

Newsletter No. 2

**Be Kind
Be Safe
Be Your Best**

**PYALONG PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Established 1878
10-14 Bourke Street,
Pyalong, Victoria, 3521

Phone: 03 57 851 291

Mobile: 0438 851 291

email: pyalong.ps@education.vic.gov.au**Principal:** Jessica Bowen-Duarte

Teachers: Laura Straghan—Grade F/1, Aimee Shorinov/David Close—Grade 1/2, Shelley Bertollini/Tayler Gready—Grade 3/4, Stephen Cadusch/Michelle Taylor—Grade 4/5, Carly Whittemore—Grade 5/6, Michelle Gyton-Taylor—Indonesian & Tutoring, David Close—STEM, Brooke Maher—Sport & Wellbeing, Brianna Bell—Student Wellbeing, Pam Thrift—Tutoring

IMPORTANT REMINDERS: TERM 1

Full details of events can be found in the newsletter under Excursion/Activities.

February

Wed 14th—Foundation Rest Day

Feb 16th—Halogen Young Leaders
Grade 6 students

Tue 20th—State School Spectacular
Rehearsal—South Morang

Wed 21st—Foundation Rest Day

Fri 23rd District Swimming—
Seymour pool —selected team

Wed 28th—Foundation Rest Day

March

Tue 5th—Division Swimming—
Selected team

Tue 19th—School Photo's

PLEASE RETURN FORMS

- ⇒ Young Leaders Grade 6 permission form
- ⇒ Code of Practice 2024
- ⇒ District Swimming
- ⇒ Camp permission and deposit

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!**

**February
12th-19th**

No birthdays this week

CLUSTER SWIMMING



Congratulations to all who attended the Cluster Swimming last Friday. Heaps of fun was had by all but the highlight of the day for most, was the triple dead heat in the teacher's race. Thank you to the parents and helpers for your assistance on the day and also for everyone who cheered the students on. Permissions forms for District for qualifying students were sent home Monday.

YOUNG LEADERS GRADE 6 THIS FRIDAY

Now travelling by mini bus departing from Pyalong Primary at 7:00am and returning to Pyalong Primary approximately 4:30pm. Change due to V-Line Industrial Action.

Pyalong Primary School Policies can be viewed on the school web page.

www.pyalongps.vic.edu.au

Parents are always very welcome to attend Friday afternoon assemblies.
Hope to see you there!

Assembly usually commences at 2.45pm.

NO ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK DUE TO YOUNG LEADERS EXCURSION

SWPBS AWARDS

Our focus this week is:-

I use the toilet area appropriately.



No awards this week as there was no assembly due to swimming.

Volunteers Needed

We are currently looking for Mums, Dads, Grandparents, volunteers to come and assist with the following;

- ♦ Classroom reading and changing students Take Home Books.
- ♦ Helping in the SAKG—garden
- ♦ Helping in the SAKG—cooking

Please pop in and let the office/teachers know what particular day suits you.

ALL VOLUNTEERS NEED TO HAVE A CURRENT WORKING WITH CHILDRENS CHECK.

District Swimming Friday 23rd February

Parents need to drive children to and from the Seymour Outdoor War Memorial pool,

Lesley St, Seymour

Please be at the pool by 9.30am

Bring bathers, towel, goggles, sunscreen, hat, snacks, lunch and drinks.

Wear School uniform to the pool with bathers underneath.

Mrs Maher will be the teacher in charge.

Please return your permission slip by Wednesday 21st February.

2024 SCHOOL COUNCIL

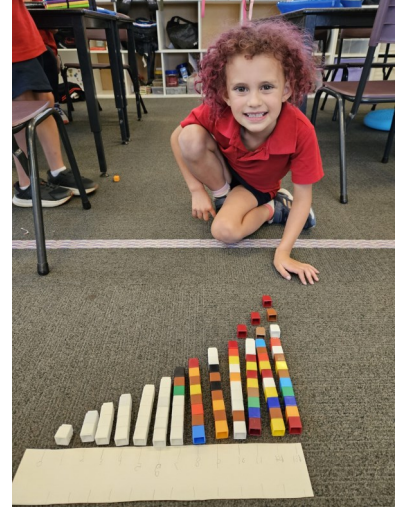
We would like to announce Pyalong Primary School Council members for 2024 as follows:

Natalie Bisignano, Jessica Bowen-Duarte, Stephen Cadusch, Kathryn Creed, Julia Gaffney, Nick Gething, Megan Hayes, Merrilyn Liu, Heather Smith, and Nathan Worner.

We take this opportunity to thank Jo Guard, Meg Martin and Sean Walsh for their input and support during their tenures on council.

1/2

Last week in maths we made number lines and got to represent each number using materials. We had to keep each ten in a bundle or stick and show the ones separately. It was really fun.

F/1 and 1/2

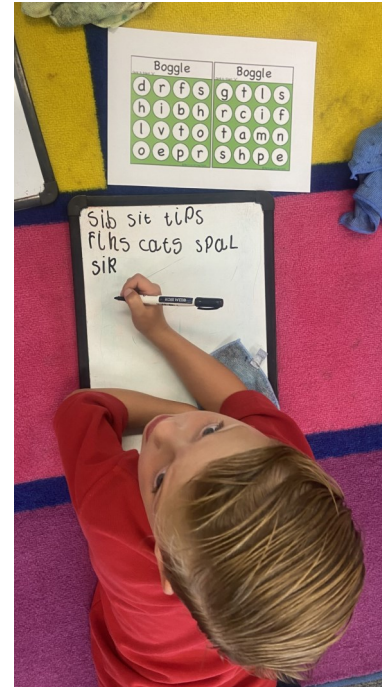
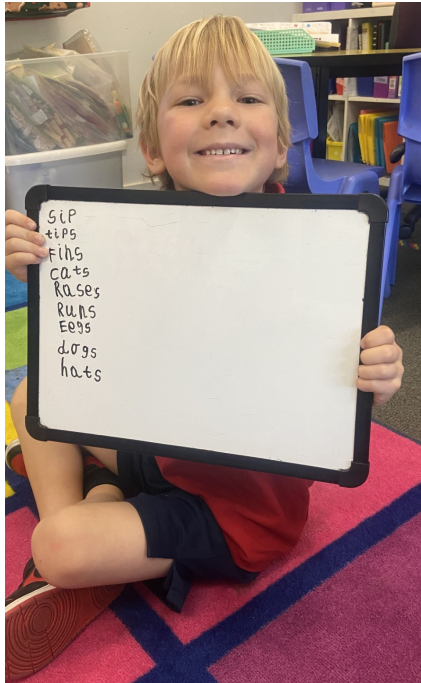
The grade F/1s and 1/2s were very excited to be back in the garden this year. They put their artistic skills to good use by decorating the garden beds with a variety of paint colours, pictures and designs. They enjoyed giving the chickens some fresh water and feeding them the bounty of fresh fruit that was grown in the garden over the summer.

Year 4/5

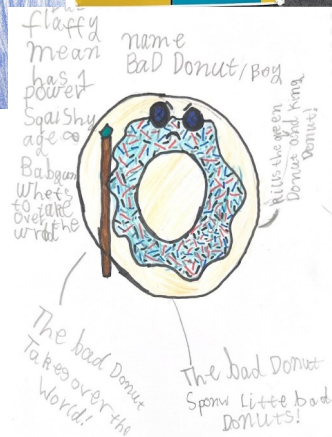
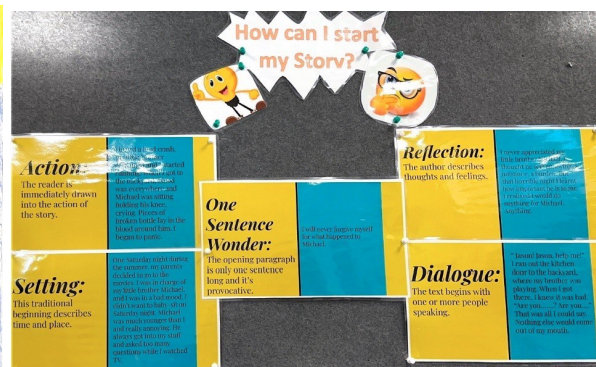
Last week in our Garden session we placed pots on our new vertical garden around the rotunda. Students did a great job of preparing the pots, filling them with potting mix and planting the seeds and seedlings. Some students did an excellent job of making hooks to hang the pots. Students learnt about the possible hazards of using potting mix and how to handle it safely and to clean up afterwards. We also planted some new plants alongside the new path. Students prepared the holes and made sure the plants were well watered in. This area is progressively being developed into a sensory garden, come in and have a look if you haven't seen it already.

F/1

In the F/1 classroom, we have started on our journey of learning about letters and their common sounds. Students have been introduced to three characters (Milo monkey, Ally alligator and Sally snake), and learned about the sounds these characters represent. Here are some of the Foundation and Year 1 students working on the focus sound /s/ last week.

**3/4**

In 3 / 4 the students have been busy creating and designing characters to use in their narrative stories. We then looked at the many different ways we could start our stories. We have practiced writing an introduction to our story using the various starters. We talked about making our start a sizzling start and how it needs to engage the audience.





Annual privacy reminder for our school community

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#).

Please take time to read our school's collection notice, found on our website

https://www.pyalongps.vic.edu.au/uploaded_files/media/collection_statementprimary_school.docx

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE / AMBULANCE COVER

As a public school, Pyalong Primary School does not provide any insurance for lost or stolen property for staff and students. We also **do not** provide any health insurance cover. In the event of an accident causing injury to a child we must call an ambulance to ensure the child receives proper medical attention. The fees for the trip in an ambulance will be payable by the family whose child requires care.

This is Department of Education and Training Policy.

Before and After School Care

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday—Friday 7.00am—8.45am

Monday—Friday 3.30pm—6.00pm

Bookings can be made directly with the office on 5785 1291 or by calling Mandy on 0403 357 962.

Pyalong General Store Lunch Orders

Lunch orders are available on Fridays only
A new price list/menu was sent home with newsletter 1.

Sun Smart Hats

All children are required to wear wide brimmed hats at school. **No hat = No Outdoor play.** Hats are available from the office for \$8.50 each. Please write your child's name clearly on their hat.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS Tuesday 19th March 2024

School photographs are taken once a year and include individual, family, class and whole school photographs. Money is collected in envelopes and paid directly to the photographers. Students need to be in full school uniform on the day.

Forms will go out later in February.

Drink bottles

Please ensure that your child has a drink bottle to bring to school each day and fill with water only as we **do not allow** children to drink cordial or juice at school (except for Friday lunch orders).

Breakfast Club

Thursdays from 8.00am

Starting Thursday 15th February

Items being served for breakfast will be cereal, toast with vegemite or honey, baked beans, fruit cups and milk.

Breakfast Club will be run by Brooke Maher.

EFT Payments

EFT payments can be made to the following account

Please quote your surname and brief description of what it is for, (eg: BASC)

Pyalong Primary School

BSB: 083644 Acct: 51579 0937

EXCURSIONS / ACTIVITIES

Fri 16th February—Halogen Young Leaders Melbourne Grade 6 Students

Thank you to parents club for paying for the entry of each student. Saving parents \$55/child

Speakers are

Anastasia Woolmer—Science/Environment

Bryson Klein—Sport

Jane Bunn—Media

Melissa Barbieri—Sport

Due to V-Line industrial action, we are now travelling by mini bus departing Pyalong Primary School 7:00am and returning to Pyalong Primary School approximately 4:30pm.

Cost \$20.00

A new permission form was sent home Monday.

Please return permission form by Thursday 15th February.

CAMP 2024 22nd to 24th April Grades 2—6 Billabong Ranch Echuca

2024 Camp for Grades 2 - 6 are heading to the Billabong Ranch Echuca. It is a 3 day camp including Transport, Accommodation, meals, and activities.

Activities include Orienteering, Low Ropes Course, Pedal Boats, Archery, Horse Riding, Camel Rides, Beach Volleyball, Bouldering, Bungee Trampoline's and lots more.

Total Cost of the camp will be \$380.00.

This includes all activities, accommodation, food and transport.

A non-refundable deposit of \$50.00 per student is required.

The balance can be paid off up until the 15/04/2024.



Please return permission form and \$50 deposit by Friday 8th March. 2024

TENNIS

Tennis coaching will start on Thursday 15th Feb

Lessons will be held on Thursdays for 5 weeks.

Thursday 15th Feb, Thursday 22nd Feb, Thursday 29th Feb, Thursday 7th Mar, and Thursday 14th Mar.

Students will walk to and from the Pyalong Tennis Courts.

This is a fully funded program through Sporting Schools.

Please return your permission forms by 14th February.

Tuesday 20th February

State School Spectacular Mass Dance Rehearsal

South Morang Primary School

Arrive by 9.45am Finish at 2.30pm

Parents to transport students.

Pyalong Netball Club**COME & TRY
TRAINING DAY****Tuesday 27 February****From 4.30pm****FUN GAMES****SIGN UP INFORMATION****MEET YOUR TEAM MATES****FREE BBQ SNAGS – DRINKS AT CANTEEN PRICES**

Year of Birth	Age Group
Prep and Grade 1 children	NetSetGo – skills-based games and training only (no games) Runs for term 2 only
2016	9 and under
2015	9 and under
2014	11 and under
2013	11 and under
2012	13 and under
2011	13 and under
2010	15 and under
2009	15 and under
2008	17 and under
2007	17 and under

**Boys now
included!****TRAINING TO COMMENCE TUESDAYS FROM 5 MARCH**

More information?
Contact Charleen on 0408 572 808

St. Patrick's Parish Kilmore 2024

After School Catechism Program.

Parents who have children in grade four or above wishing their children to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

There will be an information night on Friday 16th February at 6.45pm at St Patrick's Parish Centre Kilmore.

Please phone the parish office on Monday, Wednesday or Friday 10am – 4.30pm to book. Phone 57821084.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

If you applied for the CSEF at your child's school in 2024, you do not need to complete an application form in 2024 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- new student enrolments; your child has started or changed schools in 2024 or you did not apply in 2024
- changed family circumstances; such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2024

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

Conveyance Allowance 2024

Private car travel to the nearest school

To be eligible for conveyance allowance:

- Must be school age (between 5-18 years old)
- Must attend an eligible school within the conveyance area
- Must live 4.8km or more from the school by the shortest practical route
- Must attend the closest same type school as designated by Victoria Registrations and Qualification Authority (VRQA)

A private car or private bus conveyance allowance is not available if the journey could have been made using a Department-funded school bus or public transport service. Reimbursement is calculated on the basis of the one-way distance travelled.

Distance is measured by the shortest practicable route between the student's place of residence and their school.

The residential address should be based on the Rural Road Numbering System. Mailbox and PO Box addresses cannot be used. You can use Bing Maps as a reference: <http://www.bing.com/maps/>

A copy of the conveyance allowance guidelines are available from the <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/management/schooloperations/studenttransport.htm>

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE

If you live more than 4.8km from your nearest bus stop or school, you may be eligible for conveyance allowance. This is paid to the school and reimbursed to the parent to help with the cost of student travel to and from a student's nearest government school. Please ask at the school office for an application form. This payment is made at the end of each semester.