



# North News

Ararat North Primary School

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2026



## A WORD FROM LEADERSHIP

*It has been a wonderful start to the term, with many great opportunities for our students already underway.*

*Last week, our Grade 6 school captains, Jehtt and Kitsune, proudly represented our school at the Ararat RSL ANZAC Day Service. They did an outstanding job and represented our school community with respect and maturity. We also held our own ANZAC service at school, and it was fantastic to see all students participating so respectfully as we remembered and honoured those who have served our country.*

*This term we have begun our House Walkathon, where students will complete laps of the oval across the term to contribute points to their House. It is a great way to encourage physical activity, teamwork, and some friendly competition.*

*Our gymnastics program has also commenced, with students heading to gymnastics each Wednesday. We are very fortunate to have access to this program, which provides students with fantastic opportunities to build strength, coordination, and confidence.*

### **STAFFING UPDATE**

*Finally, we would like to wish Miss Kelsie all the very best as she begins her maternity leave. We hope this is a special and exciting time for her and her family, and we look forward to hearing her wonderful news.*

*We would like to extend a very warm welcome to Jessica Albert who joined the ANPS team this week. Jess will be stepping into Miss Kelsie's role while she is on leave. Jess comes to us with extensive experience and knowledge in Teaching & Learning, Jess will join our Leadership team supporting our school across a number of different areas. Welcome, Jess!*



*We look forward to another great term ahead.*

Enrollments are now open for 2027!



ARARAT NORTH  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Open Day

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May

9.30am - 10.30am

What to Expect:

- Principal's welcome and information session @ 9:30am
- Student led tours from 9:40am,
- Questions in the Hall from 10am (tea & coffee provided)

[www.anps.vic.gov.au](http://www.anps.vic.gov.au)

66 Blake Street, Ararat 3377



If you are unavailable on the day,  
please contact the school office  
on 5352 3766 for a private tour.



ARARAT NORTH  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Expressions Of Interest

# MUSIC LESSONS



WITH ALANIS WILLIAMS  
Bachelor of Music (Performance)

**Individual and Small Group**  
**On-site at Ararat North Primary School**

**PIANO • UKULELE**  
**MUSIC THEORY**

To express your interest  
please contact the school office



Music without Limits Joy Without Bounds

5352 3766  
ARARAT.NORTH.PS@EDUCATION.VIC.GOV.AU

# Strengthening Fine Motor Skills Through Scissor Practice

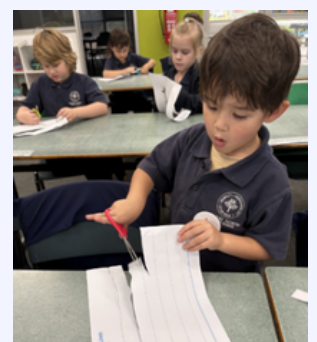
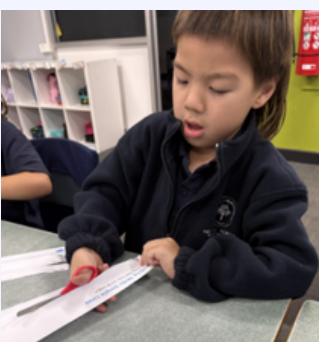
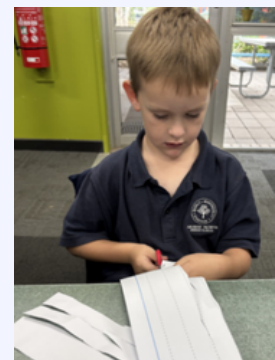
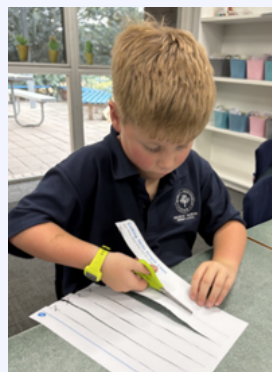
*Learning Area 1*

*Miss Aimee*

This week, our LA 1 students dedicated time to practising with their scissors - an activity that may look simple, but plays a big role in early learning. As the children cut along lines, shapes, and patterns, they were actively strengthening the small muscles in their fingers and hands. These muscles are essential for developing strong fine motor skills.

Fine motor skills support so many everyday tasks in the classroom. By practising scissor use, students build the coordination and control they use for their handwriting, including holding a pencil correctly and forming letters and numbers with confidence. These early experiences help set the foundation for clear, comfortable writing as they continue to grow.

The students approached the activity with enthusiasm, concentration, and a wonderful sense of independence. It was great to see them challenge themselves, celebrate their progress, and enjoy the process of learning through hands-on exploration.



## Learning Area 2

Miss Ellen

# Gymnastics

Students have been thoroughly enjoying their recent gymnastics sessions, showing enthusiasm and energy each week.

Throughout these sessions, they have been developing their coordination, balance, and confidence while exploring a range of movements and equipment. It has been wonderful to see students encouraging and supporting one another, attempting new skills, and celebrating their progress along the way.

Most importantly, the sessions have been filled with laughter, enjoyment, and opportunities to build their physical abilities in a positive environment.



# Learning with Alvina

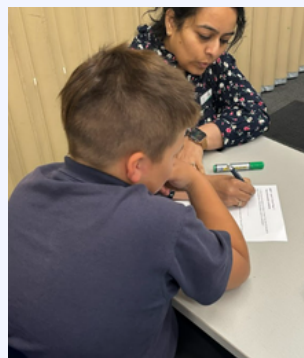
Learning Area 3

Miss Ella

Learning Area 3 has been fortunate to welcome Alvina into our classroom for her final teaching placement before she graduates mid-year. Alvina brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to our class, having previously worked in various roles within education. Her background and expertise have already made a wonderful impact on our learning this term.

Alvina has been actively supporting students across our writing, reading, and maths lessons, providing additional guidance and encouragement as they develop their skills. In particular, she has done an excellent job explaining mathematical concepts such as changing place value by using tangible materials like our MAB blocks. This hands-on approach has helped students better visualise and understand how numbers work, building their confidence in maths.

The students have really enjoyed working with Alvina and benefiting from her support and knowledge in the classroom. We have loved having the extra set of hands and the additional ideas she brings to our lessons each day. We look forward to continuing to learn alongside Alvina over the next few weeks as she completes her final placement.



# Award Winners



ARARAT NORTH  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

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:

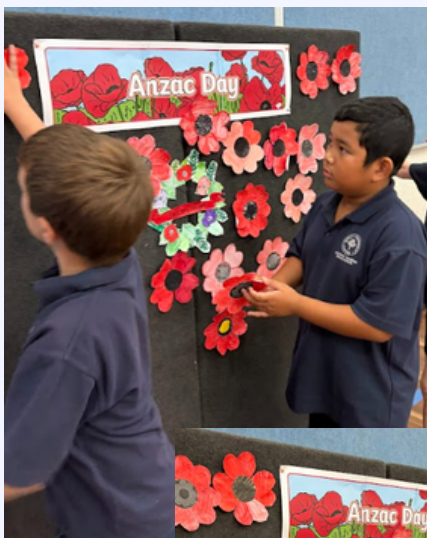


# ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIONS

## School Captains Represent Ararat North Primary School at Ararat ANZAC Service



## Students Honour ANZACs at School Service



- We encourage all students to complete their weekly homework and to read regularly at home with their guardians. This ongoing support helps reinforce classroom learning and builds confidence and fluency in key skills.
- 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.

## WINTER UNIFORM ITEMS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE AT THE FRONT OFFICE

BEANIES - \$20

SCARVES - \$20

RAIN JACKETS - \$35



ARARAT NORTH  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Important Dates & Events

**Lake Bolac Combined Athletics - Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May**

**National Walk Safely to School Day - Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.** Meet at the school crossing at 8:30AM

**King's Birthday Public Holiday - Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June**

**Gymnastics Program - Every Wednesday**

**End of Term Assembly/Colour Walkathon - Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June**



## PARENT / CAREGIVER / GUARDIAN INFORMATION AND CONSENT LETTER

### 2026 Student Attitudes to School Survey

Dear Parent / Caregiver / Guardian,

This letter is to inform you about the 2026 Student Attitudes to School Survey (AtoSS), which all government school students in Years 4 to 12 will be invited to complete.

#### About the survey

The AtoSS is a voluntary student survey offered by the Department of Education every year to help schools and the department understand students' experiences of school. We will ask your child about their thoughts and feelings about their school, their learning, relationships with other students, resilience, bullying, health and wellbeing, physical activity, and life in general.

ORIMA Research Pty Ltd has been contracted by the department to manage the collection of the online survey and will provide support to schools through a telephone hotline and email.

This year, the survey will be conducted at your school from 11<sup>th</sup> May to 12<sup>th</sup> June.

#### What are the benefits?

Young people enjoy having a say! This survey has been running for nearly 20 years and helps schools plan programs and activities to improve your child's engagement with school, their wellbeing and their learning. The survey data also helps the Department of Education understand how to improve student learning.

#### What are the risks?

We don't expect many risks of participation, but some students may find some questions personal or sensitive. If you agree for your child to take part, they can still skip questions or withdraw at any time whilst completing the survey if it makes them upset or uncomfortable. A teacher will be present during the survey to support students.

The questions come from validated survey instruments used in Australia and around the world. They focus on your child's strengths and are designed for each year level group.

#### What will my child be asked to do?

Your child will be invited to complete the survey **online during class time** using a purpose built secure online survey tool. We are not "testing" your child. Please note:

- Students can choose if they want to take part, skip questions if they don't want to answer, and can stop doing the survey at any time.
- There are different versions of the survey to let all students take part.
- The survey will take around 20-40 minutes to complete.

#### How is my child's privacy protected?

A teacher will give your child a unique login to complete the survey. This unique student login is an assigned identifier that will be used by the department to link data for analysis and research only. Some student demographic data such as year level, gender, age, and Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status are provided to ORIMA research, and linked with the unique student login ID to administer the survey. This information helps to support analysis and research, to paint a clearer picture of how Victorian school students are faring.

ORIMA Research will only use student personal information for research purposes to facilitate the administration and data collection of the Attitudes to School Survey. To keep your child's survey answers private, ORIMA Research won't include any personally identifiable data in the survey answers file that is provided to the department.

All data is stored on servers located in Australia, and only staff who are working on the project can access it.

All information collected about your child will be handled in accordance with the *Privacy Data and Protection Act 2014 (Vic)*, the *Health Records Act 2001 (Vic)* and the *Public Records Act 1973 (Vic)*, as well as the Department's [Schools' Privacy Policy](#). Please note that consistent with the above legislation and our policy, there are instances where we may be required by law to share information provided by your child. For example, where there is a threat to your child's health and safety.

### How will results be reported?

The department will only use aggregated survey data to report on initiatives and this data may also be used in public discussions of issues about student engagement and wellbeing. An example of how survey data has been previously used includes reporting levels of student engagement in the Performance Summary in the Annual Report to the School Community. The department will not share any identifiable student data with any other party.

Your child's school will only get reports about groups of students. Information about individual students and the student answers data file will not be shared with schools. If there are low numbers of student answers to a question, the report will not show results for this question to protect the privacy of those students.

Your school may share the survey report back to you.

### What if I don't want my child to do the survey?

This survey is **voluntary**. If you **do not** want your child to do the survey, please opt out by emailing your school at [Ararat.north.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Ararat.north.ps@education.vic.gov.au) before the survey starts on 18<sup>th</sup> June.

Student personal information will be shared with ORIMA Research to facilitate survey preparations prior to this opt out process. If you opt your child out of participating, then your school will ensure that your child is not provided with access to the survey. Student details will be deleted by ORIMA Research at the conclusion of the survey.

If your school does not receive a "Refusal of Consent" email from you before the survey begins, we will assume that you agree for your child to take part in the 2026 Attitudes to School Survey. Please remember, as noted above, the survey is voluntary: even with your consent, your child can choose to skip questions or stop doing the survey at any time.

For more information about this survey, including the questions your child will be asked to answer, please visit the department's [survey information page](#).

If you would like more information or have any concerns about the survey, please speak to your child's teacher, or contact the department at [school.surveys@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:school.surveys@education.vic.gov.au).

Yours sincerely,

Department of Education, Victoria



*What: National Walk Safely to School Day*

*When: Friday 22nd May 2026*

*Where: Meet at the School Crossing at  
8:30am*

!! 2026 !!



# JUNIOR FOOTBALL

## UPDATE

### Under 10's Football

Taking on the coaching role this year is  
**Mitchell Laundry and Luke Walker**

Training for the under 10's will commence on  
Wednesday April 29<sup>th</sup> @4:30PM  
at Alexandra Oval



Our first game of  
the season will be  
at our next home  
game

May 2<sup>nd</sup> @12PM

Visit us  
where we  
learn, grow  
and play!



# Ararat Kindergarten

# OPEN DAYS

## Ararat North Kindercare

Monday May 18, 3.30pm - 4.00pm  
66 Blake St, Ararat | (03) 4311 1563

## Carey Street Kindergarten

Monday May 18, 3.00pm - 3.30pm  
9 Carey St, Ararat | (03) 4311 1508

## Jack and Jill Kindergarten

Wednesday June 4, 4.30pm - 5.30pm  
19 Robsons Lane, Ararat | (03) 4311 1576

## St Andrews Kindergarten

Monday May 18, 4.30pm - 5.00pm  
275 Barkly St, Ararat | (03) 4311 1586

For more information about our Ararat Kindergartens,  
including kinder registration details [visit ykinders.org.au](http://ykinders.org.au)



Kinders