



Together We Learn

# KOO WEE RUP Primary School

February 2023

The Foundation students have had a fantastic start to school with them settling into the school routine well. Students have enjoyed going to their specialist classes and exploring out in the yard during their play breaks. They have begun working on their sounds and alphabet with the students looking at the /m/ letter and sound. Students have also begun looking at the days of the week and counting to 5. The children have enjoyed making friends and interacting with their peers and teacher through play and conversations. We are looking forward to the wonderful year with our 3 Foundation classes!

**Miss Robinson, Miss Waldock and Miss Griffith.**



# Principal's Message

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A very big welcome to the 2023 school year. Koo Wee Rup Primary School has started the year smoothly with our students returning to school very settled after the Summer break. Our newest students, our Foundation students, have survived their first week of school, and similarly to the older students, have settled into the routines of school very quickly.

Our first two weeks in the classroom this year, as in past years, is focused on what we call 'Learning to Learn'. During this period we focus our attention on developing positive relationships in classrooms, establishing good learning routines and behaviours, in addition to setting clear expectations for the year ahead. A new addition to classroom programs this year is what we refer to as morning circles. Based on some professional learning a number of staff undertook last year on the Berry St Educational Model, the morning circle is a short, 5-10 minute period of time where the class meets and partakes in the following activities; turn and greet the person beside you by name, sharing of any announcements, naming 2-3 values that the class would like to focus on for the day, identifying 1-2 expectations for the each other for the day, a positive primary (a short 1-2 minute game or activity to build positivity and energy, and finally a 'what went well' where a couple of students may share a positive experience. The teacher facilitates the conversation, however the discussion is driven by the students. We are finding this is building some really positive energy in classrooms to start the day. You may like to ask your children about this. Later in the year, all staff will begin the Berry St Educational Model professional learning as we strive toward supporting all our students the very best that we can.

Last Friday we had a Curriculum Day with all staff deepening their knowledge on best practice for teaching Place Value in Mathematics. As a school we are always refining our teaching practice and this professional learning has provided us with a lot of food for thought particularly in the ways in which we can differentiate our teaching in every classroom in order to cater to all students' ability level.

This Friday again we have a Curriculum Day scheduled so it will also be a student free day. This Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> February, all staff will be working with an external facilitator to learn about the Play is the Way approach. Play is the Way is a methodology for teaching social skills through heavily scaffolded game play. As we progress through the year more information, including articles for parents, will be shared via the newsletter or Parent Portal so keep an eye out for those.

Tomorrow (Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February) is school photo day! We ask that all students arrive at school on time to avoid missing their class photo. Additionally, please ensure your child is wearing full school uniform for their photo. Orders close at 5pm today and must be placed via the Spargo Photography Website (information previously sent via the Parent Portal).

## Principal's Message

On Thursday (16th February) we have our whole school swimming carnival. Parents are welcome to attend. Students are encouraged to wear their House Colours on Thursday. The weather is forecast to be quite hot on Thursday so please ensure that your child has their drink bottle, hat and sunscreen that they can re-apply throughout the day. We will be taking down a number of marquees to assist in providing shade for students between events. Any parents that wish to collect their child early from the pool are welcome to do so, you will just need to see their class teacher and sign them out.

On Tuesday the 28<sup>th</sup> of February and Thursday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March, we are hosting our 'Get to Know You' interviews. These are a great opportunity for parents to meet with their child's classroom teacher to share any information that you think will help your child's teacher in supporting and teaching them this year. Information on booking an interview time has been communicated via the Sentral Parent Portal.

In 2023 NAPLAN is a lot earlier than in the past and will be conducted between March 15th and 21st March. Students in Grades 3 and 5 will participate in NAPLAN online (apart from Grade 3 writing). If you have any questions about NAPLAN or how to support your child in the lead up to NAPLAN please feel free to speak with their classroom teacher.

Later in the term we will also be hosting The Resilience Project parent information session. This will be on March 21st and more information about this event will come home soon.

Some of you may have noticed our school website was down over the Christmas period. Our webhosting company was having some technical issues which have now been resolved. When visiting the website, the correct address is <https://kooweerupps.vic.edu.au>

For those new to our school, please join the Koo Wee Rup Primary School FaceBook page. We regularly share information, snippets of classroom activities, sporting achievements and school highlights via this platform. Additionally, classroom teachers send home a newsletter once per term also.

It has been noticed that on some morning we have a number of students arriving at school quite early. Our first staff member is on yard duty from 8:40am. Students arriving before this time are unsupervised. If your child needs to arrive early, I encourage you to utilise our out of school hours care provider, Their Care. Their Care also provide after school care. I encourage all parents to register with Their Care as they cannot take students that are not registered. It is free to register and that way the service will be available to you should you ever need it.

At Koo Wee Rup primary School we really value the support of parent helpers. Being a parent helper comes in many forms and does not always have to be in your child's classroom. To find out a bit more about how you could be a parent helper please contact your child's teacher.



# School Community News



## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

### CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

### MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:  
<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>

### HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.



# School Community News



Koo Wee Rup Primary School has been working with The Resilience Project for the past 7 years. In 2023, we will again be working closely with The Resilience Project to support children as they build and develop strategies to support their resilience. Throughout each week, students will be explicitly taught the key principles of Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness and Emotional Literacy (GEM +EL) along with new content of Connection & Vulnerability.

A large part of our work with The Resilience Project is the connection between home and school. Using the tools from The Resilience Project are a great way to further support the work we are doing here at the school. Throughout the year, we will provide links, updates and invitations to parent sessions presented by The Resilience Project. We encourage all families to have a look at the valuable resources and join in the sessions provided. Below is the first of our information, where we introduce families to TRP and the principles we will be learning about at school.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me here at the school.

*Kind Regards,*

*Belinda McNaughton*

*Assistant Principal – Engagement and Wellbeing*

## **Part 1: A Refresh with Hugh: Embracing Your Season – Parent and Carer video series**

Throughout 2023, we will continue to work closely with The Resilience Project to support the wellbeing of our school community.

The Resilience Project delivers emotionally engaging programs and provides evidence-based, practical strategies to build resilience.

Our Partnership Program consists of online presentations and weekly lessons for students, professional development for staff, and Parent & Carer Hub (inc. digital presentations) for our parent and carer community.

Over the coming weeks, we'll be sharing the Parent & Carer Hub with you. The videos are 5-10 minutes long and will walk through the key pillars of resilience with some new content: **Gratitude**, **Empathy**, **Mindfulness**, **Connection** & **Vulnerability**. You'll hear stories and be introduced to activities to show how these strategies can support your children's learning and development, and also support you as parents and carers.

This program is an important part of our school's effort to look after the mental health of our community.

**View the first presentation of the series here:**

Part 1 - Hugh talks about embracing the season you are in: <https://theresilienceproject.com.au/2023-parent-carer-hub-inspire-hugh-martin/d-carer-hub-hugh/> In this presentation, Hugh shares his realisation of the importance of embracing the season (chapter) you are in at the present moment. For mental health resources and support information, visit [The Resilience Project's Support Page](#).

## Junior School News

It has been a wonderful start to 2023 with the Year 1s and 2s settling well into their school routines during our Learning to Learn unit. It has been lovely to see their happy faces each day as they enter their classrooms, seeing their friends and joining their morning circles. The children have been greeting each other by their names (there have been plenty of names for them to learn) and setting values and expectations for the day, before playing a quick game with a partner and having the opportunity to share announcements with their classes.



In Reading, the students have been practicing their stamina to stay focused on their books for as long as possible in a short space of time. They have been reading with a buddy and retelling the stories they have listened to, including the characters and settings, along with the beginning, middle and end.

In Writing, students have started their Writers Notebooks, including designing their front covers and creating writing plans through a brainstorm of ideas. They have written a recount about a game they played with their classes and focused on correct writing behaviours.



In Maths, the students have looked at durations of time, such as seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months and seasons. They have ordered these time periods from shortest to longest and discussed activities that take these different amounts of time. They have also started learning about calendars and how to find dates, the days of the week in which a date lands on and how to work out how many days occur between different dates. Students have practiced working in groups through maths games, focusing on getting ready, working together and packing up at the end.



This term we're looking forward to the swimming carnival, getting to know all the students and lots of learning!

# School Community News



## • KOO-WEE-RUP-PRIMARY-SCHOOL

### Meet service Coordinator:

Naomi Perry

### Programming:

Welcome to Term 1 of 2023. We hope you all had an amazing break. I would like to welcome our new families to the service. We currently have 14 new Foundation children who have started with us this year. We have been talking about routines and how TheirCare works. This week we are talking about emotions and writing a letter to ourselves about a goal we wish to achieve this year and will then open the first week of December to see if we have achieved it. I am displaying 'All About Me' posters on the wall of the Foundation children. Just a reminder please bring a spare hat to leave at the service for Term 1 and 4. No Hat No Outside Play. Also this Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> is Pupil-Free Day and we are open from 6.30am-6pm.

### Registration and bookings

To find out more about our program, view fees and to register, visit [theircare.com.au](http://theircare.com.au) and search for your school. Alternatively, please call Customer Support on 1300-072-410.



### Contact Service

Phone: 0437-713 566  
 Email: [kooweerup@theircare.com.au](mailto:kooweerup@theircare.com.au)

### Contact Head-Office

Phone: 1300 072 410  
 Email: [info@theircare.com.au](mailto:info@theircare.com.au)

### Times

Before School: 6:30am – 8:45am  
 After School: 3:15pm – 6:00pm



# School Community News



## INFORMATION SESSION FOR PARENTS



Saver Plus pairs you with a savings coach so you can learn tips, tricks and information to grow your budgeting and saving skills. You save for 10 months, then ANZ matches your savings dollar-for-dollar up to \$500.

We'll talk about how it all works, plus who is eligible and how to join.

### MEETING DETAILS

- Thurs February 16th 2023, 10 - 11am (Vic Time)
- Wed February 22nd 2023, 10 - 11am (Vic Time)

#### Zoom Meeting Link:

[https://bsl.zoom.us/j/68016074995?](https://bsl.zoom.us/j/68016074995?pwd=K2d4dWl4WjRMbGRlRng0NGhoVVVZz09)

[pwd=K2d4dWl4WjRMbGRlRng0NGhoVVVZz09](https://bsl.zoom.us/j/68016074995?pwd=K2d4dWl4WjRMbGRlRng0NGhoVVVZz09)

**Passcode:** 027166

### KEY ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA TO JOIN SAVER PLUS

- Have a current health care card OR pensioner concession card
- Have a child in school OR be studying yourself
- Have regular income from work (yourself OR your partner)



#### RSVP

Scan the QR code or click the link below to register

<https://forms.office.com/r/zPTAvyaP5e>

[SAVERPLUS.ORG.AU](https://saverplus.org.au)

1300 610 355

[SAVERPLUS@BSL.ORG.AU](mailto:SAVERPLUS@BSL.ORG.AU)

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ and delivered in partnership with local community organisations. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services.





**NEW IN 2023**

# NOVICE NETBALL

**8 WEEK NETBALL CLINIC** *for Beginners*  
**MONDAYS | 5:30PM - 6:30PM**  
**CORA LYNN RECREATION RESERVE**

**AGE | 7 - 11 YEAR OLDS**      **COST | \$85.00**

**CLINIC COMMENCES MONDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2023**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER PLEASE EMAIL:**

**[NETBALLCLUB.CORALYNN@GMAIL.COM](mailto:NETBALLCLUB.CORALYNN@GMAIL.COM)**

# School Community News

## Congratulations to our award winners



### Important Dates:

A reminder that families can check their calendar of events in the **Sentral Parent Portal** for upcoming events

Breakfast Club 8:15am every day from Monday 13th February

Tuesday 14th February

School Photos

Thursday 16th February

School Swimming Carnival

Friday 17th February

Student Free Curriculum Day

Tuesday 28th February

Get to know you sessions

Thursday 2nd March

Get to know you sessions

### Annual privacy reminder for our school community

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#). Please take time to read our school's collection notice, found on our website <https://kooweerups.vic.edu.au> We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use [Google Workspace for Education](#) (Google Classroom) safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using Google Workspace for Education (Google Classroom), please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents](#). This information is also available in ten community languages:

Amharic

Arabic

Dari

Gujarati

Mandarin

Somali

Sudanese

Turkish

Urdu

Vietnamese