



Principal's Report

Dear parents, friends and students of Ararat Primary 800,

NAPLAN testing for students in Years 3 and 5 will commence next week, in line with Australia-wide assessment requirements. The following schedule has been established by the Department of Education and Training (DET):

- * Tuesday morning - Language Conventions - Spelling, Grammar and Writing
- * Wednesday morning - Reading
- * Thursday morning - Numeracy

Please note that **testing commences at 9:00am each day, so it is essential that all Year 3 and 5 students are at school on time – by 8:50am.** If your child is absent on any given day, please contact the school office on 5352 1253 to explain the situation. If necessary, 'catch up' tests will be conducted on Friday, May 13th.

Congratulations to our Year 4, 5 and 6 students on their efforts at the **Black Ranges Division Cross Country Championships** on Tuesday. We're very pleased to announce that Gretta Fennell and Hayley Manning have qualified for the Regional Championships, to be conducted on June 6th in Warrnambool. Special thanks, once again, to Mr Pilgrim and Mr Hewish for their coordination of the event, and to Sarah Smith for her assistance and support during the day.

A further highlight this week was the staging of our **"Girls, Giggles and Games"** celebration yesterday morning – which turned out to be our biggest yet! Thank you to our students, and their immediate and extended families and friends for joining in the fun. Particular thanks to Katie Sanford, Cathy Tapscott, Jenni Jacobi and Marg Dyer for coordinating the event, and to our remarkable staff team for organising breakfast and a wide range of very special activities for our girls – of all ages! Thank you, also, to Tara Bajer and Kelly Sobey for running this year's **Mothers' Day stall**, and to Senior School students, Ariana Didomenico and Logan Interlandi, for their assistance. Our gifts were lovingly prepared by Mandy Murphy and the Stawell Craft Shop team – a brilliant effort!

We were very fortunate to have Eliza from **Hockey Victoria** and the Grampians Hockey Association conduct clinics for our Year 1 to 4 students yesterday, and all feedback from the sessions has been glowingly positive. Sincere thanks to Eliza for giving our students such a great opportunity.

I had the pleasure of accompanying our students to last Saturday's **NICA workshop**, and, once again, an amazing day was had by all. Well done to Chris Fiscalini, our students, staff and families on their generous commitment and support. On occasions like this, it's gratifying to receive unsolicited feedback from members of the wider community who are very ready to provide positive comments about our children's beautiful manners and outstanding social skills. It always leaves me feeling very proud!

Education Week, 2016

Our school will celebrate Education Week 2016 during the week commencing Monday, May 16th. A range of exciting activities have been planned, which highlight the outstanding learning opportunities presented to our children every day. We extend a special invitation for you to join us as we launch the week with a whole-school Read-In activity on Monday the 16th. On Tuesday, May 17th, a team of our aspiring artists will be involved in a special workshop at the Ararat Gallery, while our Year 5s and 6s attend the Ararat College Expo. This will be followed on Wednesday by a Mystery Reader, school tours and our mid-term assembly. Thursday is the high-light of our celebratory week, with the staging of our afternoon into after-school **"Back to the Future" fete and expo**, from 2:30 to 5:00pm. All classrooms will be set up with special activities and our students will also run stalls and a range of 'fete' challenges. Details of these special events have been included as an insert with this newsletter. Please note these dates on your calendar - and we look forward to you joining us.

Our staff, students and their families will be on the go again this weekend, as we host the monthly **Alexandra Hall market on Sunday morning**. Thank you to all families who have offered their support with setting up, manning stalls and cleaning up, and to everyone who has donated supplies for the barbecue and trash'n'treasure. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Finally, on behalf of our students and staff, I wish all of our mums and grandmas a joyful and relaxing Mothers' Day on Sunday.

Kind regards,

Jennifer Molan

School values: Respect Honesty Self Awareness Learning Belonging

Dates to remember in Term 2

Friday 20th May
Monday 30th May
Monday 13th June

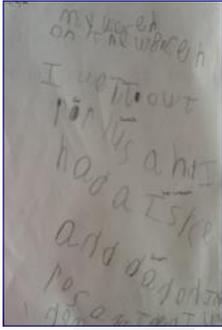
Staff PD - Student free day
Report Writing Day - Student free day
Queen's Birthday - Public Holiday



TERM DATES 2016

Term 2: 11th April - 24th June
Term 3: 11th July - 16th September
Term 4: 3rd October - 20th December

Prep World . . .



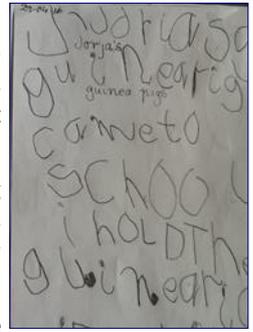
In Prep World we have been busy learning how to form our letters and recognise new words. We have been doing lots of 'kid writing' where students use the sounds they know to create the words they want to write. Everyone has been taking great pride in their writing and are showing persistence when giving it a go.

We have also been learning about recounts and how they tell us about something that has happened. We hope all of the Prep World mothers enjoy their special cards they get on Sunday with a recount written by their child about a special time they have shared with their Mum.

Thanks to everyone who has been online to check out our Prep World Blog. We have enjoyed reading some of the comments people have left and we reply as often as we can. Please feel free to stop in for a look at...



<http://prepworld.global2.vic.edu.au/>



Buzzy Bees . . .



Buzzy Bee World has been a hive of activity over the last few weeks with our Friday rotations getting into full swing. Science is of course everyone's favourite because the Stephen Hawking of Ararat, Mr Kean, has been bringing in the 'big guns' of paper aeroplanes and lolly bridges. P.E. with Miss Vernon, Brain Gym with Nat and Bounce Back with Mrs Jerram have also been enjoyed. Our Discoveries projects are underway, with students planning out their research and setting themselves goals. The topic of "Where in the World" has sparked a lot of interest in how different areas on the earth contribute to our world.



Middle School . . .

Our Middle School students and families continue to show excellent community engagement skills.

Our recent community games afternoon and maths information night were enjoyed by all who attended. Here's what some students had to say:

"My brother and I thought playing checkers, snakes and ladders and chess was great. We would recommend community games to everyone" - Connor Robinson

"Our family enjoyed learning and playing the maths games, especially Multo and Game of 31. They are games that we continue to play at home" - Hugh Toner

"I enjoy playing dice and card games at home with my sister. I learnt some new ones at the maths information night."

- Veruca Davies- Harrison



MATHS PUZZLE...

Can you see the pattern?



	Intelligence Test
$6 + 4 = 210$	
$9 + 2 = 711$	
$8 + 5 = 313$	
$5 + 2 = 37$	
$7 + 6 = 113$	
$9 + 8 = 117$	
$10 + 6 = 416$	
$15 + 3 = 1218$	

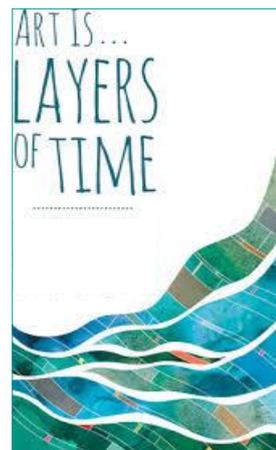
Share if you understand

Upcoming events

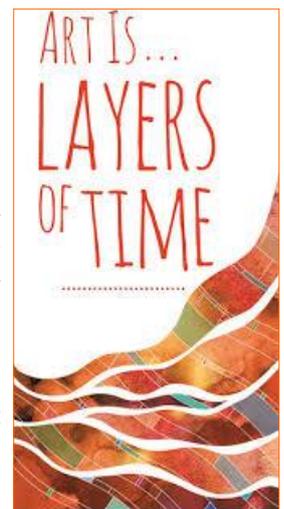
Big Day Out (Thursday 26th May) - More information to follow

Community Games on Thursday June the 2nd (2:15)

Senior School . . .



Some of the students from Grades 5/6 have been attending a workshop known as "Art Is..." The students have performed in different ways with the focus on learning new skills in circus and acrobatics and being physical in a fun way. Tim, with his wicked sense of humour, led the students through the interactive activities, with many kids being out of their comfort zone. One of the activities was a trust exercise. In pairs, they guided their partner around. The person guiding had to help the other person get around without hurting themselves. Another exercise was to make letters and shapes with their bodies. In Wednesday's session the children had to make forts using lots of materials they found in the Circus Hall. Then their group had to perform a skit. By all accounts, the time went quickly and was a lot of fun and the kids are looking forward to participating again in a few week's time.



Black Ranges Cross Country . . .



It was my first time at cross country. As I approached the starting line my nervousness was growing larger and larger; the suspense before the race was unbelievable. As we started the race, everybody started cheering. It was so confusing, I didn't know where to go until I saw the white line. The track was rocky and bumpy and I tried my best to avoid the puddles on the track. As I looked ahead, I saw a massive hill coming up - I thought the track would be level! Closer to the end, I saw another steep hill! I ran faster up that hill because the girl behind me was catching up. As I exited through the gate onto the oval, I was coming third. I ran around the oval, closing into the finish line; I was so exhausted by then. As I crossed the finish line, I was relieved that it was over. Overall, I came third, the person who came first went to West, and the person who came second goes to Willaura Primary (I think). **By Hayley Manning of Year 5**

The wind was getting worse. I looked at all the girls around me, and they seemed so much more capable than me. I jogged to the starting line with butterflies in my stomach, except they were doing cartwheels! Our race was delayed, and the suspense was getting unbearable. A couple of minutes later, the man ran over to us and blew the air horn. I freaked out and sprinted to the front. I was exhausted by the time I passed the crowd, who erupted in applause when I passed. Then I kept the same speed throughout the whole race, except when I had to go up and down the massive hills. I was in front throughout the entire race, until I turned the corner and saw the biggest hill I had ever had to run up. I hadn't prepared for this. I ran up the hill and used all of my energy, so by the time I exited through the gate I was jogging. For me, that is still pretty fast, but I had the worst headache I had had in a while, and aching bones. I was in agony. I ran onto the oval and I had no choice. I HAD TO STOP! I ran as fast as I could towards the finish line, but it wasn't enough . . . In the end, I came second. I'd better prepare for the hills in the Regionals. We had a great day. **By Gretta Fennell of Year 6**



On behalf of the Ararat Primary School Black Ranges Cross Country team, we would like to thank Mr. Hewish, Sarah Smith, Mr. Pilgrim and Shane Murphy - our bus driver for the day.

Postscript: The bus trip home was awesome and we sang the whole way back - "Uptown Funk", "Que Sera", "Advance Australia Fair" and "Jingle Bells". It was great fun!

Mothers' Day Stall . . .

The staff and students of Ararat Primary School, take this opportunity to wish all of our mothers a **HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY** for Sunday.



Hockey with Hockey Victoria . . .

Our Buzzy Bee and Middle School students participated in Grampians Hockey

Roadshow sessions, which were run by Eliza from Hockey Victoria. All students involved had a wonderful time.



NICA . . .



Last Saturday, a group of our students, parents and teachers travelled by train to Melbourne to attend NICA. The first thing we did was warm up - we played games like "Ant Hospital" and "Crab Attack". After warm up, we did stretches, then divided into three groups of ten - and the real fun began! My first activity was juggling and hat manipulation, which was taught by Ryan. He was really good, and taught me how to juggle five balls. My second activity was hoops. That was fun, although I wasn't very good at it. The last activity was acrobalance and adagio. We made amazing shapes and learnt many cool positions. I really enjoyed NICA, and would like to thank Ms Fis, Mr Collins, Miss Molan, Mrs Jerram, Kate, Mr Kean, Miss Vernon, Mrs Dyer and all of the parents and grandparents who organised the trip, and helped on the day.

Written by Bailee Turner Year 6





Junior Basketball & Futsal

Term 3 & 4 ~ 2016
Registrations are now OPEN

Get your registration form at the Ararat Fitness Centre, text or email me, return by Friday 24th June.

Phone Donna on 0427 521 074
or email ararat.redbacks@gmail.com



- *Have fun*
- *Keep fit and healthy*
- *Make friends and develop social skills*
- *Learn new skills*
- *Develop Teamwork*
- *Enhance self esteem*

"Live Your Christian Life" Sacramental Preparation

Parents of all children interested in making their Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist are invited to an information evening to be held at the Parish **Presbytery**.

There are two dates scheduled for this meeting - please choose one that suits you and let Joyce at the Parish Office - 5352 5460 - know which date you will be attending.

WEDNESDAY MAY 4th at 3.35pm / THURSDAY MAY 12th at 7pm.

Please note two different dates and times. If you have already done some preparation for the course and just need to ask a few questions — please call into the office. Parents are required to attend, children welcome.



Happy Birthday

April 29th Ava Kahle-Phillips

May 1st Tamsyn Kettle
2nd Tequijuan Harmer

3rd Ellie Dawson
Jed Rhodes

4th Sarona Melenhorst

5th Crystal Thomas



MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	 School banking processed on Tuesdays		5th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am Production rehearsal - Scene 4 & 5 3:30pm to 5pm	6th LUNCH ORDERS Northcote College Band performance
9th Assembly	10th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am NAPLAN Language Conventions and Writing	11th NAPLAN Reading Bamboozle 3:30pm - 4:45pm	12th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am NAPLAN Numeracy Production rehearsal - Scene 6 & 7 3:30pm to 5pm	13th LUNCH ORDERS NAPLAN Catch-up day
16th Assembly Education Week launch and 'READ IN'	17th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am Ararat College Education Week Expo Aspiring Artists' Workshop	18th School Tours At 9:00am and 12:00 Mystery Storyteller Education Week mid-term assembly Bamboozle 3:30pm - 4:45pm	19th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am Open School and Fete "Back to the Future"	20th NO LUNCH ORDERS STUDENT FREE DAY Staff PD 
23rd Assembly	24th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am Winter Sports	25th Bamboozle 3:30pm - 4:45pm	26th Breakfast Club 8:30 - 8:50am "Bounce Program" Year 6 Production rehearsal - Scene 8 & 9 3:30pm to 5pm	27th LUNCH ORDERS

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