



Together We Learn

KOO WEE RUP Primary School

June 2023

Our Bluey fundraiser will continue every Monday to Thursday for the rest of Term 2.

Our sincere thanks to the Magree and Sciberras families for their very kind donations to her upkeep.



Bluey
Fundraiser



2 Pythons for \$1.00

Support
Bluey!

Help buy
food &
Equipment

Principal's Message

Over the last few weeks our teachers have been busily writing mid-year reports. The Leadership Team have been reading these and it has been lovely to read how well the majority of our students are progressing. Reports will be distributed to families via the Sentral Parent Portal in the last week of term. Following the holiday break there will be an opportunity for Parent Teacher Interviews. Further information regarding the interviews will be provided to families at the commencement of next term.



Last week Mrs McNaughton and I attended the Division Cross Country event where we had 9 students representing Koo Wee Rup Primary School. Although no students from our school are progressing to the next stage of competition, those that did compete should feel incredibly proud of their achievements. On the day, competition was intense and each of our competitors acquitted themselves to the best of their ability.

Our indigenous students recently attended the Cardinia Shire flag raising ceremony as part of the Shire's Reconciliation Week activities. All those that attended had an enjoyable day participating in a range of activities with indigenous students from other schools in our network. This day was followed up with a Cultural Leadership Day attended by Ollie and Kyran, our school Cultural Leaders.

We enjoyed a performance at our last assembly from our students that are learning instrumental music with Mr King from Koo Wee Rup Secondary College.

Lessons are free for students in Year 3-6 and held at our school of a Wednesday afternoon. If your child is interested in joining the band please contact the office.



Each term, Brian Harlow leads the 'Men's Shed' group with a number of our Grade 6 students to complete a community based project within the school. This term the group has been repairing the fencing along the East boundary of our bandicoot habitat. This will ensure the space is well defined and will be safe for our students to explore.

We are continuing to bring our book collection into our new Library. This has proven to be a much bigger job than we first envisaged however we now have all our books in the space with some shelving to be completed. We have had a number of volunteers assist so far and for that we are very grateful. If any one is able to donate a few hours of their time over the coming week or two it would be greatly appreciated. We are planning for the Library to be operational for our students from the beginning of Term 3.

Principal's Message

Our Gymnasium building project is in the final stages of approval with the contractors. I am awaiting final updates from the Victorian School Buildings Authority and our architects on when the official start date may be.

As the term draws to a close and we head into the coldest parts of Winter, it is a timely reminder that students should not be arriving at school too early. Our first staff member is on duty from 8:40am. At this time, the Bike Shed is opened and the toilets are unlocked. If the weather is wet and cold this is the time we also open classrooms. Students that arrive at school prior to 8:40am are unsupervised and will potentially be out in the cold and rain. Our music for classroom entry begins at 8:45am and the students have until 8:55am to make their way into their classroom in readiness for learning time.

With only 2-more weeks to go until the holidays, we still have a number of reminders. This coming Monday, the 12th of June is the King's Birthday public holiday. Friday next week (16th of June) the deposit for the Grade 3/4 Camp to Phillip Island is due. Please make sure this is paid on time so we can confirm our numbers with the camp. Also on the 16th of June, our Grade 5/6 students will be participating in the Senior Sports round robin day. I will be working with our football team here at the school on that day whilst other teams are playing both here, at the Koo Wee Rup Recreation Reserve and at St. John's Primary School. It is set to be a great day for all students involved. A big thanks to Mr Dillon for organising the event.

On Friday the 23rd of June, our Grade 3/4 students will be participating in a free SES incursion where they will learn about community safety with a focus on flood awareness.

At last Friday's assembly I announced the reward for students that have completed at least 50 nights of reading for the term. The Student Voice group this term decided on a free dress day voucher. As students reach the milestone their teacher will provide them with a free dress day voucher. Students may then use that voucher on a day of their choice. Students simply bring their voucher to school and hand it to their teacher on the day they come in free dress.

Our Foundation transition program begins on the 2nd of August. If you have or know of anyone who has a child intending to start Foundation here at Koo Wee Rup Primary School next year, I urge you to enrol as soon as possible so that all transition sessions may be attended.

Our last day of school for Term 2 will be Friday the 23rd of June. Students will be dismissed at 2:15pm on that day. I will be taking leave for the first 3-weeks of Term 3. In my absence Mrs McNaughton will step into the Principal role and Mrs Cruse will be the Acting Assistant Principal. I have the utmost confidence that both will do a splendid job in ensuring a smooth start to Term 3. I will return from Week 4.

Take care,
Ben Zimmerle



Smile Squad is on the way to our school!

All children deserve a healthy smile, and the Smile Squad is coming to Koo Wee Rup Primary School to help make sure this happens.

Smile Squad is a Victorian Government program that provides free dental care to all Victorian government primary and secondary school students.

The friendly Smile Squad dental team will visit Koo Wee Rup Primary School soon to conduct a free annual dental health examination for every student and provide free follow up treatment as needed.

What do you need to do? We need your consent before we can provide services. Consent is usually provided by a parent or guardian.

Sign up to Smile Squad at: <https://bit.ly/smilesquadvic>

OR use the below QR code:



Although the engagement of parents/guardians is encouraged, in Victoria, students who are considered 'mature minors' may provide consent for their own dental care. To be considered a mature minor, the Smile Squad clinician must be satisfied that the student has sufficient understanding of the risks, benefits, and possible complications of their condition and proposed treatment to give informed consent.

The Smile Squad team will check the student's teeth and mouth and show them how to keep their teeth healthy and strong. They will also provide any preventive services you have consented for. If the student needs more treatment, the Smile Squad will discuss this and seek consent.

Please complete and submit the consent form by Friday 23rd June , 2023

Paper copies of the consent form are available. Please contact the school office if you would like to request one.

The electronic consent form can be translated into more than 100 languages, and the paper form is available in 13 languages.

Do I need to attend my child's appointment? No, you do not need to attend your child's appointment. You can attend if you would like to, and you can take your child to the community dental clinic if you prefer.

Who is Smile Squad? The bright orange Smile Squad vans are staffed by experienced oral health therapists, dental therapists, dental assistants and dentists. They all have lots of experience treating children and a passion for improving their oral health – for life.

Learn more about the Smile Squad by visiting www.smilesquad.vic.gov.au or contact the team at smilesquad@dhs.vic.gov.au.

Principal's Message

Our thank you to the Bendigo Bank Koo Wee Rup for their kind donation to our school through the Tokens of Appreciation Program. The donation will be put towards our playground upgrade.



'Footsteps into Foundation 2024'

Koo Wee Rup Primary School strives to ensure we provide a positive gateway into lifelong education for your child. We prioritise the wellbeing of our students with the understanding that this underpins children's ability to engage fully in the learning process.

In the classroom we challenge our students academically through a differentiated approach to teaching, ensuring that the individual needs of all students is catered to. Our curriculum and way of teaching is constantly evolving so that our teaching and learning programs are developed in line with current research into educational 'best practice'.

Our school motto of 'Together We Learn' is embedded through a strong professional learning program for all teachers to constantly reflect and build on their teaching practice.

Our 'Footsteps into Foundation' transition program has been established for new Foundation enrolments as a bridge between kindergarten and primary school. The program involves 9 planned transition sessions as well as a parent information session. As Principal of Koo Wee Rup Primary School, I invite you to visit our welcoming and friendly school and see for yourself the high quality teaching and learning programs on offer for all students.

To arrange your personal tour, please contact the school on 5997 1272.



Moody Street, Koo Wee Rup 3981
Website: www.kooweerups.vic.edu.au

Term 3 Transition (2:15 – 3:15pm)

Wednesday 2nd August

Wednesday 16th August

Wednesday 30th August

Wednesday 13th September

Term 4 Transition (1:45 – 3:15pm)

Wednesday 18th October

Wednesday 1st November

Wednesday 15th November

Wednesday 29th November

State-wide Transition (9am - 1pm)

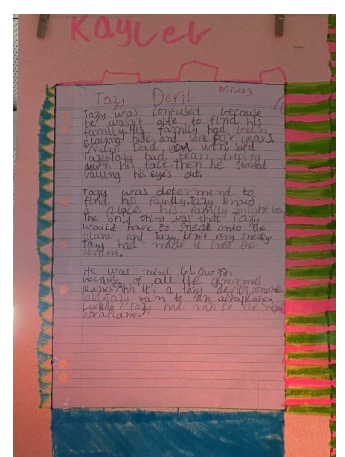
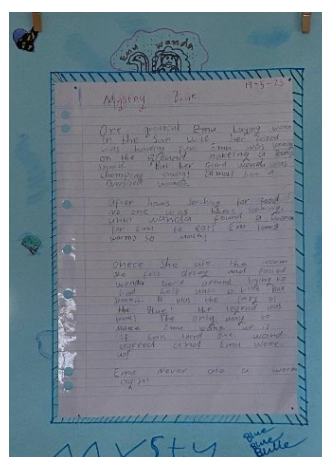
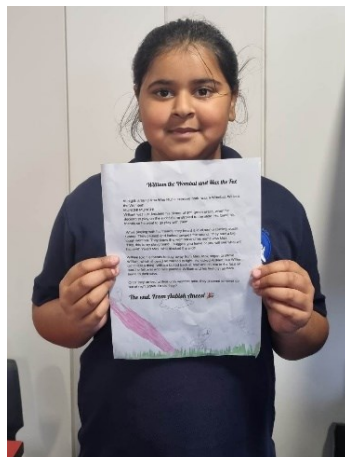
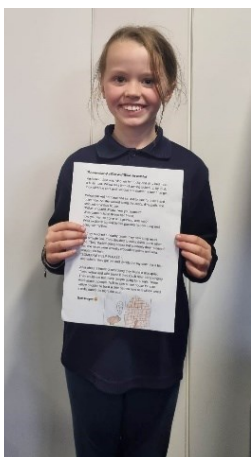
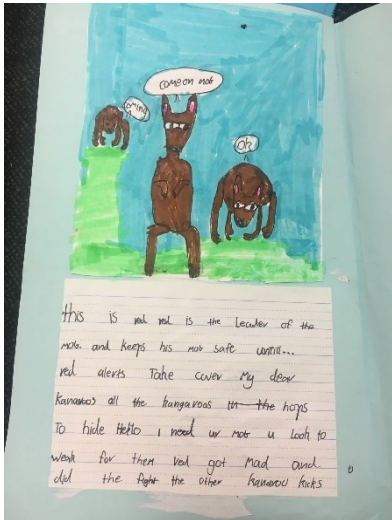
Tuesday 12th December



Phone: 5997 1272
Email: koo.wee.rup.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Middle School Update

This term the Year 3/4 students have been writing Narratives. They have explored how to hook the reader in and use interesting words. Our narratives have been linked to our Integrated topic of Australia. At the end of our unit students had the opportunity to publish their favourite story that they wrote. Students enjoyed illustrating their stories and sharing their finished narrative with their peers.



Senior School Updated

Term 2 has been packed with lots of great learning for students in Year 5 and 6! In Writing, students have explored the elements of narratives including character creation, setting description and plot development. Students crafted captivating narratives focusing on natural disasters to link with our integrated unit on Geography. They were shown how to use similes, metaphors and personification to make their writing engaging for the reader.



During our exploration of natural disasters, we completed a novel study on the text: *I Survived the Japanese Tsunami, 2011*, a realistic fiction novel following the courageous journey of a young boy. This riveting story helped students with a range of comprehension skills, including interpreting figurative language, making inferences and recognising cause and effect.

In the world of numbers, our Year 5 and 6 mathematicians explored various addition and subtraction strategies, including the split, jump and vertical strategies. Tasks were related to real world concepts, such as calculating differences in AFL game scores. Students were encouraged to round and estimate their solutions to develop their problem-solving skills.



Year 5 and 6 students showcased their determination during the school cross country. We commend all participants for their impressive effort and congratulate those who made it to the district and division levels! We've also seen fantastic teamwork and sportsmanship displayed by students during Senior Sport. Our soccer, hockey, football, netball and T-ball teams are very much looking forward to the interschool sport event.

Throughout Term 2, we also dedicated time to Family Life sessions focusing on health, development and wellbeing. Next Term, we are very excited for our topic on Biological and Chemical Sciences, as well as events including the Lions Club Speaking Competition and athletics.

School Community News



Service coordinator - Debbie Laird

This term we have been busy with our Themes of The Week:

Week 1 we celebrated women's week and the children made lots of treats and crafts for the special women in their lives. We also had group time and the children got to stand up and speak about their mums, grandmas, aunties etc.

Week 2 was seasons week, The children made frozen hands, puffy paint ice cream art, button trees, tie dye butterflies, rainbow painting, and flowers from recycled materials.

Week 3 was space week, The children made astronaut masks from recycled paper bags, Stella made an amazing hot-air balloon from paper mache we also did planet and rainbow painting.

Week 4 was sustainability week, The children made grass people heads, rock painting, fairy garden, pom poms and gods eyes with sticks and wool.

Footy has been popular outside as well as skipping competitions, sand pit, and basketball.

We have been busy cooking damper, choc chip cookies, cakes and have been having delicious breakfasts, spaghetti on toast and eggs have been popular along with our afternoon teas pancake's, spaghetti Bolognese, nachos and many more.

We have also celebrated Colin, Imogen, and Dusty's birthday



Community News



GO WILD THESE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS!



JUNIOR KEEPER CLUB

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES, ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS AND NATIVE ANIMAL CARE

Includes interactions with kangaroos, pythons, feeding animals, food prep and animal enrichment activities. Learn about our animals, their conservation and the environment.
 For ages 7-14 years.

Winter Holiday Program

Week 1: Monday 26th, Tuesday 27th, Wednesday 28th, Thursday 29th, Friday 30th June
Week 2: Monday 3rd, Tuesday 4th, Wednesday 5th, Thursday 6th, Friday 7th July
 Cost: \$99.00 per day | Small groups of 16 | 10:00am start - 3:00pm finish



Moonlit Sanctuary Wildlife Park
 550 Tyabb-Tooradin Rd, Pearcedale | Phone 5978 7935
www.moonlitsanctuary.com.au
 Open daily between 10am and 4pm. Keeper Club runs
 from 10:00am-3:00pm.



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.



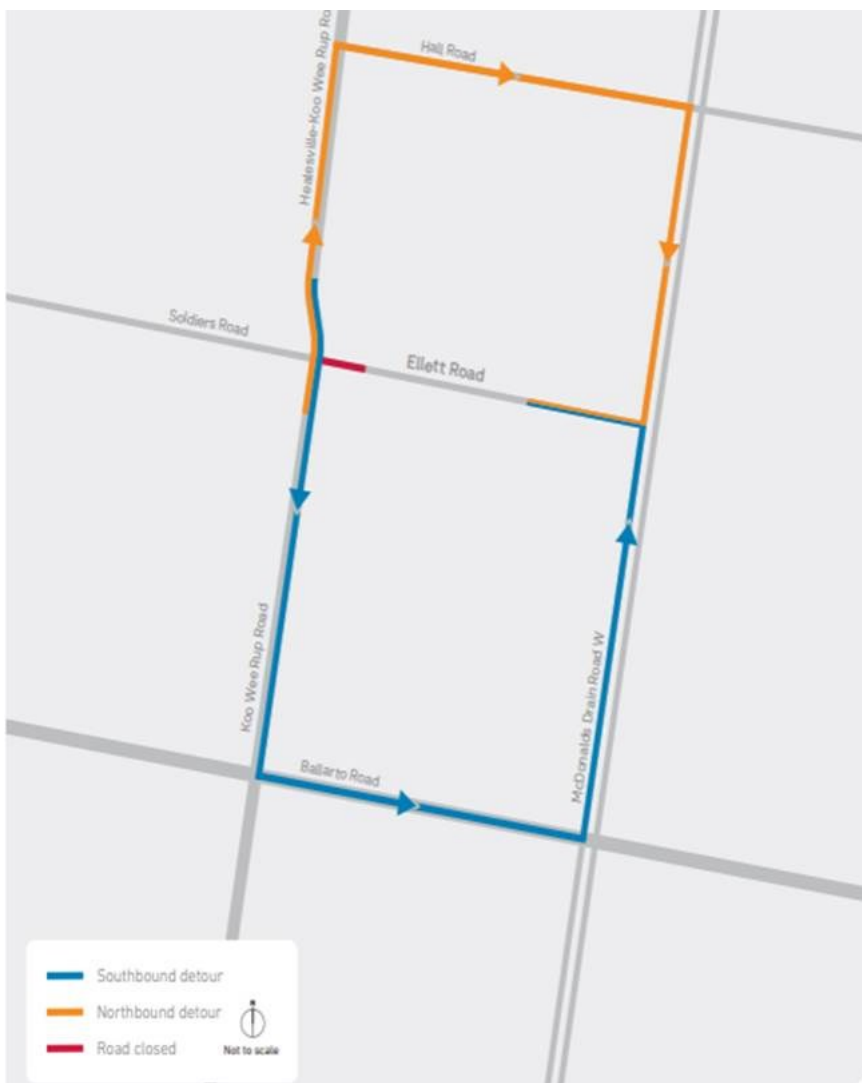
Community News

There is a planned road closure on Ellett Road at the intersection of Koo Wee Rup Road from **Monday 19 June 2023** to **Tuesday 12 September 2023**. Work will take place between 7am and 6pm Monday to Friday, and 7am and 1pm on Saturdays.

Please be assured that access to properties on Ellett Road will be maintained throughout the closure period. Vehicles needing to access Ellett Road from Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road will be detoured via McDonalds Drain Road, as shown on the detour map below. Please note that the progress of the work may be subject to weather conditions.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

SEYMOUR WHYTE



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

Fortnightly from Friday May 5th

School assembly

Monday June 12th

King's Birthday Public Holiday

Friday 16th June

Senior School Interschool Sports

Friday 23rd June

SES Incursion - Middle and Senior School

Friday June 23rd

2:15pm end of term dismissal