

IMPORTANT DATES TERM 1

Tuesday 26th March

Gr 5/6 Immigration Museum
Excursion

Thursday 28th March

Last Day of Term 1
2.15pm finish

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear School Community,

Today we held our school's 'Harmony Day' dress parade. How proud I felt to see our rainbow of colour. I have always felt very lucky to work in a school with so many cultures represented by our students and families. I was very pleased of our parade being led by our Inclusion Leader, thank you Ms West. Whilst we promote Harmony week with our parade and activities, the staff at Rockbank Primary School celebrate and promote 'Harmony' within our school community every day.

Congratulations Year 3s and 5s, you have now completed 2024 NAPLAN assessments. We are super proud of each of you for trying your best in each of the four assessments. We look forward to receiving your individual reports next term. Once we receive these reports, the results/data will be shared with our teaching teams, before being forwarded home to parents/carers. Whilst we are told reports should arrive earlier this year than previous years, we are hoping that we have them by the end of Term 2.

COMPASS- school management system:

We are offering families an information session on Thursday 28th March, in the staffroom or gym space from 9-9:30am. Our focus is to share how Compass is accessed by our families and how to view notes for incursions/excursions, including camps and pay for these events. We have had very poor responses to two planned events this term, we are unsure if parents are finding it

CONTINUED



CONTINUATION OF PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

hard to navigate our new school management system or it is because of other reasons. When teachers conduct 'Parent Feedback Sessions', information can also be shared about compass, creating your family account and how to access features.

Incursions/Excursions & Camps - IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES:

As communicated to our school community each year, the administration processes to support, promote maximum attendance and prompt payment for these events cannot be flexible. Every event has a 'cut off date' on the notice to ensure consent is received and so that payments can be processed then numbers of students attending each event can be processed correctly before the event commences. It is not the duty of office staff to follow up with families if consent or payments have not been made prior to final payment date. The school office and classroom teachers will always communicate with our families about events planned for each term. The office will generate reminders one week and two days prior to cut off payment dates. For other live events such as assemblies and harmony day parades etc., further communication will be sent out on the actual day as well, (note, this is not for any paid events).

We were very disappointed with the response to our 'Koorie Didgeridoo Incursion' planned this week, with over 200 students now not attending as the school did not receive parent consent or payment (\$6.00) for this event. This means that our school will have to cover the shortfall in charges as all organisations, fees, are provided in quotes and formally accepted by our school. These amounts are then divided by the number of students who included and expected to attend. If families are experiencing any difficulty navigating the Compass system or with making payments, we ask that you contact your classroom teachers. From Term 2, no follow up with parents from teachers or office staff will be provided after payment cut off dates have expired. The office will no longer accept any late payments, the responsibility is with families to pay for these events on time. We appreciate your support for all future events.

CONTINUED

CONTINUATION OF PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

OHS / Emergencies and Drills:

Our OHS (Occupational Health & Safety) audit has now been completed and our school received a result of 85% with very small adjustments requiring amending. Well done to our OHS team for their dedication to OHS at our school. Our drill will be conducted before end of this term. More information can be found in the last newsletter.

Next week is our final week of Term 1. We finish on Thursday 28th March, 2024 at 2:15pm. This is one hour earlier than our normal finish time. For our new families, we finish early at the end of each term, this is always communicated across all communication platforms. We lock up the school at 3:30pm on the last day and we then all staff meet offsite to reflect on our term. This is always a lovely way to celebrate all the wonderful things we do as a school. We ask you to respect this process and be here to collect your child by 2:15pm or if needed, please make other arrangements i.e. Big Childcare or a family member collecting your child/children.

We hope you all have a fabulous fortnight.

Krista Barnes
Principal



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IMPORTANT REMINDER

Term 1 finishes on
Thursday 28th March

EARLY FINISH
2.15PM

IMPORTANT REMINDER



ALL STUDENTS MUST WEAR A
SCHOOL HAT IN TERM 1

As part of the **SunSmart policy** students must wear hats from
1st September through to the 31st March

This will be enforced as of Wednesday 31st January

**School hats can be purchased from
Primary School Wear
in Melton www.psw.com.au**

Legionaire hat: \$16.95

Safety Slouch Hat: \$20.95

Please note that caps are not acceptable



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EASTER RAFFLE

As you are aware, Easter is fast approaching. This means it is almost time for our annual Easter raffle. As we are a small school, we are reliant on the good will and generosity of our parents and friends. Let's make this Easter raffle the best one yet!

This being said, we are in need of any donation of Easter eggs and cane baskets to make up the prizes. No donation too small. If you can help to get some donations, or have any contacts we could approach, please come and see us. Raffle tickets will be sent out on the 7th of March. More tickets will be available from the office.

Drawn on the 28th March – Last day of term one.

Thank you for your support – every cent we raise goes towards resources for our kids!



EASTER RAFFLE

DRAWN

THURSDAY 28TH MARCH

**LAST DAY OF
TERM ASSEMBLY**

\$1 TICKETS



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CELEBRATING OUR ATTENDANCE



COME TO
SCHOOL EVERY
DAY
(AND ON TIME!)
AND BE
RECOGNISED
FOR YOUR
GREAT
ACHIEVEMENT!

2024 Stats at 22/03/24

Number of students with 100% attendance in term 1:

63

TERM 1 CLASSROOM STATISTICS

Foundation

FA - Miss Gatt: 92%
FB - Miss Gregson: 91%
FC - Mrs Sharma: 79%
FD - Mrs Thorburn: 86%

1/2A - Miss Pierce/Mrs Kaur: 85%

1/2B - Miss Kaur: 92%

1/2C - Miss Buttigieg: 94%

1/2D - Mr Shen: 91%

1/2E - Mrs Calidonna: 90%

1/2F - Mrs Haynes: 87%

1/2s

3/4A - Mrs Batra: 85%

3/4B - Mrs Murden: 92%

3/4C - Mr White: 88%

3/4D - Ms Soler Coy: 89%

3/4E - Miss Newton: 92%

3/4F - Ms Kastanaras: 87%

3/4s

5/6A - Mrs Layton: 89%

5/6B: Mr Randich: 86%

5/6C - Miss Walker: 92%

5/6D: Miss Eudey: 87%

5/6s

!!!
If your child is sick or absent, you are required to notify the school as soon as possible on the day of absence by phone or via Compass.

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CELEBRATING OUR ATTENDANCE



Each Friday, the class with the best attendance gets Rocky to look after for the entire following week!

Rocky



Monthly Attendance Prizes are given to students with 100% Attendance,,,,,,**stay tuned for prize details!!!!**

TERMLY PRIZES!

With excellent attendance, you can go into the draw to win epic prizes each term!

GOLD PRIZES



SILVER PRIZES



BRONZE PRIZES



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ATTENDANCE MATTERS

HELP YOUR CHILD SUCCEED IN SCHOOL: BUILD THE HABIT OF GOOD ATTENDANCE EARLY SCHOOL SUCCESS GOES HAND IN HAND WITH GOOD ATTENDANCE!

Did you know?

- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks
 - Being late to school may lead to poor attendance
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important.

Good attendance will help children do well in high school, tertiary education and at work

What you can do

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required shots
- Introduce your child to teachers and classmates before school starts to help transition
 - Don't let your child stay home unless they are truly sick
 - Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home
 - If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counsellors, or other parents for advice on how to make her feel comfortable and excited about learning
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbour, or another parent
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session

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CELEBRATING OUR SUCCESS



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



Class/Teacher	Week Ending: 15/03	Week Ending: 22/03
FA (Miss Gatt)	Sienna	Zayde
FB (Mrs German-Gregson)	Aaron	Mackenzie
FC (Mrs Sharma)	Mia	Sakina
FD (Mrs Thorburn)	Zahian	Sahib
1/2A (Miss Pierce & Mrs H Kaur)	Jeslyn	Sajjad
1/2B (Mrs N Kaur)	Hamsini	Bohdi
1/2C (Miss Buttigieg)	Levi	Lina
1/2D (Mr Shen)	Niu	Nimrat
1/2E (Mrs Calidonna)	Aria	Isabella
1/2F (Mrs Haynes)	Lincoln	Amy
3/4A (Mrs Batra)	Luca	Alera
3/4B (Mrs Murden)	Kyra	Brittany
3/4C (Mr White)	Junior	Belle
3/4D (Ms Soler Coy)	Aradhya	Myansh
3/4E (Miss Newton)	Hardit	Vismaya
3/4F (Mrs Kastanaras)	Koda	Atahlia
5/6A (Mrs Layton)	Peter	Autumn
5/6B (Mr Randich)	Rask	Raymond
5/6C (Miss Walker)	Hannah	Prabhsi
5/6D (Miss Eudey)	Gio	Sirat
PE (Mrs Richardson)	34A	56C
Auslan (Mr Still)	12B	
S.T.E.M (Mr Rasmanis)	FC	
The Arts (Mrs Georgievski)	34B	56B

A class member from each class is recognised weekly with our Student of the Week Award. This award recognises students who consistently display our school values.

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CELEBRATING OUR SUCCESS

HOUSE POINTS

Students receive house point tokens for demonstrating our school values while out in the yard.



770

1730



1710

1060



LEARNERS



RESPECTFUL



TOGETHERNESS



SAFE

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MEET OUR TEAM

HARPREET KAUR

12A

Hello, I'm Harpreet Kaur, and I've been a part of Rockbank Primary school since 2022. This year, I'm taking on three distinct roles. I serve as a classroom teacher for the 1-2 team, instructing students across various subjects.

Additionally, I'm responsible for teaching physical education to foundation students and I'm also involved in the EAL team, supporting students learning English as an additional language. I find great joy in my multifaceted responsibilities at the school and take pride in contributing to the community. Outside of school, I love spending time with my family. I have energetic five-year-old twin boys who keep me on my toes with their endless requests and activities. Recently, I've reignited my passion for art and finding joy in creating to adorn my home.

While I love exploring new places, I'm not particularly fond of the actual travel part. If only there were a bit of magic to take me away! A simple snap of my fingers, and presto, I could find myself in Paris or any other destination, returning to my home just as swiftly.



NAVDEEP KAUR

12B

Hi, my name is Navdeep Kaur and I have been teaching for 7 years.

I am passionate about helping children and creating a welcoming and inclusive environment where each student feels valued.

In my free time I enjoy spending time with my family and love doing road trips with my friends.

I am looking forward to spending my time with 1/2B this year!



STEPHANIE BUTTIGIEG

12C

Hello Rockbank Community!

My name is Ms Buttigieg. I have been a primary school teacher for 6 years and joined Rockbank Primary School 2 years ago. I have been teaching in the 1/2 cohort for 2-years and can't wait to learn and grow with them all. I was born overseas in Malta and moved to Australia when I was 3-years old.

While working at Rockbank, I have had many opportunities for self-growth. This year, I am not only a classroom teacher. I am also the 1/2 Team Leader, Phonics Leader and working with the DI team.

My favourite things to do is teaching, as I love watching young people learn and grow. I enjoy exercising, reading, learning and having coffee with my partner and puppy Marla.

My favourite colours are green and purple and I enjoy many different foods.



JIAN SHEN

12D

Hello, my name is Jian.

I just moved to Victoria from Port Hedland in WA. My first-year teaching out in the wilds of regional WA was a blast, getting to dig into all sorts of fascinating geology.

In the spare time, I enjoy cooking and spending time with my friends.

In class, I like to play games with the students to make learning fun!



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MEET OUR TEAM

GABBY WILKIE

12E

My name is Gabby and this is my second year working full time at Rockbank Primary school. This year I made to move to grade 1/2 and I am absolutely loving it so far. My favourite lessons to teach and reading and writing and I love watching my students learn and develop their literacy skills. I am married and we have 2 girls both in primary school. In our free time we like to go on family outings to places like the movies and restaurants- we love trying new foods! Reading and travelling are top 2 hobbies and I love spending time with my family. I have a real passion for teaching and I absolutely love my job at Rockbank. Wishing everyone and happy, healthy and safe 2024 school year!



REBECCA HAYNES

12F

Hello, my name is Becky. I am excited to be part of the RPS community and have had a great Term 1 with the Year 1/2 students and teaching team. I have recently transitioned across from Gisborne Primary School teaching year 1 and taking part in the Tutor Learning Initiative. Prior to this I worked at Essendon north Primary School as an Education Support Staff for over 12 years. I have always enjoyed working in education and take pride in teaching the children of our future.



AMBER NEWTON

34E

Hi, Rockbank Community! My name is Amber Newton, but students refer to me as Miss Newton. I have been teaching for a few years now, but I have only just joined the Rockbank Primary team this year and I currently teach 34E. Teaching has always been a great passion of mine, and I think it is important to understand, inspire and empower students when it comes to learning. When I'm not teaching, I love to spend my free time with my fiancée, family and friends. I'm also a very creative person too. I love to paint and draw and I like to add lots of colours to my hair too. A fun fact about me is that I am a qualified makeup artist, so I really enjoy putting lots of effort into my Book Week costume! I'm so excited to be joining the Rockbank community and I look forward to making many wonderful memories together.



RANJANI KUMAR

TEACHER

Greeting Rockbank Families!

My name is Ranjani Kumar, a new teacher at Rockbank Primary School and I am excited to be the classroom teacher of 3/4D.

Being a passionate Primary School Teacher for 10 years I have shared a great classroom teaching experience in Fiji and New Zealand. In my spare time, I enjoy making lots of memories by exploring new places and hiking with my family.

I love teaching and inspiring young minds to become creative thinkers and independent learners.

I am grateful to be the part of the Rockbank community and looking forward to work alongside. Let's make this year great together.



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MEET OUR TEAM

DEBORAH LAYTON

56A

Hi everyone, just to introduce myself, I am Ms Deb Layton, teacher and education ambassador of 5/6A for 2024.

I have been teaching for a long time and continue to find enjoyment and excitement in my teaching. I am lucky to have amazing and enthusiastic students in my class, giving me the opportunity to help them educationally grow, and guide them into adults of the future, a task which I take with honour and pride.

I have worked in both primary and secondary settings and enjoyed both educational fields. My passion surrounds giving senior primary students the best foundations for their transition into secondary education.

I have studied both here in Victoria and a selected course in Israel in 2017. I continue to build on my knowledge through learning experiences and personal growth. These opportunities allow me to bring the best and diverse learning experiences to every student in my room.

A little about me, I have four amazing grown sons, five grandchildren, two cats (Trixi and Mixi) and our newest member of the family, Odin the miniature Dachshund. I live in Bacchus Marsh and love to do anything creative.

I create gowns, booties, hats and blankets for Angel Babies and spend my time sewing, crocheting, painting, beading and of course cooking.

Please feel free to drop by to our amazing new room in the double story MOD 10 for a one-to-one greeting, my door is always open.



NICHOLAS RANDICH

56B

Greetings Rockbank Community!

My name is Nicholas Randich and I am fortunate to be the classroom teacher of 5/6B in 2024.

I am of Italian and Maltese descent. I have lived, worked and travelled throughout Europe while I attended university. I have taught all primary-aged year levels, in a career spanning approximately Ten years. My interests include soccer, photography, anime (Pokèmon) and antique car restoration. I have recently built a home in Rockbank and reside here with my partner and our three dogs Baxter, Betty and Bentley.

In the near future, I would like to master the art of playing the Violin and Banjo, ride the teacups at Disneyland in Florida and write a series of children's picture books.

Thank-you for all you support during my tenure here at RPS. I look forward to continuing to work alongside all our families over the course of the year.



TEGAN WALKER

56C

Hello Rockbank PS Community,

My name is Miss Walker. I am Excited to be here at Rockbank PS for my fourth year of teaching! I am currently teaching 5/6C!

Outside of school, I enjoy going to the gym or planning my next adventure – I like to stay active and explore new places.

At home, I've got a partner and two awesome dogs, Jessie and Gus, keeping me company.

I can't wait to dive into this year with you all, make some memories while we learn and grow together!



MEGAN EUDEY

56D

Hi. My name is Megan Eudey.

I am a new staff member and am starting my time at Rockbank Primary School as the classroom teacher of 5/6D.

I have been teaching for over seven years and have taught in four different countries from around the world during that time: including the Middle East, England, and New Zealand.

I love to read and write and am really excited for this coming year and the amazing events to come.



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A WORD FROM WELLBEING

with Ms Nerida West



YARD

ACTIVITIES

OUR STAFF ACTIVITIES FOR OUR STUDENTS EACH DAY AT BREAK TIMES. THESE ARE VERY POPULAR AND GIVE OUR STUDENTS SOMETHING STRUCTURED TO DO. THESE ARE LONG ROPE SKIPPING, CHALK DRAWINGS, LISTENING TO MUSIC, GARDENING, ART CLUB, CHOIR, TECH CLUB, TABLE TENNIS AND ELASTICS. YOU CAN SEE THE TIMETABLE IF YOU WISH TO TALK TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT ANY OF THESE ACTIVITIES.

RECESS ACTIVITIES FIRST BREAK



MONDAY  MUSIC  TECH CLUB	TUESDAY  MUSIC  CHOIR  SKIPPING  DOJO FOUNDATION	WEDNESDAY  MUSIC  ART CLUB 3-6  DOJO 1/2
THURSDAY  MUSIC  ELASTICS  DOJO 5/6	FRIDAY  MUSIC  DOJO 3/4	

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RECESS ACTIVITIES SECOND BREAK



MONDAY  CHALK  SKIPPING  TABLE TENNIS	TUESDAY  CHALK  COMMUNITY CRUSADERS  SKIPPING  TABLE TENNIS	WEDNESDAY  CHALK  SKIPPING  TABLE TENNIS
THURSDAY  CHALK  COMMUNITY CRUSADERS  SKIPPING  TABLE TENNIS	FRIDAY  CHALK  SKIPPING  TABLE TENNIS	

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LEARNING AUSLAN

with Mr Still



"DAD"

Tap extended pointer and index fingers of both hands together twice.

"MUM"

With little finger and thumb folded into palm tap head with fingers. May also be signed with a flat hand.



"BROTHER"

Starting with fingers of fists together, move first hand upwards as you move the other down. Then the first down and the other up.



"SISTER"

With pointer finger hooked, tap nose twice



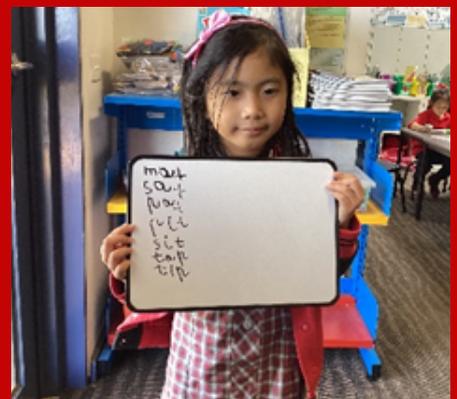
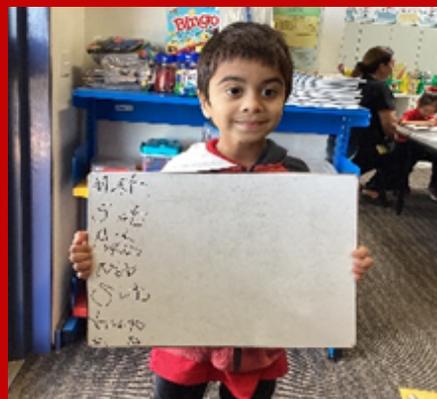
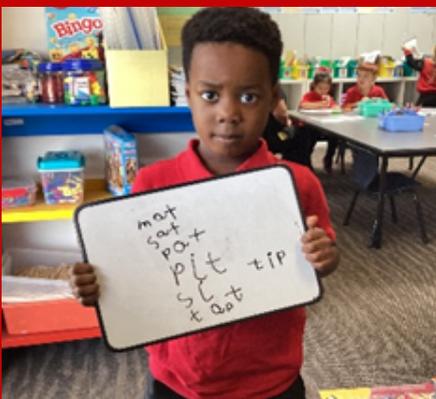
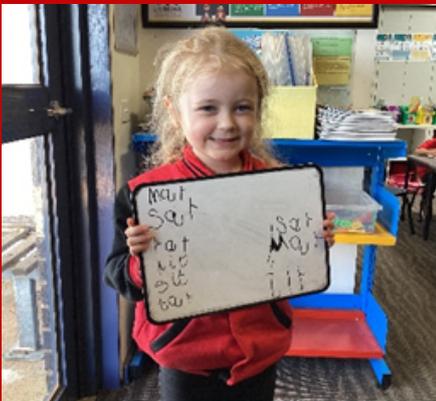
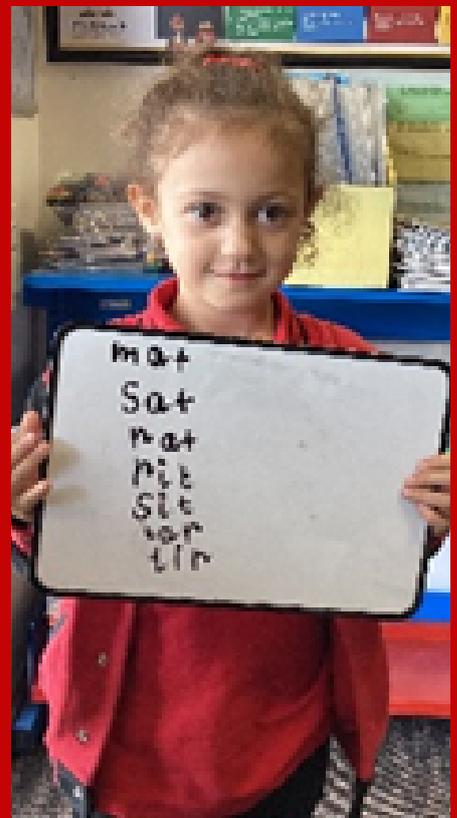
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CELEBRATING OUR LEARNING

Fc with Mrs Sharma

In phonics, we are learning how to segment and blend with sounds we know. Students are practicing to segment and blend with sounds and writing the CVC words in their mini whiteboard.



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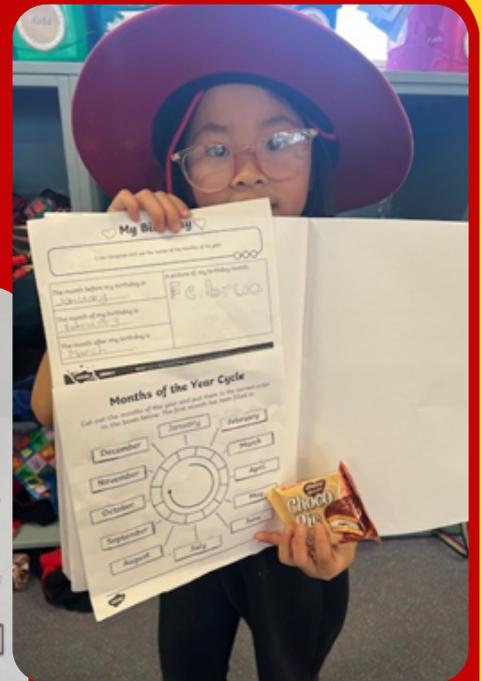
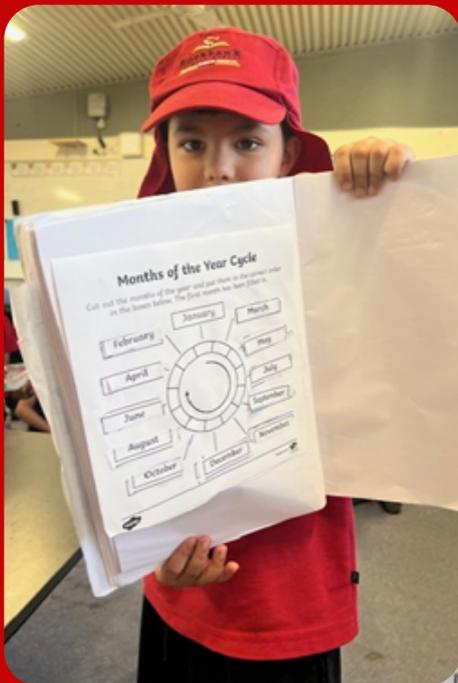
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CELEBRATING OUR LEARNING

1/2B with Mrs Kaur

In 1/2B we learned the names of the seasons and months of the year. We began by discussing the concept of time, looked at how time is divided into units called month, and each month belongs to a specific season. We also looked at the calendar and identified our birthday months. It was so much fun!

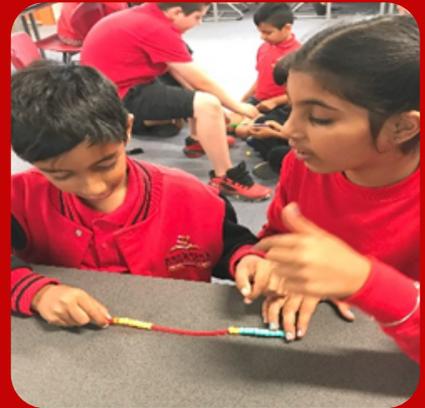


CELEBRATING OUR LEARNING

3/4A with Mrs Batra

Embark on an exciting Bead Quest with Mrs. Batra.....

3/4A dive into the captivating world of the beads game, where everyone was exploring various strategies of addition and subtraction while rolling the dice and targeting to have all the beads. This was one of the various hands-on approaches to mastering maths concept. Whether they are counting up for addition or sliding back for subtraction our bead strings made learning engaging and interactive for students. It didn't end there, students were also learning the valuable lessons along the way about resilience, adaptability and the sheer thrill of competition.



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CELEBRATING HARMONY WEEK

This week we celebrated Harmony Week,
At Rockbank Primary School we celebrate Australians from all different backgrounds. Harmony Week encompasses inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. On Tuesday we held a Cultural Parade, it was so nice to see everyone get involved and dress in their cultural and traditional dress.



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CELEBRATING HARMONY WEEK

On Wednesday we had a visit from an Indigenous performer. Students from F-6 participated in a music experience accompanied by both personal and ancestral stories.



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YARRABING SECONDARY COLLEGE



2025 YEAR 7 INFORMATION EVENING

Families are warmly invited to attend the information evening at Yarrabing Secondary College.

Discover first-hand how your child can share in the lifetime benefits of an excellent secondary education. The evening will include an information session and school tour.

Join us on **Tuesday 26th March 2024, 6pm - 7pm**

School Enrolment Zone

All government schools are bound by the Department of Education Neighbourhood Schools Policy to guide enrolments. For families seeking enrolment of their children into a state secondary school, the following guiding principles underpin the policy, enrolment process and requirements. The Neighbourhood Schools Policy seeks:

- To provide each child with the right to a place in a designated neighbourhood school.
- Enrol students with a sibling at the same school at the same permanent address who are attending school at the same time.
- To contain enrolments in each school within the limits of available resources.

Yarrabing Secondary College can accept enrolments if your residential address is zoned to our school. This can be checked on the Department of Education's Find My School website:

<https://www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au/>



RSVP

To assist our planning for our information evening, if you plan to attend, please RSVP using the link or QR code



<https://forms.gle/5x6K133of1JwyA1Pa6>

E: yarrabing.sc@education.vic.gov.au | P: (03) 7033 2444 | 40 Recreation Road, Aintree VIC 3336

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SCHOOL NEWS: CSEF

VICTORIA State Government | Department of Education

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund APPLICATION Form

School Name School REF ID

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname _____
First name _____
Address _____
Town/suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____
Contact number _____

Centrelink pensioner concession OR Health care card number (CRN)
 - -

Foster parent* OR

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH).
**Applicants must provide a copy of the Veteran Affairs Card to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH).

Student details

Child's surname	Year level

I authorise the Victorian Department of Education (DE) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry about my Centrelink customer details and concession card status to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) to provide the results of any enquiry to DE regarding temporary care orders.

I understand that:

- DFFH or Centrelink will use information I have provided to DE to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DE personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- This consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DFFH and provide it to my child's school so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- If I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DE.
- Information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to DFFH and/or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You can request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant _____ Date ____/____/____



CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS

AT ROCKBANK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Due to severe allergies within the school, we are **making some changes** to what families can provide to celebrate their child's birthday from 2024.

Instead of food items, **families are welcome to provide their child and their classmates with novelty items such as stickers, pencils, erasers, etc.**

It is incredibly important that all students feel safe and included at all times.



THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
UNDERSTANDING!



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REMINDERS

MORNING MUNCHIES

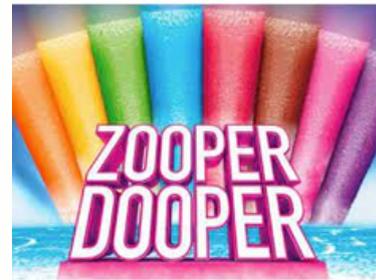
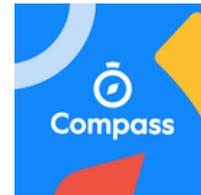


Each morning, students arriving between 8:30am and 8:50am are welcome to grab something for breakfast as they pass the Dojo Shop.

If they've already had a nice, healthy start to the day, they are even welcome to grab a snack for later!

COMPASS SCHOOL MANAGER

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ICY POLES

Icy poles are sold every **Wednesday** and **Friday** from our school canteen at **11:10am**

ICY POLES ARE \$2 EACH



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