



VICTORIA AVENUE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Include • Inspire • Innovate

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER • 5 APRIL 2024 • TERM 1 WEEK 10

IMPORTANT DATES

TERM 1

Week 11

Monday 8 April

Gymnastics K – 6

Tuesday 9 April

2:15 K-2 Assembly – Crabs

Wednesday 10 April

Year 1 and 2 Excursion to Schoolhouse Museum

Friday 12 April

ANZAC Day Service

Winter PSSA training

Last day of Term 1

TERM 2

Week 1

Monday 29 April

Staff Development Day

No Students

Tuesday 30 April

Students Return

Friday 3 May

Winter PSSA commences

We are approaching the last week of Term 1 and I am amazed every day at the skills, talents and abilities of each one of our students.

Congratulations to our Kindergarten students on completing their first term at school. Their academic and social progress over the last ten weeks has been exceptional. They have discovered the many routines of school life, become more independent, are enjoying their weekly visits to the library and forming many new friendships. Most importantly, I enjoy seeing their happy smiling faces every day.

I would also like to congratulate our students who have seamlessly transitioned into their new school environment or new class with positive and inclusive attitudes.

I would like to extend my thanks to the teaching and administration staff for their dedication and hard work.

School Bytes - Important Information

At Victoria Avenue Public School, we understand that effective communication between the school and families is important in building a safe and respectful environment for our learners. As you are aware, we moved to a new invoicing, payment and permission note system in 2023 called School Bytes.

The school community have found the School Bytes platform highly functional and user friendly.

As a result of community feedback on our communication channels and the challenges of our existing App we will be moving to using School Bytes for **all communication from the beginning of Term 2 (29 April 2024)**.

What does this mean for you?

- All communication will come from the one platform – permission notes, payments, attendance information, billing, push notifications
- Parents can access School Bytes through the School Bytes Parent Portal or through the new mobile phone app
- All communication received from the school will be grade specific

To ensure that you do not miss any school information/events, please complete the following actions.

- Set up a School Bytes Parent Portal account
- Download the School Bytes App to your mobile device. This will replace school enews and is required to receive push notification. It will be our main platform for communication.

School Bytes Parent App

- Get real time push notifications from school. These will be automatically enabled when you download the app.
- Stay signed in and save your card for secure payments for fees and excursions
- Give consent, sign forms and respond to attendance alerts
- View the school calendar and news
- The School Bytes App can be downloaded on the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store. Direct links are provided below.

App Store

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/school-bytes/id6463097826>

Google Play

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=education.schoolbytes&pli=1>

School Bytes Parent Portal

- Make online payments for events
- Download your receipt
- Sign and return permission notes digitally
- View your payment history
- Request a refund
- Use any credits on your account to make payments

Thank you to all of our families who have already downloaded the App.

For more information, please refer to the School Bytes Parent Guides that can be found only.

OC Year 5 entry in 2025: Applications are open 4 April-20 May 2024

What are opportunity classes?

Opportunity classes are one of the ways the NSW Department of Education supports high potential and gifted students. The classes help students learn by:

- grouping them with other gifted students
- using specialised teaching methods so students can learn concepts in more detail and more quickly
- supporting their wellbeing needs.

Most students in opportunity classes enjoy learning with peers who have similar abilities and interests.

Opportunity classes are **not** zoned.

Where are they located?

There are 86 primary schools with Year 5 opportunity classes in NSW each year.

- 54 schools are located in metropolitan Sydney
- 31 schools are located in rural or regional centres
- a virtual class, Aurora College, for rural and remote students is available in over 600 authorised host schools.

Students successfully placed attend the opportunity class full time in Years 5 and 6 at the relevant public school. In most cases, students who have accepted a place in an opportunity class will leave their current school to attend the school with the opportunity class.

Should you apply?

If your child learns with greater ease and speed than their classmates, they may benefit from placement in an opportunity class. High potential and gifted children need to be challenged so they remain engaged with their education. Discuss the opportunity with your child and look through the information together on [Opportunity classes \(Year 5 – 6\)](#).

If you would like to discuss whether you think you should apply, please contact your child's teacher.

Equity provisions

The [Equity Placement Model](#) helps to make access to opportunity classes fairer for the following under-represented groups:

- students from low socio-educational advantage backgrounds
- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students
- students from rural and remote locations
- students with disability.

The Equity Placement Model holds up to 20% of places at each school for students from these groups to support an increase in their participation.

Students from these groups may be considered for equity placement if their test performance is within 10% of general applicants for each school. Learn more about the placement process and the placement test at [Opportunity classes \(Year 5 – 6\)](#).

Ready to apply?

Apply online at: [Opportunity classes \(Year 5 – 6\)](#).

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*

Late Drop off and Early Pick Up

If you are picking up your child early, you must go to the school office and sign them out. If a student is late coming to school, you must sign them in at the front office before they go to class. Students cannot sign themselves in or out of school. Please try to avoid collecting children during our break times. Should this be unavoidable please allow enough time for us to locate them within our grounds.

Allergies

Anaphylaxis is a potentially life threatening, severe allergic reaction which occurs after exposure to an allergen (usually to foods, insects or medicines), to which a person is already extremely sensitive. We have a number of students at Victoria Avenue Public School with anaphylaxis and similar allergic conditions and our staff undertake face-to-face and online training in providing an emergency response to this condition. The parents of our anaphylactic and allergic students work hard to educate their children about the risks of sharing food, as do our teachers. As this is a potentially life-threatening condition, we ask that you please consider these students before sending high-risk products such as peanut butter, Nutella and seafood in school lunchboxes. Please talk to your child about the potential risks of sharing food and ask them to wash their hands after eating any nut-based or seafood products. Thank you for your understanding, our anaphylactic children and their families appreciate your support.

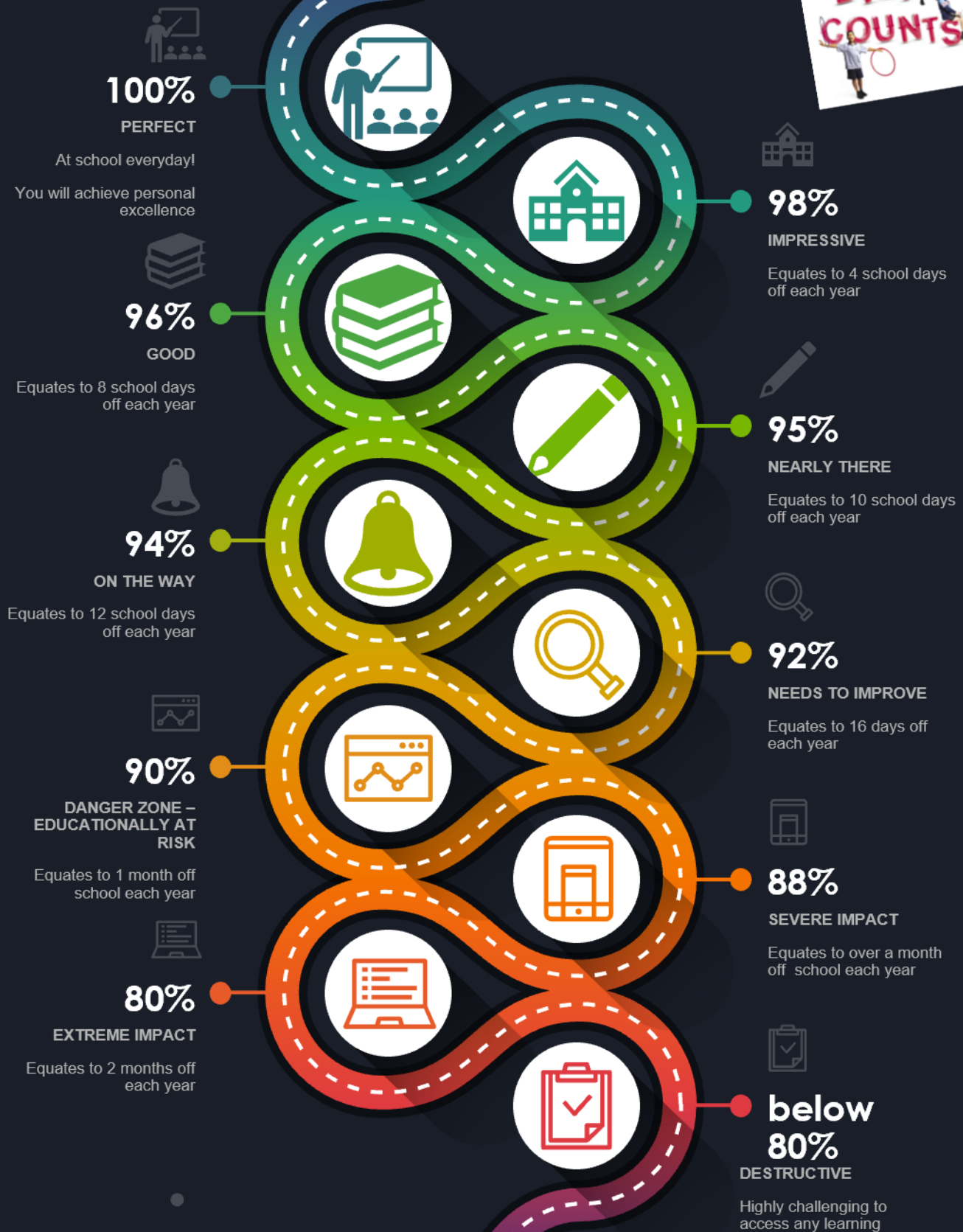
Staff Development Day Monday 29 April

Students will return to school on Tuesday 30 April

Students can wear either summer or winter uniform, with all students transitioning to the winter uniform by Monday 13 May

**Elisa Baker
Principal**

Attendance Road Map



Based on 195 learning days per year

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.

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)

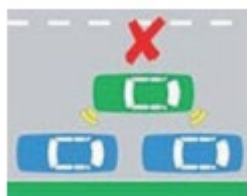
No Parking



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.

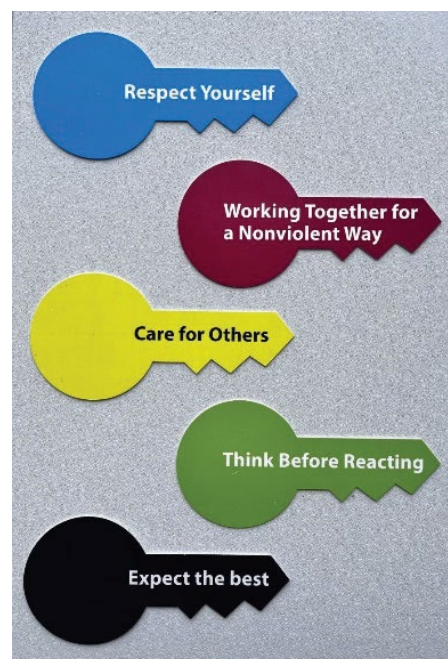
YELLOW KEY Care for Others

GREEN KEY Think Before Reacting

BLUE KEY Respect Yourself

RED KEY Work Together for a Non-Violent Way

BLACK KEY Expect the Best

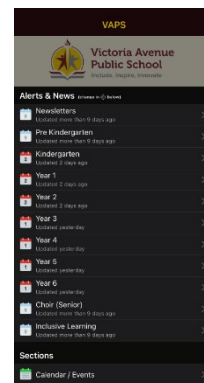


Parent Communication

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>



Victoria Avenue Public School

Include, Inspire, Innovate

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E: victoriaav-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

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[Newsletters, Notes and Sentral](#)

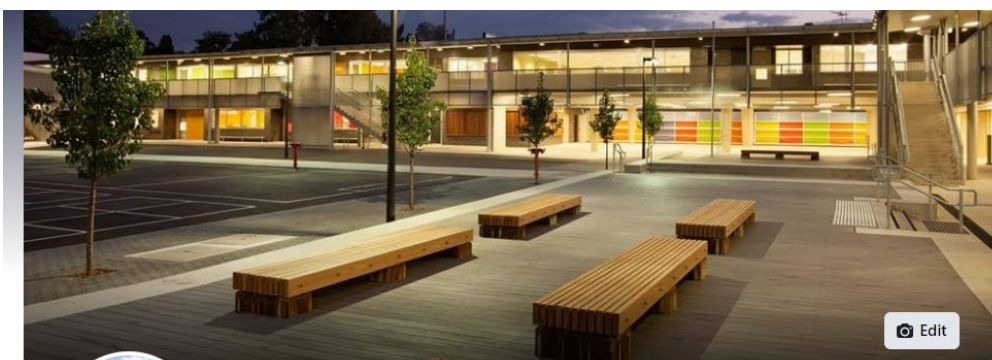
[Extracurricular Activities](#)

[Contact us](#)



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 Public School

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Kindy Mathemagicians



Kindergarten have been exploring the world of counting. They have been learning about different ways to count and even created their own counting tools.



From their fingers, counters, ten-frames to rekenreks, they are learning that mathematics is all around them and anything can become a great tool for learning!





SHARKS



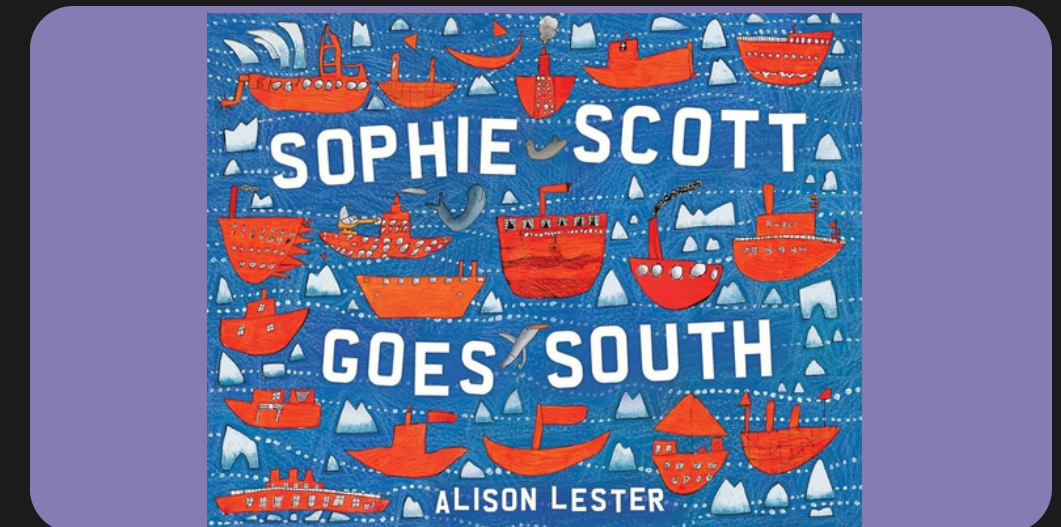
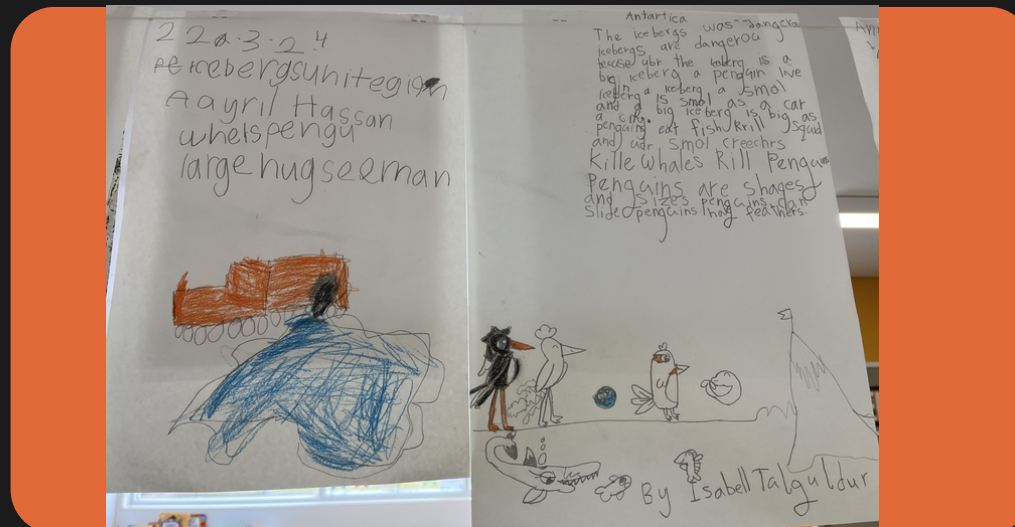
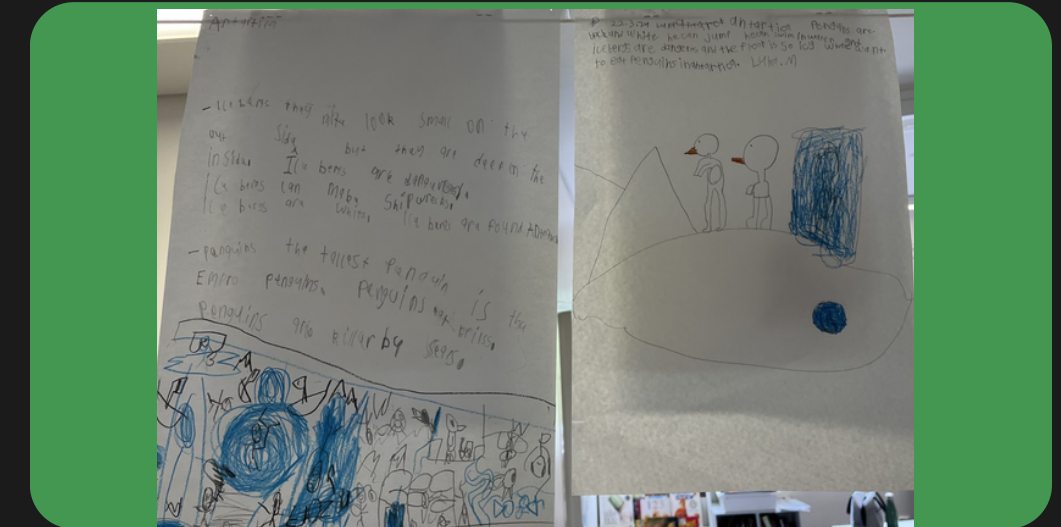
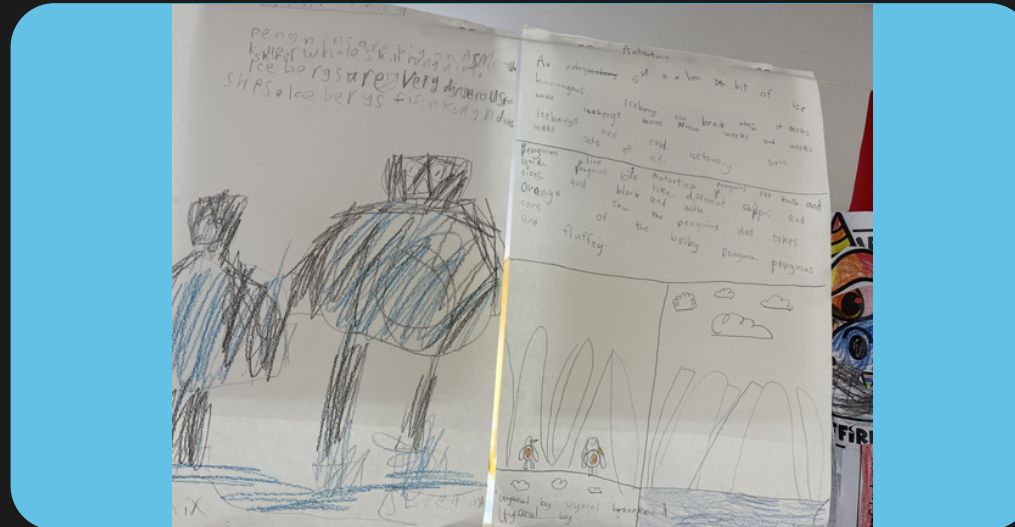
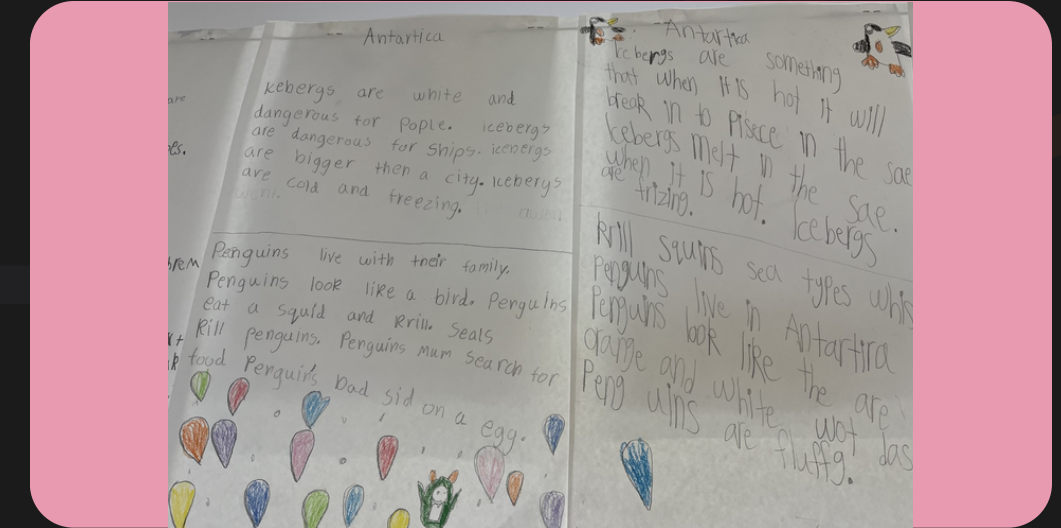
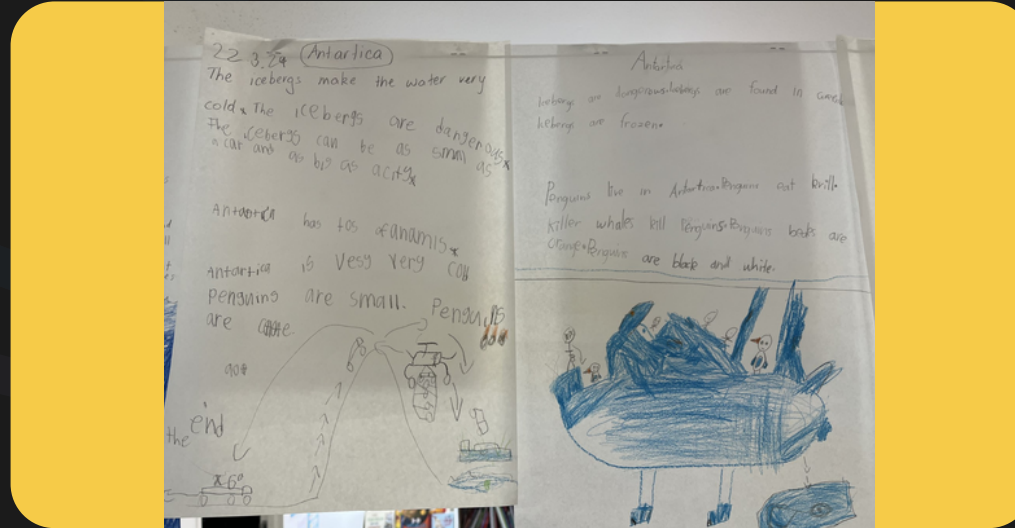
The Sharks are developing friendships in the classroom and having fun too. They are taking turns and using imaginative language during structured and unstructured play. Their friendships also extending to the playground, which is great to see!



THE KANGAROO'S LEARNING

For the past few weeks, the Kangaroos have been learning about verbs, nouns and adjectives. With the focus text 'Sophie Scott goes South' we have been learning about Antarctica

Here are some pictures of our amazing writing all about icebergs and penguins in Antarctica.



ORANGE OWLS

Term 1 has been a busy Term for the Owls! Last week, the students helped the Possums with their Easter hats. In class, they have been learning how to write narratives, measure and use correct techniques to carry out fundamental movement skills.



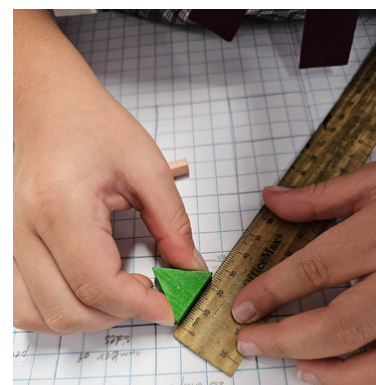
Last week, the Owls helped the Possums with their Easter Hats.



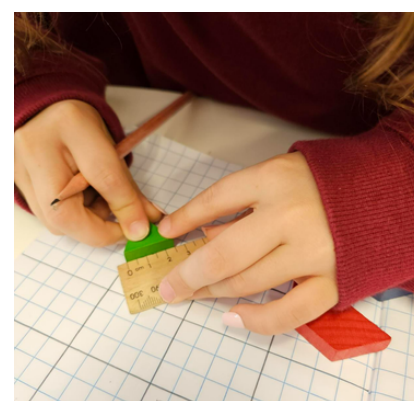
The Owls learning how to kick using correct technique



Students creating a visual plan for their narrative.



The Owls used formal units to measure long and short distance





ROSELLAS



The Rosellas have been developing their leadership skills through the delivery of the Peer Support Program. Each week the Year 6 Leaders and Year 5 Assistant Leaders have prepared a series of activities designed to teach their groups how to build and keep friendships. This week marks the final session for this year. It has been encouraging to see the interactions between students in the playground.



Easter Hat Parade

Last week students in Kindergarten to Year 2 participated in our annual Easter Hat Parade. They worked on their hats in class with their buddies from Years 3 to 6.



The P&C organised an Easter raffle. These lucky students won some delicious prizes. Congratulations!




The poster features a decorative border with various Australian symbols. It includes red bottlebrush flowers, yellow mimosa, green ferns, white and red poppies, and several circular medallions depicting a kangaroo. The text is centered on a cream-colored background.

Lest we forget

The staff and
students at Victoria
Avenue Public School
would like to invite
you to our

ANZAC DAY SERVICE

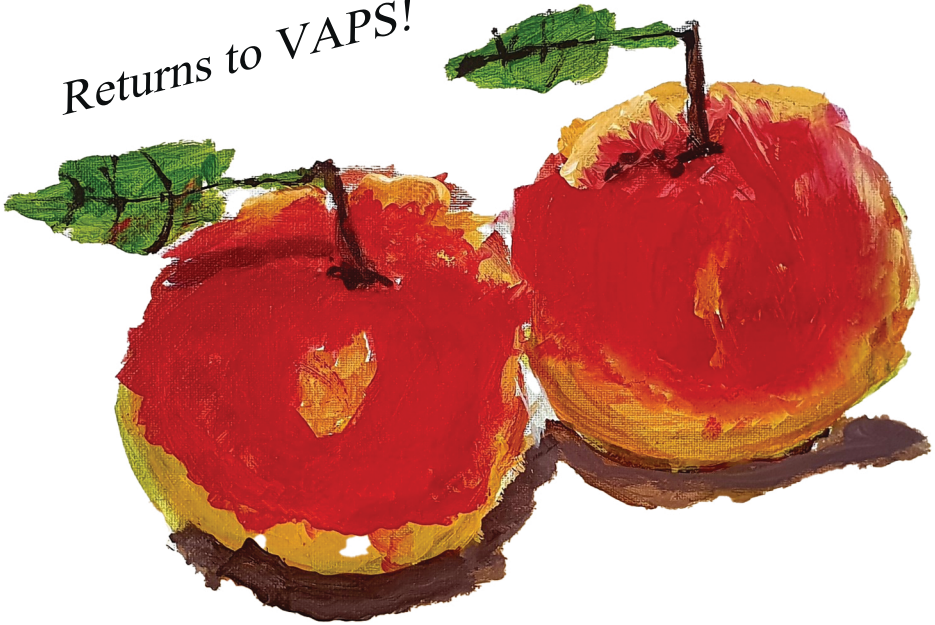
A small red poppy flower with a green stem and leaf is positioned above the date.

FRIDAY 12 APRIL

9:30AM

ART *Sparks*

Returns to VAPS!



Vibrant Visual Arts Classes

For Kids Ages 5 - 12 Years

Tuesday's & Thursday's 3 - 4pm

\$260 per 10 week term

Art Materials Included

To find out more and make a booking

Contact - Sarah on 0405 948 670



CODE4FUN



Learn to code and build your own games with CODE4FUN

Y1 - Y6 students are welcome to join. STEM focused program - students develop critical thinking and problem solving skills by learning to code.



SAVE \$50
ON YOUR CHILD'S
ENROLMENT

CODING FOR KIDS

Term 2, 2024

Y1 - Y6 Students

CREATIVE CODING

Victoria Avenue PS

In-person coding class

Every Thursday

09 May - 04 July | 9 weeks

7:50 - 8:50 am

Y1 - Y6 students

No experience required

Laptops are provided

\$243 per student per term
(\$27 per lesson)

ENROL NOW AT

code4fun.com.au/vaps

If you have any questions email us at

info@code4fun.com.au

or call **0452 525 453**

Learn more about CODE4FUN:

www.code4fun.com.au