



Together We Learn

KOO WEE RUP Primary School

May 2023

Bright and early on ANZAC Day morning our school captains met for the Koo Wee Rup ANZAC Day dawn service. Our captains did a commendable job leading the march with the privileged job of being flag bearers. Charlie, one of our house captains laid a wreath on behalf of the school.



Principal's Message

Over the holiday period, some preliminary work has begun in preparation for the gymnasium building project. Adjacent to our new 1/2 building a relocatable toilet block has been delivered and through the course of this week it has been connected. We will begin using the new facility once demolition of our current toilet block begins. It is anticipated the project will begin in full toward the end of this term with an estimated construction period of 10-months. It is exciting to see this project finally beginning. There have been a number of holdups at the planning end due to rises in construction costs. As a result, the external aspect of the build has changed slightly from the original designs I shared last year. Updated images are included below.



Through the second half of Term 1 we had the portable at the front of the school, behind the fire shed, renovated internally to become our school library. Whilst there a few finishing touches still to be completed, including lighting, we will begin transferring our book collection from classrooms to the library space. Once setup, students will have weekly visits to the library where they will be able to look at, read and borrow from our full collection which will be wonderful.



Principal's Message

Our Bandicoot Habitat has had some further work completed with crushed rock delivered last weekend. Within the habitat space a path has been created and a large circular area in the centre which will become a teachable space for teachers to take their class to learn about the plants, insects and animals that visit the space. On the 11th of May we will be holding a planting day. On that day a number of volunteers will be attending to assist. Students interested in assisting will have the opportunity to do so. This has been a long time in the works and it is pleasing to finally get to this point. A Junior Landcare grant has been utilised to fund this project.

Last Friday we held our school Cross Country event. It was terrific to see so many of our students challenge themselves and give their all to the event. A big thank you to Mr Dillon for organising the event. Students who qualified will be notified shortly and will go on to compete at the District level on the 16th of May. A big thank you to the many parents and guests that came along to support their children.

On Thursday evening, parents are invited to join the latest The Resilience Project parent session. Information, including a link to the event has been sent home separately. The session begins at 6:30pm.

In our Grade 5/6 classes, students will begin their Family Life lessons this week. These informative sessions provide our students with a sound knowledge base of the changes their bodies will begin going through as they change from children to teenagers. Your child may come home with snippets of new information but more importantly, may ask you questions about what they've learnt. On the 17th of May we are having our Family Life session for Grade 3/4 parents. The session runs from 6:30pm to 7:45pm. Last year we had lots of parents attend this session with their Grade 3/4 child. It proved to be a great ice-breaker for what can at times be challenging conversations to have with our children. I encourage all Grade 3/4 parents to attend with their child.



We all know the important role that Mums (or Motherly figures) play in raising children and each year we celebrate that with Mother's Day each year. Parents and Friends will of course be holding our annual Mothers' Day stall (Friday 12th May) and we invite all the Koo Wee Rup Primary School mums to come along and join us here at the school for a light afternoon tea on Friday the 12th of May. Mums

can meet in the BER at 2:30pm where we will provide a light afternoon tea that you can take to your child/ren's classroom. We encourage everyone to pack a little something extra in their child's lunch box that day so that your child/ren can have a snack together with their mum.

Principal's Message

This Friday will be the first assembly for Term 2. Assemblies will continue to run each fortnight throughout the term. As always, parents are welcome to attend from 2:30pm in the BER.



FRIDAY 19 MAY 2023

Friday the 19th of May is Walk Safely to School Day. On this day, we encourage students to meet staff at either Tesoro Park or Cochrane Park where they can then walk together to school. Staff will be at both meeting points at 8:30am. Parents are welcome to join in on the walk to school.

This term's The Fathering Project is an exciting one with Sensei Michael from Shukokai Karate coming along to run a basic introduction to the art of Karate for students and dads (or father figure). It is certain to be fun event for all involved. I look forward to seeing our dads there! A flyer with more information will come home soon, however I encourage you all to put May 24th in your diary for this event!

It is hard to believe that it's only the start of May and we are thinking about next year already however it is almost time for our annual Foundation information evening. This event is aimed at parents that have children commencing Foundation in 2024. The 23rd of May is the date for this year's information session. A separate flyer is included elsewhere in the newsletter. If you know of someone who's child is starting school next year, please encourage them to come along to this event as it is a great opportunity for new families to ask questions and learn more about our school. We are now accepting 2024 Foundation enrolments.

On Tuesday evening our staff, together with the staff from Lang Lang Primary School and some members of Nar Nar Goon and Cardinia Primary Schools undertook the first part of training for the Berry Street Educational Model. The BSEM provides a framework and strategies to support schools to build stronger relationships with their students. It does this through highlighting the importance of student wellbeing and placing the wellbeing of each and every student at the forefront of everything we do. Last year a small number of staff undertook the training and due to the positive response it was agreed this would become a whole school initiative. As a result of the learning undertaken last year, all classrooms have implemented 'Morning Circles' as a way to start the day. Through Morning Circles each student is greeted by name, the class participates in a positive primer which is a short, sharp game or activity that activates positive energy amongst the group before discussing values and expectations for the day ahead. Generally, a Morning Circle will conclude with a 'What went well' comment from students where they share something that has gone well for them throughout the morning. The Morning Circle takes between 5 and 10 minutes and sets the scene for a positive and productive day ahead for all students. As a school we have seen the positive impact this one simple tool has had already this year with classrooms much calmer and more productive through the morning sessions. The complete suite of training will take place through a further 7 sessions to be completed this year and into 2024.

Principal's Message

I am certain that all of you have heard in the media, discussion around the current teacher shortage. This is impacting us here at Koo Wee Rup Primary School, particularly in relation to employing casual relief teachers. Unfortunately there are times when our teachers do get sick or have to take leave for personal reasons. In these instances we do our best to hire a casual relief teacher for the day. Currently this is not always possible due to current staff shortages within the education industry. Some days, the agencies we use simply cannot help us and we need to split classes. Where possible we do try to split classes within their year level cohort however we often need to extend to older and younger year levels in order to keep class sizes manageable. We understand that this is less than ideal however we appreciate your understanding. It is not our preference but is a product of the current climate within the education sector. Hopefully as more teachers graduate from university mid-year the situation will see some relief.

This term we welcome Ms Erin McMillan back to Koo Wee Rup Primary School after taking leave to have a baby. Ms McMillan is working in 5/6C as an Education Support Staff member.

Ben Zimmerle

Principal

Principal's Message

'Footsteps into Foundation 2024' Parent Information Night Tuesday 23rd May 6-7pm

Please join us on Tuesday 23rd May from 6 pm for a brief overview of the wonderful programs in place at our school.

Our 'Footsteps into Foundation' transition program has been established for new Foundation enrolments.

It involves 9 planned transition sessions as well as a parent information session. More information and dates will be available on the night.

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.

We are currently only accepting enrolments from families who reside in our zone. Further information can be found at www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au.

Enrolments are now being accepted. If you are wishing to enrol before the information night, enrolment packs are available at the school.

Tours are available upon request. Please contact the school on 5997 1272 if you'd like to book a tour.

'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

Foundation Update

We are so excited to be back for Term 2! Foundation students bounded in on Day 1 of Term 2 to share what they had done on their holidays with their friends and teachers.

Last term, students enjoyed experiencing their first footy inflatable day where they participated in a range of different activities and practised their footy skills. We may have some future AFL stars in the making!



Students also enjoyed their first Easter Parade. They enthusiastically showed off their Easter bonnets, that were beautifully made in Art with Miss Irvin, to the rest of the school and the community. The Colour Run was another highlight for students. They had a blast running through the obstacle course with their Year 6 buddies getting splashed in colours. Foundation G even got to slime Mr Zimmerle and Mrs McNaughton at the end!



In week 1 of this term, Foundation students competed in their cross country, completing a lap of the oval and also enjoying some inflatables after their race.



We are looking forward to another exciting term in Foundation!

Junior School Updated

We had a busy end to Term One in Year 1 & 2 with a lot of events in our last couple of weeks.



We had a visit from the RACV Safety Squad, where we learnt about safety in the home and community. Students enjoyed working together to identify different sounds in the environment and where they were coming from. They also learnt different sounds in the home, such as smoke alarms, doorbells and running water.

At the Footy Inflatables Day, students got to kick, handball and mark footballs, while also enjoying a jump and slide on the jumping castles. There were big smiles and puffed out red faces all around.



The students enjoyed making Easter baskets and joining the Easter bonnet parade.

This Term is set to be busy as we continue working on information reports before moving onto narratives. Students will have to use their imaginations and personal experiences to create engaging stories. In Maths, we will begin our unit of work on Addition and Subtraction!

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



Parents Building Solutions

FREE 4 Week program for mums who've been impacted by family violence to have a "virtual cuppa" and talk about their kids.

- Are you dealing with the after-effects of family violence? **DATES:** Tuesdays - May 4th to June 22nd
- Does your child's anger or anxiety worry you? **TIME:** 11:00am - 12:30pm
- Can you identify the warning signs in a new relationship? **WHERE:** ONLINE
- Do contact visits unsettle your child?
- Do you feel alone? **COST:** Free! Bookings are essential.

All enquiries contact - Erin Surrey
PH: 0438 459 891 or
Erin.Surrey@anglicarevic.org.au

PARENTZONE

School Community News



Art Therapy Group for Women who have experienced family violence

Art Therapy Group

Family violence is a traumatic experience. Sometimes we simply do not have words to express ourselves. That's where Art Therapy comes in. Ange Morgan is an art therapist experienced in working with people who have experienced family violence. Ange works to foster exploration, curiosity and enjoyment in arts based processes. No previous art experience needed, just you.

DATES: Thursday afternoons
4 May to 22 June 2023
(8 weeks)
TIME: 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.
(refreshments provided)
WHERE: The ParentZone Hub
75 Army Road Pakenham

For bookings & enquiries contact:
CfCCardinia@anglicarevic.org.au or
0457 825 076. To register, click the link.
<https://forms.office.com/r/Ut2x9Nd4nn>

PARENTZONE



PARENTZONE HUB
FAMILIES GROWING TOGETHER

anglicarevic.org.au

BETTER
TOMORROWS

Community News



Premium Regional Disability Services

278 Rossiter Road, Koo Wee Rup, 3981

- In Home Supports
- Access to the Community Supports
- Home Cleaning
- Yard Maintenance
- Skills Development and Training

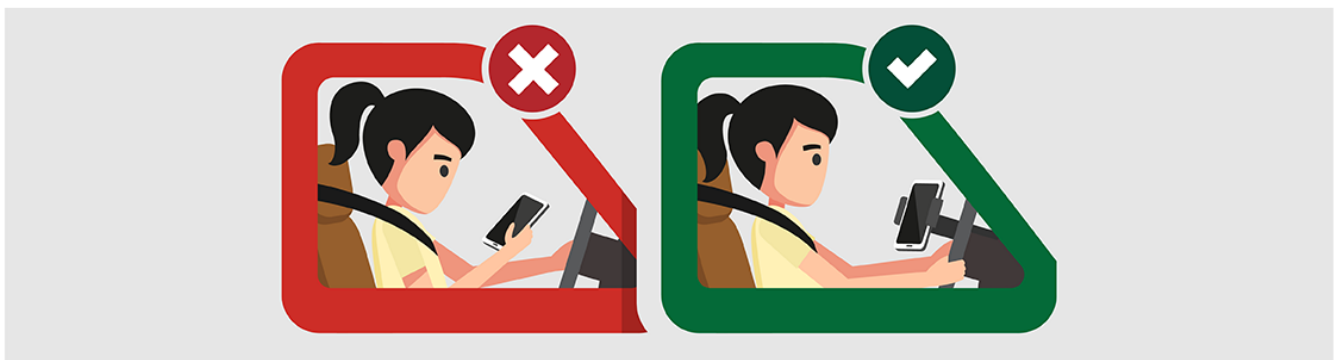
Plan Managed and Self-Managed NDIS
Participants



Email: Premiumrds@gmail.com
Phone: 0427 131 838



New Victorian road rules 2023



New road rules are being introduced regulating the use of a range of portable, mountable, wearable and inbuilt devices while driving a vehicle or riding a motorbike. The rules expand and clarify a number of rules already in place for mobile phones, and take effect on 31 March 2023.

The rules reflect the significant increase of in-vehicle technologies and other technologies capable of distracting a driver and are designed to help keep people safe on our roads. The rules are expanded from mobile phones and visual display units to cover:

- **Portable devices** (unmounted mobile phones, tablets);
- **Wearable devices** (smartwatches, wearable heads-up display);
- **Inbuilt devices** (Information, navigation, and entertainment systems, heads-up display that is an inbuilt part of the vehicle);
- **Mounted devices** (Heads-up display, tablet, mobile phone, media player etc if securely mounted in or on a vehicle); and
- **Motorbike helmet devices.**

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

Fortnightly from Friday May 5th

School assembly

Friday May 19th

Walk to School Day from Cochrane and Tesoro Parks

Tuesday May 23rd

Foundation 2024 Open Night

Wednesday May 24th

The Fathering Project (more details to come)

Monday June 12th

King's Birthday Public Holiday

Friday June 23rd

2:15pm end of term dismissal