

# St. Mary's Primary School Newsletter

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**Date: 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2023**

**Newsletter No: 8**

**Term: 2 - Week: 6**

## School Notices

### Yard Supervision:

Morning: 8:30 - 8:55am

Afternoon: 3:20 - 3:35pm

### Bell Times:

School Begins 8:55am

Recess: 11:10-11:30am

Lunch: 1:30 - 2:20pm

Finish: 3:20pm

### Student Absences:

Please phone the office by 9:00am if your child will not be at school on 57 521808.

Or mark absence on PAM.



### Term 2

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April

### Term 3

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September

### Term 4

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>

December

## MASS TIMES

### Myrtleford

Saturday @ 5:00pm

Sunday @ 9:00am

### Bright

Sunday @ 11:00am

### St Patricks Whorouly

Last Sunday of the

Month @ 5:00pm



Click on the link



*We are sorry and ask God's forgiveness. Touch the hearts of the broken, homeless, and inflicted and heal their spirits. In your mercy and compassion walk with us as we continue our journey of healing to create a future that is just and equitable.*

## NO BUSES RUNNING WEDNESDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

There will be no buses running on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2023, as Myrtleford P-12 have a pupil free Day. Parent will need to bring their children into school on this day.

**St Mary's Primary School is OPEN.**

## SHARING BEST PRACTICE

St Mary's staff thank Ashley Pasqualotto for the amazing work she put in, in organising a major conference that was held in Myrtleford on Saturday. Ashley was able to secure high calibre and sought out educational speakers from around Australia. Teachers came from as far away as Bendigo, Melbourne and Mansfield to participate in the conference. This has been amazing, and definitely a huge thumbs up for small regional areas in the field of Professional Development. A conference such as this has never been attempted before in Myrtleford and thanks to Ashley became a reality and a huge success. As a result of this conference St Mary's has networked with a number of high performing schools around Australia and we will now be able to tap into their wisdom and continue to make St Mary's even better!



Sharing Best Practice Conference



## VICTORIAN REGISTRATION AND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY (VRQA)

Every four years every school in Victoria must undertake the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA). This is Victoria's education and training regulator, an independent statutory authority that works to assure the quality of education and training in Victoria. Last Friday St Mary's had all policies and procedures etc. audited and all areas at St Mary's were compliant. A huge thank you to James Davis as he supported me in gathering all the documentation required and providing the technology 'know how' to provide the information in the format the auditors required.

## COVID AND OTHER ILLNESS

We continue to have many teachers away and students away with illness. COVID is going around again! We still have some COVID tests available in the office. If you need a packet, please contact the office and we can pass it on to your family. If your child has COVID it is best to stay home to try and avoid passing it on to others. If a family member has COVID and your children are negative they are still able to be at school, a mask being advisable.

## PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held in Week 9, on the 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> June. A link will come home to all families next week via Team App.

Have a great fortnight.

Kitty

*St Mary's Primary is committed to students experiencing a sense of inclusion that is respectful of their giftedness, abilities, culture and contexts. Our student's experience learning and teaching in a child safe environment that is engaging and liberating.*

## SIGNING YOUR CHILD IN & OUT & LATE TO SCHOOL PROCESS

All Children who arrive at school after 8:55am or leave school before 3:20pm MUST be signed in/out at the office.

If for any reason, you need to take your child out of school during school hours, please come to the office to sign your child out.

## STUDENT ABSENCES

If your child is absent from school for any reason, it is vital that you notify the school prior to 9am, giving the reason for the absence e.g. If your child is sick, attending an appointment, family holiday etc.

- Mark absence on PAM.
- Send a note with your child on their return to school, or beforehand if you know in advance
- School answering machine is on out of hours, so you can leave a message 57521808



**Why attendance matters**

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:

- Learn
- Make friends
- Build skills through fun

**Days missed = years lost**

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

1 day per fortnight = 4 weeks = Over 1 year missed

1 day per week = 8 weeks = Over 2.5 years missed



## CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

You can access information about the Child Safe Standards and St. Mary's commitment to the implementation of these standards, including resources, policies, procedures and links, via the school website ([www.smmyrleford.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smmyrleford.catholic.edu.au)).

## SCHOOL NEWS

### DATES TO REMEMBER

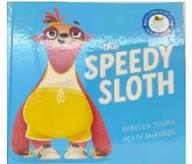
#### JUNE

Wednesday 7th	<b>NO SCHOOL BUSES RUNNING – ST MARY'S OPEN</b>
Wednesday 7th	O & M Division Cross-Country Wangaratta
Friday 9th	Lamington & Pie Drive orders due
<b>Monday 12th</b>	<b>Public Holiday Kings Birthday</b>
Tuesday 13th	JLC Mass 9:15am St Mary's Church
Thursday 15th	MLC Mass 9:15am St Mary's Church
Friday 16th	Hume Region Cross-Country Benalla
Tuesday 20th	Parent Teacher Interviews 3:40 – 6pm
Wednesday 21st	Parent Teacher Interviews 3:40 – 6pm
Wednesday 21st	O & M Division Winter Sports Wangaratta
Thursday 22nd	Parent Teacher Interviews 3:40 – 6pm
Thursday 22nd	Whole School Liturgy 9:30am St Mary's Church (SLC running Liturgy)
Friday 23rd	Last Day of Term 2 - 2:20pm Finish
<b>JULY</b>	
Monday 10th	First Day Term 3
Monday 17th	Assembly at EMPAC 2:20pm
Tuesday 18th	Albury Eistedfod Choir
Monday 31st	Assembly at EMPAC 2:20pm

## LIBRARY NEWS

### NATIONAL SIMULTANEOUS STORYTIME "THE SPEEDY SLOTH"

National Simultaneous Storytime was last Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May. This year's book was, *The Speedy Sloth*, written by Rebecca Young and illustrated by Heath McKenzie. A great story about celebrating all winners, including those who don't come first!



## CATHOLIC IDENTITY NEWS



### 2023 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Reconciliation (Year 3 and above)

On Tuesday May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm, 13 candidates received the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We would like to CONGRATULATE these students: Sarai Barnes, Clementine Chapman, Skyler Desagon, Freddy Ives, Clare Law, Mia McGuffie, Paddy Millar, Thomas

Mullane-Grant, Max Pundang, Isobel Richter, Carlos Rubiano, Isabella Norris and Luca Zamperoni.



### CONFIRMATION AND EUCHARIST (YEAR 4 AND ABOVE)

Parent Information Evening: Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July at 6:30pm

**Confirmation and Eucharist Masses**

Saturday September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6pm

Sunday September 10<sup>th</sup> at 9am

Anyone who would like to receive any of these Sacraments and hasn't sent in your intention to participate, please contact me at the school.

## Congratulations



### SAVE THE DATE - ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL CENTENARY YEAR

Saturday October 7<sup>th</sup> 'Celebration Day' starting at 10am.

Past and present students, staff, parish members and families are invited to attend our special Mass, reunion, school tours and join us for a pasta lunch.

Please let any past students know that this event is on, as we would love to see them all. We have even invited Presentation Sisters who worked in Myrtleford to attend.

Have a wonderful week and take care,

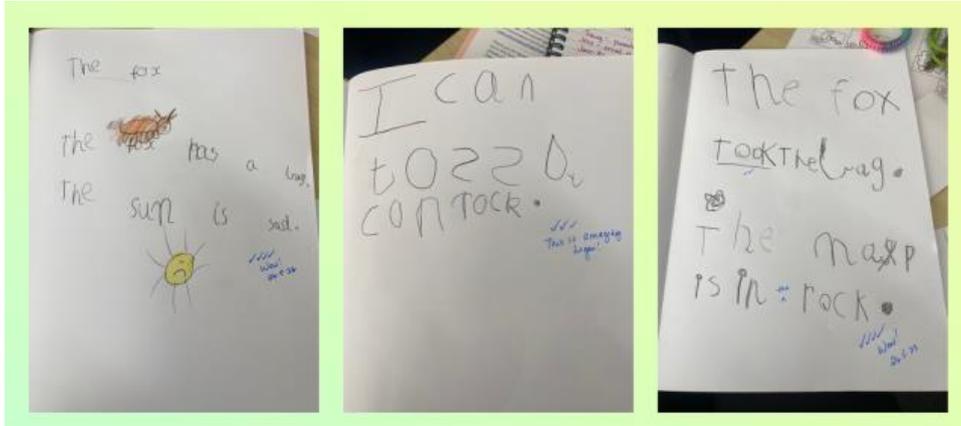
Jo Bennett

REC

**FOUNDATION**

Thank you to the Foundies and families who are changing the readers to read at home. As mentioned in the last newsletter, I will no longer be sending home word lists to practise, as the students are now mostly confident with these and ready to tackle the decodable texts. Our phonics is continuing to focus on blends (two letters that make two distinct sounds) at the end of words.

The Foundation students have been working incredibly hard on their writing skills these past few weeks, focussing on the conventions of writing a sentence. Their goal is to include a capital letter, full stops and spacing in between words. Students are writing simple sentences responding to pictures and stories read in class. I am so very proud of them!



In maths, we have been learning about measuring length. This week we will begin addition within 10 or 20 and the strategies for putting numbers together.

Our Religion focus continues looking at God's Creation and how we can take care of the world around us.

**YEAR 1**

We sadly farewelled Mrs Reynolds-Smith last Friday. She was so upset to say goodbye. Thank you to your children, for making her first teacher placement so wonderful! We sent her off with some nice cards and a small present and of course a party!

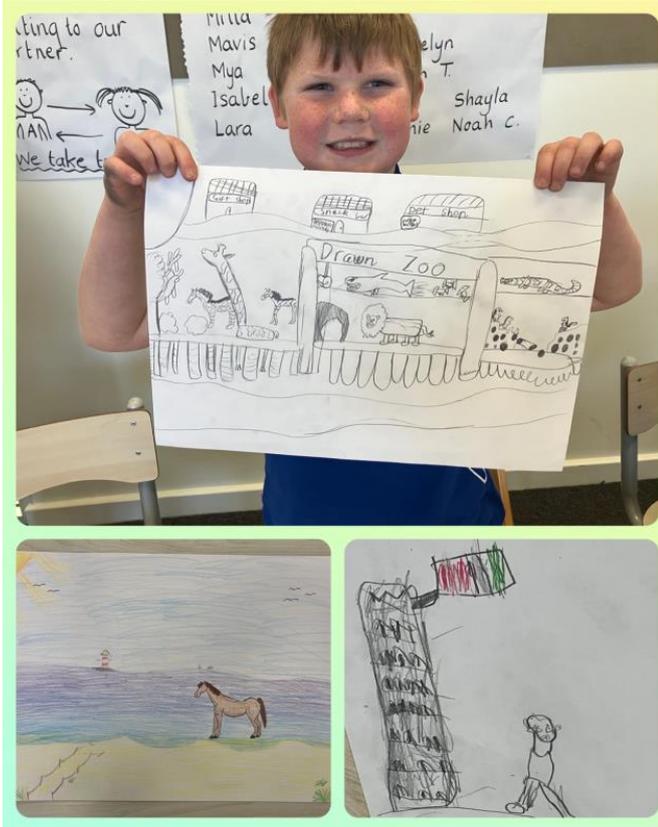


Last week was a week for baby animals. We had several of Lara Nanipierri's little kittens visit. Three lucky kittens went to new St Mary's homes...Katie our cleaner adopted two and of course, Miss Deith adopted one!

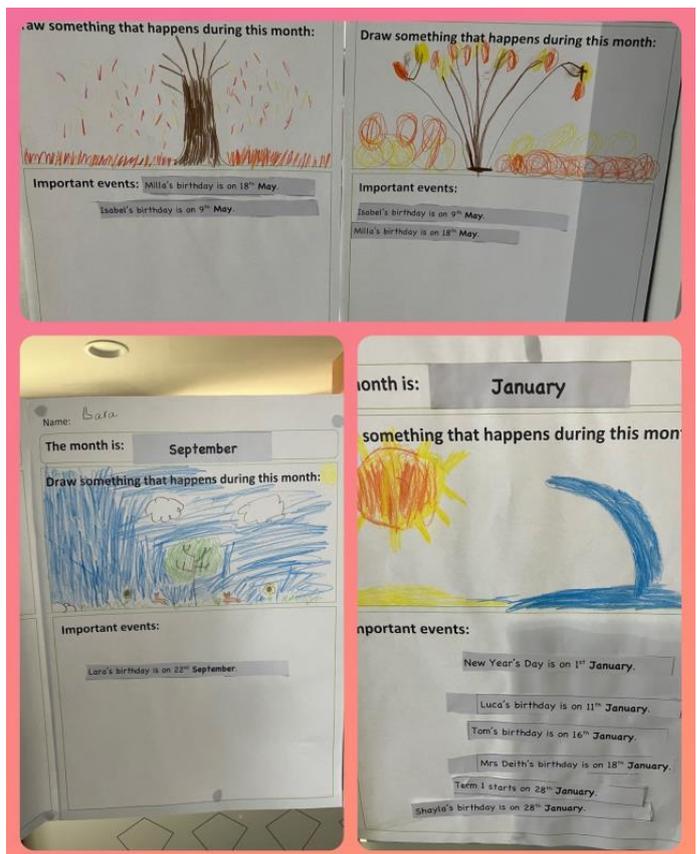
For National Sorry Day, we have been reading a book written by the singer Isaiah Firebrace called 'Come Together'. We watched some footage of Isaiah on The X-Factor and Eurovision. Students were amazed at how young he is, and the story he tells about his childhood and life.



Our classroom was full of elective students last week (a third of the students are Year 1). We worked on our landscape drawing skills, using a pencil medium. No technology was used for ideas or techniques, we used one another to learn.



In Maths we have been learning all about reading maps and following directions. The students have loved learning this subject and participating in some navigation activities. We have also been working on 'Time'. Not just telling the time on a clock, but also reading a calendar. Students arranged and sorted events into chronological order on a monthly calendar.



11/5/23 to M  
 full moon I like looking at  
 the moon. the moon ken be  
 different colours the moon  
 travel different places.  
 I want to go to the moon  
 the moon shines, you can stare  
 about the moon

## The Big Write

molly  
 Full Moon molly When I see a full moon at  
 night I put my cristles out on the  
 deck so the moon can charge them.  
 When I woke up I could still see the  
 moon a little bit. The full moon stays for  
 three days.

In spelling we have been learning about Split Vowel Digraphs. A digraph that is split by a consonant that makes a long vowel sound. Also known as 'Magic, or Bossy -E'. In Year One we refer to this as a 'Silent E'.

The Big Write last week was about 'The Moon'. We had some quality writing in this session.

In Structured Literacy, we have been reading books that relate to our Inquiry topic. Last week we read 'There was an old Astronaut that swallowed the moon' and this week we are reading 'Touch the Moon' which incorporates sentence structure and vocabulary. We have done some research into Neil Armstrong and what technology was like in the 1960's



Inquiry is full steam ahead in the JLC. Students from Year One have been producing some wonderful pieces of work in response to our key learning criteria...

### YEAR 2

The Year 2 students finished their time with Miss McCoy on Friday with a lovely thank you session. Miss McCoy is in her final year of her teaching degree and will graduate after the end of the year. We wish her the very best for her teaching career.

On 'Sorry Day' last Friday, we watched a PowerPoint on National Sorry Day. We investigated: What Is National Sorry Day? Who Are the Stolen Generations? When Did National Sorry Day Become an Annual Event? and Why Is National Sorry Day Important?

In spelling we studied 'ey as in money' which can be found at the end of words. This week, we are studying 'ough as in fought' which is usually followed by a 't'. We have also had a daily review of our previously studied spelling focus.

The students have been using templates to write a detailed plan in preparation for their Big Write each week. They use their plans when writing their Big Write. Last week, they wrote to the topic 'The full moon' and this week they are writing in response to 'The flood'. Some students have written informational texts, while others have written fictional pieces. The students' have focused on using the skills and strategies on sentence writing taught in lessons, in their Big Write.



THE BIG WRITE DISCUSSION

We have focused on the book 'Mr Archimedes bath' in structured literacy last week and then again this week. Our focus vocabulary has been: overflowed, depth, bellowed, puzzled and measured. The students have reviewed the structure of sentences and what a fragment or sentence is. On Tuesday, the students wrote expanded sentences that included adjectives.

In Maths, the students have further developed their abilities to recognise, name and use numbers with place value up to 10,000. The students were able to expand numbers:  $7986 = 7000 + 900 + 80 + 6$ , and group numbers to 10,000. The children are now working on location using directional language: left, right etc and are investigating the features of 3D shapes.

We are finishing our study of Jesus in scripture in Religious Education. The students have created a class booklet and they are completing a drawing of what they think Jesus looks like. We will begin a study on Baptism next week and ask that the students bring in a photo from their Baptism if they have one.



Have a fantastic week,  
Ashley, Carolyn, Jo, Sonia and Sandra

## MIDDLE NEWS

Some photos from the Year 3/4 area hard at work. We are proud of the work we are doing



## RECONCILIATION

A lovely night was held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May when some of our Year 3 students made their Reconciliation at the Church. A huge thank you to Jo Bennett and Fr Tony for a beautiful ceremony.



## 'BE KIND TO YOUR MIND' GAMES DAY FRIDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> MAY

It was a great day of fun and games when we shared this time with the Myrtleford P - 12 Year 3/4 students.





Have a great week ahead.  
Julie, April, Lucia and Anna

## SENIOR NEWS

Hasn't the weather turned! We have some very chilly days but it certainly doesn't dampen our learning spirits!!

Over the last two weeks the SLC students have conducted themselves with maturity and dedication to complete multiple Essential Assessment tasks. These help teachers to determine what skills have been mastered and of equal importance where to focus our efforts to help students reach their full potential. We have seen strong growth throughout the SLC, across all subjects which is extremely pleasing.

### ELECTIVIES

We have had our second electives session that has continued to be loads of fun and varying from creating playdough necklaces, building operational solar-powered lego clocks, card, cup and table tennis ball challenges (these were extremely amusing to watch), and gruelling boot camp courses.



### HOMEWORK

This week for homework students have a comprehension task as we have been focusing on reading a text and finding both the literal and inferred meaning. Being able to 'read between the lines' to determine what is being said is an important skill to master.

There is also a logic puzzle based on the game Cluedo. If you happen to have this board game at home this might inspire you to play a round for the family time section of our homework grid. It has always been a favourite game of mine.

### MATHS

MathsJam is a new resource within mathgames.com that we have played only a handful of times, however it is a lot of fun because you are able to challenge multiple friends on any number of maths topics. All students have their login details and to start a game one student will set up the MathsJam and then share the 4 digit code with their friends. Give it a go!! There is the option for parents or siblings to get a login if you would like to play as a family (if you would like additional logins, let me know and I can easily set these up).

### WRITING

We have been developing our paragraph writing skills to support our Information Report on a chosen mountain. Here are some work samples from two different activities: one is constructing a paragraph about a chosen sport from a paragraph outline and the other is writing a first draft (these aren't complete and haven't been edited as yet) of a letter, containing information, to a friend who is hoping to trek to the Everest Base Camp. Both activities had a very short time frame so everyone should be commended on what they were able to produce.

*Dear Hiking friend,*

*I remember the time you told me you wanted to go on a trek to the base camp of Mount Everest, so I have some tips. The best time of the year to go is April to May and October to November. I recommend going in October to November because of the weather..... you will have better visibility of the summit and there is little rain. However, during the winter months the cost of tours is cheaper. Some things you can't forget are your valid passport and Chinese Entry Visa. You also need a Tibet Travel Permit, Alien's Travel Permit and a Frontier Pass. If you don't have these, you won't be able to get into the country.*

*You will need multiple layers of clothes as the temperature varies greatly between day and night, and a down coat to keep you warm. A quality rainproof coat because it might rain and thick woollen socks because it is freezing cold and if your feet get cold so does the rest of your body. You need to bring dehydrated food as they are lighter than normal food, so it is easier to carry. If you go in the warmer seasons, you will need sunscreen because on mountains the solar radiation is stronger. Trekking equipment is also necessary you need things like sleeping bags, tents, stoves, water filters, a compass and first aid kits for an emergency. In remote areas availability of things is rare. If you take medication on a regular basis you are required to bring it in case, you get an insect bite or feel sick while climbing. Bring cash in different denominations because in remote areas cash is the only form of payment available.*

*I hope this helps you and I would love to join you on your journey to the Base Camp of Mount Everest.*

*Yours sincerely,  
Alexis*

*Hello Alexis my hiking friend,*

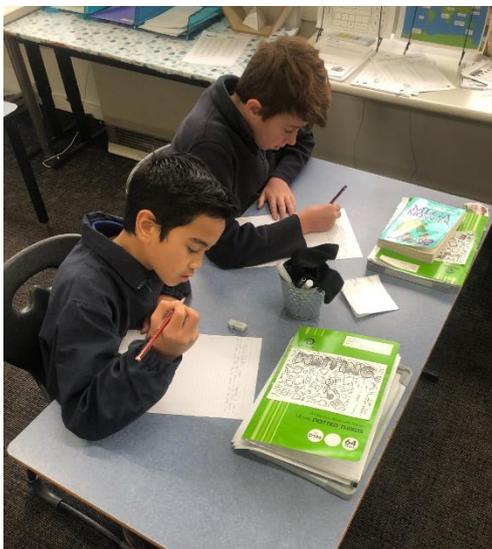
*I was reading an article the other day on the Mount Everest Base Camp and remembered you said you wanted to trek to the base camp. Here is some of the information I found on what you must bring, when the best time to go is, and plenty of other important details. The best times to start the trek up to Everest Base Camp (EBC) are April to May and September to October, when there is little rain and high visibility of the summit. It is cheaper in winter if you have a restricted budget. You have to bring cash, not a credit card, and the cash in different denominations, as when you land, the Himalayas border many countries. Pack a passport that has not expired and have a Chinese visa card with you at all times, do not lose it, otherwise you cannot travel into the countries or be a tourist there.*

*You will need layers of long and short tops to keep yourself warm, a good fleece or down jacket and a few woollen sweaters. Bring plenty of underwear in case some get wet from the snow. Lots of woollen socks in case they get wet too, and to keep your feet warm. Rain and windproof jackets, to protect you from harsh winds and rain. The conditions can change very quickly at this high altitude so you have to be prepared for all temperatures.*

*Ensure you pack medicines for colds, insect bite, headache, stomach aches and diarrhoea. Take a sleeping bag, sleeping mats, stoves, cookware, water filter, camp bathroom, tents and tarps, first aid kits, expedition food.*

*There are many things to remember and consider but I think it would definitely be worth the effort to view the majestic Mount Everest from the Base Camp.*

*Yours sincerely,  
Izzy*



*Dear Hiking friend,*

*I know you have always wanted to climb Mount Everest. The other day I was reading this passage and it was a guide for trekking to Everest Base Camp. It included the weather, the things you would need, and when to go! So, I thought I'd be able to share some info with you. The best time to go is in April to May and September to October, but if you want a cheaper option, you should trek it in winter. You also need to pack things in a big backpack, a small bag, and a bumbag or side strap. The big backpack is for clothes and is much easier to move than a suitcase on wheels. The bag is suitable to carry things for daily use. The bumbag is to carry small important items like passports, phone, documents etc. Here are some more things that you would need.*

*Clothes: woollen sweater, down jacket, thick woollen socks, lots of underwear, fleece jacket, and strong hiking boots.*

*Emily*

To Emma,

I hope you have been well. I read this website the other day and it reminded me of the time you told me your dream was to trek to the EBC (Everest Base Camp) so I thought I would tell you what you should bring if you ever go!

**CLOTHING:** You will need a waterproof and windproof down jacket as well as a woollen fleece to keep you warm. For pants you might want to bring thick layers like tracksuit pants and underwear. Make sure that your jumpers have hoods so that your neck does not get sunburnt! Make sure to keep neck warmers on your neck at all times as well as two hand warmers in your down pockets because you will need it. Trust me! Also make sure to have thick socks to keep your feet warm.

**TIME OF YEAR:** The best time of the year to trek to EBC is April to May and September to October with the temperatures going up to 22 degrees. For December and February the coldest months are -15 degrees! You will find you cannot trek comfortably. Though the motels are a lot cheaper during this time!

**WHAT TO PACK:** First you HAVE to make sure you have your passport otherwise you will not be able to travel overseas. Though make sure you bring skin care products like Drunk Elephant as well as Bubble and other hydrating brands for your skin. Make sure you also have lip balm that moisturises and protects your lips! You might not think these brands would be good but they are!

This information should help with your preparations when you decide to take on the challenge.

Yours sincerely,

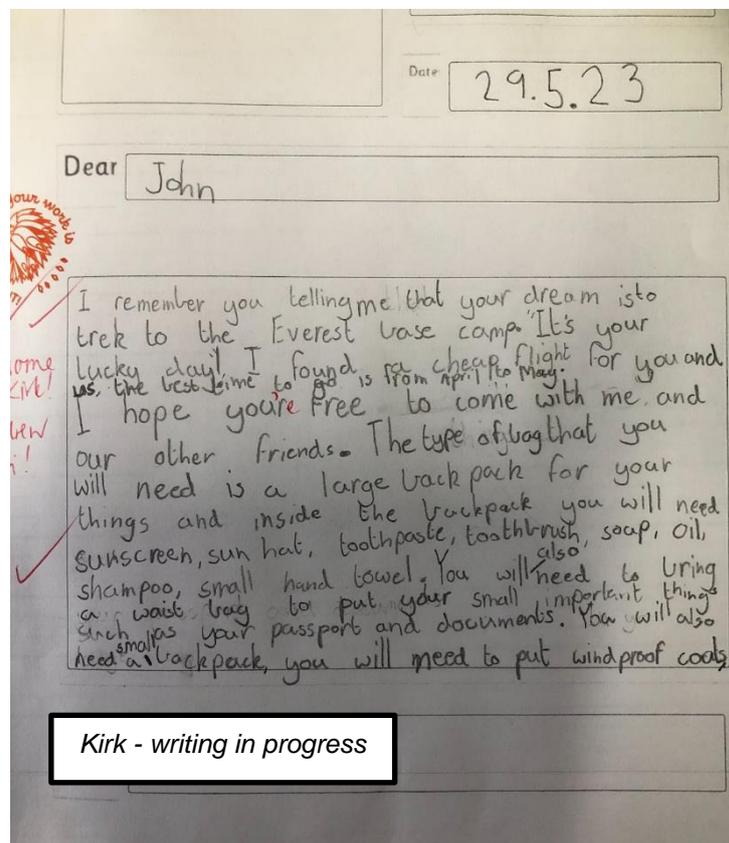
**Leah**

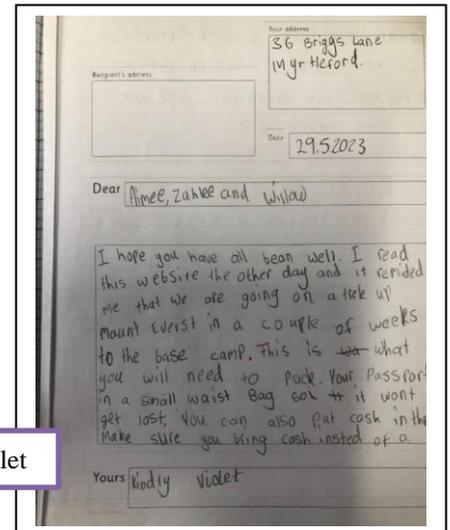
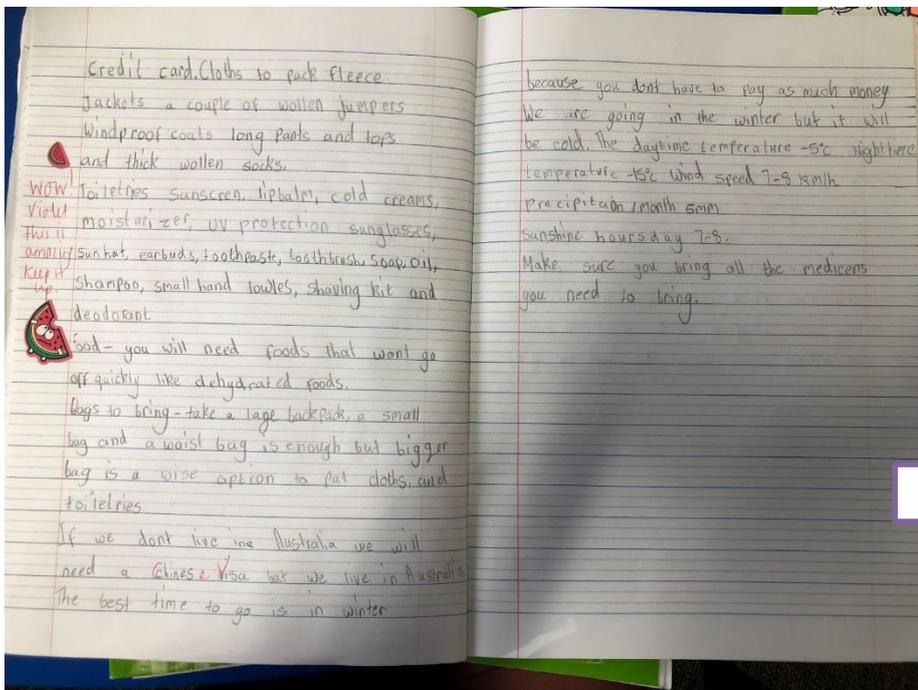
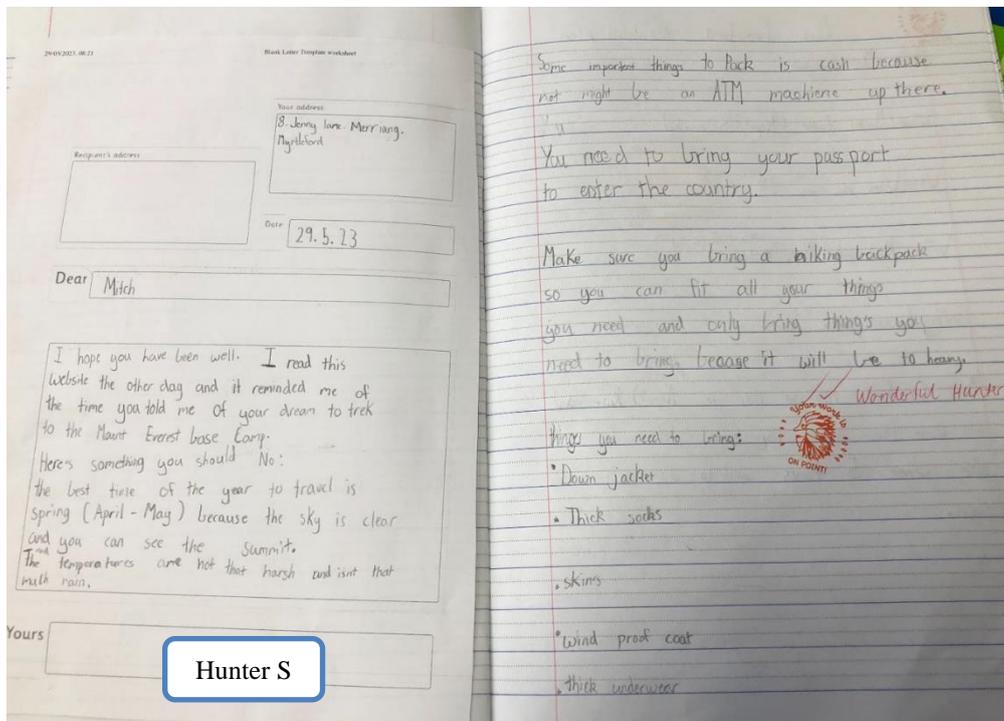
TS: The A-league is responsible for football in Australia.

1. There is a soccer team in every state.
2. Soccer is the most liked sport in the world.
3. Soccer is a winter sport, so it is often raining or freezing cold.
4. Soccer is played worldwide.

CS: In most countries around the world soccer is called football and is a very skillful game.

**Corey**





## PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Every alternate week our Bluearth session becomes a teacher-lead physical activity block. This week we joined the classes to have a very enjoyable movement time beginning with some cross country training in the form of one v one laps around the oval. The aim was to keep a solid pace for the entire distance and ensure you pushed yourself across the line. Then we split into two teams for a thrilling game of 10-50-100 with Mr Corcoran as the bowler. There were some epic catches and well positioned kicks that lead to a nail-biting finish.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE STUDENTS OF THE WEEK:

Benji Lupo  
Emma Pasqualotto and Aimee Pozzan

Stay warm and healthy, soak up any sunshine you can possibly find and enjoy the last of the vibrant Autumn leaves around town.

Hannah, Kitty and Leigh

**MELTED CRAYON AND ACRYLIC PAINT ART**

This Term in Art we have been learning about famous, Loretta Bradfield, the melted crayon art technique and the colour, line and value elements of art. Foundation students have been creating autumn owls, Year 1/2 and Year 3/4 students have been creating autumn trees, and Year 5/6 students have been creating Aurora Borealis and Aurora Australis skyline pictures using acrylic paint but will also be replicating these Aurora scenes in coming lessons using the melted crayon technique.

**YEAR 1/2**

Students creating their autumn trees. First drawing with grey lead, then outlining and filling using permanent marker.



Students then made crayon shavings using a pencil sharpener, baking paper was then put over the piece, and an iron was used press over the top to melt the crayon. The picture was then cropped using a guillotine and glued down to black card to frame the Picture.



**WINTER SPORTS UNIT - FOOTBALL**

Over the past couple of weeks, the SLC and MLC students have been engaged in a unit on Australian rules football. They have been developing their ball handling skills through a range of different drills, relays, and games. We have been focussing on handballing, receiving a handball (catching) and recovering a loose ball, as well as some agility work. Students have enjoyed a modified version of the Bluearth game "Narnia", where beanbags are replaced with footballs, and instead of throwing the balls, they must handball. Ask your child to explain the rules of this fun game.



**MONDAY ELECTIVIES**







MYRTLEFORD  
**TOY**  
LIBRARY

Find out more  
&  
join today

**OPENING SOON**

Explore the range of  
educational, outdoor and  
fun toys available  
to borrow



Myrtleford Senior Citizens  
Centre, Smith Street,  
MYRTLEFORD

1st and 3rd Tuesday  
& Saturday of  
each month

## Victoria's Child Safe Standards

Plain language summary

- 1** Your organisation welcomes Aboriginal children. You support them to express their culture and to enjoy their rights. You don't allow racism.


- 2** Child safety is important to everyone at all levels in your organisation. You document how you find, avoid, and stop risks of child abuse or harm.


- 3** Your organisation supports children to know their rights to be safe from abuse, informed, and involved. You help them to talk openly and take part in decisions that affect them.


- 4** Your organisation tells families and the community about what you do, and how you keep children safe from harm and abuse. You help families to have a say and to take part in decisions that affect their child.


- 5** Your organisation understands that every child is different and has different needs. You make sure that they can get the information and help that they need.


- 6** Staff know what they must do to keep children safe from abuse and harm. They record, report, and share information about child safety when they should. Staff who work with children have had the background checks they need.


- 7** Children and their families know how to make a complaint and what happens when a complaint is made. Your staff know how to respond properly to complaints.


- 8** Your organisation trains and supports staff to keep children safe from abuse and harm. Your staff know the signs of child abuse and harm and what to do if there are issues of abuse and harm.


- 9** Your organisation makes sure children are safe when they use your services, settings, and activities. This includes when children are online.


- 10** Your organisation checks and improves the ways you keep children safe from abuse and harm.


- 11** Your organisation has written policies about how you keep children safe from abuse and harm. They are easy to understand, and all staff follow them.



For more information, contact the Commission for Children and Young People  
[www.cyp.vic.gov.au](http://www.cyp.vic.gov.au)

