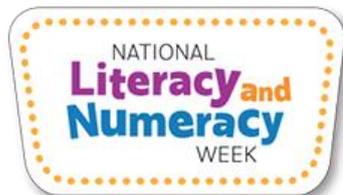


## Principal's Report

Dear parents and friends of Ararat Primary School 800,



**National Literacy and Numeracy Week at Ararat Primary School** commences on Monday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, which is four weeks earlier than the national celebration, due to the timing of our 2016 School

Production. We invite you to join us for the following special activities during that week:

- Monday – August 1<sup>st</sup> - Literacy and Numeracy Week opening assembly, introduction of our major theme and associated activities, “Faster, Higher, Stronger”, and launch of our numeracy estimation activities
- Monday – August 1<sup>st</sup> - Community “Read In”, following assembly
- Wednesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> – Buddy Family Olympic Games

activities at 10:00am, opening ceremony and parade of nations (11:30am) followed by our own Mini Olympic Games and picnic lunch. Please set the date of this special event aside, so that you're able to join us.

Our Bamboozle students are also booked to perform at the

Eventide Homes “We Go to Rio Carnivale” celebration on Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup>.

Last night's **Parent Information Session** for families of 2017 Prep students was very well attended, and provided interested families with extensive information about our innovative programs and the consistency of expectations and teaching and learning approaches across our school. Areas of particular focus were our Daily 5 and CAFÉ approach to literacy, our practical, hands-on maths program, the importance of Discoveries in developing students' problem-solving and social skills, and nurturing their curiosity, and the emphasis we place on connecting our students with their community. It was also reassuring to receive positive feedback from our guests about their perceptions and observations – the obvious pride our students take in the quality of their work, evident through our displays and vibrant, engaging classrooms, the orderliness of our learning environments, and the professionalism and dedication of our staff team. Special thanks to our Prep teachers, Katie Sanford and Terri Dalglish, on their preparations for the event.

Please note that our formal **Prep Transition Program** will commence

in fourth term, with events planned for November 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, and December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Enrolments for the 2017 school year are currently being accepted, so that accurate planning for the new-year can proceed. We ask you to complete enrolment processes for your child as soon as possible. Documents and details are available from the school office.

A reminder that forty randomly selected families will receive a **Parent Opinion Survey** through the post next Monday. We ask those families to please complete and return the information to school by Friday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, **to be eligible for inclusion in our special prize draw – a beautiful, gourmet hamper**. We value your opinions very highly and look forward to a strong response from our community to the 2016 Parent Opinion Survey. It's very important for us to achieve a 100% return rate, and ask for your full support. All other families will be invited to provide us with feedback about our Semester 1 reports, specifically focusing on their reader-friendliness and personalisation. Once again, we look forward to receiving your feedback, so that we can continue to improve our practices, for the benefit of our students.

Semester two **Student Representative Council** elections have been conducted by classes this week. Congratulations to our newly appointed student leadership team, and sincere thanks to our semester one leaders for their dedicated efforts. Official badges of office will be presented to our SRC students at next Monday's assembly.

The next stage of our **Library update** took place at the end of the holidays, with the arrival of gorgeous new book shelves (thank you to our SRC and School Council for their fundraising efforts, and to our school community for your support). Mrs Tapscott and Mrs Jacobi put in long, voluntary hours to re-shelve our books and reorganise the room – which looks stunning! Thank you, Cathy and Jenni for your generous efforts.

Finally, we're very pleased to announce that our school has received a grant from the Victorian Teachers Mutual Bank to establish a **“Kids' Teachmeet” program**. This will involve our students conducting mini-workshops for their peers on IT achievements and breakthroughs that they have worked on at home, and are particularly proud of. At this stage, twenty of our Senior School students have volunteered to share their expertise. This fabulous initiative is the brain-child of Chris Fiscalini and Anita Carey, and we thank them, most sincerely, for their efforts on our students' behalf. Thank you, also, to the VTMB for their financial support.

Kind regards,

Jennifer Molan

School Values: Respect Honesty Self Awareness Learning Belonging

### Dates to remember in Term 3

Saturday 23rd July	Trip to NICA Melbourne 'Our Sunset, My World' Exhibition at Federation Square
Friday 29th July	Schools' Tree Day
Wednesday 3rd August	Buddy Family day and Mini Olympics



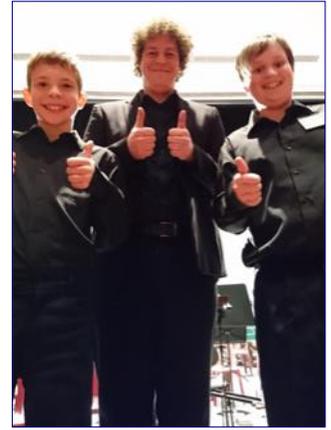
### TERM DATES 2016

**Term 3:**  
11th July - 16th September  
**Term 4:**  
3rd October - 20th December

## Walter "On the mOVe" . . .



For three days of the school holidays, Year 6 student, Walter Pope travelled to Hamilton to take part in the "On the mOVe" workshops in Hamilton with Orchestra Victoria (OV). Former 800 students, India Flamsted (violin) and Lachine Meehan (trumpet), as well as Joseph McColl (tuba) from Marian College, also attended. The students worked as part of a large orchestra and in small group tutorials with the professional musicians from OV. Walter was especially privileged to be able to attend, as usually the program is only open to secondary school students. Over the three days, the students worked on a classical repertoire, improving their playing, listening and counting skills. The performances included a 'pop up' concert for the brass section outside Coles, and a final concert on Thursday night, where the students showed what they had learnt. A fantastic opportunity for all the students!

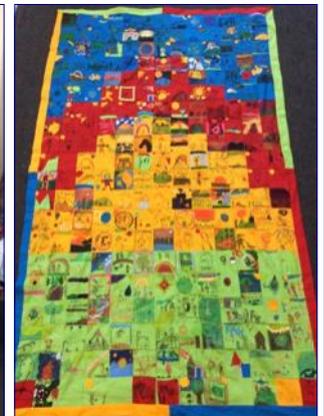


## Specialists' Report . . .

This Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July, our school will proudly be part of the "Our Sunset, My World" exhibition at Federation Square. The exhibition is for the "Have a Heart Foundation", supporting schools and students in Cambodia. We have two pieces as part of the exhibition - 'Patchwork Sunset' and 'Sunset across the World'. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who supported and contributed to our artworks through the fete, sewing and finishing off. We are very excited to have these gorgeous artworks included in the exhibition. A huge congratulations to all of our students who have done an incredible job creating the artworks, particularly Xavier Murphy in 5/6KP, who created an extra artwork which will be on display in our school and, hopefully, the community. Everyone did a great job interpreting the theme, 'Our Sunset, My World' to create their own fabric square to complete our quilt. There were lots of different ideas, representing each student from Prep to Grade 6, including self portraits, hobbies, planets and Cambodian images, with each square featuring the common symbol of a sun. I would like to give a special thanks to Olivia McGrath and Ms Fisc who helped with lots of the sewing of the 'Patchwork Sunset' piece. I am looking forward to attending the exhibition and will have photos to share in the next couple of weeks.

Leah Sharp  
Art Teacher

## "Our Sunset, My World" Exhibition



## Around our school this week . . .



Lilly and Toby enjoy a relaxing moment in our newly revamped Library.



Ms Fisc, Olivia and Flynn were proud recipients of the "Kids' Teachmeet" grant, presented by Graeme and Shane from the VTMB.

## Bounce Back at Ararat Primary School . . .

We're currently in our third year of implementing the Bounce Back resiliency program, and are very pleased with the results. Our explicit teaching sessions offer practical strategies to our students to help them cope with the complexity of their everyday lives, and learn to 'bounce back' when they experience sadness, difficulties, frustrations and hard times.

### The Bounce Back Acronym . . .

When things go wrong for you, or you get 'knocked down' by what happens in your life, remember that you can decide to **BOUNCE BACK!** and be yourself again.

**B**ad times don't last. Things always get better. Stay optimistic.

**O**ther people can help if you talk to them. Get a reality check.

**U**nhelpful thinking makes you feel more upset.

**N**obody is perfect - not you and not others.

**C**oncentrate on the positives (no matter how small) and use laughter.

**E**verybody experiences sadness, hurt, failure, rejection and setbacks sometimes. They are a normal part of life. Try not to personalise them.

**B**lame fairly - how much of what happened was because of you, how much was because of others and how much was because of bad luck or circumstances?

**A**ccept the things you can't change, but try to change what you can first.

**C**atastrophising exaggerates your worries. Don't believe the worst possible picture.

**K**eep things in perspective. It's only one part of your life.

**In Term 3, we are concentrating on the use of humour as a tool to help us 'Bounce Back'.**

**Humour** is one of the processes of optimism that significantly contributes to personal resilience.

The focus of the unit is on understanding the processes and styles of humour, to learn how humour can be used to assist with coping in hard times, as well as supporting others. We also work on helping students to be able to tell the difference between helpful humour and humour that harms. Five minute humorous activities are wonderful as stress breaks in class time.





# Danger Kids



Ararat Primary's Senior School Production 2016.

Performance dates:

- Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup> – Community Matinee (12:30pm)
- Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup> – Evening Performance (7:30pm)
- Friday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> – Evening Performance (7:30pm)



Venue: Ararat Performing Arts Centre



July 23rd Ella Clark

25th Mckenzie Greene

27th Ella Rhodes

## Spare Clothes . . .

Due to wet weather, we are running very low on spare clothes when children end up wet and muddy. If you know your child is someone who is drawn to water and mud, it might pay to send them with a spare change of clothes in their bag during this time.

If your children have borrowed spare clothes from us, please return them to the Office as soon as possible. We would also gratefully accept any donations of spare clothes you may no longer need.



MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	 School Banking processed on Tuesdays	 <b>No Excuses</b> <b>Go to School</b> Learn, play, explore.	21st  Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am  Production rehearsal Scenes 4,5 and 6	22nd <b>LUNCH ORDERS</b>  23rd - NICA Melbourne and Our Sunset, My World Exhibition
25th Assembly	26th  Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am	27th  Bamboozle 3:30pm-4:45pm	28th  Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am  Production rehearsal Scenes 7,8 and 9	29th <b>LUNCH ORDERS</b>  Schools' Tree Day  31st—Chinese Homestay visitors arrive
<b>AUG 1st</b> Assembly  Literacy and Numeracy Week launch and Read In	2nd  Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am	3rd Assembly  Literacy and Numeracy Week Buddy Family day and Mini Olympics  Bamboozle 3:30pm-4:45pm	4th  Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am  Drug-Free Lifestyles Program - Senior School Production rehearsal Scenes 1,2 and 3	5th <b>LUNCH ORDERS</b>  Bamboozle performance at Eventide Homes
8th Assembly	9th  Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am	10th  Mid-term assembly at 2:15pm	11th  Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am  Production rehearsal Scenes 4,5 and 6	12th <b>LUNCH ORDERS</b>  Golf Clinics

Stay up to date with all our news and events by following us on our website. All school notes sent home can be found in our virtual office. You can find us at: