

NILMA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter #6
9th of May 2024

REAL News

We are a Respectful Relationships School

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Kirsti Farr - Acting Principal



FAREWELL AND THANK YOU

It is with sadness that I let you know that Taylah Worrell will finish work at Nilma Primary School on Wednesday 5th June. Taylah has been a vital part of the staff team over the past four months, working with students one-on-one, small groups and in the various classrooms. Students will miss Taylah's pancakes and toast in Breakfast club as well as her many lunchtime activities. Taylah is leaving for family reasons and we wish her all the very best in the future.

SEMESTER 1 REPORTS

This year Semester One reports will be sent to parents via the Sentral App. Reports will be sent out in the last week of Term 2, week beginning Monday 24 June.

PARENT-TEACHER DISCUSSIONS

Green, Blue and Yellow Homegroup Parent-Teacher Discussions will be held on Wednesday 26th June from 12.30pm – 5.30pm. Bookings can be made via Sentral. The booking schedule will be open from Friday the 2nd and close on Wednesday at 14th, the day prior to the interviews.

Mrs Brown will be conducting Red Homegroup Parent-Teacher Discussions on Wednesday 19th May from xxx to xxx. Mrs Brown is taking leave for the last week of term and will be replaced by Miss O'Brien and Ms Matarzcyk. *Log-ons were emailed to families at the start of the year. If you require your log on details again, please contact the Office.

Friday 7th June—Professional Practice Day

Monday 10th June—King's Birthday Public Holiday

Friday 28th June—END OF TERM (2:30pm finish)

2025 ENROLMENTS

Current families with children that will be attending Foundation at Nilma PS in 2025, please contact the Office to collect an enrolment pack. Enrolments and applications are now open for current and prospective families and students.

COVID UPDATE

As we come into Winter we have had a few cases of COVID popping up. Please be vigilant and watch out for symptoms. The Department of Health recommends that students who test positive for COVID-19 isolate for a minimum of 5 days and do not attend school until their symptoms resolve.

EDUCATION WEEK

Nilma Primary School celebrated Education Week on Tuesday 14th May with an open 'Science' afternoon. Students participated in a variety of hands on experiments. It was fantastic to see so many of our parents joining in.



Nilma Primary School acknowledges the traditional custodians of the lands on which we work and learn, the Gunaikurnai Nation. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.



★ Respect, Responsibility & Resilience ★ Environment ★ Achievement ★ Learning



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WGRSSA Netball/Football—Winter Sports Congratulations to the students that have been chosen to represent Nilma in the Nilma/Darnum/Bona Vista team that will take on Buln Buln on Tuesday 4 June at the Buln Buln Recreation Reserve. Thank you to Miss Morrison for coordinating this sporting event, it has certainly been a very busy start to the year. A note was sent home on Tuesday with information about this event and the compulsory training session on Monday 3rd June at Darnum Primary School.

WEST GIPPSLAND CROSS COUNTRY Selected students in Years 4-6 represented Nilma PS at the West Gippsland Cross Country held on Monday 20th May at Chairo Christian School in Drouin East. All students represented the school with pride and exhibited outstanding sportsmanship and respect. Congratulations to Tori, Hannah, Jenni, Nate, Lincoln, Kane and Willow. You all should be extremely proud of competing to the best of your abilities. Special congratulations to Nate for finishing 13th in a field of 71. Photos are included in a later page.

NATIONAL SORRY DAY National Sorry Day is an annual observance in Australia that is held on May 26 to remember and acknowledge the mistreatment of the country's Indigenous peoples, particularly the forced removal of Indigenous children from their families, known as the Stolen Generation.

Students across the school are provided opportunities to learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures are the oldest, continuous cultures in the world, having existed in Australia for at least 50,000 years.



HOME READING Regular home reading is valued at Nilma Primary School. Students are encouraged to read each night, either to themselves in the senior classes or to their parents.

Reading helps develop fluency, comprehension, and an increase in a child's vocabulary.

Students can access books through our school library, class books, MARC Van and through StoryBox. Please see the flier for instructions for how to access this wonderful resource.

Thank you to Mrs James for organising this amazing resource for our school.

Download the StoryBox app!

Explore favourite stories read by our best storytellers

Discover an ever-growing digital library

Ad-free, safe & educational

Download onto classroom & child devices for easy access to a world of stories!

Your school login details
 Username: TMARCvan
 Password: TMARCvan

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play

Free health, wellbeing and development checks for foundation students

The Primary School Nursing Program is offered to ALL Victorian students in their foundation year.

Parents/Carers of foundation students participate by completing the online School Entrant Health Questionnaire (SEHQ). Participation is optional, requiring 'YES I consent'. Opt-out is available online by selecting 'No, I do not consent'. Postcards with a QR code and link for online SEHQ access will be provided to families.

Look out for the envelope containing this postcard provided to your child in the coming weeks!

The program aims to assist identifying children with potential health, wellbeing or development concerns which may impact on their education and offers screening which may include:

- Hearing
- Vision
- Speech
- Dental
- Motor Skills
- Behaviour and social skills

The Primary School Nurse also provides advice, information and referrals to other health and support services.

Thank you for your cooperation



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On **Wednesday the 12th of June 2024**, Nilma Primary School will show our appreciation to our local first responders, having invited a representative from the local SES, Victoria Police – Warragul, Nilma North CFA and Ambulance Victoria.



Each Home Group will host a first responder in their classroom for question time and a 'Thank you'.

Together students will have developed a list of questions to ask and a shared piece of writing to present as a 'Thank you'. A simple yet marked way of showing our appreciation and recognition of contributions made to our community.



All Students at Nilma Primary School are registered and invited to take part in this year's Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge. We encourage all students to be involved with the intention of fostering a passion for reading. Today marks **100 Days left to complete the challenge**. Students of Red and Green Home Group have been experiencing a great many texts in class and have these assigned to student who are well on the way to meeting the challenge.

Students in Blue and Yellow Home group are expected to log their books as part of their Nightly Reading. Teachers have allocated some class time however students in year 3-6 are encouraged to record and enter their books, to meet the challenge.

Students who meet the challenge will have their names go into a draw to win a prize. Some items donated were received from 'Need to Read'. So, what are you waiting for? Pick up a book, get reading & record the texts read/experienced.

<https://www.vic.gov.au/register-and-log-in-premiers-reading-challenge>

Please speak with your Home Group teacher if you have misplaced your log-in.



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Mrs Brown

It has been a busy few weeks in Red Homegroup as we have enjoyed learning activities in a range of curriculum

Red Homegroup

LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

Term 2- Week 4

Name

Ruby Mitchell



You have received Learner of the Week for displaying the qualities of a REAL Learner. You are constant in your courteous manner, speaking politely and respectfully to others.

Term 2 - Week 5

Name

Ruby Walker



You have received Learner of the Week for displaying the qualities of a REAL Learner. You participate actively in class by sharing your learning, ideas, and opinions.

Term 2 -Week 6

Name

Kyle Wilmot



You have received Learner of the Week for displaying the qualities of a REAL Learner. You continue to try your best when presented with learning tasks.

areas. Students have completed Unit 2 of Nilma Primary School's Synthetic Phonics Sequence and we have recently begun Unit 3. We are currently focussing on the graphemes/phonemes /v/, /w/, /y/, /k/, /z/, /k/, /n/ and /e/. Students are progressing well with their blending skills and it has been excellent to hear about the reading that is happening at home. Thank you for supporting our classroom learning at home. During Mathematics students have been creating and copying patterns. Students have enjoyed making patterns from a range of different resources and have been focussing on the types of pattern they have created, ABAB, AABB, ABBABB etc.



Red Homegroup students participated in this year's National Simultaneous Storytime. We enjoyed logging on and watching the live reading of Bower Bird Blues with over 2 million others Australia wide. Students created their own Bower Bird which they were eager to play with and take home to share with their families.





Miss De Jong

Green Homegroup

LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

Term 2- Week 4

Hudson

You have received Learner of the Week for displaying the qualities of a REAL Learner. You have **persisted with new learning** in numeracy and persevered until you **succeeded**.



Term 2 - Week 5

Madison

You have received Learner of the Week for displaying the qualities of a REAL Learner. You have been challenging yourself by **setting goals** and working hard to **achieve them**.



Term 2- Week 6

Bobby

You have received Learner of the Week for displaying the qualities of a REAL Learner. You present as a **keen** and **eager learner** seeking and attempting **learning challenges**.



Over the last few weeks, we have enjoyed some fun days. One of these included Sci-

ence Week, in which student families were invited in to observe a science experiment where the students had a lot of fun making their whiteboard marker drawings float in water. Some had great success, others less so.



We have also enjoyed a live read aloud of Bowerbird Blues by the author, Aura Parker, as a part of National Simultaneous Storytime 2024.





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Miss Gardiner

Blue Homegroup

LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

Term 2- Week 4

You have received Learner of the Week for displaying the qualities of a REAL Learner. You showed **initiative** in your learning and **offered help to others**. Well done, Landon!



Term 2- Week 5

You have received Learner of the Week for displaying the qualities of a REAL Learner. You wrote an excellent summary about a book and edited your work. Well done, Alexis!



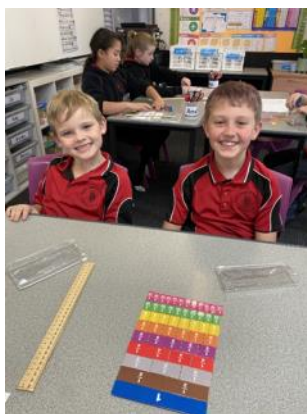
Term 2-Week 6

You have received Learner of the Week for displaying the qualities of a REAL Learner. You continue to **try your best** when presented with learning tasks. Well done, Kendal!



Last week, Blue Homegroup began learning about fractions. Students explored unit fractions including halves, thirds, quarters and eighths. Students learnt that we can find a fraction of an object or model, a fraction of a number and a fraction of a collection. On Tuesday, students began exploring equivalent fractions. Students each created their own fraction wall and matched up the lines to find equivalent fractions.

In literacy, students viewed the live stream of the book 'Bowerbird Blues' for National Simultaneous Storytime. Students were excited to learn that over 2 million people were reading and viewing the book at the same time as them!





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Miss Morrison

Yellow Homegroup

LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

Term 2 – Week 4



Jenni Giblin

You have received Learner of the Week for displaying the qualities of a REAL Learner. You have been inclusive of others, considerate of their needs.

Term 2 – Week 5



Lahna Best

You have received Learner of the Week for displaying the qualities of a REAL Learner. You continue to try your best when presented with learning

Term 1 -Week 6



Henry Gibbons

You have received Learner of the Week for displaying the qualities of a REAL Learner. You proved that you have learnt from prior experiences and make connections within your learning.

Yellow homegroup has had a very busy few weeks. During Education Week - Open

Science afternoon, our students explored the impact of forces and motion by building and testing their own Lego car. The Year 5 students have also been dedicated to planning and



running our buddy program with the Foundation students. Last week, they assisted their buddies in designing pictures of themselves to be later painted onto fence palings. For the National



Simultaneous Storytime session, Yellow homegroup listened to *Bowerbird*





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West Gippsland Division Cross Country





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Congratulations on your Reading Nights!

NIGHTLY READING

50 Nights

James

75 Nights

Ethan, Ruby M

100 Nights

Ruby W, Harrison

NIGHTLY READING

25 Nights

50 Nights

NIGHTLY READING

25 Nights

Amelia Pell

75 Nights

Willow Campbell

Koby McDonald

Blair McDonald

100 Nights

Annie Kelly

Jai Walker

NIGHTLY READING

50 Nights

Jenni Giblin

75 Nights

Erika Bailey

100 Nights

Tori Fergusson



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Student Wellbeing

Lunchtime Activities:

LEGO at lunchtime was an absolute hit, as always and the children have enjoyed participating in this. The following weeks we have the below activities running – please encourage your children to come along if this is something they enjoy doing.

Monday 3 rd of June	Wednesday 5 th of June
<u>Lunchtime 1:00-1:30pm</u> CHESS & CHECKERS – All year levels in the covered seats outside	<u>Lunchtime 1:00-1:15pm</u> Musical Statues – Fake Grass Area, all year levels



BREAKFAST CLUB:

A reminder that breakfast club runs every Monday and Wednesday morning from 8:30am-8:50am – if your child needs some breakfast please encourage them to come into the STEAM room.

PANCAKE DAY @ BREAKFAST CLUB – 5th of June, 2024
8:30am – 8:50am

Online resources and tools as parents and carers:



Kids Helpline: <https://kidshelpline.com.au/>

Beyond Blue: <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>



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National Sorry Day

and

Reconciliation Week

In our lessons over the past two weeks, we acknowledged and celebrated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' art and culture, and recognised the impact on our learning and creative expression.

Students have been examining Aboriginal art symbols. Each symbol communicates and shares the meaning of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' life on earth, important rituals, food and customs. For thousands of years, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have been able to pass down important cultural stories by using symbols and icons in their artwork.

Students in the Yellow and Blue home groups listened to a reading of the picture storybook *Sorry Day* by Coral Vass and Dub Leffler. Students had the opportunity to reflect on the relationship between Country and the wellbeing of Indigenous people.

Visual Arts





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OSHC

Firstly some housekeeping, the OSHC mobile number is [0466 256 056](tel:0466256056) which is different to the School mobile. If you wish to book your child in after 9am for the afternoon or after 6pm for the next morning please text the mobile. I carry the mobile with me all the time but don't always log into the online system. If you wish to enrol your child/ren in the service please pop in to the Office or the STEAM room after 3pm and pick up an enrolment form.

We have been very lucky with the weather over the past couple of weeks allowing us to enjoy the outdoors. We have enjoyed tennis, dodgeball, skipping, 4 square and tiggy.

Inside has seen us begin a new puzzle kindly donated by Mrs Sutherland. We have played bingo, giant Jenga, painted, danced and set some time aside to catch up on homework.



Cheers Peta



**Junior School Council
Semester 1 Members**



**The next Junior School Council meeting will be held on
Monday the 3rd of June.**

Happy Birthday

Ted, Stella, Tori, Rhishaya, Ethan, Aubrey, Annette.



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SUSTAINABILITY

Leaf Pressing The Tomorrow Book Weeding

Planting seeds and seedlings



Sieving composted soil Chop and Chat Compost Lasagna

Celebrating World Bee Day Pumpkin Soup with Indian Flatbread Soil top up in garden

PIC•COLLAGE



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MARC LIBRARY NEWS



Bowerbird Blues by Aura Parker was the book for National Simultaneous Story Time 2024.

The MARC van visited on Thursday as usual but this week it was filled with blue decorations and all things a bowerbird might collect. Students created their own bowers and discovered facts about this clever bird. Don't they look fantastic?





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COMMUNITY NEWS

50

YEARS
CELEBRATION



WARRAGUL
BLUES
JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

SUNDAY, JUNE 2ND

6 GAMES OF FOOTY

*Memorabilia & accolades
on display*

*Sampson's on the road
Bean Buster*

Face painting, music & fun

Sunflowers help create awareness

by **Bonnie Collings**
If you've been to a sporting match or a concert recently, you may have noticed yellow and green sunflower symbol.

You might see someone wearing it on a lanyard or a bracelet, or find it signposted in a busy location like the airport or the MCG.

While making for a pretty accessory, the sunflower serves a much more important purpose - it's a global symbol that identifies hidden disabilities.

Not all disabilities, conditions or chronic illnesses are immediately visible to others, sometimes making it hard for people to understand that someone may need extra support, even if they don't look like they have a disability.

This is where the sunflower comes in. Designed to encourage inclusivity, acceptance and understanding, the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower is a symbol that discreetly identifies the wearer as having a "non-visible" disability.

The symbol was created at Gatwick Airport in England following discussions with the Airport Passenger Advisory Group, airport staff and local and national charities about whether a lanyard would benefit travellers with hidden disabilities. The group decided on a green lanyard with sunflowers, launching a scheme that is now accepted by thousands of businesses across the world.

Although it's been around since 2016 and has been adopted across airports, stadiums and other businesses internationally, knowledge of the sunflower symbol is not wide-spread.

One family in Warragul is hoping that will change, raising awareness for the symbol in their local community.

For seven-year-old Olivia Griffin and her family, the sunflower symbol has been a great way to let people in the community know she might need some extra support.

Olivia's mum Charlie said when her daughter wore a sunflower symbol bracelet, it helped people realise she's not just "being naughty".

"Olivia doesn't physically look like she's got a disability, so a lot of people assume she's



The Griffin family are advocating for more awareness of the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower in their local community.

naughty, like if we're in a park with others and she's not coping," Charlie said.

"(The sunflower) is a sign for other people to look at and understand that something else is going on."

Olivia has global developmental delay, so compared to her peers she has been delayed in reaching some developmental milestones. "(It's) a big bracket to basically say we really don't know what her disability is," Charlie said.

"We picked up just before she turned one that she wasn't ticking all the milestones of other peers around her. Physically, she's got no disability, which is sometimes harder because physically she's capable of her standard age."

Charlie said thanks to a series of early interventions, Olivia's development had made significant progress. "We were very lucky that my mother-in-law's best friend Denise is a speech pathologist, if we didn't have her

from the get-go, we wouldn't be where we are today," she said.

Because her disability isn't explicitly visible, Charlie said having a sunflower symbol bracelet for Olivia to wear had been "a relief."

"For seven years, every time we're out and about and Olivia might do something that's not in the norm, or accidentally hurt someone, my husband and I have had to say, 'sorry, my daughter has a disability'."

"I'm always apologising. People around me, my close family and friends, always say 'you shouldn't have to apologise'. I know I shouldn't have to, but it's easier for me to say sorry, so they know I understand she shouldn't do that and that I'm going to do something about it."

"It's really nice now that we've got the (sunflower) bracelet, and once we get the word out more, other people will see the bracelet or the lanyard on not just Olivia but on other people and know what's going on."

Charlie said the sunflower also was helpful in restaurants or at planned activities when staff were aware of the symbol.

"If you go to a restaurant or an activity and (staff) see that she's got her bracelet on, people who are aware of (the symbol) might be more supportive, they might bring your food out faster or try and get you through a line quicker," she said.

The Hidden Disabilities Sunflower network also operates the Sunflower Map. Businesses across the world can register as a sunflower-friendly place.

Charlie and her husband Michael recently registered their own business, Gippy Custom Cabinets as a sunflower-friendly place.

Charlie said she would feel more comfortable going out with Olivia to a local business that showed support for people with a disability.

"It would be very hard for us to go out for dinner with Olivia because she didn't cope sitting at a table sitting still. I've left places in tears and not even ordered because it's been too hard. To have (businesses on the sunflower map) would be so nice."

Charlie said it was important for Olivia to experience different things, and more sunflower-friendly places would help that happen.

"We want to take her places and have her experience things because if you left her at home, she'd never experience things, she'll never get used to things and learn and improve," Charlie said.

"If I'm out somewhere and I see that symbol then I know that if something happens, at least that business is already supportive of someone with a disability, because not everyone is."

Charlie said the more awareness people in the community had about the sunflower symbol, the better. "I tell absolutely everyone about it, I told Olivia's school and only one teacher had heard about it."

"We're very fortunate with Olivia's school community and our community of family and friends, that they're all so inclusive, and I think getting the word out wider about (the sunflower symbol) would be great."



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COMMUNITY NEWS

HOLIDAY OPTIONS PROGRAM (HOP)

HOP is a supported group recreation program that provides participants with opportunities to learn, develop new skills, make friends, and connect with their local community. Regular activities occur during school holidays and a limited number take place within school terms. Activities are between 6-8 hours in duration.

ELIGIBILITY: Aged 5-12 years, residing in Gippsland and have a NDIS plan.

ACTIVITIES ARE PLANNED BASED ON PARTICIPANT INTERESTS AND MAY INCLUDE:

- **EVENTS** - shows, plays, exhibits.
- **ACTION** - kayaking, laser tag, rock climbing, snow, water parks, indoor play centers.
- **CREATIVITY** - dancing, music, art, craft, cooking.
- **HEALTH AND WELLBEING** - fitness, teamwork, exercise.

IF INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT US TODAY!

 1300 736 765  admin@icg.asn.au  www.icg.asn.au

 66 Commercial Road, Morwell

 278-280 White Road, North Wonthaggi

 13b & 14a Eastwood Village Shopping Centre,
30 Howitt Avenue, Bairnsdale





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What's On @ Nilma!

May 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
27 Breakfast Club	28 School Lunch Orders	29 Breakfast Club	30 MARC	31 Years 3-6 School Excursion

June 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		5 Breakfast Club— Pancake Day	6 MARC	7 Professional Practice Day Student Free Day
10 Kings Birthday Public Holiday	11 School Lunch Orders	12 Breakfast Club Thank a First Responder Day	13 MARC	14 Assembly
17	18 School Lunch Orders	19 Breakfast Club	20 MARC	21
24	25 School Lunch Orders	26 Breakfast Club	27 MARC	28 Assembly End of Term 2— 2:30 PM Finish