

# The Torch



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May 19th, 2016

## Principal's Report

Dear parents, families and friends of Ararat Primary 800,



On behalf of our students and staff, I welcome you to **Education Week, 2016**, as we share our remarkable school with you, and celebrate the

outstanding learning opportunities presented to our children every day.

Festivities commenced on Monday morning of this week, with the staging of our annual whole-school **'Read-In'**, in recognition of the importance of reading in our lives. Witnessing well over 300 students, parents and staff working together with their reading-buddies to share their favourite books as a community of learners is always a memorable experience.

Celebrations continued on Tuesday with twenty-five of our students participating in the Ararat Art Gallery's **"Magical City of Lights" workshop**. Meanwhile, our Year 5-6's participated in the 2016 **Ararat College Expo**, with all reports on their experiences overwhelmingly positive.

As you read this newsletter, our **Education Week Fete and Open School** event will be in full swing, with students showing their families around their classrooms and learning spaces, and testing their skills with our fete activities. Thank you to our inventive students for their great fete and 'showcase' ideas, and to our committed staff for bringing it all together.

Photos of some of our Education Week special events are featured overleaf, with more to come in next week's newsletter, including the announcement of our Education Week student award winners.

Next week is shaping up to be another busy one, particularly for our Middle and Senior School students. We extend best wishes to our Year 5 and 6 netball, football and soccer teams who will represent us at the Black Ranges Division **Winter Sports** in Stawell on Tuesday. Please note that netball and soccer will be conducted at North Park, while the footy will be held at Central Park. As always, parents, family members and friends are most welcome to join us and lend their support.

On Thursday, our Year 3-4s will head to Melbourne for their biannual **"Big Day Out"** – and a brilliant day is planned. Highlights will include an extended visit to the Melbourne Museum, the Eureka Skydeck, National Gallery Water Wall, Flinders Street Station and Federation Square. We wish the team well in their learning adventures.

Students in Years 1 to 6 will have the opportunity to work with educators from the Commonwealth Bank as part of the finance education "Start Smart" program on Wednesday and Thursday. Research indicates that it is crucial to develop financial literacy skills from an early age, and that it's never too early to teach children the value of money. The **"Start Smart"** Primary program teaches these skills in a way that students can understand and enjoy. It was developed with a panel of leading specialists in primary education, cognitive development, instructional design and financial literacy. Please note that the program does not promote bank products or services, and is mapped to the 2016 primary curriculum.

Thursday afternoon will see our Year 6s will take part in the resilience-building, transition-orientated **"Bounce"** program, which is closely tied to the **"Short and Snotty to Tall and Spotty"** parent information session at the Ararat Performing Arts Centre on Wednesday evening. Both are strongly supported by Grampians Community Health, and come to us highly recommended. Details regarding the parent program are published on the back page of this newsletter. We hope you're able to make the most of this fabulous parent-education opportunity.

A reminder that tomorrow and Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup> are both student-free days at Ararat Primary School – no children are to attend school on those days. Staff will be working on-site with Dr George Booker tomorrow, and on the completion of mid-year reports on May 30<sup>th</sup>. Those reports will be distributed on Thursday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Child Care is not available tomorrow, and the May 30<sup>th</sup> program is dependent on registration numbers. Please contact the **YMCA on 53581100** for booking details.

Finally, our School Council will conduct two **"Community Conversations"** sessions to gather feedback from families in the lead up to our term three school review. We invite you to join us for a quick chat in the Learning Centre from 3:30pm on Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, or 8:30am on Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>. All families who provide us with feedback will be eligible to win a family-pass to the Halls Gap Zoo, valued at \$65, by collecting a ticket at the door. Families will also have the opportunity to provide feedback through our "Ideas Boxes". Further information regarding our "Conversations", including a few key questions for your consideration, will be published in next week's newsletter.

Kind regards,

Jennifer Molan

School Values: Respect Honesty Self Awareness Learning Belonging

### Dates to remember in Term 2



Friday 20th May	Staff PD - Student free day
Monday 30th May	Report Writing Day - Student free day
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 . . .



We have been busy doing lots of preparation for our Fete and learning some old games. When we went to Gorrinn House on Tuesday, we asked our buddies what games they used to play when they were at school. They liked playing chasey, hopscotch, quoits, counting, football, hide and seek, catch, tennis, cricket and hookey. We still play some of these games but there have been some changes because our buddies didn't have iPads or TVs to play with. We have been learning how to play quoits, hookey and Connect Four so we can teach our families at the Fete.



## Buzzy Bees . . .

In Discoveries, the Buzzy Bees are currently working incredibly hard on their 'Where in the World?' projects. Students have been busy researching or creating projects on topics such as Space, Habitats, Man-made and Natural Wonders of the World, Natural Disasters, the list goes on! We would like to thank the special helpers who have given up their time to come in and assist us with our projects. We are excited to show them to you at our exhibition in the last week of term and will have more information about this in the coming weeks.



## Middle School . . .

The Middle School team is hitting a very busy period and great growth mindsets.

Currently we are working really hard on our topic 'Looking Backwards and Forwards' and have been learning about how things have changed over time.

**Kaine Shaw** – "I found it really interesting to explore how cars have changed so much over time. In particular, these new cars have boosters and chemicals to make them really fast."

**Scarlett Sargent** – "I didn't realise that computers and Ipads haven't been around forever, and that to print things they used to use typewriters. They are really funny looking."

We are very excited about our section of the fete on Thursday, where we are looking at how students learn now, with our classrooms showing all the different maths resources, spelling activities and writing work we use every day.

Just a reminder that next Thursday the 26<sup>th</sup> we have our 'Big Day Out'. Please get your letters in (if you haven't already) as you don't want to miss out on this fantastic opportunity to explore Melbourne and some of the major attractions it has to offer.



## Senior School . . .

The school was buzzing as the Grade 5/6 students prepared to walk to Ararat College for the Expo. Everybody was beaming as they tried out different activities, ranging from Origami to convection in the Science area. We thought it was fortuitous that we were walking back to school, as we watched the 5/6s consume piles of sugar, in the form of cupcakes and their personal decorations (such as marshmallows, sprinkles and M&Ms). It was a great morning had by all, with comments from various children that they would really like to go to Ararat College.



This has been one of the many activities that we are engaged in at the Senior School. Our Investigations program is in full swing with the theme 'Museums in Motion'. Students are busy researching an Australian Pioneer and making a static display (diorama) of an event in Australian history. These will be presented at a showcase later in the term.

We would like to give a big pat on the back and commendations to the Grade 5s, for surviving NAPLAN week. They all approached the week with a positive attitude, whilst the Grade 6s demonstrated flexibility in the activities they completed over the week.



A happy 'Back to the Future' fete day, remember "it is your density".

## Education Week Read In . . .



Reading is fun . . .

## Ararat College School Expo . . .



## AWM Roll of Honour Soundscape . . .



Recording the names of World War One service-men from the Australian War Memorial Roll of Honour proved to be a moving experience for our Senior School student leaders. The recording will be played in the cloisters of Canberra's AWM for the next four years.

- Gretta Fennell - James Samuel Becker—age unknown
- Angel Herbert-King - Ernest George Lewingdon—age unknown
- Louise Cooper - William Albert Letts—age unknown
- Logan Cooper - Thomas Whalley Liddell—age 19
- Joel McNaughton - William Patrick Leonard—age unknown
- Olivia McGrath - William Arthur Leonard—age 20
- Holly McAdie - Keith Maurice Levi—age unknown
- James Mullin - Lewis Leoville—age unknown
- Flynn Toner - Frank Ley—age unknown
- Dakota Barrie - Rowland Lenthall—age 24





**SHORT AND SNOTTY TO TALL AND SPOTTY**  
*"The best youth work happens in early years."*

**May 25<sup>th</sup> 7-9pm**  
**at the**

**Ararat Performing Arts Centre**

**A FREE information night for parents and carers who are interested in making the transition easier for their kids as they move from short and snotty to tall and spotty**

This 2 hour interactive session is a chance to look at ways in which we can build resilience in our children: through play, role modeling and conversation, learning to celebrate their "I CAN" lists introducing the concept of having a plan

**Presenter** Leigh Bartlett has a background in education, wellbeing and sports coaching and has practiced the content on her own children! Leigh has presented many parent education sessions and truly believes that the best youth work DOES happen long before our kids hit their teens!

For more information or to RSVP contact:  
 Kristy Price: 03 5358 7400 or email:  
[kristy.p@grampianscommunityhealth.org.au](mailto:kristy.p@grampianscommunityhealth.org.au)

**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**



*Happy Birthday to:*

- May 11th Lilli O'Donnell
- Amiel Lillis-Pattison
- 13th Angel Herbert-King
- 19th Sophie Cooper

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	 School Banking processed on Tuesdays		19th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am <b>Open School and Fete "Back to the Future" 2:30 - 5:00pm</b>	20th <b>NO LUNCH ORDERS</b> <b>STUDENT FREE DAY</b> Staff PD 
23rd <b>Assembly</b>  Circus Showcase 5-6D and 1-2K 9:30am - 11:00am <u>Girls to wear leggings or pants</u>	24th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am <b>5/6 Winter Sports</b>	25th Bamboozle 3:30pm - 4:45pm  Short and Snotty to Tall and Spotty - 7:00pm	26th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am "Bounce Program" Year 6 Production rehearsal - Scene 8 & 9 3:30pm to 5pm	27th <b>LUNCH ORDERS</b> Sporting Schools Volleyball
30th  <b>STUDENT FREE DAY</b> Report Writing Day	31st Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am Circus Showcase 3-4C and 1-2TB 9:30am 5-6K and 1-2V 12:00 noon <u>Girls to wear leggings or pants</u>	<b>June 1st</b> Circus Showcase 5-6C and 1-2FJ 9:30am Prep S and 3-4H 12:00 noon <u>Girls to wear leggings or pants</u>  Bamboozle 3:30pm - 4:45pm	2nd 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 <b>LUNCH ORDERS</b> Sporting Schools Volleyball
6th 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 <b>LUNCH ORDERS</b> Sporting Schools Volleyball