



VICTORIA AVENUE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Include • Inspire • Innovate

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER • 28 June 2023 • TERM 2 WEEK 10

IMPORTANT DATES

TERM 3

Week 1

Tuesday 18 July

Students return

Wednesday 19 July

NAIDOC Week Celebrations

Friday 21 July

PSSA

Week 2

Monday 24 July

6:30pm P & C Meeting at school

Wednesday 26 July

100 Days of Kindergarten

Friday 28 July

PSSA

Week 3 – Education Week

Thursday 3 August

2:00pm Open Classrooms

Friday 4 August

PSSA – Semi Finals

As we draw to the close of Term 2, I reflect on all the tremendous activities that occur every day at our school. When I say every day, I mean those little actions that staff at Victoria Avenue undertake to ensure the educational, social and emotional needs of all children are met. From educating the young minds of tomorrow, to placing a band-aid on a child's grazed knee. I would like to thank all staff for their dedication and professionalism throughout the first half of the year. To the students who have worked tirelessly throughout the year, enjoy the two weeks break and use this time as an opportunity to recharge the batteries. To our wonderful families, thank you for all the assistance you provide to ensure that Victoria Avenue is such a wonderful learning environment. A big thank you to those parents who go beyond to support our fantastic school.

Debating

The debating team participated in a debate at Homebush Public School. The topic was, "Parents should make their year five and six children do thirty minutes of chores every day." We had the negative stance and were sadly defeated by the opposing team.





Schools Spectacular

The Schools Spectacular results are in! A huge CONGRATULATIONS to the Senior Dance group for qualifying into the 2023 Schools Spectacular!

Eight students will be representing Victoria Avenue Public School in this nationally televised event and a remainder five students are ready to go as reserves. We are so proud of the students for achieving this opportunity for the first time in Victoria Avenue Public School history and can't wait to see them shine on stage! Congratulations, Phoebe, Maeve, Ahana, Melissa, Zoya, Charlotte, Olivia and Zeina for qualifying and Elsa, Adelaide, Emyelle, Laura and Caroline as reserves!

The Schools Spectacular will be held on 24-25 November 2023. Each family is welcome to purchase tickets for either day. Tickets for Schools Spectacular 2023 – Fabulous, will go on sale at the end of July.

The performance details are Friday 24 November 11am and 7pm, Saturday 25 November 1pm and 7pm at Qudos Bank Arena, Sydney Olympic Park. Note that all performers will perform in all shows.

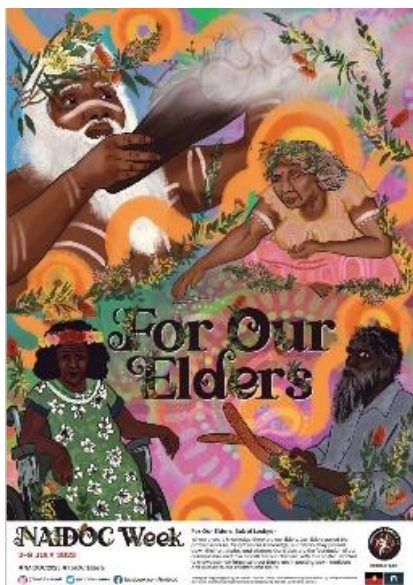
Visit the Ticketek website to join the waitlist and be notified as tickets will ONLY be available to purchase directly through the Ticketek website.



**SCHOOLS
SPECTACULAR
2023**

NAIDOC WEEK 2nd – 9th July 2023: For Our Elders

This year, National NAIDOC Week will be celebrated from Sunday, 2nd July – Sunday, 9th July 2023.



As the event falls in our school holiday period, we will acknowledge this important event Week 1, Term 3. Across the week, students will engage in classroom-based activities focusing on the theme 'For Our Elders.'

Across every generation, our Elders have played, and continue to play, a significant role and hold a prominent place in our communities and families. They are cultural knowledge holders, trailblazers, nurturers, advocates, teachers, survivors, leaders, hard workers and our loved ones. Our loved ones who pick us up in our low moments and celebrate us in our high ones. Who cook us a feed to comfort us and pull us into line, when we need them too. They guide our generations and pave the way for us to take the paths we can take today. Guidance, not only through generations of advocacy and activism, but in everyday life and how to place ourselves in the world. We draw strength from their knowledge and experience, in everything from land management, cultural knowledge, justice and human rights. Across multiple sectors like health, education, the arts, politics and everything in between, they have set the many courses we follow. The struggles of our Elders help to move us forward today. The equality we continue to fight for is found in their fight. Their tenacity and strength have carried the survival of our people. It is their influence and through their learnings that we must ensure that when it comes to future decision making for our people, there is nothing about us – without us.

We pay our respects to the Elders we've lost and to those who continue fighting for us across all our Nations and we pay homage to them.

ICAS Assessments

This year we will be offering ICAS assessments in English, writing, mathematics, and science. These will be administered at school on the following dates:

- Writing – Thursday 10 August at 8:00 – 9:00 am
- English – Thursday 17 August at 8:00 – 9:00 am
- Science – Thursday 24 August at 8:00 – 9:00 am
- Mathematics – Thursday 31 August at 8:00 – 9:00 am

All interested parents and students must complete their purchase of the tests through the attached link by Thursday 27 July.

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Your school access code is: | EWV508 |
| Your parent page link is: | https://shop.icasassessments.com/pages/pps |

Resource Hub for Parents

The Department of Education has an online parents and carers resource hub, providing access to wonderful tools and information, including learning and wellbeing resources, advice, study skills, and support for students with additional needs. Parents may find these resources helpful at this time of the year while reviewing student Semester 1 progress reports and after participating in our Learning Partnership meetings early next term. Please take some time to look into the resources which you may find helpful in supporting growth in your child's education and development.

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/parents-and-carers>

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data

Our staff are in the process of preparing and collecting data to submit for the annual Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The information collected covers information about Australian school students who receive an adjustment to address a disability. Nationally consistent information on students in Australian schools receiving adjustments for disability enables schools, education authorities, and governments to better understand the needs of students with a disability and how they can be best supported at school.

Premier's Reading Challenge

Victoria Avenue Public School encourages all students to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC). This is a wonderful opportunity for you to interact with your child in a meaningful way and for them to experience a variety of quality literature throughout the year. The Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition, but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely. The PRC is open to all NSW students in Kindergarten to Year 9, in government schools.



The Zones of Regulation – Whole School Program

The Zones of Regulation aim to teach students strategies to help them cope with challenging feelings so they can get back to feeling calm and ready to learn. These coping strategies are called 'self-regulation'. We use the Zones language as part of a whole school approach to help students regulate their emotions and behaviour. The Zones can be likened to traffic lights:

Green: you are 'good to go!'

Yellow: slow down or take warning

Red: stop and regain control

Blue: rest area where you pull over when you're tired and need to recharge.



Positive School Attendance

Regular attendance at school is essential for students to achieve quality life outcomes. Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

Parents and Carers can help foster positive attendance habits by:

- helping their child learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- ensuring their child arrives on time from the start of the school day, ready to participate in learning
- reducing disruption to learning where possible, by planning any necessary appointments outside of school time
- promptly communicating any absence to the school (within 7 days of the first day of any absence)
- working with the school to encourage and support regular attendance.

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstances e.g. attending a funeral.

Parents must provide an explanation for absences to the school within 7 days from the first day of any period of absence. Where an explanation has not been received within the 7-day timeframe, the school will record the absence as unjustified on the student's record. For further information you can read this brochure from the NSW Department of Education.

Please remember students are encouraged to be *In the Gate by Half-Past 8 – Attendance Matters*

Students return to school on Tuesday 18 July.

Have a wonderful, safe school holiday.

Elisa Baker
Principal

Dropping Off and Picking Up students

A 'Kiss and Ride Zone' or 'Drop-off and Pick-up' area utilises existing 'No Parking' zones around schools. In these areas, drivers may stop to drop off or pick up children, however No Parking rules apply:

- Maximum stop time is 2 minutes
- Driver must remain in or within 3 metres of the vehicle
- Vehicle must not be left unattended

Additional safety tips for school zones:

- Always drop-off or pick-up your child from the designated area, following the school's procedures
- Make sure children use the footpath-side door when getting in and out of a car
- Make sure the hand brake is applied when the vehicle is stationary
- Never double park
- Never park across a pedestrian crossing
- Never undertake a U-turn in close proximity to the school.

Safety Tips for Students:

- Stay buckled up until the vehicle has stopped in the 'Drop-off and Pick-up' area
- Make sure your school bag and other items are in a safe position, e.g. on the floor
- Be ready to get out of the car with your belongings when the car has stopped and you have unbuckled your seatbelt
- Always get in and out of the backseat of the vehicle through the safety door - the rear footpath-side door.

No Stopping



What does it mean? You cannot stop in this area FOR ANY REASON (including queuing or waiting for space).

Why is it there? Keeps clear sight lines between drivers and children/pedestrians.

Penalty \$330 + 2 Demerit Points (School Zone)

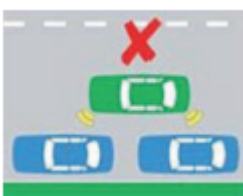
No Parking



What does it mean? You can stop in a NO PARKING zone for a maximum of two minutes to drop off and pick up passengers. If no spaces are available, you cannot queue on the road way or in any other zones while waiting for a space. You will need to drive away and park elsewhere, only returning when there is space to pull up. You must stay within three metres of your vehicle at all times.

Why is it there? To provide a safe place for children/pedestrian set down and pick up.

Double Parking



You must not stop on the road adjacent to another vehicle at any time even to drop off or pick up passengers.

Why is it there? Double parking forces other cars to go around you causing traffic congestion and reduces the view of drivers and children crossing the road.

Penalty \$330 Demerit points (School Zone)

Restorative Practices

Restorative Practices form the relational basis for Quality Teaching and Learning. Our Restorative Practice Framework, because of its explicit nature, offers a common language and practice capable of fostering healthy relationships. Student achievement is enhanced through Restorative values being embedded as a way of being and learning together. Our approach fosters individual responsibility and helps develop empathy. Inappropriate behaviour or choices and mistakes can be viewed as an opportunity for insight, learning and development in both the academic and social domains.

The explicit framework is inextricably linked to the Quality Teaching Framework and includes the following sets of questions to be asked by children, teachers and parents.

When Things Go Wrong.... When Someone Has Been Hurt

- What happened?
- What were you thinking of at the time?
- What have you thought about since?
- Who has been affected by what you have done? In what way?
- What do you think you may do to make things right?
- What did you think when you realised what happened?
- What impact has this incident had on you and others?
- What has been the hardest thing for you?
- What do you think needs to happen to make things right?

The process is empowering as it takes students from the past to the present and gives them hope for the future. It empowers them to make things right and heal any harm that has been done. A restorative classroom setting is one that values dialogue through an inclusive approach where everyone expects to be heard and through this participatory process, students develop the capacity to learn that emotions are an important and legitimate expression of healthy dialogue. This process helps students to deal with conflict, tensions and difference in respectful ways that engender trust and foster healthy relationships.

Our Help Increase the Peace (HIP) Keys

Our school values incorporate the 'Help Increase the Peace Keys' to promote a harmonious, nurturing, and challenging living and learning environment.

The HIP program offers a whole school approach to building relationships through communication, co-operation, trust building and conflict resolution.

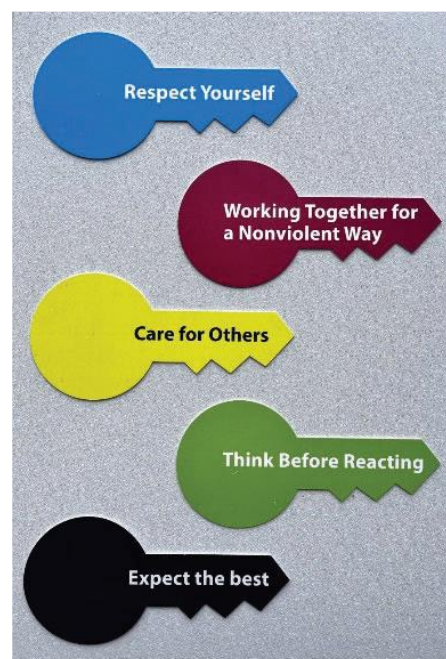
YELLOW KEY Care for Others

GREEN KEY Think Before Reacting

BLUE KEY Respect Yourself

RED KEY Work Together for a Non-Violent Way

BLACK KEY Expect the Best

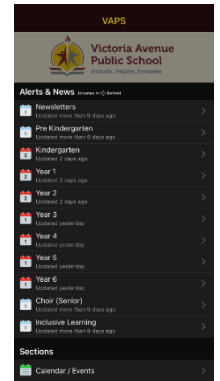


Parent Communication

We use a variety of platforms to communicate information about upcoming events and highlight the great things that happen at Victoria Avenue Public School.

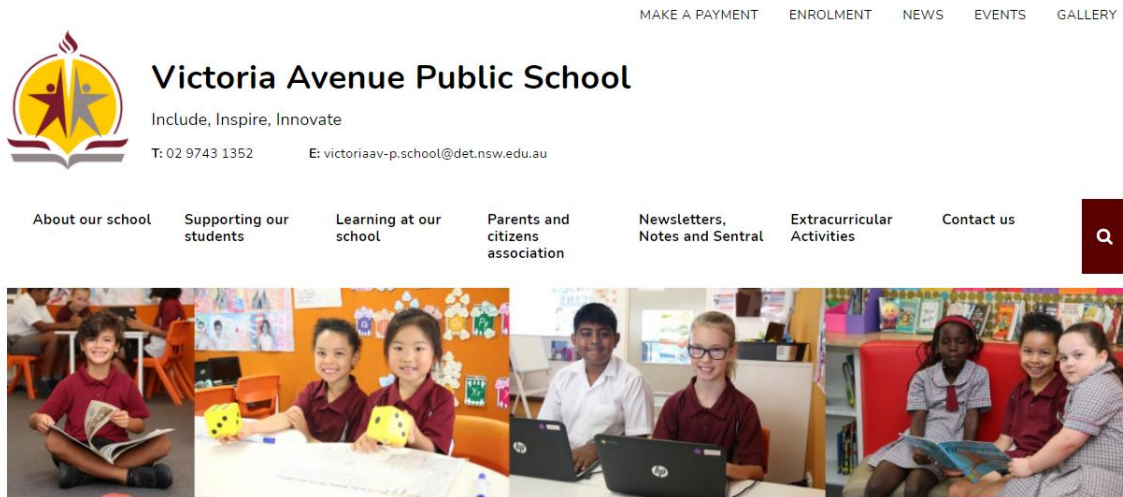
School Enews App

Important notifications are posted and emailed on the School Enews App. School Enews is a free app available for all mobile devices. Just download the app from the App Store or Play Store by searching for Victoria Avenue Public School. Please ensure that push notifications alerts are turned on so that you can receive information as soon as it is distributed.



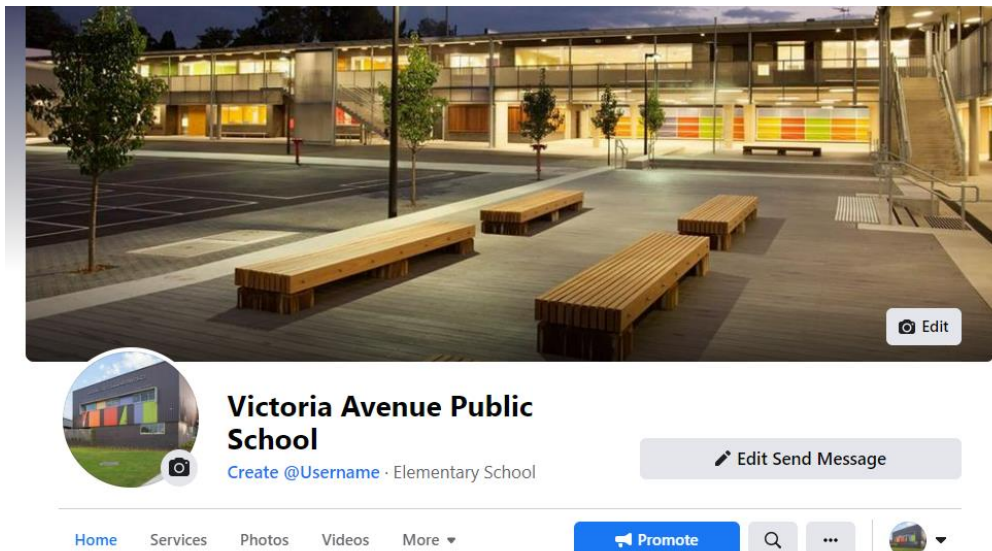
School Website

Our school website is updated frequently. Our school website is <https://victoriaav-p.schools.nsw.gov.au>



Facebook

Victoria Avenue Public School has its own Facebook page where we celebrate student achievements. Parents are unable to post any news items, but can comment on reports and photos. The page is designed to keep the community up to date regarding all the wonderful things that happen at Victoria Avenue Public School.



Victoria Avenue Medical Procedures

Prescribed Medication:

When a medical practitioner has prescribed medication that must be administered during the school day, parents/carers must:

- notify the school
- provide up to date information as required
- supply the medication and any 'consumables' necessary for its administration in a timely way
- complete the Victoria Avenue Public School Medical Permission Note (please see the office for a copy of this note).

The administration of prescribed medication in schools is carried out by staff who volunteer and who are trained. Students must not carry medication unless there is a written agreement between the school and the student's parents/carers.

Individual Health Care Plans:

An individual health care plan must be developed for:

- severe asthma, type 1 diabetes, epilepsy and anaphylaxis
- any student who is diagnosed as having a condition that may require an emergency response
- any student who requires the administration of health care procedures

If your child has any health conditions and does not already have an existing individual health care plan, please contact the office to collect the required forms.

If your child has an adrenaline auto injector (EpiPen) prescribed by a medical practitioner, an Action Plan for Anaphylaxis must be completed. If the school does not have a current, Action Plan for Anaphylaxis please have your child's doctor complete one immediately.

If your child has allergic reactions where no adrenaline autoinjector is prescribed by a medical practitioner, an Action Plan For Allergic Reactions must be completed. If the school does not have a current Action Plan for Allergic Reactions please have your child's doctor complete one immediately.

If your child has been prescribed by a medical practitioner as having asthma, an Asthma Action Plan is required. If the school does not have a current Asthma Action Plan please have your child's doctor complete one immediately.

Material World



Kindergarten have been exploring various materials and learning how the different properties suit their design purpose. They planned, designed and created their very own house. They conducted tests, comparing and evaluating their designs to find the strongest materials for their house.



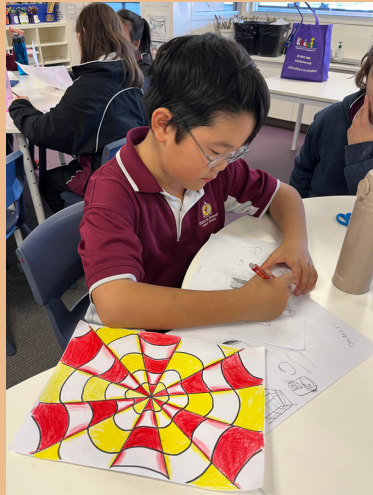
Stage One has been learning about data in Maths. We have been looking at how to collect different information and present it into a picture graph. In this lesson, the Kangaroos visited the Echidnas class to ask them a series of questions. The data was then used to form a picture graph about students' favourite lessons at school.

The options included Phonics, Writing, History, Maths and English. The most popular lesson was History. We used a picture of a pencil as our representative image in the picture graph. Our key was that one image of a pencil was equal to one student. We were so fortunate to have Mr Elliot visit during our lesson and take a snapshot video to be showcased in our VAPS Podcast.

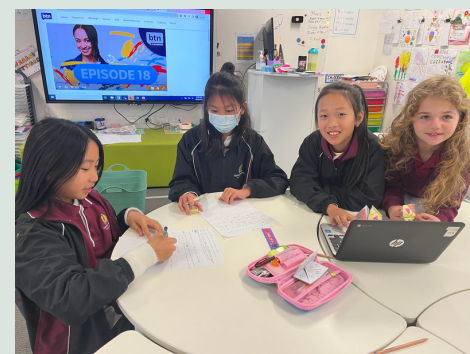
What's been happening in the Cockatoos?



In mathematics, the Cockatoos have been learning about 3D objects. To link maths with CAPA, students worked towards creating an awesome artwork that combined sketches of 3D objects with an optical illusion by using dark and light shading.



In English, students became news reporters for the day and reported about a story from BTN. Students conducted their own research, wrote scripts and worked as a team to produce an engaging news segment.

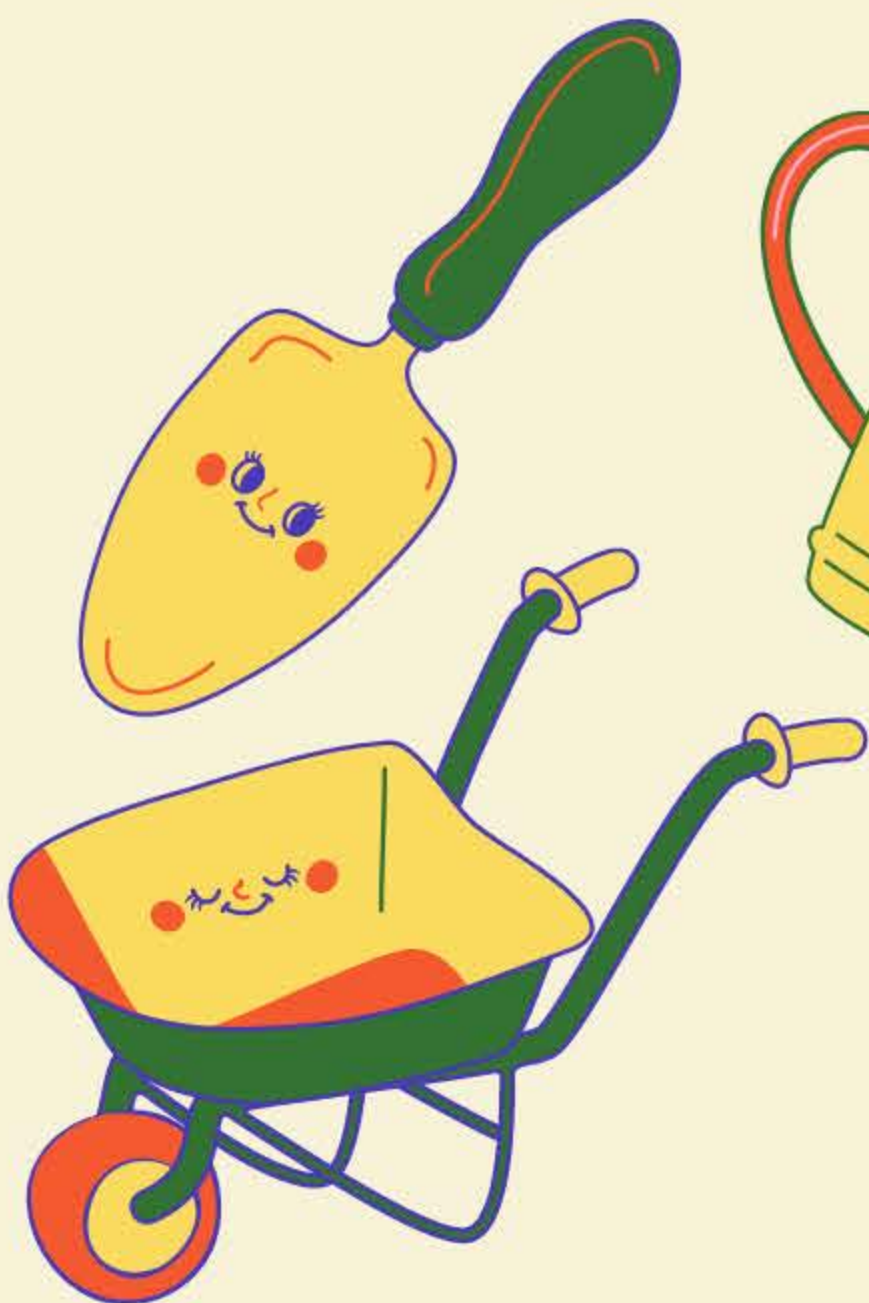


Students have been very excited with the introduction of Parliament to VAPS. The Cockatoos held a Circle Time to discuss possible motions to put forward to the ministers. Lots of interesting, respectful and thought-provoking conversations were had.

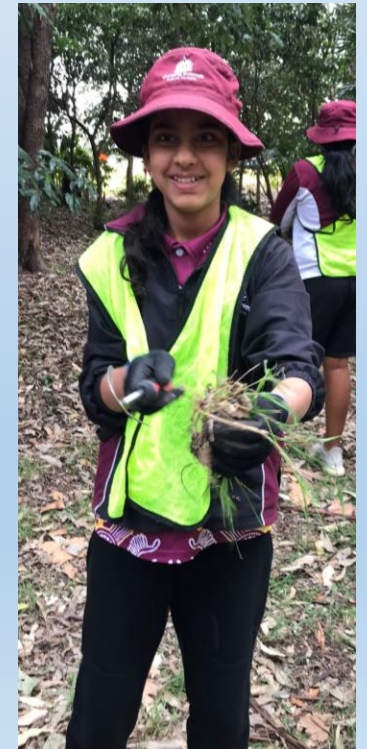


GARDENLIFE

GARDENING CLUB



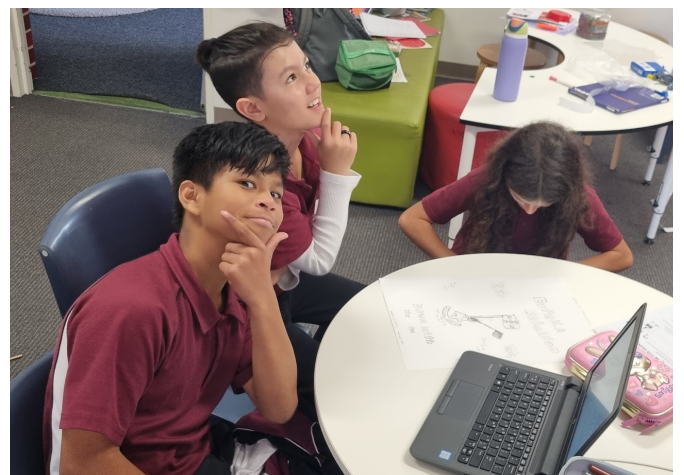
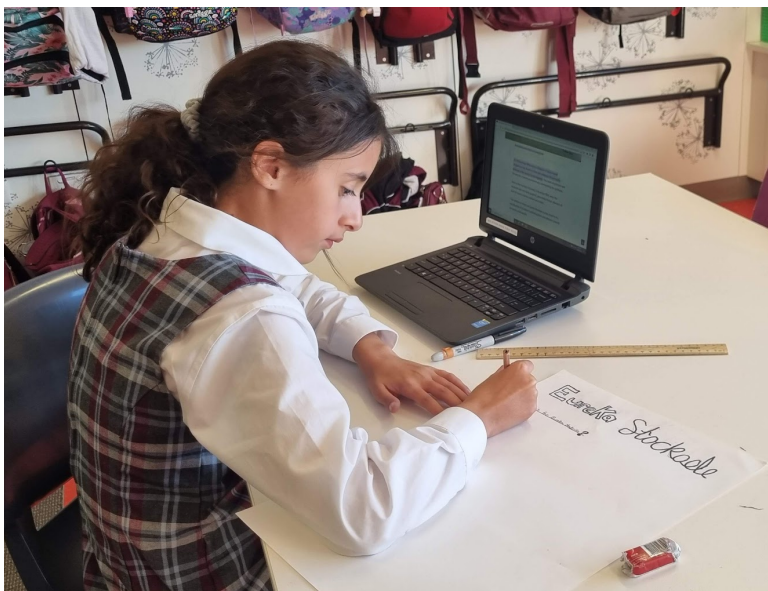
The Sea Eagles have been very active this term!
We love learning outside, trying new activities
and having lots of fun!



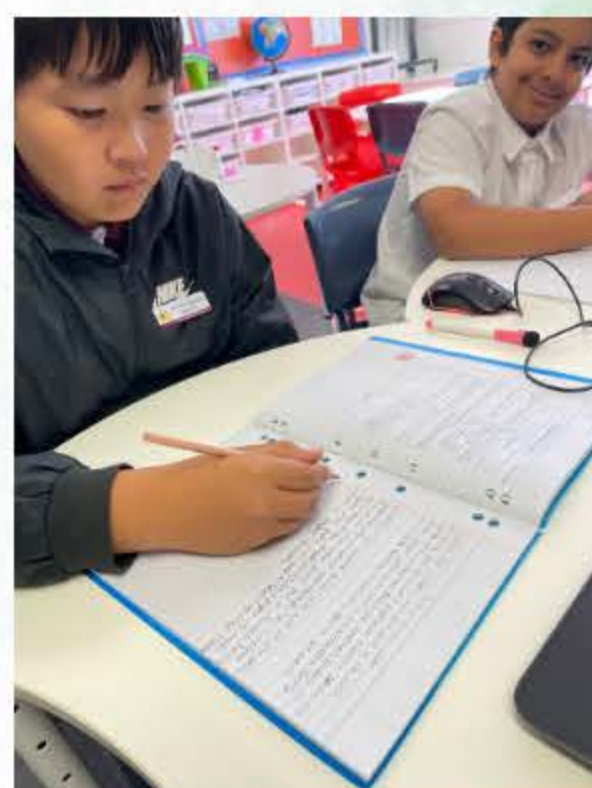
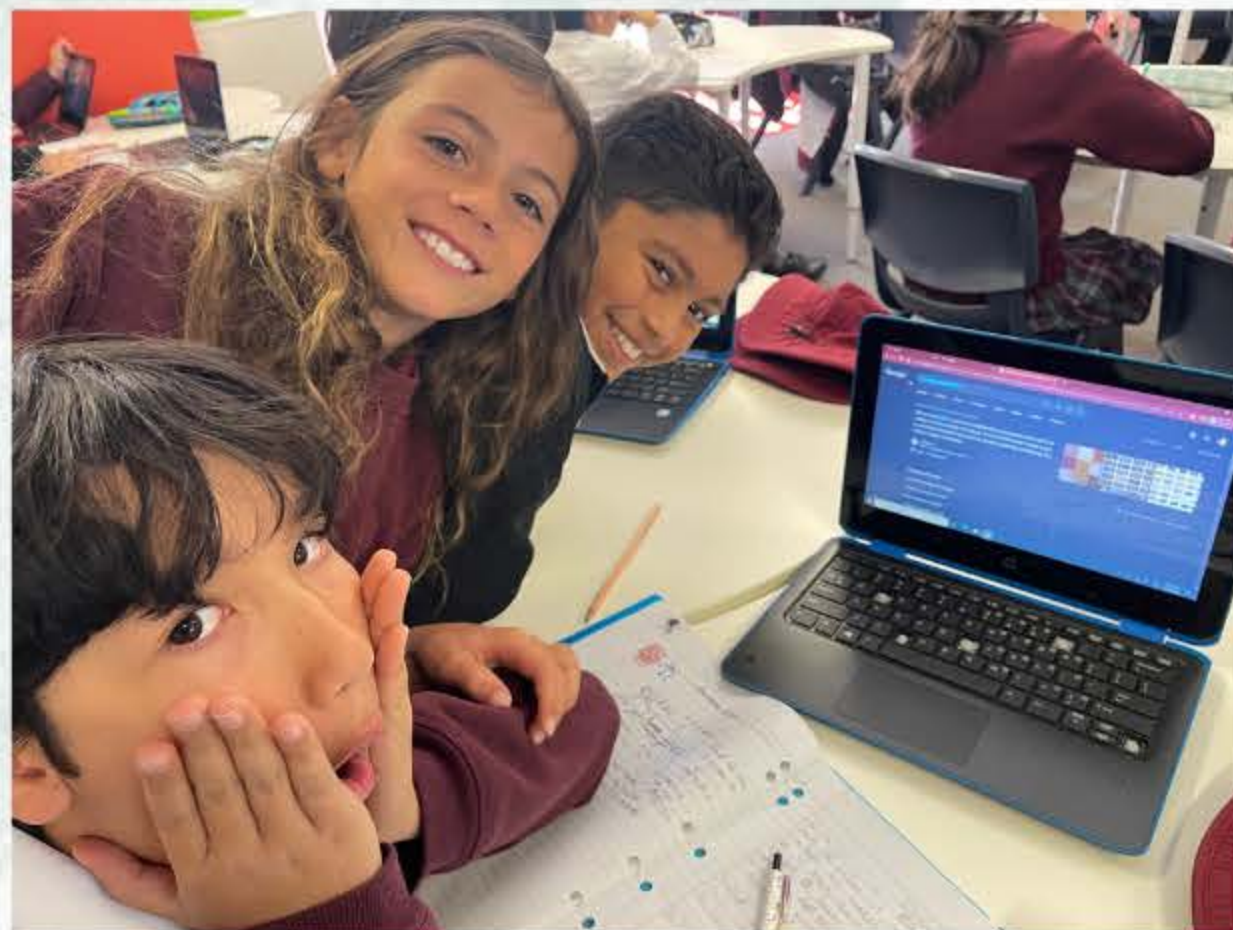
Rosellas



During history lessons, Stage 3 have been learning about significant events in Australia's history. This week, students in the Rosellas created posters about the Eureka Stockade.

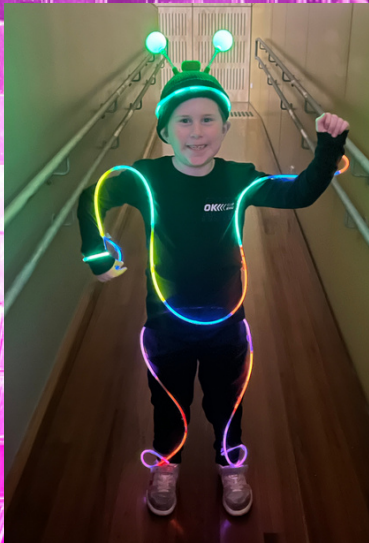


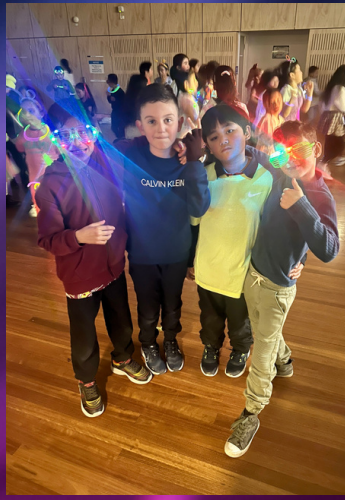
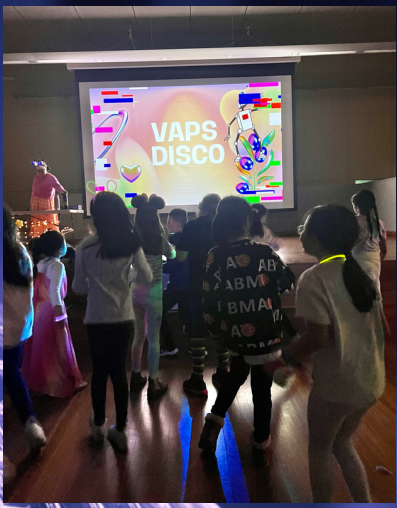
Lyrebirds have been researching, planning, and writing persuasive texts on topics that interest us. Some inspiring topics we have thought up are: It is better to travel by planes than trains, K-Pop is the best genre of music, and Brown is not a colour but a shade of Orange. What a creative bunch!



DISCO *Night*

SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR SCHOOL DISCO. THANK YOU TO ALL THE STAFF AND PARENTS THAT MADE THIS EVENING POSSIBLE. THE STUDENTS HAD A GREAT TIME!







JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

COMMUNITY ART WORKSHOPS: A BODY OF WORK

The Learning Space | All ages
4–6 July 10AM–12PM

TOURNAMENT OF GAMES*

Concord Library | Ages 13–18
Thu, 6 July 2:30–4:30pm

TWILIGHT FUN FOR FAMILIES*

Concord Library | All ages
Fri, 7 July 5:30PM–7:30PM

COMMUNITY ART WORKSHOPS: A FIELD OF FLOWERS*

Concord Library | Ages 5–12
Wed, 12 July 10:30AM–12PM or
2–3:30PM

MINECRAFT CITY CHALLENGE*

The Learning Space, Rhodes
Ages 9–12
Thu, 13 July 2–3:30PM | \$15 pp

YOUTH AFTER DARK*

Five Dock Library | Ages 13–18
Fri, 14 July 5:30–7:30PM

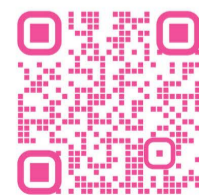
STEM KITS

The Learning Space, Rhodes | Ages 3+
1–16 July | Available to loan with your library card.



*BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Scan the QR code or
visit bit.ly/julyhols2023



NAIDOC WEEK AT THE LIBRARY

2–9 JULY 2023



EXHIBITION: INDIGITOBER

BY MELLE SMITH

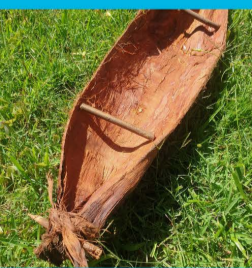
The Digital Gallery, The Learning Space, Rhodes | 3 July–1 August



EXHIBITION: MAPPING COUNTRY

BY MAPPING COUNTRY WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

Five Dock Library | 3–14 July



STORYTELLING AND NOWEY (CANOE) MAKING WORKSHOP*

The Connection, Rhodes | Ages 4–7
Mon, 3 July 11AM–12PM



EXPLORING WANGAL COUNTRY*

WITH UNCLE JIMMY SMITH
Cabarita Park | Ages 13–18
Mon, 3 July 2–4PM



ON WANGAL LAND — CONVERSATIONS WITH COMMUNITY*

Concord Library | Ages 13–18
Wed, 19 July 6–7:15PM

Artwork by Gwiyaala Aboriginal Art in collaboration with community members at a First Nations meet up in November 2022.

***BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**
Scan the QR code or
visit bit.ly/ccblnaidocweek

