

# Wycheproof P-12 College

A State school established in 1876



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Newsletter 5 - Tuesday, May 30

## Supporting LGBTQIA+ students

We openly show our encouragement at Wycheproof P12 College to any child who may identify as being LGBTQIA+. There are many young people in our community, who have been students at this school, who are amazing individuals and proud to be who they are. Thank goodness times have changed for the better in this space. There is still a long way to go, no doubt. Discrimination is not acceptable, and we have many school policies to help assist all children. We now know that we need to fully show support to our young LGBTQIA students. At an assembly (Wednesday 26th April), I spoke about some up-and-coming webinars that students could participate in. These included, 'Respecting Boundaries and Staying Connected' a webinar that offered tips and strategies to young people on maintaining safe and respectful relationships, both online and in person. The other webinar was about, 'Coming Out and Inviting In', which explored ways to safely support and validate children and young people who 'come out'. A number of our students attended a community event at the Buloke Shire for IDAHOBIT Day, where past student Matt Keane spoke about his life journey and how small acts of support can make a significant difference in the lives of anyone LGBTQIA+. We are hoping to publish Matt's short story for the school and local library. We will continue to look for ways we can encourage our students to feel proud about themselves and who they prefer to be.

*Christine McKersie* - Principal

## 2023 DIARY DATES

### MAY

Wed 31 Man Cave & Flourish Girl

### JUNE

Tues 6 LMR X-Country - St Arnaud  
Wed 7 Bush Dance  
Wed 7 School Council  
Fri 9 Pupil Free Day  
Mon 12 King's Birthday Public Holiday  
Wed 14 SRC 'Era' Dress Up Day  
Thurs 15 GAT  
Fri 16 VET Taster Day (Yr 9)  
Mon - Fri 19 - 23 Work Experience (Yr 10 & 11)  
Tues 20 Career Profiling (Yr 9)

### JULY

Thurs 13 SSV Cross Country - Melbourne  
Mon 17 Tertiary Information Service - Charlton (Yr 12)  
Mon - Wed 24 - 26 Year 5/6 Camp - Sovereign Hill

# IDAHOBIT

International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia May 17



The rainbow flag was flown at school on Wednesday, May 17 in support of IDAHOBIT Day. School Captains Kate Thompson and Xavier McKersie (pictured above) and fellow senior students attended a morning tea at the Buloke Shire Council to hear from guest



speaker and former student Matt Keane. Matt spoke about how small gestures can support those who identify as LGBTQIA+.

IDAHOBIT Day is celebrated annually to celebrate equality and take a stance against discrimination.

Wycheproof P-12 College ~ "Be Your Best"



# LMR Football Report

Charlton College combined with students from Wycheproof P-12 College to form a VCE boys football team to play in the LMR finals at Mildura last week.

It was an opportunity for our boys to play in a competition that boasted some very talented footballers (Pioneers U/18s players were in abundance) and to foster relationships with the kids from Charlton. The day had a little bit of drama with a Charlton lad dislocating his shoulder, but apart from that hiccup our boys played their hearts out. They were out-gunned by 3 of the 4 teams they played against during the carnival but they all tried their hardest and had a great day out.

- Mr Duffy

## SCORES FROM THE DAY

**Game #1**  
Swan Hill MacKillop College  
def Charlton/Wycheproof  
35 - 23

**Game #3**  
St Josephs College Echuca def  
Charlton/Wycheproof  
70 - 17

**Game #2**  
Marist College Bendigo def  
Charlton/Wycheproof  
69 - 32

**Game #4**  
Mildura SC def Charlton/  
Wycheproof  
81 - 16



Will, Louisa, Hunter & Xavier



Jessie



Kelly & Dane



# NCD Cross Country report

Our college sent 30 students to this year's NCD cross country held in St Arnaud and again we managed to achieve some outstanding results both individually and as a team.

We successfully pulled off another win in the standardised pennant competition, doubling our nearest rival which is a credit to our kids. We finished 2nd in the overall pennant which is pretty amazing considering we only have 60 secondary pupils to choose from and half of them attended on the day. Maryborough has over 600 kids, so it says a lot about the effort our kids put into their running.

Training specifically for cross country in our sports programs yielded personal best results on the hilly St Arnaud track for most of our runners and we are lucky that those who have qualified for the LMR event in June have another chance to better their times on the same course.

Individual results were also impressive with two outright winners in Hayley Yasa & Angus Cowell and podium place-getters in Charlie Fawcett & Libby Thompson, both finishing 3rd. We will be sending a strong team through to the Loddon Mallee Region finals at St Arnaud and hopefully we will see a few runners qualify for the State Championships to be held early next term. Good luck.

- Mr Duffy

## NCD HIGHLIGHTS

1st - Wycheproof P-12 College -  
Standardised Pennant

2nd - Wycheproof P-12 College -  
Overall Pennant

1st - Hayley Yasa - Jnr Girls 3km

1st - Angus Cowell - Inter. Boys 5km

3rd - Libby Thompson - Inter. Girls 3km

3rd - Charlie Fawcett - Snr Boys 5km

4th - Priya Coatsworth - Jnr Girls 3km

4th - Jack Cowell - Inter. Boys 5km

5th - Keely Allan - Inter. Girls 3km

5th - Sharna Bartram - Snr Girls 3km





Enda



Isabelle, Paige & Sharna



Louisa & Demi

**\*\*NEW RECORDS\*\***

### INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS

VCE: Hunter Connolly (B) 21.40 & Sharna Bartram (C) 16.33  
 9/10 - Angus Cowell (C) **\*19.11\*** & Libby Thompson (B) 14.33  
 7/8 - Dane Bartram (C) 13.56 & Hayley Yasa (B) 13.59  
 5/6 - Finbar Polzin (B) **\*14.56\*** & Chevy Bartlett (B) 17.46  
 3/4 - Ryder Harrison (C) 15.54 & Jewels Barton (B) 26.20  
 P-3 - Tyler Harrison (C) & Edie Pellegrino (B)



Max & Jack



Desmond, Priya & Harlan

# 2023 House Cross Country Competition

The sun was out and our annual event was won by Broadway in another close battle between the rival Houses. Even though the NCD event was held earlier in the term and our LMR team has been selected, pride was on the line and unfortunately for Calder they couldn't retain the shield they won last year. Many PB's were set and its good to see our younger students have a go at completing the 3.2 km track.

- Mr Duffy



Cooper & Henry



Daniel



Leyland



William



Esse



Kate



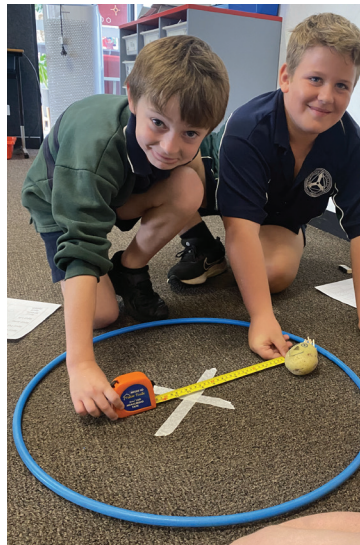
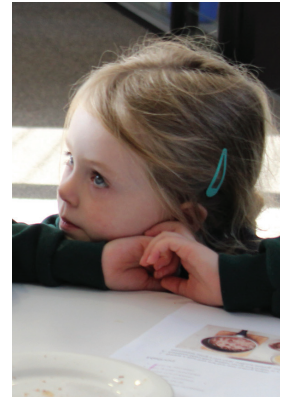
# Primary Maths



## Chocolatey challenge

P/1/2 students put their measurement skills into practise when making Mars Bar slice. They had to ensure they accurately measured out each ingredient. They worked together cooperatively, making sure to take turns and let all group members have a go. The results were thoroughly enjoyed by all!

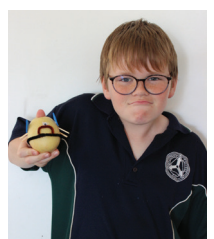
- Mrs Watts



## Let the games begin!

Students in 3/4 competed in the biannual Potato Olympics. They guided their potato through a series of nine events which tested different strengths of their potatoes. Students had to measure and record their results and then compare against the other competitors. The spirit of competition was alive within the class with many potatoes acquiring injuries along the way and the first aid station was constantly busy. At the conclusion of the games the potatoes were laid to rest in the garden.

- Mrs Watts





## TERM 2, WEEK 5-6

### Class Growth

Yr Level	Average	Current
5	207%	137%
6	100%	111%
7	66%	53%
8	78%	91%
9	69%	61%
10	158%	104%

### Highest growth this fortnight

Student	Growth
Connor McLeod	367%
Ever Harrison	113%
Desmond Polzin	133%
Grace McKersie	133%
Rhys Redmond	167%
Keely Allan	433%

### Highest individual average

Student	Growth
Connor McLeod	240%
Harry Humphreys	133%
Logan Pollington	111%
Dane Bartram	139%
Angus Cowell	128%
Keely Allan	240%

Parents and students are reminded that Maths Pathways can be accessed from any location. The percentage score is a reflection of how much growth a student is achieving. Eg. 117% = student is learning at the rate of 1.17 years.

Wycheproof P-12 College

## Bush Dance

1:30pm

Wednesday, 7th June

Sports Complex

Dress: Country clothes

**ALL WELCOME**

Family members encouraged to come along & join in the fun!



STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

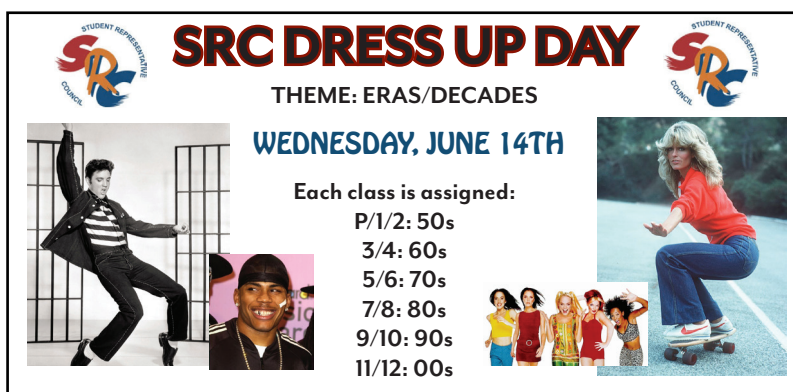
## SRC DRESS UP DAY

THEME: ERAS/DECADES

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14TH

Each class is assigned:

- P/1/2: 50s
- 3/4: 60s
- 5/6: 70s
- 7/8: 80s
- 9/10: 90s
- 11/12: 00s



Wanted!

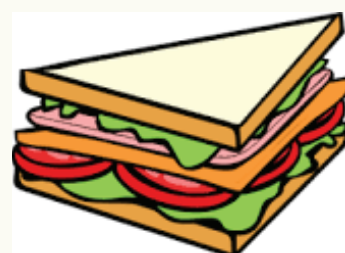
Ice-cream containers for the Home Economics kitchen.

Please drop off containers to the office.

## REMINDER

School lunch orders must be placed prior to 10am Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays via My School Connect.

Due to staff shortages, the Bakery is unable to process orders placed after 10am.



## STUDENT ABSENCE

The school needs to be notified of a student absence by 10am. A phone call to the school office, note in the student diary or XUNO absence notification noting the reason for their absence, are all acceptable notifications. This is to satisfy the legal requirements of the Department of Education.

— WORK HARD, —

— BE KIND AND —

— AMAZING THINGS —

— WILL HAPPEN. —

— Conan O'Brien —





## **Flu season and COVID**

The sudden cold snap and with only a few weeks of term left means that our body's resilience is low and it is easy to catch winter viruses such as

colds, flu and the ever present risk of COVID. This means we need to look after our health and wellbeing.

As always, a diet that is based on fresh vegetables and fruit, a good sleep routine, exercise or active lifestyle and handwashing are recommended to keep healthy.

Prevention and keeping safe during these colder months is what we need to aim for. To do this it is recommended to continue to wear a mask inside a building or bus, wash hands or use sanitiser, practice cough and sneeze etiquette, stay home if unwell and ensure Flu and COVID vaccinations are up to date.

Many people are reporting COVID and the weekly average of hospitalisation is around 407 people and 17 people admitted to intensive care. Colleagues who are positive for COVID are telling me that they have never felt so sick, even during previous bouts of COVID. More information <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/>. There is no change to the School Operations Guide regarding a positive RAT result and recommendation to isolate for 5 days. For information contact the Department of Education dedicated COVID-19 phone advice line Monday to Friday (8:30 am to 5:00 pm) on 1800 338 663. The Department of Health has a Coronavirus Hotline 1800 675 398 and it is important to contact the hotline because you will receive advice on what to do and you will be linked in to supports from the local health service. To stay safe, stay home if unwell and keep up precautions like handwashing and cough etiquette to stop the spread of illness at school.

### **Asthma and medical forms**

If a student has a diagnosis of asthma or illness, action management plans signed by a doctor or health professional are mandatory to attend a camp or any school event off-site. Forms have gone out to families again and must be returned to school. An annual checkup with your doctor to review medicines is very important for good health outcomes. The asthma or allergy plan should be on the form that has the school logo as this is the information required by the Department of Education.

### **Wellbeing team: health and mental health support**

The Secondary School Nurse program is available to all secondary students and you don't need a referral. The school nurse is employed by the Department of Education and is in your school to support student health and wellbeing. Wellbeing is not just mental health and is for all students. Call in to the Health Hub office for a confidential chat or if you are interested in health issues and promoting awareness days. Or if you want to help

out in the wellbeing garden or want to choose any of the many activities that can be available at Wycheproof P-12 College.

Chantel White is our school's Mental Health Practitioner. For referrals to Chantel, students can talk to members of the school wellbeing team or their teacher.

headspace Swan Hill provide a service to students at Wycheproof P-12 College. To link in with Celeste Costa phone (03) 4010 7100, or to see online information about the services provided, or to make a referral <https://headspace.org.au/headspace-centres/swan-hill/>

### **Helping parents**

There is so much information and advice about being a parent it is difficult to know what is helpful and what is not. Supporting your child's development, to grow closer and solve problems in a positive way is the goal. To get there the Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) is recommended. You may have seen it advertised on TV lately. It is an evidence-based online program that you can do at your own pace. For more information see <https://www.triplep-parenting.net.au>

### **Food choice**

Food individually wrapped in plastic or foil wrapping is usually highly processed and provides little or no nutrition - they just increase our rubbish load. These are the wrappers being found all over the school grounds and even tucked into plant pots. Eating highly processed food can lead to students being tired, melancholy, cranky, or unwell. To cut down on single use plastics and other packaging and for healthy lunchbox ideas call in to the Health Hub, or see <https://heas.health.vic.gov.au/schools/healthy-lunchboxes>

### **Healthy teeth**

Winter contact sports should not ruin your smile. This is the season for mouth (tooth and gum) trauma. The Australian Dental Association rule of thumb is that '...anyone who plays a sport or undertakes an activity where collision or contact to the face is a legitimate risk should wear a mouthguard.' The list of sports includes football, netball and hockey. It is important that a correctly fitted mouth guard is worn during games and training. After all the trouble teenagers go through to achieve beautiful straight teeth, you would want to protect them. For information see <https://teeth.org.au/>

### **Support services & helplines**

- ✓ Parentline 132289
- ✓ headspace call back 1800 650 890 or eheadspace [www.headspace.org.au](http://www.headspace.org.au)
- ✓ Autism Connect helpline 1300 308 699 or webchat [www.amaze.org.au](http://www.amaze.org.au)
- ✓ Kids Helpline 1800 551 800



# WHAT'S NEW IN THE LIBRARY...

## PRIMARY FICTION

### Swim Team: Small Waves, Big Changes

Johnnie Christmas

Bree is excited for her first day at her new school. However she is super anxious about whether she'll make friends and fit in. Thankfully she makes a new friend in the housing complex where they live. Unfortunately, when Bree goes to choose math club as her elective, it's fully booked. As a math lover who can't swim, she's crushed to hear that the only elective she can do is swimming.

A heart-warming graphic novel about friendships, racial discrimination anxiety and perseverance, which will be loved by readers 8 years and older.



## SECONDARY FICTION

### Happy Head

Josh Silver

When Seb is offered a place on a radical retreat designed to solve the national crisis of teenage unhappiness, he is determined to change how people see him and make his parents proud. But as he finds himself drawn to the enigmatic Finn, Seb starts to question the true nature of the challenges they must undergo. The deeper into the program the boys get, the more disturbing the assessments become, until it's clear there may be no escape....

This dystopian thriller takes the reader on a rollercoaster ride through the lives of disengaged youth, exploring the pressures of online living and mental illness.



## home economics



**Year 7/8**

**Chicken noodle stir-fry**



**International cuisines**

**Cake - practical test**



# Prep/1/2 Art - Autumn leaf rubbings

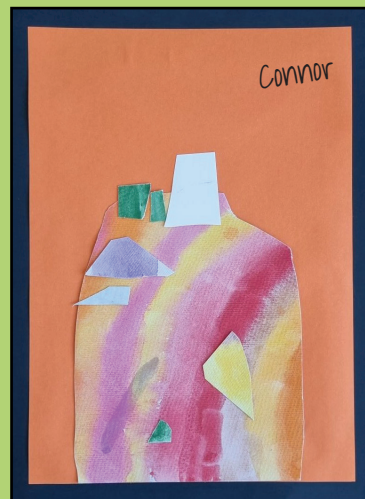
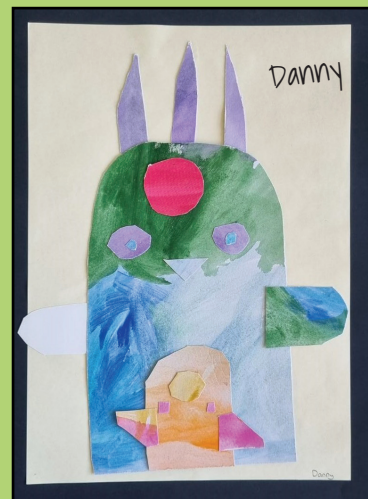
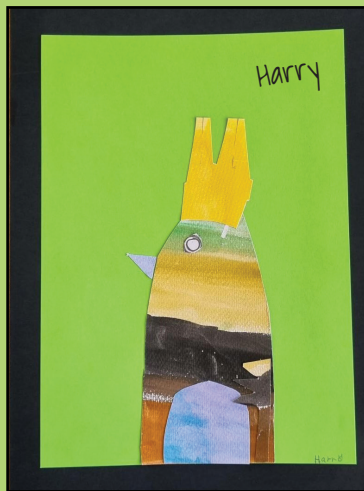
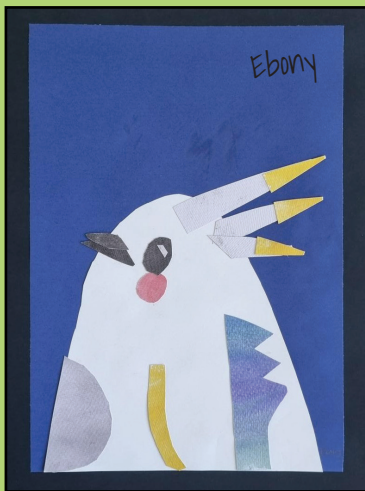
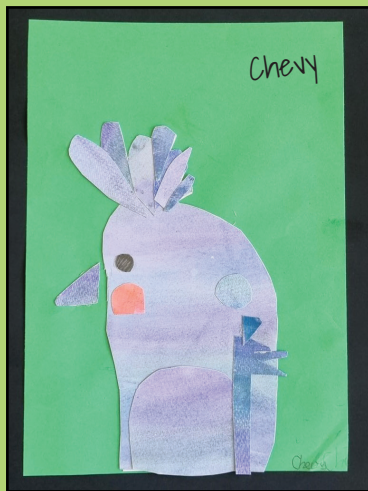


Prep/1/2 students got creative with leaves in an Autumn-themed Art class with pre-service teacher Miss Stanley, who was on placement at Wycheproof P-12 College. Miss Stanley took the class for a walk around school, and students were encouraged to take notice of the different signs of Autumn. They then collected leaves to use for their artwork.



## Year 5/6 Art

Native birds - inspired by Australian artist Pete Cromer





# Year 8 English - Haiku Poetry

*The book of knowledge  
Good for nothing...  
If you cannot read*

**The road of death  
It kills helpless children  
but people don't change**

*The school of worry  
Stressed students, teachers strict  
Scared of years to come*

**The door of joy  
The handle is turned open  
and hearts are lifted**

**The tree of sorrow  
All who smell its flowers  
Weep for ages**

*Lightbulb of warmth  
Doesn't light very much - but  
burns when you touch it*

**Window of beauty  
One glance outside the steel frame  
Widens my big eyes**

*The warmth of a car  
Keeps us safe from winter...  
But costs a fortune*

**Imagination of banana  
So full of joy and excitement  
Yet a useless thought**

*The bed of grief  
Is where I will always be  
Ever since that day*

**The tree of beauty  
Often comes and goes, throughout  
Summer and winter**

*The Year 8 English class used a combination of concrete nouns (eg. book, pen, clock) and abstract nouns (eg. love, hope, despair) to make interesting metaphors. These were the basis for their haiku poems.*

*The pencil of warmth  
A generation keeper  
I wouldn't lose it*

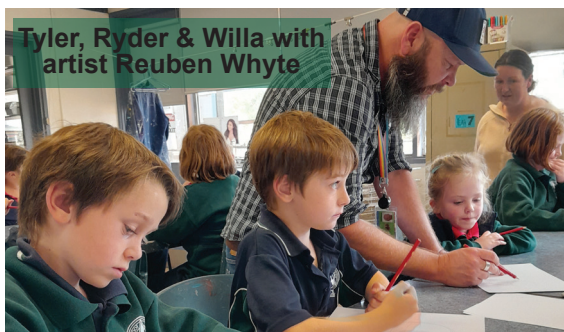
**Car of jealousy  
Is very old and broken  
Unlike all the new cars**

*The road of freedom  
You can do anything there  
There are no laws*

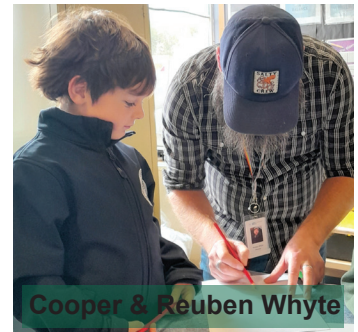
By Dane Bartram, Kiarah Browne, Leyland Barton, Grace McKersie, Tessa Sheahan, Brayden Lourdsathan, Darcy Coles, Lana Fawcett, Dakota Connolly, Adele McNaughton



Henry



Tyler, Ryder & Willa with artist Reuben Whyte



Cooper & Reuben Whyte



Saeed, Rhys & Mark



James

## Comic Artist Visit

Recently we had Reuben Whyte come and conduct an artist workshop with many students from various classes. Reuben spoke about his lived experiences in being an artist (his workshop was based on Comic Art and also sculpting) and it was great for our students to hear how he successfully makes a living out of being an artist. We thank Regional Arts Victoria for bringing this amazing cultural experience to our school.



Tex



Finbar



Ebony



# Star Students

**Year 5/6**  
**Ebony Barker**

For showing flexibility and adaptability across all classes. Keep it up!

**Prep/1/2**  
**Ashton Wright**

Being a good listener and doing good work.

**Year 3/4**  
**Daniel Greco**

Positive attitude and willingness to try his very best.

**WEEK**

**13**



## Flying start for 2023 Mentoring Program

On Wednesday, May 24 approximately 20 students, mentors and parents enjoyed a night of fun and food as we celebrated the continuation of the MATES Mentoring Program in 2023.

After a brief dinner, welcome, introduction to the program and video, we handed over to our entertainment master Paddy, who introduced us to an assortment of new games including Jungle Speed, Flame Rouge, Hey That's My Fish, Telestrations, Sabateur, Skulls and Roses and Just One. A big thank you to all the volunteer community mentors who, without your encouragement and participation in the program, we would not be able to offer these amazing nights and opportunities to our students. I look forward to the year ahead.

- Wendy Pollard, MATES Coordinator



# Enrolling in primary school for 2024

Starting school is an exciting time for children, parents and carers. We want to help make the enrolment process as easy as possible for you.

In Victoria, your child has the right to attend their designated neighbourhood school (your 'local school') under the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*.

You can also apply for a place at a school that is not your local school. The school will consider your application in line with the Placement Policy. For more information on the Placement Policy, visit the [Enrolling in school](#) page.



## New statewide timeline for Foundation (Prep)

The first year of primary school is called Foundation or Prep. We have released a new Foundation enrolment timeline for all Victorian government primary schools to follow (see page 3). The timeline aims to help you understand when and how to enrol your child into Foundation for the 2024 school year.

## When should I enrol my child in their first year of primary school?

Your child must be 5 years old by 30 April in the year that they start school.

Schooling is compulsory for children who have turned 6 years old.

To enrol your child in a Victorian government primary school for the 2024 school year, submit an enrolment application to the school by 28 July 2023.

## How do I enrol my child in their first year of primary school?

Take these steps to enrol your child in their first year of primary school:

1. Find your local school on the Find my School website (see below).
2. Contact a government primary school to book a school tour or to learn more about the school and the enrolment application process.
3. Download the Foundation (Prep) enrolment information pack from [Enrolling in Foundation \(Prep\)](#) (available from 24 April 2023).
4. Submit an enrolment application for Foundation **by Friday 28 July 2023**.
5. You will be notified of the outcome of your application **by Friday 11 August 2023**. If you receive an offer of placement, you should accept the offer **by Friday 25 August 2023**.
6. Take part in enrolment information and transition sessions **during Term 4 2023**.
7. Your child will start Foundation **from Tuesday 30 January 2024**.

## How do I find my local school?

Find your local school on the Find my School website by following the steps below:

1. Enter [findmyschool.vic.gov.au](https://findmyschool.vic.gov.au) into your browser.
2. Enter your permanent residential address under 'Enter your address to get started'.
3. Select 2024 under 'Enrolment year'. **Note:** 2024 school zones will be available late Term 1, 2023.
4. Select Primary under 'School type'.

The map will then show your address, your local school, and on the left the contact details for the school. If you scroll down, it will also show you the five closest schools to your address.

You can also search by school name under 'Search for school'.





**GEORGE the FARMER**

See George the Farmer live at the  
**Birchip Town Hall**  
SUNDAY JULY 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 at 11am

Book reading, dance party, giveaways,  
door raffle, meet George, catering after show and  
George the Farmer showbags available!

visit [www.georgethefarmer.com.au](http://www.georgethefarmer.com.au)

**WIN!!**  
Don't forget to enter the  
colouring-in  
competition!

Birchip Playgroup BCG Buloke Shire Council NATIONAL CENTRE FOR FARMER HEALTH

**FREE COMMUNITY EVENT!!**



Meow, the school cat, continues to bring joy to the Wycheproof P-12 College school community. She is pictured left with Jewels, being pampered in Ms McKersie's office.



**Q. Why did the cats ask for a piano?**  
**A. They wanted to make mewsic**



## COOKBOOK FUNDRAISER

The Wycheproof Preschool Centre Parents Advisory Group is seeking submissions from members of the Wycheproof community for their 2023 fundraiser - a recipe book. Whether its a family recipe passed down over generations or a tasty treat whipped up in the Thermomix, the PAG is seeking a wide range of tried and tested recipes loved by locals. Please email your recipe along with a short explanation of what makes it special to [wycheproofpreschoolpag@gmail.com](mailto:wycheproofpreschoolpag@gmail.com) or drop a printed copy off at the Centre Mon-Wed.

## DIGITAL ESSENTIALS COURSE

Come and learn the basics of using a computer, your smartphone or iPad at Wycheproof Community Resource Centre. Create basic Word documents, manage your emails, search the web, connect to devices, explore social media - all in a relaxed environment. Held over four sessions, 10am - 12pm Tuesday, June 20 - Friday, June 23. Bookings essential by calling 5493 7455.

## EARLY YEARS OPPORTUNITIES

Y Ballarat are recruiting for Cert III, Diploma and Early Childhood Teachers to fill casual positions across its four Buloke centres. Visit [yballarat.org.au/careers/](http://yballarat.org.au/careers/) to find out more.

## CHESS CLUB

Wycheproof Community Resource Centre is seeking expressions of interest for a chess club. Register by calling 5493 7455.