



North News

Ararat North Primary School

Friday 27th February 2026



A WORD FROM LEADERSHIP

We are very excited to welcome Alvina to our team. Alvina is leading our intervention programs, providing students with opportunities for small group and one-on-one support. These sessions allow students to consolidate their learning and strengthen key areas of need. We are incredibly fortunate to have these resources available at our school and are thrilled to have Alvina as part of our team.

It was fantastic to host the free hockey clinic this week. Students had the opportunity to learn new skills from experienced coaches and enjoyed participating in an additional physical activity session. It was wonderful to see so much enthusiasm and engagement.

Over the past two weeks, we have also been fortunate to access valuable health services at our school. Our School Nurse Program is available free of charge for our new Foundation students, and we have been working alongside an occupational therapist who supports our teachers to make effective adjustments for students in the classroom. These services play an important role in supporting student wellbeing and learning.

Progress Reports will be live from Friday afternoon. These informal reports provide families with an update on how their child is progressing so far this year. If you require assistance accessing your child's report, please contact the front office for support.

Super Stars

Learning Area 1

Miss Aimee & Miss
Kelsie

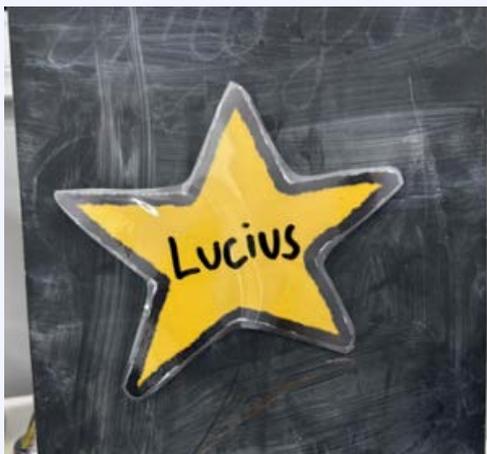
There has been a real buzz in the LA 1 classroom since the beginning of term, and families may have heard their children talking about “stars” or being the “Star of the Day”. Throughout each day, Miss Aimee, Miss Kelsie and Heather keep an eye out for students who are showing the traits of a good learner—sitting on the mat or at their tables, listening carefully, and being ready for learning.

When students make these positive choices, they are recognised with a star on our classroom Star Chart. Once a student earns 10 stars, they become our Star of the Day.

Being Star of the Day is a special celebration. The chosen student:

- Wears a special badge
- Sits in the comfy armchair during mat sessions
- Leads the line
- Helps the teachers with classroom jobs

The students have been very excited and motivated by this system, and it has been wonderful to see them encouraging one another and taking pride in their learning behaviours.



Learning Area 2

Miss Ellen

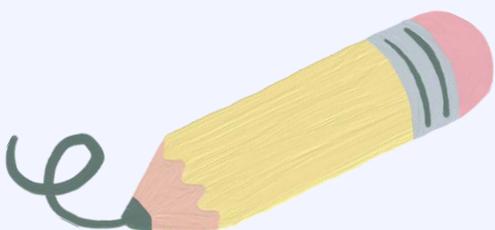
Bringing Stories to Life in LA 2



Students in LA 2 have been exploring narratives through a range of engaging stories, identifying key elements such as characters, setting, events, problems and solutions. They have learned how authors use descriptive language and vivid detail to capture the reader's attention and bring stories to life.



Students have eagerly applied this knowledge by planning and writing their own original narratives. They have created imaginative characters, developed thoughtful plot ideas and proudly shared their work with the class, building confidence and inspiring one another along the way.



Buddies

The LA 3 students have really enjoyed spending time with their LA 1 buddies over lunch. It has been wonderful to see students, both young and old, excited to connect, play games and build new friendships. The positive energy and enthusiasm from both groups has been fantastic to watch.

Our buddy program plays an important role in creating a safe, inclusive and supportive school environment. By pairing younger students with older mentors, we encourage leadership, empathy and responsibility, while also helping our younger students feel confident and connected. We are proud of the way our students are embracing this opportunity and strengthening our school community.



Learning Area 3

Miss Ella



Hockey Clinic

On Monday 23rd February, our LA 2 and LA 3 students enjoyed an exciting visit from Hockey Victoria at Ararat North Primary School.

As part of their Term 1 Roadshow program, Hockey Victoria delivers free introductory hockey clinics to primary schools across the state. Students were introduced to the equipment and learned basic skills through fun, game-based activities.

A highlight of the session was practising passing and hitting the ball to a partner. A special moment was when Jehtt scored a “nutmeg” – skilfully dribbling the ball through the instructor’s legs to earn a point. What an impressive effort!

It was fantastic to see students engaged, active and showing great teamwork throughout the clinic. Thank you to Hockey Victoria for providing such a fun opportunity for our school community.



AWARDS

At each assembly, classroom and specialist awards are presented to acknowledge student achievement and recognise those who demonstrate our School Values of **Resilience**, **Respect**, and **Responsibility**.

Here are this week's recipients:



Welcome Alvina!



We are very excited to have Alvina as a part of our team at Ararat North Primary School!

When asked what she is enjoying about Ararat North so far, Alvina shared that the staff are very friendly and supportive.

Outside of school, Alvina enjoys cooking and following her son's soccer, proudly cheering on her boys in their sporting pursuits. We have been lucky enough to enjoy some of Alvina's fantastic cooking – she certainly is very talented in the kitchen!

We are thrilled to have Alvina join our team and look forward to the positive contribution she will make to our school community.

Important Reminders

- A friendly reminder to drop your child at the gate in the morning, allowing them to build independence and resilience by walking to Breakfast Club on their own.
- If you haven't already, follow Ararat North Primary School on Facebook to stay up to date with the latest news.
- Make sure notifications are turned on in XUNO so you receive all important information through the app.
- Lunch orders are available each Tuesday. Please order via the Qkr! app by Monday prior.



Important Date or Events

Labour Day Public Holiday - Monday 9th March (school closed)

NAPLAN - Tuesday 10th - Friday 13th March

Camp Monday 16th - Friday 20th March

3 Way Conversations - Friday 27th March

Lake Bolac Athletics Day - Wednesday 1st April

End of Term Assembly/House Tabloid Sports - Thursday 2nd of April



GLASSES FOR KIDS IS COMING TO YOUR SCHOOL!



Your child is eligible to receive **FREE** vision screening, testing and glasses through the Glasses for Kids program—available to **Foundation (Prep) to Year 3** students. This service is provided at no cost and takes place at school.

How does the Glasses for Kids program work?

- GFK partners with qualified optometrists who will visit your child's school and offer your child initial vision screening and if required, further testing and glasses at no cost.
- All screening and testing sessions will be completed during school hours.

Who can participate?

- Primary Schools: Prep – Year 3 students.
- Specialist Schools: Students aged 5 to 10 years old.

How can my child be part of the program?

- Please complete the online consent form using the QR code. If preferred, a paper version is also available from your school and must be returned to your school by the due date.

Can children who currently wear glasses be part of GFK?

- Yes, they can. If their glasses are less than 12 months old, please provide a copy of their latest prescription if available.
- If your child is already under the care of another optometrist, please share any relevant information on the Optometrist Questionnaire.

What if my child is nonverbal or a non-English speaker?

- They can still participate; the optometrists we partner with have resources and techniques to work with nonverbal or non-English speaking students.

Do I have to complete a separate form for each child?

- Yes, each student must have a completed Consent Form

How do I get the results for my child?

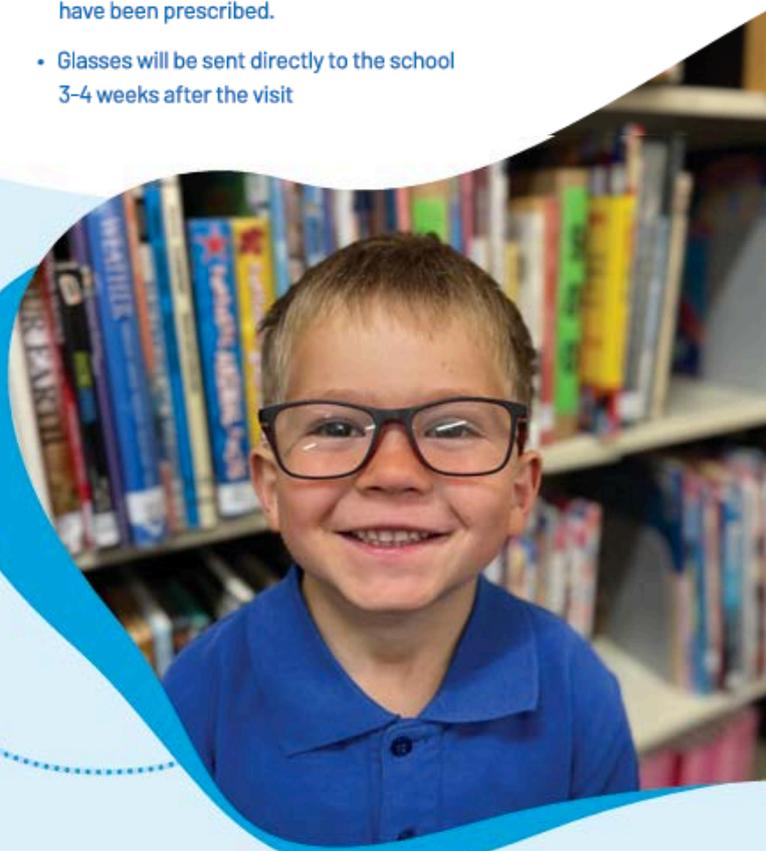
- Your child will receive a letter about their vision screening outcome to bring home at the conclusion of our visit.

What if my child needs glasses?

- If the optometrist prescribes glasses for your child, GFK will provide them at no cost.
- Your child will have the chance to choose their glasses and be fitted on the day.
- Your child will be given a letter telling you why the glasses have been prescribed.
- Glasses will be sent directly to the school 3-4 weeks after the visit

Sign up today by scanning the QR code below

If preferred, you can also complete the attached consent form which must be returned to your school by the due date.



Need help? For more information, or if you have problems accessing the consent form please get in touch with us.

www.glassesforkids.com.au | info@glassesforkids.com.au | (03) 8769 8400



Department of Education



Community Paramedic Program

Our Community Paramedic is visiting your community.
Call in and talk to them about your health.

Location: ARARAT-56 Campbell St

When:

February 26th 2026	11am-2pm
March 12th 2026	11am-2pm
March 26th 2026	11am-2pm

Every Second Thursday

Where: Neighbourhood House

This is a FREE drop in service

For more information, scan to go to the
Grampians Community Health website:





Community Paramedic Program

Community Paramedics run regular clinics in the community for people who need to access healthcare.

What does our community paramedic do?

Ask you questions about your health

Ask about any health services you are using

Check your blood pressure and other health assessments

Provide referrals to primary care and community support

Help you navigate the health care and welfare system

Provide you with health education

Help you set health goals

This is a FREE drop in service

For clinic dates and times, scan to go to the Grampians Community Health website:



Our Services



GCH delivers health care and community services for individuals, families and the community.

- Counselling
- Mental health
- Alcohol and drugs support
- Health and wellness
- Family violence
- Carer support
- Assistance for older people
- Disability services
- In home help
- NDIS
- Youth events

To access our services call **5358 7400** and ask to speak to an **Intake Worker**.

We will connect you to the support you need!



Ararat Early Learning Centre

FETE 2026

THURSDAY 2ND APRIL
5PM - 8PM

Gordon St Recreation Reserve

ADULTS: GOLD COIN DONATION

KIDS: \$10 ENTERTAINMENT WRISTBANDS

PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS RESOURCES FOR AELC & 20% TO THE ROYAL CHILDRENS HOSPITAL

FOOD TRUCKS ★ BBQ ★ RAFFLES ★ LIVE MUSIC

MARKET STALLS ★ FACE PAINTING ★ ANIMALS

JUMPING CASTLE ★ MINI GOLF & **MORE!**

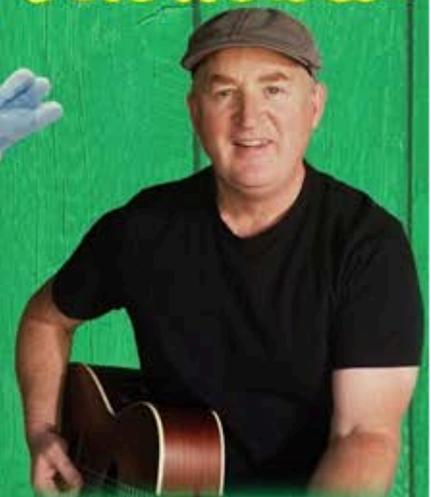
Special Guests

Lionel Holt



Marshall & Bluey

Dave Nicholson



Join the Mates Program!

Mates is a fantastic program for school-aged children. It is a proactive, school-based initiative designed to foster social inclusion, reduce bullying, and build friendships among students.

The program uses a variety of engaging approaches, including peer mentoring, social skills sessions, and wellbeing ambassadors, to support students in developing confidence, kindness, and teamwork.

Come and join us to be part of this positive and supportive community!



WANTED!

ARARAT MENTORS

If you can spare one hour a fortnight to mentor a young person at a school in Ararat, please

contact Nat on **5352 3266** or email

mates@cglenn.org.au

mates

CENTRAL GRAMPians



WILLAURA HEALTH CARE OUTDOOR MARKET

Sunday March 1 2026, 10am-2pm

Grounds adjacent to Willaura Health Care, Delacombe Way



The Willaura Market is a charity event run by the Willaura Health Care Auxiliary, with funds raised going towards improving the lives of residents and patients at Willaura Health Care, East Grampians Health Service.

This boutique country market offers goods from local and regional artisans, gourmet food, music and children's entertainment. The market is set in Willaura, surrounded by fertile farmland, which lies 34 kilometres south of Ararat on the south-eastern edge of the Grampians in Victoria's Western District.

Local producers and local artisans:

- Homewares
- Cards
- Jewellery
- Giftware
- Clothing for babies, children and adults
- Plants
- Gourmet Foods

Variety of food vendors including:

- Gourmet food
- Lions barbecue
- Coffee
- Icecream

+ Children's entertainment, musical entertainment and raffle.

For more information: willauramarket.com



'2026 Willaura Health Care Outdoor Market'

We thank the following sponsors of the market:





Ookami Kids is a registered NDIS provider for Early Childhood Intervention. We are a Ballarat based, mobile paediatric allied health practice with a team that is passionate about making a difference in the lives of children.

At Ookami Kids we believe in **celebrating each child as they are**, building meaningful connection and relationships and providing **personalised support** in a way that **empowers children and their families** to flourish in all aspects of their lives.

We take a strengths-based, neurodiversity affirming approach to therapy and family support with a focus on **connection, communication and collaboration**.

From January 2026 we will be accepting referrals for Early Childhood Intervention **Occupational Therapy Support** in **Ararat and surrounding areas**.

We have an Occupational Therapist who will be based in **Ararat** and available for outreach appointments on Fridays.

Please refer to our website for more information about us and submit an enquiry for occupational therapy support via the Contact Us tab.

www.ookamikids.com

**FREE
ENTRY**

GRAMPIANS HARMONY FESTIVAL 2026

CELEBRATE CULTURE, COMMUNITY & CONNECTION

**SATURDAY 21 MARCH
12PM - 4PM**

@STAWELL TOWN HALL

**EVERYONE'S
WELCOME**

MUSIC / FOOD / COSTUMES / ARTS & CRAFTS / FAMILY FUN

PRESENTED BY

**Cultural
Diversity
Week**
21 - 29 March 2026

**HARMONY
WEEK**

**Grampians
Multicultural
HUB**

Become a member



**Vanuatu / Thailand / Peru / Philippines / Nigeria / Brazil / India /
China / Nauru / Fiji / Nepal and more!**



RWE



LIBRARIES





Marian College
Ararat

304 Barkly Street, Ararat
Ph: 5352 3861

OPEN NIGHT

Come and see
OUR SCHOOL IN ACTION

Tuesday 31st March
5.30pm - 8.00pm

- School tours
- Fun activities
- Dynamic displays
- Curriculum and pathway advice
- Teacher and student experts
- Sausage sizzle





**MARCH
13 - 15
2026**

SCAN THE QR CODE TO
BOOK YOUR TIX FOR
LIVE MUSIC
PERFORMANCES ON
FRIDAY + SATURDAY
NIGHT



**CARS, MUSIC,
DANCE, FOOD +
ROCKIN' FUN**

f JAILHOUSEROCKFESTIVAL

☎ 0493 676 756

ARARATJAILHOUSEROCK@GMAIL.COM

FRIDAY 13 MARCH EVENING

7PM - 8PM | BARKLY STREET CRUISE

PRIZES TO BE WON!

**7:00 - 11:30PM | SLIM & THE SPARKPLUGS @
ARARAT TOWN HALL**

DOORS OPEN 6:15PM | BAR AVAILABLE

SATURDAY 14 MARCH DAY

**9:00AM - 1:00PM | SHOW US YOUR WHEELS CAR
DISPLAY @ ARARAT TOWN HALL**

RANGE OF CARS ON DISPLAY | DANCE FLOOR |
MARKET STALLS | LIVE MUSIC FEAT. COBRA 455

1:00PM | LUNCH @ THE LEOPOLD HOTEL

**3:00PM | MOVIE AND HOTDOGS @ THE ASTOR
CINEMA ARARAT**

SATURDAY 14 MARCH EVENING

**7PM - 11PM | THE JAILHOUSE ROCK BALL @
ARARAT TOWN HALL**

LIVE MUSIC FEATURING STOMPIN' 88'S | BAR
AVAILABLE | DOORS OPEN @ 6:15PM

**9PM - LATE | SLIM & THE SPARKPLUGS @ THE
LEOPOLD HOTEL**

SUNDAY 15 MARCH DAY

**10AM - 2PM | JAILHOUSE ROCK FESTIVAL
SHOW @ ARARAT TURF CLUB**

CAR, TRUCK + MOTORBIKE SHOW | LIVE MUSIC
HOSTED BY DJ JEFF + SUSANNE, FEAT. COBRA 455,
SLIM & THE SPARKPLUGS & STOMPIN' 88'S | DANCE
FLOOR | FOOD VANS | FULL BAR AVAILABLE | KIDS
ENTERTAINMENT | TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE
GATE - CASH OR EFTPOS

**PRICES: FAMILY \$25 | ADULT \$10 | KIDS (12-18) \$5 |
UNDER 12 FREE**

