

8th October 2026  
T4, Wk 1

# THE LINK



## School Calendar

Week 1 - Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October  
Fri 9<sup>th</sup> - Greater Western Region  
Athletics Championships

### Week 2

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> - 7pm Parents  
Club, Staff Room

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> - Yr3/4 Ecolinc Exc

### Week 4

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> 10-2pm STAPS Art  
Show

Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> - 2.30-3pm Year 6 Tour  
at Secondary College

### Week 5

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov - Pupil Free Day

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> - Melbourne Cup  
Public Holiday

### Week 7

Mon 16<sup>th</sup> - Prep Trans

18/19/20 - Energy Breakthrough

Thur 19<sup>th</sup> - Robotics Challenge

### Week 8

Tues 24 & Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Year 7 Trans

Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> - Prep Trans

### Week 9

Mon 30 Nov-4 Dec - Yr5/6  
Canberra Camp

Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> - Prep Trans

### Week 10

Mon 7<sup>th</sup> - Year 7 Trans

Tues 8<sup>th</sup> - Prep Trans/Step Up

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> - Children's Fete

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 Graduation

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> - EOY Concert

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> - Last day

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> - Pupil Free Day

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> - Interviews by  
Appointment

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**RESPECT RESILIENCE KINDNESS HONESTY ASPIRATION**

# Principal's Report

## Bike and Scooter Track

Over the holidays our school had a bike track installed on the Air Strip. The track is about 360m long and is a nice firm compacted surface wide enough for two riders to comfortably ride side by side. The team at AP Earthmoving (Aaron Watts) have done an amazing job at creating some small jumps, some bends, a few tight corners and lots of long straight stretches for riders to enjoy at all stages and abilities. Without a grant of \$30,000 from Active Schools this project would not have been achievable - and it has been in the pipeline since this year's Year 10 students held leadership roles at our school and came up with the idea from the suggestion box! It's been an absolute joy to see so many students bringing their bikes, trikes and helmets to school so they can ride at recess and lunch time - some students are riding more than 10 laps in each break, making a total of 3.6km!! We really appreciate the effort that parents have gone to, to transport bikes and scooters for the kids.

## Canberra Camp payments

A reminder to families to ensure they are up to date with Canberra Camp payments. We aim for all payments to be finalised by the start of November, well ahead of the camp dates.

## Greater Western Region Athletics, Ballarat

Good luck to our 5 athletes - Chad, Georgie, Georgia, Rennie and Ella - heading to Ballarat tomorrow to compete in their individual events at the GW Regional Championships.

## Celebrating Our Energy Breakthrough Teams

We are excited to celebrate our students and staff who are preparing to represent our school at the upcoming Energy Breakthrough event in Maryborough this November. This program is about more than just event week, it is the culmination of dedication, teamwork, and problem-solving. For months, our teams have demonstrated commitment by showing up for twice-weekly training sessions. Our students have been pushing their physical limits, honing their skills, and mastering their roles. A huge thank you goes to the Mrs Weir and Riley who give up their time each week to mentor, train, and support these students.

In our second year, we are excited to celebrate our Energy Breakthrough Robotics team! Our programmers are gearing up for their focused competition day on Thursday, November 19, where they will navigate code, conquer the Mystery City Challenge, and put their Sphero robots to the test. Thank you to Mrs Wilson for her coaching of the Robotics Team.

To help all of our riders reach their potential, we have invested in a fitness trainer. This is already supporting students in twice-weekly training sessions, ensuring everyone is building their peak physical fitness and stamina required for event week.

An ambitious program like Energy Breakthrough cannot happen without the support of our wider community. We want to extend our gratitude to our generous local sponsors. Sponsorship directly allows us to grow the program each year by investing in improved equipment, like our new trainer, alongside tools and better resources for our students. By backing our teams, you are actively investing in hands-on STEM education and fostering the next generation of resilient, innovative leaders. We will be acknowledging our sponsors via social media in the coming weeks.

To all of our students and staff: your hard work is inspiring, and the whole school community is cheering you on. Bring on Maryborough!

# Principal's Report

## Parent Payments

Families who have outstanding Parent Payments are asked to finalise these as we head into Term 4. Your payment of these fees supports our school to provide low cost, high quality opportunities for all students. Thank you for your prompt response to this request.

## Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Cooking program

This term classes will cook in the even weeks of term, with 4 cooking sessions falling in Weeks 2, 4, 6 and 8 unless otherwise communicated by your child's teacher in their weekly email. Cooking class continues to be \$4 per session, paid fortnightly or \$16 up front. If you have any outstanding cooking fees to pay, please pop into the General Office where eftpos is available for your convenience. Our cooking program relies upon full payment to operate at the lowest cost to families. Your support with this matter is appreciated.

We are excited to see the fruit trees in the orchard bud and begin to show signs of the coming fruit we will be enjoying at school. A reminder to all members of the public that coming onto school grounds after hours and picking fruit and vegetables is not permitted - even in the holidays or weekends - it might look like we aren't using our produce but there is a lot of planning that goes into our menus to ensure we make the most of seasonal produce when it is available.

## Blue Tree Project

On Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October we are starting our Blue Tree Project with EWHS and Navarre Primary School coming along to paint their trees with us. The Blue Tree will be installed on school grounds when complete.

## Bush Fire Preparedness

St Arnaud Primary School is classified as a Category 4 Bushfire Risk school, meaning that bushfire preparedness is an important part of emergency management planning. While we hope that we never need to enact our bushfire procedures, we regularly review and practise our emergency plans so that staff know what to do should a bushfire threaten our school or the local community.

In the event of a bushfire or significant bushfire threat, the school will follow our Emergency Management Plan and Department of Education procedures. Depending on the circumstances, this may include monitoring advice from emergency services, implementing an appropriate response such as sheltering or relocation, and communicating with families as soon as it is safe and appropriate to do so. Families should be aware that, during an emergency, the safety of students and staff will always be our first priority.

Our school grounds are also maintained to a very high standard as part of our ongoing preparedness. We take particular care to reduce potential fire hazards through regular grounds maintenance, including keeping vegetation managed, removing dead or hazardous trees and branches, and ensuring that trees and vegetation are not overhanging buildings or creating unnecessary risks. These measures are part of our broader commitment to maintaining a safe, well-maintained environment for our students and staff.

We encourage families to make sure their own household bushfire plans are up to date and to remain informed about local conditions during periods of elevated fire danger. In an emergency, families should rely on official emergency services and Department of Education communications for the most current information.

# ROCKET MATHS



Aniyah Kinnane



Chloe Perko



A M



Louella Coloe



## EBT Wood Raffle

The Energy Breakthrough Woodraffle - an enormous trailer load generously donated by Jacob and Jasmine Vanrenen, raised over \$2500 and was drawn at Assembly on the final day of term - the lucky winner was Tricia Hines. Thank you to everyone who generously supported this fundraiser!

## Parents Club Meeting

Parents Club will meet at 7pm on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October in the Staffroom, all parents are welcome. Items will include Graduation, please contact President Brylea Knight if you have any questions.

## Playground Upgrade

School Council have been working towards the upgrading of the small play area. The old equipment was removed in T2, new underlay and river sand were added over the holidays, along with three huge fallen tree logs in and beside the playground and children are enjoying this early stage of the redevelopment. Next to come is a dry creek bed, planting and eventually a cubby house or two or three! A huge thank you to Jacob Vanrenen for the donation of underlay, fallen trees and the huge equipment that made it look very easy, and to Tori Jesse for her designing and organisation.

## Occupational Health and Safety Assurance completion

Our school has successfully completed the Occupational Health and Safety Assurance (OHS) Program. We received our school's Certificate of Completion, acknowledging commitment to workplace safety and successful completion of the OHS program. The OHS assurance program provides proactive support to confirm schools are implementing the department's OHS management system, consistent with the Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 (Vic).

The program enables schools to review current safe systems of work, identify safety management improvement opportunities, verify that they are providing healthy and safe workplaces and managing key safety and wellbeing matters. Each school will generally participate approximately every 4 years, depending on safety performance. Schools are selected based on each school's safety risk profile, previous OHS audit scores and time elapsed since last OHS audit.

Melissa Mitchell  
Principal

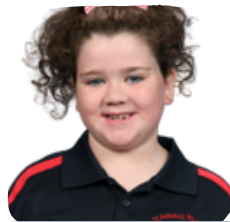
# VALUE AWARD WINNERS



P/1E  
Viv Polkinghorne



P/1E  
Isaiah B



2C  
Harlow Newton



2C  
Alistair Grahame



3/4A  
The Whole Class!



4/5W  
The Whole Class!



5/6T  
Issy Green



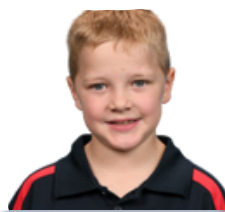
Health & PE  
Pippa O'Donnell



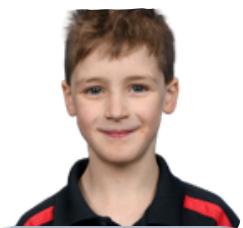
Art  
Ryan Thursby



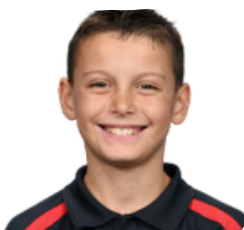
Art  
Rafe Kinnane



Art  
George Coloe



Art  
Loki Taggatz



Kindness  
Kayne Williams



Bakery Bucks  
Lewis Coates

ST ARNAUD PRIMARY SCHOOL IS A CHILD SAFE SCHOOL

# SILVER AWARDS



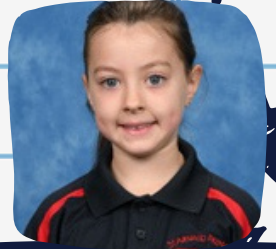
Alistair Grahame



Hugh Green



Skye Alvarez



Claudia Knights



Chad Polkinghorne



Ruby Salter



Aspen Wright



Calyx Canaria



Leeara Williams



Jack Jesse

# RUSTY'S HOME READING



Regular reading significantly enhances children's academic development by improving cognitive skills, boosting vocabulary, and fostering a love of learning. It supports academic success by strengthening comprehension, critical thinking, and problem-solving abilities.

75

Calyx Canaria

100

Maria Taylor

125

Bertie Jesse

150

175

200

Oakley Cook

ST ARNAUD PRIMARY SCHOOL

"IMAGINATIONS IN BLOOM"

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October

2 CHARLTON RD  
ST ARNAUD

ART  
SHOW

# MRS WEIR'S WELLBEING WONDERINGS



## Words of Wisdom

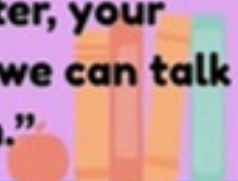


Blue Trees, standing across the globe are powerful symbols of mental health awareness - silent yet unwavering reminders that you're not alone.

On Monday the Student Leaders at St Arnaud Primary School will be bringing their dream of a blue tree to life.

These trees stand out and remind us to talk about how we feel and check that others are okay.

When you see a blue tree, think:  
"My feelings matter, your feelings matter, and we can talk about them."



## Weekly Quote



## Wellbeing Leaders



Zarleya  
Dunstan



Ella  
Wait



Maria  
Taylor



Mrs  
Weir



# Lunch Order Price List Parkview Bakery

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## HOT



- Steak Pie - \$5.00
- Meat & Vegetable Pastie - \$5.00
- Sausage Roll - \$3.50
- Party Pie - \$1.60
- Sauce Portions - 20c

Please write your  
order on a brown  
paper bag and  
include:

- Child's Name
- Child's Class
- \$ included

Children need to  
place this in the  
Lunch Order Tub  
upon arrival at school



## WRAPS, ROLLS & SANDWICHES

- Pizza Small - \$4.50
- Chilli Chicken Wrap - \$7.00 (Chicken Schnitzel, lettuce, cheese, sweet chilli sauce)
- Ham or Chicken Salad Roll - \$ 6.50 (Meat, lettuce, cheese, tomato, beetroot, mayo)
- Ham & Cheese Sandwich - \$4.50
- Ham & Cheese Roll - \$5.00
- Chicken, lettuce, mayo Sandwich - \$4.50
- Chicken, lettuce, mayo Roll - \$5.00

## DRINKS



- Water, 600ml - \$3.50
- Pop Top Juice - \$2.50
- Big M, 250ml - \$2.80
- Big M, 600ml - \$4.60

## SWEETS



- Hedgehog/Lemon Slice/Apple Slice - \$4.00
  - Muffin (assorted flavours) - \$4.50
  - Gingerbread Man - \$3.00
  - Jelly Slice - \$4.50
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St Arnaud Primary School

# Prep 2027

## TRANSITION PROGRAM



- Monday 16th Nov 8.45-11.20am  
Initial Classroom & School  
Orientation
- Thursday 26th Nov 8.45-11.20am  
Classroom & PE
- Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 8.45-11.20am  
Classroom & ART
- Tuesday 8th Dec 8.45am-3pm  
Whole School Step Up & MUSIC



Melissa Mitchell, Principal  
Ph: 54 951 028

[melissa.mitchell@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:melissa.mitchell@education.vic.gov.au)