

# ARARAT NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

*~ Resilience ~ Respect ~ Responsibility*

## NEWSLETTER

### A WORD FROM THE PRINCIPAL



**Friday, March 14, 2025**

#### **Our teachers are lifelong learners**

On Friday our teachers attended a Maths professional development session in Ballarat with teachers from a range of other schools. Presented by Maths guru David Morkunas, the day was filled with lesson ideas and strategies that our staff will incorporate into our Maths lessons across the school.

#### **International Women's Day celebration**

Last week I had the pleasure of accompanying our School Captains to Ararat College where we took part in the Ararat Rural City International Women's Day morning tea. Guest speakers spoke to the challenges and celebrations they had experienced in their chosen fields as women in the workplace. After the presentations morning tea was served by the Ararat College VET Hospitality students who did a wonderful job.



#### **NAPLAN commences**

Over the next 2 weeks our Grade 3 and Grade 5 students will participate in the National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy. Students will be tested on their writing, reading, numeracy and language convention skills. This can be a stressful time for some students, we aim to make this time as painless as possible for our students. While the NAPLAN does provide teachers and parents with data about their student's academic progress, it is important to remember that one test on one day does not necessarily tell the whole picture of a child's learning growth.

#### **SunSmart reminder**

As we move into the second half of term 1, it is easy to let high standards of sun protection slip. We have been experiencing unusually high UV ratings for March, we will continue to be vigilant with 'no hat, no play'. Students are also encouraged to use the sunscreen provided prior to recess and lunch play.

*Jess Erhardt*

**Principal**

**Ararat North Primary School**

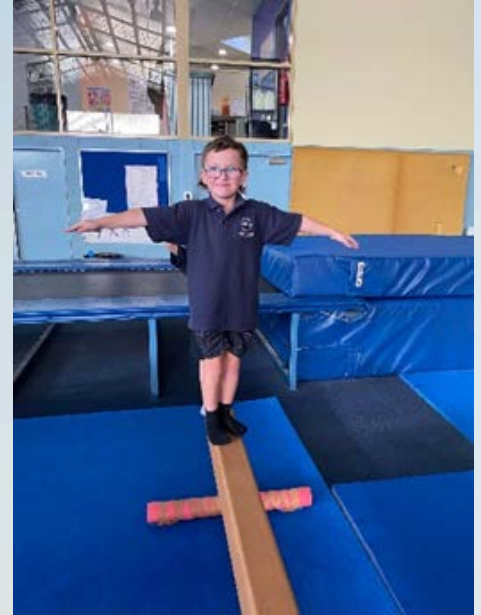


# ***Learning Area 1:***

*Miss Kelsie*

We have been very busy this fortnight in LA 1. Our Foundation students have spent their first full week at school. This means that we ALL got to attend gymnastics lessons on Wednesday. We had the best time. We especially enjoyed the balance beams and the springboard. We learnt about safety landing in motorbike position and had plenty of opportunities to practice this. It was so much FUN!

In Respectful Relationships we have been talking about the variety of emotions we could feel or see in our peers over the school day. We played the 'Guess the emotion' game where one student displays the emotion while the other students guess it. We also played 'Emotions Bobs and Statues' where we dance around the room until an emotion is called and we act it out. I think we could have some future actors and actresses as we had some very dramatic emotions as seen in the pictures below!





# Learning Area 2:

Miss Ella

## Exploring Homophones in LA2

LA 2 students have been exploring homophones – words that sound the same but have different meanings and spellings. To reinforce their learning, they've created vibrant classroom displays showcasing examples of homophones. These creative posters not only serve as helpful reminders but also deepen their understanding of how context and spelling change meaning. From “ate” vs. “eight” to “right” vs. “write,” students are mastering the art of homophones. This hands-on project highlights how learning can be both fun and educational, adding a personal touch to their classroom while making English even more exciting! Keep an eye out for these fantastic displays, and maybe even test your own homophone knowledge!





# Learning Area 3:

*Miss Lisa*

In LA3 we are focusing on spelling rules during our SpellEx sessions, as well as phonemes, graphemes, suffixes and prefixes. We have also been working hard with our reading comprehension and understanding what we are reading. In numeracy, we are practicing addition and subtraction facts. We are aiming to improve our automatic recall.

Science has been a lot of fun. We are learning about why animals look the way they do and what features they have developed to survive and thrive in their environments.

We are still enjoying our gymnastics sessions each week and we are continually developing our skills. It has been wonderful watching our students having fun and have a go at lots of different activities.





From the  
Art Room...

This week in Visual Art we have been thinking about the colours of autumn. LA 1 and 2 students created mixed media leaves with markers, crayons and paper collage and mixed media trees with paint and paper collage and mixed media trees with paint and paper. Our LA 3 students completed watercolour paintings. It was a lovely way to mark the changing seasons.

*Quinny*





# *From the Desk of Annie Silva, Auslan Teacher*



Dear Ararat North Community,

Over the past few weeks, our students have been focusing on acquiring school-specific vocabulary. We have covered essential terms related to stationary items, school subjects, the daily structure of our school day, and directions within the school environment.

But something even more exciting than continuing our vocabulary learning is the fact that in LA 2 and LA 3 we have transitioned to being "voices off" classrooms. This means that our students are now fully immersed in using Auslan as their primary mode of communication for the entire class. The success of this transition demonstrates the great progress our students have made in their Auslan skills. Their ability to communicate effectively without relying on spoken language is a tremendous milestone.

In this voice-off environment, students are encouraged to engage with their peers, participate in discussions, and collaborate in activities exclusively in Auslan. This immersive approach not only reinforces their vocabulary but also fosters a deeper appreciation for sign language. I am incredibly proud of their efforts and the supportive classroom atmosphere we have created together.

As we continue to build upon these foundations, we look forward to exploring more complex concepts and expanding our vocabulary even further. I encourage parents and caregivers to reinforce this learning at home by using the new vocabulary we've covered. Engaging in simple sign conversations can be a fun way to practice!

Thank you for your continued support in our Auslan program. Together, we are paving the way for a more inclusive and communicative school environment.

Warm regards,

Annie Silva  
Auslan Teacher  
Ararat North Primary School





# Maths

In addition to their daily number and algebra lessons, students in our senior Maths group recently enjoyed completing a grocery budget challenge. Students were required to make and cost a list of groceries to feed a family of four for one week. It was fantastic to see students applying their maths skills to real world scenarios. This group has also been supporting their regular Maths lessons with extra work on number facts and automatic recall by using the online platform Studyladder. The children have been working hard and have been awarded various certificates to mark their achievements.





# *Health and PE: Mr Johnson*

*Winding down with a game after our rigorous athletics training...*





# Attention!

## To parents of students in Years Five and Six:



### YEAR 7 2026 INFORMATION & OPEN NIGHT

**Wednesday 26th  
March 2025**

From 6.30PM



Open Learning  
Centre



Future Year 7 students and their families are invited to join us to gain an insight into our college.



ARARAT COLLEGE



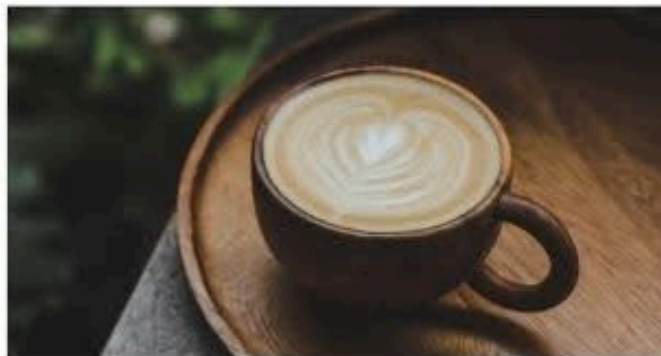
# Introducing Tabitha...



"Hi! My name is Tabitha and I am the provisional psychologist from One Red Tree who will be onsite at Ararat North Primary School on Wednesdays during Term 1 and 2 of 2025. Working closely with my clinical supervisor, I will be delivering one-on-one counselling support to students in need of it, given the consent of their parents/primary caregivers."

## Ararat Neighbourhood House

JOIN US FOR A CHATTY CAFE FOR "CUPPA & CONNECT"!



Make new friends over a warm cup of tea or coffee!

Location: 56 Campbell Street Ararat VIC 3377

Phone:

Every Tuesday from 10am - 11.30am

What to Expect:

- Warm Beverages: Enjoy a coffee or tea
- Friendly Faces: Meet new people in a cozy environment
- Casual Chats: Share stories, ideas, and laughs

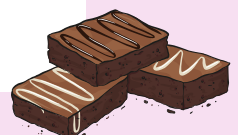
Let's Create Connections! Join our vibrant community and make lasting friendships!

Sip, Chat, and Make Memories!

We can't wait to see you there!

03 5352 1551

Gold Coin donation accepted.





# One-Off Parenting Workshops

We deliver workshops and programs that provide education, support and information to parents, carers and professionals. Our workshops are scheduled Term by Term face to face or online and cover a range of topics relating to parenting, family relationships and supporting children. All workshops can be delivered face to face or online. A minimum number of participants is required.

[Check out our website to see What's On.](#)

## Tech Strategies for Families

Technology is part of our reality but setting boundaries around its use is not always easy. This workshop aims to; present current research, reflect on tech use in your family- considering the challenges and opportunities, and explore strategies that focus on creating a safe and healthy tech environment.

1 – 2 hours



## Kids and Worry

This workshop discusses strategies that may help children worry less; providing information and practical tools to assist children manage their emotions.

1 – 2 hours

## Kids and Anger

This workshop covers the reasons why children get angry, understanding your own responses to your children's anger and ways to help children express their anger appropriately.

1 – 2 hours

## Knowing Your TeenK ids and Worry

This workshop covers the developmental changes for teenagers, peer relationships, and tips for building and maintaining positive relationships with teenagers.

1 - 2 hours



Grampians Regional Parenting  
4-6 Peel Street BAKERY HILL 3350  
T (03) 5337 8999

[www.catholiccarevic.org.au](http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au)



## Connecting with Kids

A workshop focusing on using emotional intelligence to understand and guide children's behaviour, this workshop covers beliefs around parenting as well as information on brain development and children's emotional development.

1 – 2 hours



## Boys Brains

This workshop will give insight into the workings of a boy's brain and how their needs are different from girls. It will provide practical strategies to help parents and carers understand boy's needs and how to meet them.

1 – 2 hours

## The Importance of Dads

This workshop is for Dads of children 0-10. It explores the unique role Dad's play in their child's development, including their social, emotional and academic growth.

1 – 2 hours

## Building Resilience in Kids

This workshop explores how to help kids of all ages develop skills, habits and attitudes for building resilience: building good relationships, independence, confidence to face challenges & manage emotions.

1 – 2 hours



## Understanding Toddlers

This workshop encourages conversations around both the joys and challenges of the toddler years. It introduces brain development, normalises the difficult days and shares strategies with parents/carers to help them build connection with their toddlers.

1 – 2 hours

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BOOK A WORKSHOP CONTACT THE GRAMPAINS REGIONAL PARENTING TEAM:**

[parenting.ballarat@catholiccarevic.org.au](mailto:parenting.ballarat@catholiccarevic.org.au)



Grampians Regional Parenting  
4-6 Peel Street BAKERY HILL 3350  
T (03) 5337 8999

[www.catholiccarevic.org.au](http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au)



# Ararat Neighborhood House

## HOW TO DONATE TO US VIA THE CDS VIC WEST APP

1. Open the app (available on iOS & Android). Log in or sign up under "Charities" and press "Set as Payee" to get ready to donate your 20c refunds.
  2. Scan your App barcode at your local TOMSA Cleaning machine. Having our logo on your receipt will not transfer the refund.
  3. Insert your eligible bottles or cans.
  4. Press "TRANSFER" on the screen to confirm your donation.
- 20% of the refunds will be donated to us. *Thanks for your support!*

Visit your nearest machine on the CDS VIC West app or visit [www.cds.vic.gov.au](https://www.cds.vic.gov.au)



## Do you need support?

Someone...  
to talk to?  
who will listen?  
to guide you through challenging situations?

**Ararat Neighbourhood House is here for you.**  
we have a support worker who can help you.  
**Ph: (03) 5352 1551**

& ask for an appointment with our support worker, Kylie.

**Kylie can assist you with:**

Addiction Issues    Anxiety / Depression  
Sexual Assault        Domestic Violence  
Victims of Crime       PTSD/C - PTSD

Eating Disorders

## COME AND JOIN US ON A FINES DAY!



Come and have a chat with your friendly SAILO to help discuss your outstanding fines and arrears. It's a no pressure environment that gives you the chance to sort out some issues you might be facing.

**When:** 18th April 2024  
**Time:** Between 11am and 1pm  
**Where:** Ararat Neighbourhood House



SAIT's Aboriginal Liaison Officer (SAILO) is a dedicated role that provides support and advice to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are experiencing difficulties with outstanding fines and arrears.

SAIT's Aboriginal Liaison Officer (SAILO)  
Ararat Neighbourhood House  
88 Campbell Street, Ararat  
VIC 3477  
Phone: (03) 5352 1551



## FIRST AID & CPR TRAINING



First Aid (0414 5001) \$190  
from 9:30am - 5:00pm  
CPR (0414 5001) \$190  
from 9:30am - 5:00pm  
Emergency First Aid response  
to an Education or care setting  
(0414 5001) \$250  
from 9:30am - 4:00pm

**FEB 3RD**    **OCT 4TH**  
**FEB 17TH**    **OCT 29TH**  
**MARCH 2ND**    **NOV 3RD**  
**MARCH 17TH**    **NOV 17TH**  
**APRIL 7TH**    **DEC 1ST**  
**MAY 5TH**    **DEC 15TH**  
**MAY 18TH**  
**JUNE 2ND**  
**JUNE 18TH**  
**JULY 7TH**  
**JULY 21ST**  
**AUG 4TH**  
**AUG 18TH**  
**SEP 8TH**  
**SEP 22ND**

**CONTACT US**  
• 03 5352 1551  
• [manager@araratnh.com.au](mailto:manager@araratnh.com.au)



## ROOM HIRE

• \$20 per hour



Room Hire is available 24 hours 7 days a week

Call us (03) 5352 1551    [manager@araratnh.com.au](mailto:manager@araratnh.com.au)

## CHRONIC ILLNESS SOCIAL GROUP (C.I.S.G)

C.I.S.G INCL Cancer Survivors  
And/or Carers Past And Present  
Meet And Greet  
Ararat Neighbourhood House  
for conversation and a Cuppa

When: Every Thursday

Where: 56 Campbell Street Ararat Vic 3477

Time: 12.30pm to 2.30pm

Cost: Gold coin donation

Phone: (03) 5352 1551



[www.araratneighbourhoodhouse.com.au](http://www.araratneighbourhoodhouse.com.au)

## RITCHIES

### NOMINATE US TODAY

AS PART OF THE RITCHIES  
COMMUNITY BENEFIT PROGRAM  
and help us generate extra funds.

**Ararat Neighbourhood House Inc.**

1. Download or update the Ritchies Card App
2. Search and select our name when prompted to nominate a club, school or charity
3. Every time you shop at Ritchies and scan your app or card, Ritchies will contribute a percentage of the total to us

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## LOAN GUIDANCE TIPS

Whether you're planning to start a business, purchase a new home, or finance your education, our local finance broker Cheryl Rapson, is here to support you.



- Competitive interest rates
- Simple application process
- Wide range of loan options

Wednesday, 21 Feb from 1.30pm - 2.30pm

Please register your attendance by calling 03 5352 1551 or call Cheryl on 0419 392 372

Ararat Neighbourhood House  
56 Campbell St, Ararat



Home and Commercial Finance

## Ararat Neighbourhood House

88 Campbell Street, Ararat VIC 3477 | Phone: (03) 5352 1551



Operating Hours

By appointment only

Tuesday.....12-2pm  
Wednesday.....12-2pm  
Thursday.....12-2pm  
Friday.....12-2pm





Free Parenting Program



# Tuning in to Kids

Eager to learn how to help your child manage feelings and emotions and develop emotional intelligence? Children with emotional intelligence have greater success making and keeping friends, are more able to be calm when upset or angry and have better concentration at school.

In this program you will find out how to help your child understand and manage feelings such as frustration, worry and anger through the concepts of emotional intelligence and Emotion Coaching.

✓ Support

✓ Strategies

✓ Understanding

## Program Details:

Date: Wednesday 30th April – 11th June 2025

(1 week break on Wednesday 21st May)

Time: 10.00am-12.00pm

Location: Online via Zoom

## Register:

W [Tuning in to Kids Online Parenting Group](#)

P 03 5327 7939

E [parenting.ballarat@catholiccarevic.org.au](mailto:parenting.ballarat@catholiccarevic.org.au)

This program has six weekly sessions.

Early registration is recommended. Express your interest via the QR code or contact us.



[www.catholiccarevic.org.au](http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au)

(03) 5327 7939, 34 Peel Street North, Ballarat, VIC, 3350



# JACK ATTACK



ARARAT BOWLS CLUB - HIGH STREET ARARAT

**EGHS MURRAY TO MOYNE FUNDRAISER**

**"JACK ATTACK" BOWLS NIGHT**

**TEAM EVENT (3 PLAYERS TO A TEAM)**

**DATE: FRIDAY 28TH MARCH 2025**

**TIME: 6.30PM (PRACTICE FROM 6PM)**

**BBQ DINNER TO FOLLOW PLAY**

**COST: \$15 PER PERSON, \$5 FOR UNDER 16's  
(INCLUDES BBQ DINNER)**

**RAFFLE AND LUCKY DRAW PRIZES ON  
THE NIGHT**

**Proudly Sponsored By:**

**ARARAT  
BOWLS CLUB**

**READY TO PLAY?  
REGISTER NOW**

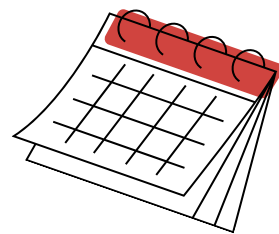
**TEAM REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY FRIDAY 21ST MARCH  
REGISTER WITH:**

**LISA HADDOW VIA EMAIL: [lisa@aphs.net.au](mailto:lisa@aphs.net.au)**

**LAURA WHITE VIA EMAIL: [lauraw@amesystems.com.au](mailto:lauraw@amesystems.com.au)  
OR CALL ON 0419 512 604**



# KEY DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR:



- Wednesday, March 19, 2025 - Gymnastics
- Friday, March 21, 2025 - Harmony Day and School Assembly @ 2.55p.m.
- Wednesday, March 26, 2025 - Gymnastics
- Monday, March 31, 2025 - 3 Way Conversation Day - **NO SCHOOL** (except for appointment times)
- Wednesday, April 2, 2025 - Combined School Athletics Day - Lake Bolac
- Friday, April 4, 2025 - Last Day of Term 1 - Tabloid games, Picnic, and Assembly



*Ararat North Primary School*

*66 Blake Street, Ararat, Vic. 3377*

*PH. 03 53 52 3766*

*email: [ararat.north.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:ararat.north.ps@education.vic.gov.au)*

*Principal: Ms. Jessica Erhardt*

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

We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the first peoples and Traditional Owners and custodians of the land and waterways on which we live. We honour and pay our respects to Elders past and present.



Our Newsletter is published every second week. Our next Newsletter date is **Friday, March 28, 2025**. If you would like to **submit something** for our Newsletter (e.g. a community or sports group announcement) please send it to school by **Monday, March 24, 2025**.



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