

# ARARAT NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

*~ Resilience ~ Respect ~ Responsibility*

## NEWSLETTER

### A WORD FROM THE PRINCIPAL



**Friday, March 28, 2025**

#### **Harmony Day celebrations**

Harmony Day is a day to celebrate Australia's cultural diversity and to promote respect and inclusiveness for all people. Last year we acknowledged this day by starting our handprints mural on the rotunda at the entrance of our school. This year we continued that tradition by adding the handprints of our 2025 ANPS community. We are proud of the cultural diversity at our school and will continue to celebrate the differences that make our school community so unique.



#### **Communicating with families**

Now that we are coming to the end of Term 1, most of the teething issues with the XUNO app and notifications are now ironed out. Starting Term 2 notifications and messaging via the XUNO app will be our main form of communication. Urgent matters will still be communicated via phone calls, however day-to-day reminders will now be accessible via the app. If you need support setting up or navigating the app, please contact the front office.

#### **Protecting our school community against illness**

As the weather cools off next term, we remind families to please keep your child home if they are unwell. There have been an unusually high amount of illnesses going around this term, we appreciate those who are keeping children home when they are displaying symptoms of being unwell. If your child displays gastro symptoms, they are to remain home for 24 hours after their last episode. We have vulnerable people in our school community, let's work together to keep everybody safe.

#### **End of Term 1!**

Next week we will be holding a house event and family picnic to celebrate a great term at ANPS, I invite you all to join us in an afternoon of fun!

*Jess Erhardt*

**Principal**

**Ararat North Primary School**



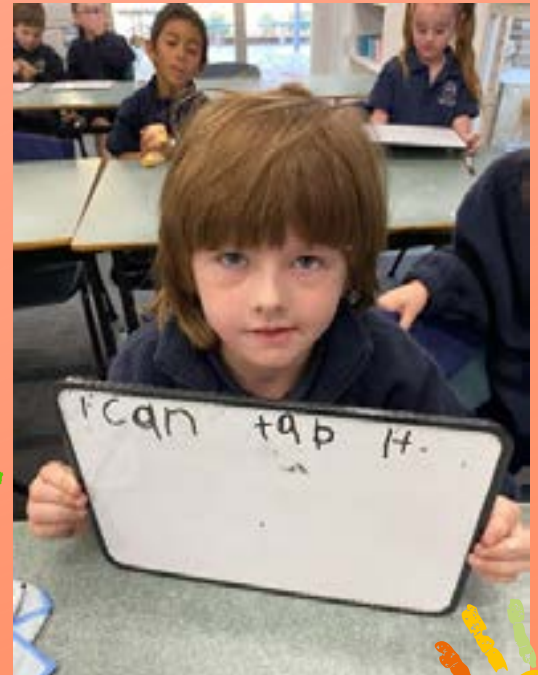




# Learning Area 1: Miss Kelsie

In LA 1 our reading and spelling skills have taken off!!! We have moved on from reading and writing singular words to reading and writing decodable sentences. These sentences have included the tricky 'Heart' words; that we learn off by heart because we cannot sound them out. These words include I, a, the, is, as and said. This week we have started to bring home some decodable texts to read to our families.

Last Friday the 21st of March we celebrated Harmony Day and learnt what this was all about. We learnt about how people living in Australia come from all over the world and can look different and speak different languages, but we can all be friends and work together! To Celebrate Harmony Day, we all put our handprint on the rotunda at the entrance of the school. This was lots of fun!





# Learning Area 2:

Miss Ella

## LA 2 Students Get Hands-On with Their New School Laptops!

This month, our LA 2 students were introduced to their brand-new school laptops, a tool that will enhance their learning experience and allow them to use programs that can be accessed at home too. As part of this exciting step forward, the students participated in a special session on how to properly use and care for their new devices.

The first part of the lesson focused on the essentials: how to handle the laptops with care, keep them clean, and store them safely to ensure they remain in top condition. Students were shown how to protect their screens, charge their devices correctly, and avoid common pitfalls like leaving food or drinks near their laptops. With these new skills, students are ready to take full advantage of the technology at their fingertips!

Beyond proper care, the students also learned how to use their laptops for a variety of educational activities. They began by exploring Mathletics, an interactive math program that challenges them with fun exercises and problems. This exciting tool helps reinforce key mathematical concepts and allows students to track their progress over time.

In addition to math, students practiced using their laptops for typing exercises. Regular typing practice will help improve their speed and accuracy, a valuable skill as they prepare for future assessments and written assignments.

We look forward to seeing all the wonderful ways our students will use their laptops in the classroom and beyond. Stay tuned for more updates on their tech journey!





# LEARNING AREA 3:

*Miss Lisa*

Last week we celebrated Harmony Day. Our students decorated hands which represented our differences. We celebrate the different cultures we are lucky enough to have not only in LA3 but in our school community.

Gymnastics has been wonderful this term, each week we are seeing improvements in our skills as well as having lots of fun. Everyone has had a go and enjoyed learning new skills.

In Numeracy we have been working on our times tables as well as division. Students are excited to see their improvement each day during our times table challenge. Our automatic recall is improving each day.

During literacy, we are working on improving our reading fluency. Students are encouraged to read at home for fun. Cook books, cooking instructions and even magazines will see us improving our reading skills.









# Health and PE: Mr Johnson

Hi Everyone,

This is just a reminder that the **Lake Bolac and District Athletics Carnival** is on next **Wednesday the 2nd of April 2025**. Students are asked to arrive at school, in school uniform at 8.30am as the bus will be leaving at 8.45am sharp. Please return your child/children's consent notes and food orders by Monday the 31st of March. If you have any questions, please contact me at school on 5352 3766. Regards, Mr Johnson.





# Gymnastics Comes to a Close at Ararat North Primary School

After eight weeks of fun, learning, and physical activity, the gymnastics program at Ararat North Primary School has come to a close. This wonderful opportunity allowed students to develop new skills, challenge themselves, and showcase their unique talents.

The final session was a highlight for many, as students were given the chance to choose their own adventure, selecting from a range of activities that they had enjoyed throughout the program. From balancing beams to trampoline jumps, students truly embraced the chance to explore gymnastics in their own way.

Here's what some of the students had to say about their experience:

- *"I really liked the stretches and the running and jumping because it makes me move my muscles around."*
- *"I really liked it when we got to play Octopus and jumping on the trampoline."*
- *"I liked how we could change different activities."*
- *"I loved the balance beam and trampoline."*

This gymnastics program has been a fantastic way for students to build physical skills, work together, and enjoy some active fun. We look forward to more exciting opportunities for the students in the future!













# World Mathematics Day at Ararat North Primary School

On Wednesday, 26th March, Ararat North Primary School celebrated World Mathematics Day with a series of fun and engaging activities that challenged students to think critically and creatively while getting active. The day featured a variety of events that incorporated key mathematical concepts, such as estimation, probability, and addition.

## Estimating - Lolly Jar Challenge

At the front of the office, students were invited to estimate how many chocolate eggs were in the jar. It was a fun way to practice their estimation skills while getting excited about the possibilities! Congratulations to Raven, who won the challenge with the closest guess!

## Probability - Smartie Maths Activities

During their maths sessions, students completed the "Smartie Maths" activities, which involved calculating probabilities in creative ways. It was a great opportunity for students to apply their understanding of chance and probability to real-world scenarios.

## Addition Relay (House Groups)

In an exciting addition to the day's events, students participated in the Addition Relay, a physical challenge where they ran or walked laps around the oval/basketball courts, earning points for their house based on the number of laps completed. Each student raced to complete as many laps as possible within 15 minutes.

At the end of the event, the house with the most laps was declared the winner, earning 10 tokens. The results were as follows:

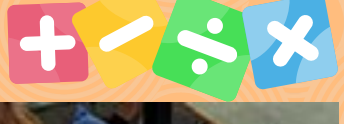
- 1st place: Green House (10 tokens)
- 2nd place: Red House (5 tokens)
- 3rd place: Blue House (1 token)



A Great Day of Fun and Learning! World Mathematics Day was a fantastic way for students to apply mathematical concepts in a fun and interactive setting. It was a day full of energy, excitement, and learning, leaving everyone looking forward to the next event!









# *The Arts: Dance*

This term all students have had the opportunity to participate in Dance classes as part of their weekly Arts lessons. It has been a lot of fun and everyone has tried out a few different dance activities - ribbon dance, freeze yoga, the whip and nae nae and the hokey pokey (to name just a few). Next term our performing arts focus shifts to Drama and we are already anticipating the discovery of many budding actors!





# Congratulations

*Wishing our lovely Miss Kelsie and her wonderful partner, Mitch, all the very best for their upcoming wedding!*





**Attention! Please note this special event happening at next week's Athletics Sports:**

YEAR 7/8 ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM PROUDLY PRESENTS



# EGG-GAGEMENT EGG-STRAVAGANSER

DISTRICT  
SPORTS  
APRIL 2  
LAKE BOLAC COLLEGE

**HAT PARADE - \$2 ENTRY**

(LUNCH TIME, DISTRICT SPORTS)

**EASTER EGG RAFFLE** *TICKETS ONLINE*

MULTIPLE PRIZES \$500+ [HTTPS://WWW.RAFFLETIX.COM.AU/?REF=GV863](https://www.raffletix.com.au/?ref=GV863)

**GUESS THE LOLLIES IN THE JAR- \$2 A GUESS**

(DRAWN/ANNOUNCED AFTER PRESENTATIONS)

ALL MONEY RAISED GOES TO OUR ENERGY  
BREAKTHROUGH PROJECT



**Neighbourhood  
House...**



## Ararat Neighbourhood House

86 Campbell Street, Ararat VIC 3277 | Phone: (03) 8382 1881



Operating Hours

**By appointment only**

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







# MANHARI CRICKET CLINICS

## HORSHAM & ARARAT

Manhari Metals and Cricket Victoria welcomes all children aged 5-12  
to enjoy a **FREE** clinic these school holidays!

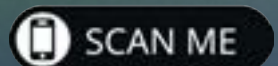
**THURSDAY 10 APRIL**

Horsham - Coughlin Park Oval  
9AM - 10:30AM

Ararat - Gordon Street Oval  
2PM - 3:30PM



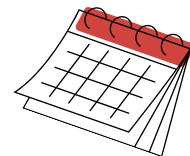
Skills coaching, games, inflatables, giveaways & more!



**MANHARI**



# KEY DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR:



- 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
- Monday, April 21, 2025 - Easter Monday Public Holiday - **NO SCHOOL**
- Tuesday, April 22, 2025 - First Day of Term 2
- Friday, April 25, 2025 - ANZAC Day Public Holiday - **NO SCHOOL**

## REMINDER



## LAST DAY OF TERM 1 ACTIVITIES:

12:30PM - HOUSE TABLOID SPORTS

1:30PM - FAMILY PICNIC LUNCH

2PM - ASSEMBLY

2:15PM - DISMISSAL



*Ararat North Primary School*

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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, May 2, 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, April 28, 2025**.



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