



Monash School

# Monash School Newsletter



ACT  
Government

Education

Kinder to Yr 6 Office  
Preschool

Corlette Crescent Monash  
Forwood Street Monash

Phone: 6205 7555  
Phone: 6205 7085

[www.monashps.act.edu.au](http://www.monashps.act.edu.au)

School email: [info@monashps.act.edu.au](mailto:info@monashps.act.edu.au)

School Board email: [monashschoolboard@gmail.com](mailto:monashschoolboard@gmail.com)

## NEWSLETTER NO: 17 – 4 NOVEMBER 2016

### Dates to Remember

Monday, 7 November	Swimming Lessons Preschool – David the Music Man
Tuesday, 8 November	Swimming Lessons Winyu Unit – Be the Best You Can Be Preschool – Kenny Koala visit
Wednesday, 9 November	Swimming Lessons P & C Meeting 7 pm
Thursday, 10 November	Swimming Lessons Year 3/4 Birrigai Camp Principal's Morning Tea Preschool – Kenny Koala visit Preschool 2017 Information Evening 6.30 pm
Friday, 11 November	Swimming Lessons Year 3/4 Birrigai Camp Preschool – David the Music man
Tuesday, 15 November	Year 6 Bandstravaganza practise at Chapman Primary School Cricket Thunder Bus visit
Wednesday, 16 November	Year 5/6 Market Day Stall Year 6 Bandstravaganza Performance
Friday, 18 November	Assembly 5M and 5N

### Notes Going Home This Week

Year 5/6 Market Day Stall
Year 6 Bandstravaganza Practise

Dear Families

### CELEBRATING QUALITY WORK

I have been so pleased to have so many students visit me over the last couple of weeks. The quality of writing across the school has been outstanding! I have a Quality Work Wall outside my office with a photo of all of the students who have visited to share their work! I can not wait to read the 100 Word Stories! Please encourage your children to enter. There's some great prizes on offer; including stationary packs and Smiggle gift cards!

### 5/6 CAMP

The 5/6 students returned from camp with stories of conquering fears, persisting with challenges and fun times with friends! I particularly enjoyed watching the Camp clips on the Monash School Facebook page. Massive congratulations to Miss Saywell and her crew for SMASHING the Cooba Challenge in record time! What a HUGE achievement! Thank you also to the staff who gave up time with their own families to provide this engaging opportunity for the senior students. Bring on the 3/4 adventure to Birrigai next week!

## **NELLECKLES ASSEMBLY**

Congratulations to our Nelleckles who hosted a super entertaining assembly this morning. Our school value focus for the fortnight is PERSISTENCE. I have attached an interesting article on persistence that might be of interest. The sneak peak of the end of year performances was one of my highlights! Please purchase your tickets from the front office to avoid disappointment! They are selling fast!!!

## **WORLD TEACHER DAY**

Last Friday we celebrated the brilliant teaching staff at Monash! Thank you to all of the children and their families to contributed to our Star Wall! Teachers were blown away by the thoughtful, encouraging comments that have now been displayed in the front foyer. Thank you also to the wonderful Monash P&C who provided each teacher with a bag of sweet treats. The teachers certainly felt super spoilt and very valued! 😊

## **DROP OFF & PICK UP**

This is another reminder of the importance of not sending your children to school before 8:45am. There is very limited supervision as staff are busy preparing their lessons for the day. We have had many children arriving closer to 8am. This is unacceptable. There have also been a large number of children who are waiting well after 3pm to be collected by family members. Of course we understand, at times, families get held up, but please contact the front office if this occurs. Families are reminded of the excellent before and after school care service provided, on site at the school, by Communities@Work. Please see the attachments to this newsletter for further information about how to enrol. This reminder is for the safety of your children. Thank you for your support.

## **GROUP MUSIC LESSONS**

Due to a positive response we are in a position to announce group music lessons for keyboard and guitar facilitated by Fretvision will proceed in 2017. Expressions of interest are still being accepted. Further details surrounding enrolment will be provided to families who have expressed interest in coming weeks. Groups are due to commence at the beginning of next year.

**Lili Jankovic,  
Deputy Principal**

## **Preschool**

### **Possoms and Echidnas**

Children in the Possum and Echidna classes have continued to discuss rescue animals as we looked after our three baby magpies and watched them grow. The magpies have now gone to the next carer who has a large aviary. While they are with her they will learn how to fly and feed themselves. When they are ready they will be returned to the area they were found in as magpies are very territorial and the parent birds will remember their offspring. Ain't nature great?!

Our bird tally chart is full of tally marks and some children are getting the idea of counting by fives. Others are working on one-to-one correspondence and counting groups of five. Other interests in our room have included pirates, firefighters, mystery box, news sheets and birthdays.

In October/November there are 13 birthdays across the two groups! We have enjoyed hypothesizing, testing and recording results at the 'sinking and floating' water trolley. We were surprised to find that some shells would float if placed in the water carefully but would sink when filled with water. Thanks to Kyan for bringing in another pirate adventure story for us to enjoy! Our treasure maps and pirate drawings have evolved and the children are experts at finding each other's treasure!

Children in both groups enjoyed learning about Diwali this week. We even did some Bollywood dancing! We continue to work on our address and phone number in readiness for Kenny Koalas next visit. Please support this by practising at home with your pre-schooler.

Birthdays this month: Jordan K, Imran, Jordan S and Mason

Questions you might like to ask your pre-schooler: "Can you tell me your address? Do you remember your phone number? Why is it a good idea to learn these? 😊

## Joeys

This fortnight our inquiry learning focus has been on people in the medical industry who help us such as doctors, nurses, dentists and paramedics. The children have loved dressing up in the role play medical scrubs and giving each other 'injections'. To extend this interest we invited Amelia's mum Marie to speak to the Joey's about how she helps people in the community as a nurse. She discussed with the children broken bones, the importance



of needles, the birth of baby siblings and how to use a bandage and make a sling. We even had a few children with 'broken bones' and a 'concussion' who had to be seen by the nurse.

This term we have been focussing on letter recognition and beginning sounds, incorporating the current inquiry learning as much as possible. This week the Joeys made two craft items to support their learning around initial sounds and people who help us in the medical industry. The first craft item was a doctor's bag which included all the items a doctor may need. The second was a water colour painting with cut out material to make a person who helps us in the community.



As we learn about people who help us in the community the children are also being encouraged to see themselves as a part of their community and think of ways in which they help others too. To support this learning we went on a small walk through Monash suburb and up to the park on Monday. On the way we discussed caring for neighbours, picking up rubbish and looking after your 'walking buddy'. It was lovely to see how the children expressed wonder and interest in the environments outside of preschool.

### **Focus questions**

- Name some people who are community helpers and how they help us.
- Why do people in the community do different jobs?

### **Birthdays**

Zoey - 2 November

Sophia - 3 November

### **Coming up**

David the Music Man 7 and 11 November

Kenny Koala 8 and 10 November

Amelia report writing day 8 November

Shay report writing day 9 November

Bunnings visit 15 November

Preschool to Kinder transition 15 and 17 November

## [Bimbi Unit News \(Kinder\)](#)

The Kindergarten students have certainly had a busy past two weeks. They have continued to be involved in new topics in their learning and completed many different assessment tasks to indicate their progress this semester.

We welcomed Hazel Roberson to the teaching role in KC while Miss Coulthart is on long service leave.

On Monday, we were visited by Kenny Koala who reminded the students about road safety. All the students were very happy to receive their vest as part of the safety campaign.

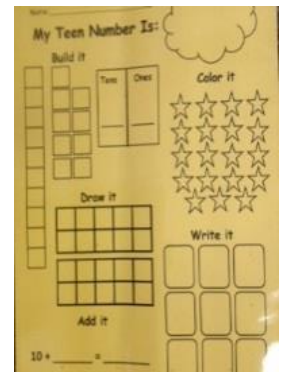


During literacy sessions over the last two weeks, the students have enjoyed participating in shared reading through big books and Guided Reading sessions. The sounds/blends focus has been on 'br', 'cr', 'tr' and 'st' words. Some students are becoming confident with using these blends in their reading and writing. Encourage your child to tell you any words starting with those sound combinations and to identify any that appear in their home readers. When reading with your child assist them to also find their 'Magic 100 Words' in the text. Ask your child to count how many times a specific word occurs in their reader.



The students continue to make progress with their writing and are attempting to edit their work to ensure they have the correct punctuation. Challenge your child to locate all the full-stops and capital letters in your home readers and ask them about the class 'Bump it up' walls. They were involved in writing a one-hundred-word story of their choice this week. Many students enjoyed the opportunity to write freely using their vivid imaginations. They continue to focus on writing a beginning, a middle and end.

Our news topics are continuing well and the children are learning a lot about each other's favourite things to do in Spring or their favourite day of the week. To support your child it would be beneficial to talk with them about what they might like to include in their news item. Photos are always a good prompt for them to use.



In Maths over the past two weeks, we have been practising our 'counting on' strategy by participating in a variety of dice games. A favourite one is 'around the world' and some students are able to play this using three dice. We have also been revising teen numbers and how to demonstrate to the class what a teen number is using different concrete materials.

In Inquiry we are working on designing a suitable weather tool to measure wind speed and direction or another tool for measuring the amount of rain. In week six we will be starting an inquiry unit of work around Visual Arts focusing on line, colour and shape. The students enjoyed their excursion to the National Gallery of Australia as a tuning in experience to the unit.

In kindergarten we are continuing to practise our dance for the end of year concert and we can assure you it will be a wonderful experience for the children.

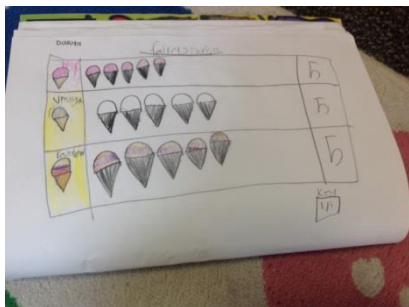
A reminder that swimming continues in week five. The children have been enjoying learning to swim alongside their friends. Please ensure all clothing is labelled so we can get it back to your child promptly. Have a great weekend everyone.

## [Yerra Unit News \(1 / 2\)](#)

It has been a very exciting semester so far! The 1/2s have been exploring new topics, learning to swim, meeting Kenny Koala, singing, dancing and enjoying the spring weather.

In Literacy, students have been exploring fractured fairy tales. They are enjoying using these to develop their understanding of narratives and have enthusiastically begun to write their own fairy tale narratives. We are seeing stories about magical creatures, princesses, dragons, queens and much more. Some of our 1/2 authors are creating exciting and unexpected twists in their stories. In reading, students have been learning how to choose books that are a 'good fit' for them. It is time spent reading these books that best help them to become better readers. Helping them to choose books that interest them, have a purpose and books which

they can decode most of the words in, may support them to confidently choose appropriate books. Remember to keep the reading process fun and exciting!



In Maths, both Year 1s and Year 2s have been creating and analysing graphs. They have been exploring and gathering data to create object graphs, picture graphs and bar graphs. The students have enjoyed striving for 3 star graphs and checking that they met the success criteria. Noticing graphs in newspapers, on the internet and on television and talking about their value may support their understanding and the usefulness of collected data.

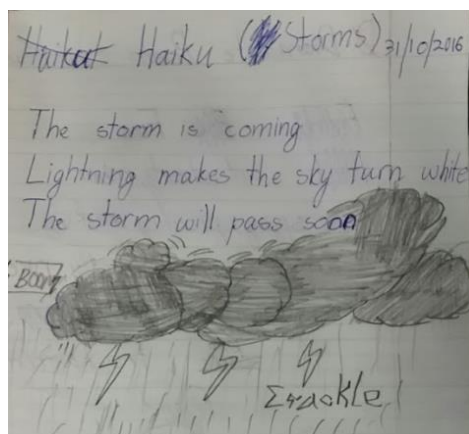
In inquiry, students are loving learning all about Australia and are becoming confident in identifying and sharing their personal connections to places. Continuing these conversations at home and sharing your own connections to places in Australia and the world may develop their geographical understanding.

1/2s have been having a great time practising dance, drama and music in our unit 'The Monash Factor'. They have been learning and creating body percussion routines, dramatic actions and short dance routines. This has been a great unit to run alongside our end of year concert. I hope you are getting excited to see some incredible dances!

### Dulma Unit News (Year 3 / 4)

It has been another busy two weeks in the Dulma unit! Students are becoming excited about our upcoming camp to Birrigai which is Thursday and Friday next week (Week 5). Thank you to everyone who have returned their notes and money. There are still a few students who need to hand in some notes. Please ensure these are returned as soon as possible.

We are well into our poetry unit which students have been enjoying thoroughly. Students have explored figurative language and how this can enhance any writing. We focused on the elements of poetry such as rhyme and rhyme scheme, rhythm and stanzas. We have looked at many different types of poems - couplets, cinquain, haikus and limericks. Next week, we will move into free verse poetry and how the different elements of poetry can be incorporated. At home you might like to discuss with your child the different poems they have written and what they have enjoyed about our poetry unit.



In Mathematics, we have been learning about division and fractions. Students have looked at a range of strategies to use and implement when solving equations relating to division such as turnaround facts and inverse operations. Students have used hands on materials to assist them in the classroom and have worked on group activities to consolidate their learning. In fractions, students have looked at how to name and represent different fractions as part of a whole. We are working towards understanding equivalent fractions and improper fractions. At home, you may like to discuss with your child their learning in maths and how it can be used outside of school such as in cooking and when buying things at the shops.

Our 'material world' unit is coming to an end. Students have been participating in a number of experiments about materials that bags are made out of. We have focused on man-made/processed and natural materials and how they can help us in a number of ways. At home, you might like to discuss with your child the different bags you have and the multiple uses for them.



Dulma have been enjoying practising their dance for the

End of Year Concert. Tickets are on sale now if you would like to purchase them to attend the matinee or the night performance.

## Bural Unit News (Year 5 / 6)

What a huge fortnight in the Bural unit! Last week students pushed themselves out of their comfort zone at Camp Cooba. Some of the highlights they reported were the big swing, bubble soccer, the jumping cushion, the food and even the TV in the rooms! The teachers were very proud of the way the students represented Monash, displaying school values by helping one another, offering encouragement and acting responsibly.



After all the excitement of camp, it was straight back into serious learning in the classroom. In maths, students have begun a new unit on geometry, exploring Cartesian coordinates and directions, understanding both line and rotational symmetry. In literacy, students are showing their understanding of digital technology by writing procedures on how to fix common Chromebook problems. These procedures will be shared with students in Year 2 who will be using Chromebooks next year.

Planning for Mini Market Day continues, with students deciding on how much rent they are willing to pay, whether they want to conduct some market research, and what they want to spend on advertising. Ask your child what their group has decided to do about advertising.

As the end of the year approaches, 5/6 students have a lot of things to look forward to, including the End of Year Concert, Graduation, Talent Show, Bandstrav and visits to Wanniasa High. Please make sure you return permission notes to make sure your child does not miss out! Year 6 students have received information about creating their memoirs at home. If you'd like to look at an example, please drop into the front office.

## Winyu Unit News

What a busy two weeks! Well done to all the Winyu students for their enthusiasm.

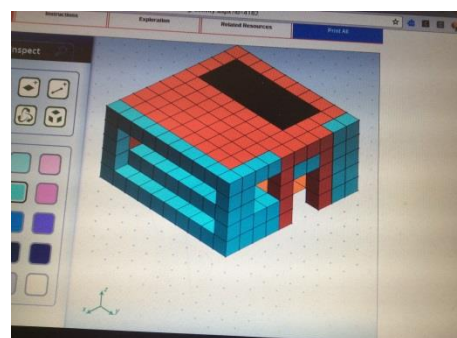
Last week five of our year 5/6 students attended camp at Cooba near Berridale. They had an amazing time doing all sorts of things from the GIANT swing and Leap of Faith to a disco dance off with students from Jindabyne Central School and Monash. A highlight of the trip was seeing all the students working together to achieve their goals.

Kindergarten, year 1 and year 2 Winyu students started swimming lessons this week. We have already heard lots of fun stories.

In literacy the junior students have been developing their ability to work independently on literacy tasks including; handwriting, spelling, and reading to name just a few. Keep up the great work Winyu P!

The senior students in Winyu have been writing letters to each other, friends and teachers. We have been learning about the postal service and why people send letters. Over the next two weeks we will be writing and posting some letters home so keep an eye out for those.

In Numeracy Winyu P students have continued to learn to recognise regular 2D shapes by counting the number of edges and corners. The



older Winyu students have been making nets, using ICT and using their knowledge of features to distinguish between prisms and pyramids. Over the next week the students will begin to apply this knowledge to help them design a house from 3D objects. Families could support this learning at home by helping children to become shape detectives; recognise regular shapes in the real world and talk about their features including how buildings can be made up of different 3D shapes.

Reminders:

- Hats on all term please
- Remember to wear your high-visibility vest

## 2016 End of Year Concert Information

Please find listed below important dates for the 2016 End of Year Concert.

Information	Important dates	Note/payment due back
Ticketing information sent home to all families - 2 tickets available per family	Monday, 17 October 2016	Friday, 18 November 2016
Information for the purchase of additional tickets sent home to families	Monday, 21 November 2016	Thursday, 1 December 2016
Bus permission notes	Monday, 21 November 2016 –	Thursday, 1 December 2016
Concert tickets can be picked up from the front office	Thursday, 1 December 2016	
Concert date Matinee 12.30 – 1.30 pm Evening 7.00 pm – 8.00 pm	Tuesday, 6 December 2016	
End of Year Concert DVD Order form	7 December 2016 –	Pick up DVD on Friday, 16 December 2016

NB: the initial ticket sales are for 2 tickets per family ie for split families one ticket per parent, to ensure all families have a chance to attend. Additional tickets can then be purchased from 21 November.

### [TIME FOR VOLUNTEERS AND VISITORS TO RENEW THEIR WWVP REGISTRATION](#)

Parents and other adults who volunteer, or work in some paid capacity, at school are required under the Working With Vulnerable People Act to be registered with Access Canberra. There are however some exemptions.

Those who registered in 2013 will need to apply to renew their registration during 2016.

If your card is over three years old it has probably expired and you cannot lawfully have contact with children as a volunteer or visitor in a school-related activity.

If you are uncertain, you should contact Access Canberra on 13 2281 or [accesscanberra.act.gov.au](http://accesscanberra.act.gov.au), or in person at an ACT Government shopfront.

If you think you may be exempt under the Act, you should contact the school. Registration for (unpaid) volunteers is free. Registration for employees and paid visitors is \$76 for three years.

### [Nut Allergies](#)

As you may be aware Monash School has a number of students who are allergic to nut products and if they were to come in to contact with these products, they could have a life threatening reaction. We are asking our school community to avoid sending in products that contain nuts.

