50 Silent Auction items
- Over 70 Raffle Prizes
- 4 Lucky Key Boxes
- Overall Table Winners

Of course, an event like this wouldn't be possible without the incredible support of our **Family & Friends Team**.

A very special thank you to **Deb, Gemmi & Melissa**, who spent the past **6 months** sourcing the amazing donations used for our Silent Auctions, Raffles and Lucky Keys. Your time, effort and dedication have been truly appreciated.

Thank you also to **Russ, Rachael, Lisa, Julie, Elicia & Priscilla** for helping with setup, pack-up and selling raffle tickets throughout the night. Your support helped make the evening run so smoothly!

We are incredibly proud to share that the night was a **huge success**, breaking records from previous years and raising **over \$7,000 for our school!**

Thank you once again to everyone who donated, volunteered, attended and supported the event. **We couldn't have done it without you!**



## Sponsors





# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## These Students have recently celebrated their birthdays

|         |        |       |         |         |      |         |         |        |
|---------|--------|-------|---------|---------|------|---------|---------|--------|
| Phillip | Jack   | Julia | Lachlan | Yasmine | Ryan | Lexie   | Dominic | Hamish |
| Lenny   | Selena | Harvi | Aahana  | Max     | Amy  | Spencer | Sophia  | Jai    |

### 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

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](mailto:karen@creativemusic.com.au)



**Creative Music**

[www.creativemusic.com.au](http://www.creativemusic.com.au)



In one fun-filled day, kids will learn and play footy in a safe, inclusive environment. They'll pick up new skills, play mini-games and get creative with designing footy goods



4-7 YEAR OLDS\*

Our youngest players learn footy through fun, age-appropriate games that build skills, confidence and teamwork, led by NAB AFL Auskick coaches.



7-12 YEAR OLDS

Older kids level up their footy skills through modified game play and challenging activities that build teamwork, leadership and lasting memories in a fun, energetic day.

\*Kids can join NAB AFL Auskick if they are turning 5 in the calendar year (before 30th June in WA).

## KILSYTH **ALL GIRLS** HOLIDAY PROGRAM

TUESDAY | SEPTEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup> | 9AM - 3PM

KILSYTH RECREATION RESERVE

