

June 2nd 2016

Principal's Report

Dear parents, families and friends of Ararat Primary School 800,

Congratulations to our Year 3-4 team on the success of their **"Big Day Out"** last Thursday. A brilliant, but exhausting time was had by everyone, and all feedback has been very positive. Without doubt, the most talked about activity was the Eureka Skydeck visit, with the museum exhibitions running a close second. Special thanks to our staff and parents who ensured the day was an outstanding learning experience – Darren Beer, Travis Hewish, Adrian Pilgrim, Anita Carey, Tess Jennings, Carol Turner, Jenni Jacobi, Melissa Hope, Laurie and Steve Marshall, Emily Toner, Christine Powell, Tracey Merrick, Anna Greene and Mick Jennings. As always, the invaluable support of our parent volunteers is greatly appreciated.

Our unique **Circus program** has been on show this week, with the staging of our annual Showcase events, and a **Bamboozle presentation at the Ararat Performing Arts Centre on Wednesday morning**, as part of the announcement of refurbishment plans for the PAC by Mr Dan Tehan MP. Thank you to all families and friends who were able to join us for their child's showcase, which helps you to see your child's progress in Physical Education and Performing Arts, in relation to other students, as well as to help you to interpret the Circus comments made in your child's report. It's very special for our students to be able to perform to an audience, other than their peers – and the presence of family members makes it even more special.

Our **School Captain team** will represent us on Wednesday of next week when the Premier of Victoria, Mr Daniel Andrews, visits Ararat to officially launch the construction of the new Bulgana wind farm. Olivia, James, Holly and Flynn will have the honour of presenting the "Welcome to Country", as part of the official ceremony. We wish them well.

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, 2016 is a year of review for our school, and we're currently in the process of gathering information as part of our self-evaluation. This process is about identifying where our school is on its improvement and development journey, considering the impact of our efforts over the past three years. It provides us with a process to collect data from a range of sources to inform our actions to improve student and professional learning, much the same as teachers use student data to identify the next steps in their learning. The reflection and self-evaluation process will help us to identify what is working well, what needs to continue, and which areas of our school's work may need to be improved or further developed. It will inform decisions relating to our new Strategic Plan, in terms of priority-setting, initiatives, strategies and actions for

improvement.

We're very keen to have input from you regarding the effectiveness of our school's programs and operations, and thank those families who have participated in our **"Community Conversations"** sessions and to our School Councillors for their facilitation of the events. Thank you, also, to families who have completed and returned to the office, the **"Community Conversations"** feedback form, included in last week's newsletter. Your input is greatly appreciated—we view it as **"explaining, not complaining"**.

There's still time for you to contribute by responding to the following simple questions by Friday of next week:

- What is our school doing well?
- What could we do better?
- What is most important to you about our school?

Please note that all families who register their feedback are eligible to win our **"Door Prize"** – a family pass to the Halls Gap Zoo.

We're very pleased to announce that our **Term 2 Sporting Schools Program** has commenced, with Mr Jamie Gatehouse conducting volleyball coaching sessions. Our Junior School students made a brilliant start to their program last Friday, developing their 'volleyballoon' skills. All classes will participate in two formal volleyball coaching sessions prior to the end of this term. Please note that our Sporting Schools Program takes place during school hours, and is funded by the Federal Government. **Mr Gatehouse** is also making the most of the opportunity to familiarize himself with our students and school routines, prior to commencing as a classroom teacher in Term 3, replacing Mrs Kelly in 5-6K.

Our Tuesday and Thursday morning **Breakfast Club** continues to be a winner with our students. Some drop in for a Milo and social chat, while others make the most of the nutritious and sustaining food on offer – porridge, baked beans, VitaBrits and fruit. Once again, thank you to our team of wonderful volunteers, both adults and students, who have the serving and clean-up process down to a fine art.

Best wishes to 54 of our Year 3-4 and 5-6 students who will participate in Horsham's **"Art Is . . ." Encounter Day** on Monday.

Finally, a reminder that **Monday, June 13th**, is a public holiday in recognition of the Queen's birthday. Classes will resume as usual on the Tuesday morning.

Kind regards,
Jennifer Molan

School Values: **Respect** **Honesty** **Self Awareness** **Learning** **Belonging**

Dates to remember in Term 2



Monday 13th June

Queen's Birthday - Public Holiday

TERM DATES 2016

Term 2: 11th April - 24th June

Term 3: 11th July - 16th September

Term 4: 3rd October - 20th December

Prep World . . .

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We have been focussing on recognising, reading, matching and adding our numbers together. We have been learning how to...

- recognise and matching numbers and their name with a group of objects that is the same value
- make 10 facts
- bundle groups of 10 together to create 2 digit numbers.



If you would like to join in at home you can practise skip counting by 10 to 130 or use a deck of cards and see how many tens facts you can make; for example, 7 and 3 or 4 and 6.



Buzzy Bees . . .

The Buzzy Bees have been very busy working on their Discoveries projects. Our "Where in the World?" theme has led to many weird and wonderful topics being explored. Inika has been researching the sun. After her research session on Tuesday, Inika and her friends followed the play pathway. They used dress-ups, chairs and an I-Pad, and imagined they were flying to the sun. Zabina has been wondering, "Where in the World is New York?", and Levi D-H and Charlie have been recording lots of information about narwhals and gulper eels. If you'd like to find out a bit more about these amazing topics, and lots more, mark June 22nd on your calendar, and come along to the Buzzy Bee Discoveries Expo.

This week, Grade 1/2 FJ warmly welcomed Miss Dempsey to our classroom. Miss Dempsey is learning to be a teacher, and we have had a wonderful week with her. Good luck with your studies, Miss Dempsey!



Middle School . . .

On the 26th of May all the 3/4s went to Melbourne for our Big Day Out.

To begin with, we caught the bus to Melbourne. We ate our fruit/recess at the museum courtyard, and then walked around the museum for about two and a half hours. I learnt that aborigines wore possum skins as their blanket from when they're born until they die. The possum skin was wrapped around their body when they were buried. By the time we came out of the museum it was lunchtime. We had lunch in the museum courtyard.



After that, we got back on the bus and went to the Eureka Skydeck. My group and a few other groups went up the top of the Skydeck first. When we were up there we got a map and we had to find famous landmarks in Melbourne like the Flemington Racecourse and the MCG.

Finally, the group that went up on the Skydeck first went for a walk around Melbourne. We saw Fed Square, the Arts Centre and Flinders Street Station. Then we came back and everyone ate some more food. Finally, we hopped back on the bus and got ready for a big drive home.

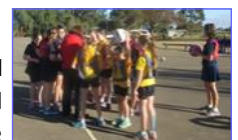


I would absolutely love to go again. I would rate it 10/10. My favourite part was the Eureka Skydeck.

Written by Sophie

Senior School . . .

The Senior Unit has been exhaustingly busy this week. On the 24th of May, all of the Grade 5/6's travelled to Stawell to compete in Footy or Netball or Soccer for the Black Ranges Winter Games. It was a beautiful sunny day but a cold breeze went through us. The Grade 6's from 800 and Ararat North participated in the "Bounce Program", with Zac and Lee as our instructors. We did many activities, including memory games in small groups, paper-tower building and it was lots of fun! The grades were lucky enough to participate in the 'Start Smart' Banking Program, run by the Commonwealth Bank. It was lots of fun and informative, and gave us ideas on how to earn and spend our money. We have also been involved in presenting oral speeches about Australian pioneers and how they helped shaped our country. The speeches have been very interesting with lots of facts and information and we had to speak for 1-2 minutes. Some of us found that difficult to do. We have started to make dioramas about our history events, linked with our Australian pioneers. Production rehearsals are coming along very well and we can't wait to perform in front of everyone. Our Circus Showcase is happening on Friday and is coming together very well. We have been practising hard.



By Gracie and Tash - Grade 5/6 D

Art Is . . . Encounter Day

Best wishes to our "Art Is..." team who will represent us at the Encounter Day in Horsham on Monday. Our students have worked with Tim from "Art Is..." on a number of occasions during the past few weeks, planning their Circus performance, which is scheduled for 1:00pm at the Horsham Town Hall. Our students will also experience a performance by "Asking for Trouble", along with a guided tour of the Horsham Art Gallery. Special thanks to Chris Fiscali and David Collins for creating this fabulous opportunity for our students.

Circus Showcase



3/4 Big Day Out excursion . . .



Newspapers for the Art Room

If you have any spare newspapers at home and you have finished reading them, please donate them to our Art room as we are running short.

All donations can be left in the Art room.



The Ararat and District Badminton Association Inc.

Junior Badminton for learners

No Charge

Mondays from 3:30pm to 5:00pm at Alexandra Hall

Runners only requirement

For more information phone Joy on 5352 1522



Do you know anyone who . . . loves piano



loves teaching

is coachable?



There may be someone you know looking for a deeply satisfying career path, maybe just out of college, loves teaching and music?

Unmani teaches out of two studios in the Wimmera and has introduced a number of Wimmera teachers to this career path.

She would love to help get someone started to help enrich the musical life of Ararat and its families.

Ph 0408103194



May	27th	Nikhita Ewen-Jones Taj Ewen-Jones
	28th	Tayla Foster Joe Pearce
	30th	Krystos Plunkett Prassopoulos
	31st	Jorja Ramsey Hugh Toner
June	2nd	Indi Pinch

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	 School Banking processed on Tuesdays	 <i>Write to be understood, speak to be heard, READ TO GROW.</i> — Lawrence Clark Porgesell Verified Quotes.com	2nd Community Conversation at 8:30am Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am Circus Showcase Prep D and 3-4B 9:30am <u>Girls to wear leggings or pants</u> Production rehearsal - Scene 1, 2 & 3 3:30pm to 5pm	3rd LUNCH ORDERS Sporting Schools Volleyball
6th Assembly "Art Is..." Encounter Day Regional Cross Country at Warrnambool	7th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am	8th No Bamboozle practice	9th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am Production rehearsal - Scene 4 & 5 3:30pm to 5pm	10th LUNCH ORDERS Sporting Schools Volleyball
13th Queen's Birthday Holiday 	14th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am Gr 5-6 Showcase	15th Bamboozle 3:30pm - 4:45pm	16th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am Production rehearsal - Scene 6 & 7 3:30pm to 5pm	17th LUNCH ORDERS Sporting Schools Volleyball Disco in the Learning Centre—6:30-8:00pm
20th Assembly	21st Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am Prep World Expo	22nd Gr1-2 Expo Bamboozle 3:30pm - 4:45pm	23rd Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am Flinders College Band performance 9:30am Gr 3-4 Expo Production rehearsal - Scene 8 & 9 3:30pm to 5pm	24th NO LUNCH ORDERS Last day of term— 12:30 assembly in the Learning Centre

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: www.araratps.vic.edu.au