

*Oberon Primary Post  
Issue 3, 15th March, 2024*

# OBERON PRIMARY

## POST

### A MESSAGE FROM MR. MCCOOMBE,

Dear Families,

We are certainly moving through Term 1 extremely quickly with the holidays only two weeks away and our swimming program commencing next week!

NAPLAN – Year 3 & Year 5 students – Our Year 3 and Year 5 students are currently participating in the annual NAPLAN assessment, a standardised test undertaken by students across Australia. The NAPLAN test serves as a tool in gauging the educational landscape nationwide, providing insights into student performance. At Oberon we believe that true learning encompasses growth, personal achievements, friendships, and social interactions—elements that are not measured by NAPLAN. As our Year 3 and Year 5 students embark on their NAPLAN testing journey, we extend our best wishes. However, it's essential to recognise that the test is just one aspect of their academic journey, taking place on one particular day. It is not the sole indicator of their identity as learners.

SCHOOL COUNCIL AGM & MEETING – On Tuesday March 26th we will be holding our School Council AGM and then the meeting of the new, 2024, School Council.



**ADDRESS: 28 DOROTHY AVENUE, BELMONT, VIC 3216**  
**EMAIL: OBERON.PS@EDUCATION.VIC.GOV.AU**  
**PHONE: (03) 5243 1613**

### **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

March

13th – 18th – Naplan

18th – 28th – School Swimming Program

18th – Parent Helper Seminar (3.15–4pm)

21st – Harmony Day

21st – Public Relations Meeting (3.15pm)

22nd – National Ride to school Day

22nd – Assembly (2.45pm)

28th – Last Day of Term 1 (2.30 finish)

April

15th – First day back of Term 2

25th – ANZAC DAY

26th – Student Free Day



I acknowledge the Wadawurrung people as the traditional owners of the land. I pay my respects to Elders past, present and emerging, and acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders as the first people of Australia.



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Accident Insurance, Medical Expenses and Ambulance cover –

Please note that the Department (which includes our school) does not have accident insurance. Items of personal property that are lost, stolen or damaged at school is not the responsibility of Oberon Primary School or the Department. Staff and students are reminded not to bring items of value to school.

A reminder that parents/carers are responsible for any medical expenses (including ambulance costs) incurred if their child is injured or requires medical treatment or an ambulance, while at school or participating in a school activity.

I also inform you that parents/carers may not be called if an ambulance is required, until after an ambulance is called, depending on the situation. We encourage parents/carers to have up-to-date ambulance cover and medical insurance.

Mobile Phones and Smart Watches –

A reminder that with the introduction of the state-wide policy on Mobile Phones in Victorian Government Schools which was introduced a while ago, all students are required to turn off and hand in mobile phones and smart watches to prevent usage during school hours and so students can focus on their learning. Devices will be placed in a cabinet/cupboard at the start of the day and handed back at the end of the day by the staff. Please discuss this with your child/ren to assist us in following this policy. We thank you for your support in this area.

Dental Van –

Unfortunately due to staff shortages the Dental Van Program was unable to commence last week. The van will be returning early in term 2 to provide this essential service for our students.

Annual privacy reminder for our school community – Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' Privacy Policy and the Schools' Privacy Collection Notice.

Our Photographing, Filming and Recording Students Policy describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn.

For more information about privacy, refer to: Schools' Privacy Policy – information for parents. This information is also available in ten community languages.

## **FRIENDLY REMINDERS**

- Thursday 21st – Harmony Day (wear a touch of orange)
- Board brim hats must be worn until the end of April.

## **GR8 VALUES WEEKS 7, 8 & 9 BALANCED**



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Professional Practice Day Friday April 26th- in 2024 all teachers are provided with a Professional Practice day to complete school related tasks.

Professional Practice days provide teachers with release from their scheduled duties (all duties which would have been otherwise scheduled, including teaching) to focus on the improved delivery of high quality teaching and learning.

The work undertaken on these days will be consistent with Departmental and school priorities and selected from the following areas:

- planning
- preparation
- assessment of student learning
- collaboration
- curriculum development
- relevant professional development
- peer observation including feedback and reflection

Following the positive feedback on a common professional practice day in 2023 the department is recommending schools hold the Professional Practice Day on the same day for teaching staff. As a result after consulting our staff and community we have scheduled our professional practice day for Friday April 26th. Students will therefore not be required to attend school on this day. We are working with TeamKids to provide a service for this day should families wish to use the service.

## Curriculum Day Wellbeing -

All staff participated in a whole school curriculum day focused on Wellbeing last Friday. The day of professional learning commenced staff unpacking Wellbeing utilising the PERMAH framework. Members of our wellbeing team provided an outstanding insight into various aspects of students and teacher wellbeing and ways in which we can impact the wellbeing of our school community.

Our ES staff visited Armstrong Creek School to gain further understanding of ways in which students can be supported and we thank the school for hosting our staff.

All Oberon staff then continued professional learning centred on the zones of regulation which was then followed by a session focusing on building grit and resilience.

The day was extremely beneficial for our staff and in turn will impact our students.

We would like to thank the wellbeing team and our Mental Health Leader - Mr Nalder for structuring such a successful day.

We hope you have a wonderful weekend ahead and lets hope the Cats get off to a winning start against the Saints!

*Stu McCoombe*



# A spotlight on our newest team members!



*Kirsty*



**What is your role at Oberon?**

I am an E.S. in Miss Nevill's and Mrs Stojanovski's 1-2 class.

**What is your favourite subject?**

I love Reading! (And Art, STEM, P.E and Maths.)

**How do you enjoy spending your spare time?**

I enjoy gardening, cooking, hiking and Parkrun.

**What are you looking forward to this year?**

I'm looking forward to getting to know the staff and students at Oberon, and at home, starting a garden at our new house.

**If you could meet any celebrity or public figure, who would it be and why?**

Dolly Parton. I love her as an entertainer and for her philanthropic work, especially in literacy.

**What is your role at Oberon?**

Education support

**What is your favourite subject?**

Maths

**How do you enjoy spending your spare time?**

Reading, walking my dogs and watching movies.

**What are you looking forward to this year?**

Travelling to see the Northern lights!

**If you could choose a superpower, what would you choose?**

Teleportation

*Alex*



**What is your role at Oberon?**

I am apart of the education support team helping assist students in 3/4 T this year.

**What is your favourite subject?**

English is my favourite subject for many reasons. The first reason is I get to read many interesting and thrilling stories of fiction and real life events.

They entertain me and inspire me :)

**How do you enjoy spending your spare time?**

I spend all of my spare time with my two beautiful children and husband. I love going out to eat yummy food and long walks.

**What are you looking forward to this year?**

I am looking forward to getting know more of the Oberon community and work with lots of new little faces. Also hopefully a honeymoon towards the end of the year!

**If you could meet any celebrity or public figure, who would it be and why?**

Probably Robin Williams, such a huge fan and he seemed like such an incredible human.

*Amy*



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# HARMONY DAY

*Celebrating Our Cultural Diversity*

## HARMONY DAY

**OUR DIVERSITY MAKES AUSTRALIA A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE. HARMONY DAY IS A CELEBRATION OF OUR CULTURAL DIVERSITY - A DAY OF CULTURAL RESPECT FOR EVERYONE WHO CALLS AUSTRALIA HOME.**

**TO CELEBRATE AND SHOW OUR SUPPORT FOR HARMONY DAY AT OBERON WE ASK THE CHILDREN TO COME TO SCHOOL ON THURSDAY THE 21ST OF MARCH WEARING 'A TOUCH OF ORANGE' WITH THEIR SCHOOL UNIFORM. THIS MIGHT BE A PAIR OF ORANGE SOCKS, AN ORANGE HAIR RIBBON ETC.**

**\*PLEASE NOTE A GOLD COIN DONATION IS NOT REQUIRED ON THIS DAY.**



# WETLANDS

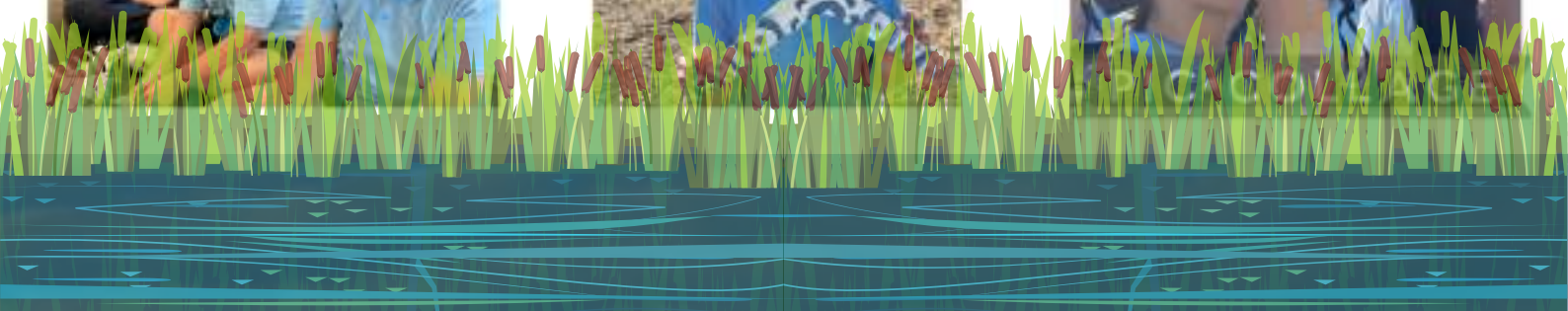
ON TUESDAY, GRADE 5/6 WENT TO THE LAKE CONNOWARE BUG BLITZ EXCURSION. WE LOOKED AT SKULLS AND BONES OF ANIMALS, PAINTED BOOMERANGS, WENT BIRD WATCHING AND TESTED WATER HABITABILITY.

AT THE MUSEUM, THE CLASS GOT A BAG OF BONES AND HAD TO HAVE A GUESS ON WHAT CREATURE IT COULD BE. EVERYONE ALSO GOT TO PET TAXIDERMIED ANIMAL.

WE WENT ON A DUCK WALK AND LEARNT HOW TO USE BINOCULARS. WE EVEN IDENTIFIED A FEW BIRD SPECIES AND LEARNED THEIR NAMES!

THE BUG BLITZ WAS VERY FUN! THANK YOU FOR READING.

WRITTEN BY ARISHA AND POPPY



# Grade 5/6's visiting Grovedale

## Grovedale College Excursion

As the year 6s are going to high school next year Grovedale college has invited all year 5/6s to see the school. 5/6 B and G started with sports academy first. Everyone was split up into three groups: netball, basketball and footy in each rotation we did training drills. The best part in footy was jumping on student's holding special pads to learn how to mark and after that we tackled a tackle bag. In basketball we learnt the different techniques to throw the ball then we practised shooting, in netball we played lots of running games. 5/6 C started doing woodwork, in woodwork we used saw like items to cut the shape of either a star or a heart or even if we had time both out of wood, 5/6 G did woodworks after sport. After sport, 5/6 B did music it started off by learning different types of musical instruments then we moved from the auditorium to the music room and everyone got a drum to play. We learnt all about rhythm and even made song from four different rhythms!

By Eliza and Harper





# Prep - 2 Bravehearts



TODAY WE WENT TO BRAVEHEARTS. AT BRAVEHEARTS THEY TAUGHT US HOW TO STAY SAFE BY SHOWING DIFFERENT BODY WARNING SIGNS TO USE WHEN WE DON'T FEEL SAFE. WE LEARNT THE THREE RULES ABOUT BEING SAFE THEY ARE, REALISE, SAY NO, AND TELL SOMEONE. WE GOT TO DANCE TO DIFFERENT SONGS AND SING, WE HAD A LOT OF FUN AND LEARNT A LOT.

1/2S: SANTINO, ELLA, IVY AND YOUNES.



# GEELONG EVENING MUSIC FEST 2024

# MFG

Matthew Flinders  
Girls Secondary  
College

## MAR | 20

### 4:00pm to 7:00pm

Open air concert  
BYO picnic rug  
and snacks

**FREE ENTRY +**  
DRINKS, SAUSAGE  
SIZZLE

Featuring groups from: MFG,  
Geelong High, Belmont High,  
Oberon, and  
Bannockburn P-12!



Two outdoor stages at the Helen Fraser campus  
– Matthew Flinders Girls Secondary College, Cnr  
Myers St and Fenwick St, Geelong

# Physiotherapy Capacity

Little Fox Children's Therapy is excited to welcome Physiotherapist Katie Hatton to the team.

In 2024, Katie will be accepting new Physiotherapy referrals in the Geelong region and surrounds for young children between the ages of 0 to younger than 9 who need Physiotherapy support.

Please get in touch with us if your child or student requires support with any of the areas listed below.

## Gross motor skills

Assessment  
Individualised, play-based  
treatment

## Body & movement coordination

Helping with mind and  
body connections

## Balance

Individualised approach  
Equipment prescription

## Endurance & fatigue

Pacing strategies  
Guided exercise/s

## Confidence

Highlighting children's  
individual strengths when  
approaching therapy goals

## Participation & play

Playgroup, kinder & school  
Playground and sports  
Enhancing family quality time

**Little Fox Children's Therapy**

Referrals/Contact us at: [www.littlefoxchildrenstherapy.com](http://www.littlefoxchildrenstherapy.com)  
or via email: [admin@littlefoxchildrenstherapy.com](mailto:admin@littlefoxchildrenstherapy.com)





Quality music education since 1988

# GEE LONG YOUTH CHOIR

Incorporating Let's Make Music! & Voices of Geelong



## 2024 ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN



We are excited to have all our children's choirs running in 2024. Meeting each Wednesday afternoon at Deakin University Waurn Ponds campus, we welcome enrolments in:

- Vivace Choir (5-7 year olds)
- Prelude Choir (8-10 year olds)
- Cantore Choir (10 years +), featuring workshop extension program in Term 1

We offer fully qualified teachers, with professional accompaniment. Come along for beautiful music, fun and friendship.



*For more information about the program please visit [geelongyouthchoir.com](http://geelongyouthchoir.com)*

# PARENT EDUCATION EVENTS

GEELONG and BARWON  
SOUTHWEST REGION



## TERM 2, 2024

All Regional Parenting Service programs along with MELI (*formerly Barwon Child Youth & Family (BCYF) and Bethany*), Family Relationship Centre, Drummond St Services and Barwon Southwest Region programs will be offered face to face or online. Bookings are essential. For details of dates, times and venues please see below.

### BRINGING UP GREAT KIDS TUNING IN TO KIDS

#### The First 1000 Days

The first 1,000 days of life is a program for parents with children aged under 2 years and designed to nurture parents as they embark on their journey. It provides parents with knowledge about brain development and an understanding of how children grow and what they need. The centrality of family relationships and opportunities for parents to reflect on their own childhood and how to connect with their children are all explored.

Tuning in to kids is a 6-week supportive program for parents of children aged 4 to 10 years.

The program aims to:

- help parents teach and support their child/ren to understand and manage their emotions;
- support parents in encouraging children to express emotions appropriately;
- maximise children's social, behavioural and learning outcomes.

### BRINGING UP GREAT KIDS

Bringing up Great Kids is a 6-week supportive program for parents of children aged 12 months to 9 years.

The program aims to:

- develop parents' skills to enhance communication with their children;
- promote positive interactions between parents and their child/ren;
- encourage the development of a child's positive self-identity.

### BRINGING UP GREAT KIDS Parenting Adolescents

The program builds on maintaining positive relationships and interactions between parents and adolescents during the ages of 10 to 17 years.

This 6-week program will look at having a better understanding and being able to support your adolescent.

- Finding meaningful ways to stay connected with you adolescent;
- Understand that all behaviour and interaction have a meaning attached to it;
- Develop an increased understanding about the messages that they communicate to their adolescent through their behaviour, actions and attitudes;
- Develop skills to identify and manage their stress associated with parenting.

### CIRCLE OF SECURITY

Circle of Security is an 8-week supportive program for parents of children aged birth to 5 years.

The program aims to:

- help parents understand how to build feelings of security for children in their early years;
- assist parents with skills to build on the positive relationship with their child;
- develop confidence in parents to respond to their child in a way which builds a secure foundation for children.

## OUR KIDS – Parenting After Separation

Our Kids is a 6-week course on parenting after separation and the impact of parental conflict on children. The course encourages parents to focus on the needs of their children and develop helpful communication strategies following separation. Courses run weekly for 6 weeks during school terms. Morning and evening sessions are available.

## THE DAD WORKSHOP

This 6-week program will focus on giving you the tools you need to create a better life for your entire family.

We will look at simple things you can do to improve:

- your relationship with yourself;
- your relationship with your partner;
- your relationship with your kids.

## FLOURISHING FAMILIES

A 5-week program for parents with children of all ages to discover how you can help your family to flourish.

Learn about:

- how you can promote resilience;
- increase awareness of your family's strengths;
- create and nurture positive family relationships;
- give feedback to support individual growth.

## BUBS TO TOTS

Bubs to Tots brings mothers (up to 24 years) of children in the 1 to 2 year age group together for support and education.

## NO MORE SCAREDY CATS

### Reducing Anxiety and Building Resilience in Children

A 4-week program for parents of children 5 to 12 years to gain an understanding of the increasing levels of anxiety in a child and strategies to help manage the "traps and tripwires" with strengthening sayings, questioning strategies and mindful exercises.

## TUNING IN TO TEENS receive constructive feedback about their use of skills.

Tuning in to teens is a 6-week supportive program for parents of teens aged 12 to 18 years.

The program aims to:

- support parents to connect and communicate with their teens;
- assist parents with understanding adolescent development;
- help parents to assist their teen to develop emotional intelligence;
- remain empathetic and stay connected.

## LIVING WITH TEENS

A model for building strong, secure connections. Living with Teens is a 3-week program.

The program aims to cover:

- what parents need to be able to meet teen's needs;
- what teens need from parents;
- adolescent development.

## BUMPS TO BUBS

Bumps to Bubs brings young mothers and mothers-to-be (up to 23 years) with babies 0 to 1 year, together to support the journey of parenting.

## DADS TUNING INTO KIDS

Dads Tuning into Kids is a 6-week supportive program specifically for Dads of children aged 3 to 12 years.

The program aims to:

- help dads to effectively tune in to their child's emotions;
- encourage dads to strengthen their emotional connection with their child;
- support dads to build skills in emotion coaching to assist their child's individual needs.

## POSITIVE PARENTING PROGRAM

Available online via the Triple P website

[www.triplep-parenting.net.au/vic-uken/triple-p/](http://www.triplep-parenting.net.au/vic-uken/triple-p/)

## STRENGTHENING FAMILY CONNECTIONS

Strengthening Family Connections is a free 8-week program for parents and their children aged 8 to 12 years. The program aims to build a positive family culture and strengthen family connections.

## STEPPING STONES

Stepping Stones is a 5-week program for families with a child who has a disability. The program aims to help parents use Positive Parenting to acquire new skills and knowledge. Skills are practiced and parents

Program	Location / Venue	Days / Dates	Time	Bookings
Tuning in to Teens	Online via Zoom	Wednesdays 10 May – 14 June	7.00pm - 9.00pm	 <p><b>Regional Parenting Service</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.geelongaustralia.com.au/parenting">www.geelongaustralia.com.au/parenting</a></p> <p>Ph: 5272 4741</p> 
Tuning in to Kids	Online via Zoom	Thursdays 4 May – 8 June	7.00pm - 9.00pm	
Circle of Security	Virginia Todd Community Centre 9-15 Clarence St, Geelong West	Wednesdays 8 May – 21 June	7.00pm - 9.00pm	
Bringing Up Great Kids	Online via Zoom	Tuesdays 30 Apr – 4 June	7.00pm - 9.00pm	
No More Scaredy Cats	Online via Zoom	Thursdays 2 May – 31 May	7.00pm - 9.00pm	
<b>To express your interest for the following programs please scan the QR code</b>				
Bringing Up Great Kids - First 1000 Days		Stepping Stones		
Flourishing Families		The Dad Workshop		
Our Kids – Parenting after Separation	Online via Zoom Family Relationship Centre 7 Ryan Place, Geelong	Tuesdays 30 Apr – 4 June  Thursdays 2 May – 6 June	Contact the Family Relationship Centre for times	 <p><b>Family Relationship Centre</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au">www.catholiccarevic.org.au</a></p> <p>Ph: 5246 5600</p>
Online parenting programs	Drummond St Services offer a range of online programs, please see their website for further details.	Various dates and times		 <p><b>Drummond Street Services</b></p> <p><a href="http://ds.org.au/events/">ds.org.au/events/</a></p>

Program	Location / Venue	Days / Dates	Time	Bookings	
Dad's Tuning in to Kids	Norlane Child & Family Centre, 52-56 Gerbera Ave, Norlane	Thursdays 2 May – 6 June	9.30am – 11.30am	 <p><b>MELI</b></p> <p>Meli, the new name for BCYF and Bethany</p> <p><a href="http://www.meli.org.au">www.meli.org.au</a></p> <p>Ph: 5226 8900</p> 	
Bringing Up Great Kids - First 1000 Days	Mell 16 Ballarat Road, Hamlyn Heights	Tuesdays 30 Apr – 4 June	9.30am - 11.30am		
Strengthening Family Connections	Lethbridge Primary School 2 Stephenson St, Lethbridge	Wednesdays 24 Apr – 12 June	4.00pm – 7.00pm		
Bringing Up Great Kids	Armstrong Creek East Community Hub 46-70 Central Blvd, Armstrong Creek	Tuesdays 30 Apr – 4 June	12.30pm – 2.30pm		
Tuning in to Teens	Mell 16 Ballarat Road, Hamlyn Heights	Thursdays 2 May – 6 June	9.30am – 11.30am		
<b>To express your interest for the following programs please contact MELI</b>					
Baby College		Bumps to Bubs		Bubs to Tots	
Circle of Security (Abbreviated version)	Childrens Services Building	Wednesdays 24 Apr – 29 May	6.30pm – 8.30pm	 <p><b>CatholicCare Victoria – Warrnambool</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au">www.catholiccarevic.org.au</a></p> <p>Ph: 4344 4588 E: <a href="mailto:helen.diamond@catholiccarevic.org.au">helen.diamond@catholiccarevic.org.au</a></p>	
Circle of Security (Abbreviated version)	Moyne Shire	Tuesdays 30 Apr – 4 June	5.30pm – 7.00pm		
Tuning in to Teens	Hoodspace Warrnambool	Fridays 19 Apr – 24 May	1.00pm – 3.00pm		