

Term 1  
Week 9

# NEWSLETTER

Lightning Reef

PRIMARY SCHOOL



**RESPECT**  
**RESPONSIBILITY**  
**KINDNESS**  
**PERSISTENCE**

## UPCOMING DATES

Monday April 15th

Term 2 commences

P-2 Jets Gym each  
Monday for 4 weeks

Friday April 19th

Special assembly– SWPBS  
Silver Certificate  
presented

Thursday April 25th

**ANZAC DAY PUBLIC  
HOLIDAY**

Friday April 26th

Whole School Special  
Assembly to  
commemorate ANZAC  
DAY– hosted by Room 2

Wednesday May 1st

Division Cross-Country

Wednesday May 15th

3-6 Major Excursion

Friday May 17th

Open Classrooms & BBQ

## From the Principal :

What a terrific end to Term One!

On Wednesday, Ms G led the school in our Lightning Bolt reward that saw everybody dance around in bubbles.

We are all very tired, but are feeling so fortunate to work in such a wonderful school. Thankyou to our staff– they are amazing!

Farewell and best wished to Denni, who has been the Holiday Program/OOSHC Coordinator and recently ES for over three years. We hope to see Denni return to us as a CRT when she gains her permission to teach.

### **NEW STAFF**

We welcome Emmanuel Kerr to our teaching staff. Emmanuel will replace Elise from next term, when she commences her Maternity Leave. Emmanuel has a wealth of experience, and is known to the school community, as he was a CRT until taking on this role.

We also welcome Britt Giles as a new ES. Britt will be based in Room 2 with Mrs Drum.

Yesterday, we also managed to arrange for two more ES who are part of a special Pre-Service Teacher Program with La Trobe Uni. (As is isa). Cindy and Lilli will attend our school one day a week next term, and two days a week next semester as they complete their Uni Teaching Course.

## **CROSS-COUNTRY RACE AND FUN RUN**

We finished our day yesterday with the Cross-Country Race and Colour Fun Run. It was so lovely to have so many family and friends here to watch their families.

We followed the Colour Run with the annual Staff Sliming! The students who raised the most money got to slime a staff member of their choice.

We raised a lot of money for the school. Mr West will let us all know the final results next term and we will also add photos of the day.

A special thanks to Mr West for organising the day at the end of term.

## **RCH GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL**

The SLC managed to raise over \$250 for the RCH Good Friday Appeal for sick kids, selling Zooper Doopers each first break. The Easter Raffle was drawn today too.

Thank you to the SLC for giving up their first break for two weeks to sell the Zooper Doopers and raffle tickets.

Also a special thanks to Ms B, as the SLC Co-ordinator. She went above and beyond to organise the fundraising.

## **SCHOOL COUNCIL**

Nominations for School Council have now closed, and we congratulate Dash Turnbull on being re-elected and welcome Julie Darcy as a new parent representative to our School Council. They join Sonia Valli, Donna Rutherford and Hannah Allen as our Parent Representatives. Peter Millar has also joined School Council as a Staff Rep, along with Katrina Johnstone and Amy Gillett.

We thank Paul Keller for his time on School Council.

## **FIRE DRILL COMPLETED**

We conducted our First Term Fire Drill earlier this week. This time we practiced sheltering in place– In the very unlikely event that evacuation from our school site is no longer a safe option, our school community will all move to our Gymnasium until the emergency has passed, or a more suitable alternative is made available by Emergency Services.

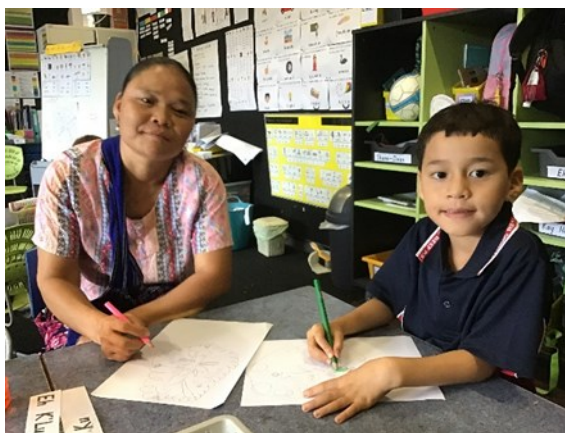
The school did such a great job! Only Mrs Johnstone, Kristie and I knew before the drill alarm sounded, but students and staff were all in the Gym within minutes!

Safety Drills, including Fire and Lockdown Drills are conducted each Term, in line with DET policy.

I'm out of the country for the break, and Mrs Johnstone will be Acting principal during the break. If you need school support over the break, please leave a message on Mrs Johnstone's phone– 0472 826 516.

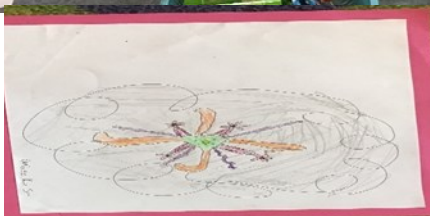
I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Easter. We look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday 15th April.

**Jo Ryan**  
**Principal**



**Multicultural  
Week  
2024 in Room 8**

Last Tuesday afternoon, families were invited to come into our classroom to participate in a multicultural activity with us. Thanks so much to the families who came along. The students loved having you. Everyone produced some amazing art work.





# Awards Week 8





Don't miss our jam-packed School Holiday Program with themed in-house days, fun excursions and incursions. Activities could include cooking masterclasses, mad science experiments, model making, learning to skateboard and a trip to see Kung Fu Panda 4.

Tue 2 April - Fri 12 April



*Book online*

## Frequently Asked Questions

School holidays are a fun way for your child to create new experiences, make friends and learn from experienced Educators. Below are some commonly asked questions, for more information visit our website.



### How do I book a place?

You can book a place through [My Family Lounge](#) app (our online booking and enrolment system). We have a step-by-step guide on our website on how to enrol using the app. Please note that bookings cannot be made by phone or email and all bookings made less than seven days prior to the activity incur an additional charge.



### What to wear (clothing)

To ensure your child feels comfortable and can engaged in all activities, we ask they wear:

- Comfortable clothing
- Closed shoes and socks
- Hat for sun protection (all year round)
- Warm clothing for cooler months
- Clothing that is suitable for art activities – leave the good clothes at home!



### What to bring (food, safety gear)

We ask that your child brings the following items each day:

- Pack a healthy, nut-free, morning tea and lunch,
- Drink bottle for water,
- Some spare clothing (just in case)

Your child may need to bring additional items for specific activities. Please refer to our website via the QR code.



### Activity types and arrival times

Our School Holiday Programs offer the following types of activities:

- In house: Children remain on-site for a fun day of activities.
- Incursion: We are visited by an incursion provider to undertake an activity with the children
- Excursion: A day outside of the service where we visit an exciting destination.
- Arrive by: 9:00am for in house and incursion days, 8:30am for excursion days unless your booking advises otherwise.



*Scan here*



## School preparations for the bushfire season



Each year, to prepare for bushfires and grassfires, schools and early childhood services complete a range of activities.

The Department of Education runs an annual fire risk assessment of schools and early childhood services. They are allocated a category of risk (categories 0 to 4) and are published on the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR).

All schools and early childhood services listed on the BARR and Category 4 list will also close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district.

When the Bureau of Meteorology provides public fire danger rating forecasts or fire weather warnings, they use fire weather district areas. In Victoria, there are 9 fire weather districts, which are based on Local Government Area boundaries. Our school is in the Northern Country fire weather district.

As part of preparing our school for the fire season, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan and reprioritised any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire and cleared our facility's grounds and gutters.

### ***What does this mean for our school?***

**Our school has been identified as being at risk of bushfire or grassfire and is a Category 3 school.**

Our school will close on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating** in the **Northern Country fire district**.

### ***What is the department's policy?***

The department's [Bushfire and Grassfire Preparedness Policy](#) requires all schools and early childhood services on the BARR and the Category 4 list to close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district. All school bus routes which travel in or through a district with Catastrophic fire danger must also be cancelled.

### ***When will our school be closed due to Catastrophic fire danger?***

**Our school will close on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating** in **Northern Country fire district**.**

Website <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>

Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency>)

Twitter (<https://twitter.com/vicemergency>)

Closure of the school due to a forecast Catastrophic day will be confirmed on the day prior and we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day. Any information regarding potential or confirmed Catastrophic fire danger days will be communicated to you by SMS, Compass notification and DoJo.

**Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, even if the weather forecast changes.** This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to be aware that:

No one will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Catastrophic day.

Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days.

All bus routes that travel through the Catastrophic area will be cancelled.

School camps will be cancelled if a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast for fire weather district in which the camp is located, or if the travel involves passing through areas that have Catastrophic fire danger.

Families are encouraged to action their Bushfire Survival Plan on Catastrophic fire danger rating days. **On such days, children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Catastrophic days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Catastrophic day.

### ***What can families and the school community do to help us prepare?***

- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers.

Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, checking our website [Lightning Reef Primary School – Learners today Leaders tomorrow \(lightningreefprimaryschool.vic.edu.au\)](http://lightningreefprimaryschool.vic.edu.au), by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.

Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed due to elevated fire danger or closed due to a Catastrophic fire danger. Further information can be found on the [CFA's website](#).

- Action your family's bushfire survival plan if your own triggers are met. Our school community may be spread out across many areas and some families may be at higher risk than others. Your family's safety is critical, so please let us know if you are actioning your bushfire survival plan and if your children will be absent on these days.

If your child is old enough, talk to [them about bushfires](#) and your family's bushfire survival plan.

You can find more information on emergencies, warnings and preparedness actions here:

VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices

VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy birthday to those students who had a birthday in the last fortnight! Rachel, Ezra G, Ma San Win, Ember, Khai, Savannah, Eh K'Lu, Tanara, Gary Lily and Shane-Dean.



## REMINDER

Please remember smoking is banned within four metres of an entrance to all Victorian Schools and within the school grounds, this includes our shared entrance and the bus stop



## Lost property

Please remember to check lost property regularly. It is located just inside our foyer entrance.

