

Newsletter 18  
Term 4, Week 7  
17/11/23

# Cape Clear Primary School

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello Everyone,

Thanks to Ms Glynn and students (and parents) for being so organised to keep up with the busy week of excursions this week. It was great to see our Grade 4–6 students out and about at BioLab on Monday and Earth Ed on Wednesday. From all accounts the students engaged really well and it was another great opportunity at Earth Ed to mix in with students from other schools. Another busy week coming up next week which includes the Life Ed Van, but all will be onsite.

Bushfire season is upon us and in this newsletter there is some very important information for all staff, families and our community to take on board. Of particular note is our school's preparedness and planned actions on days on Catastrophic Fire Danger. Please familiarise yourself with this information to protect the people and places that matter in our community. With predictions of a warm and dry summer with higher than predicted average temperatures, and below average rainfall from Spring into Summer, The information is pertinent to you at home just as much to us at school ... let's all be safe together.

The Australian Government is providing eligible families with no internet at home, a free National Broadband Network (NBN) service. Originally a 12 month commitment, the initiative has been extended meaning:

The period in which a family can nominate to receive a free service is up to 31 December 2024. The duration of free services will continue until 31 December 2025 for all existing and new families. If you think you may be eligible you can find more information at: [www.infrastructure.gov.au/ssbi](http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/ssbi)

Across the school this week and next week, teachers will be finalising student assessment to then prepare our end of semester reports. This is a very important task and one with which we view with great honour, to be able to confirm, share and celebrate with you the achievement of each of your children. We look forward to distributing final reports in the last week of term.

Have a great weekend,  
Lynly Doherty  
Principal

Respect  
Confidence  
Commitment  
Responsibility

### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### NOVEMBER

##### Monday 20th

-Assembly 2:45pm

##### Tuesday 21st

- Transition Incursion Gr 4-6

##### Wednesday 22nd

-Life Ed Van (Whole school)

##### Friday 24th

- School Council

##### Monday 27th

-Curriculum Day  
(Student Free Day)

#### DECEMBER

##### Monday 4th

-Grade 6 Big Day out

##### Thursday 7th

-Christmas Picnic 5:00pm

##### Monday 11th

-Bounce Excursion F-3

##### Tuesday 12th

-State Wide Transition Day

##### Thursday 14th

-Whole School Movies Excursion

##### Wednesday 20th

-Last Day Term 4 (1:30pm finish)

### 2023 TERM DATES

TERM 1: 30 January – 6 April

TERM 2: 24 April – 23 June

TERM 3: 10 July – 15 September

TERM 4: 2 October – 20 December

# Learning Updates

## Grade 4-6

### BioLab

On Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> November we went to BioLab to learn about our body. It was a one hour bus drive to BioLab in Geelong and we learned all about our sweat glands and evaporation. We used digital microscopes to locate sweat glands on our fingertips. We also saw interesting things on our fingertips with the microscopes such as ink, dirt and oil. After we exercised with music for three minutes we checked our skin temperature and it surprisingly had decreased. Our sweat glands had multiplied and got bigger under the microscope. We also observed our skin temperature on a thermal camera.

After lunch we explored a program called Sporty Maths where we exercised while learning about decimals. We recorded our reaction times on FitLights, which are round UFO-looking devices that light up with infrared lights and detect hand movement. We recorded our reaction times in thousandths of a second on number lines and compared scores. Our day was very interesting and exciting and we all learned something new.

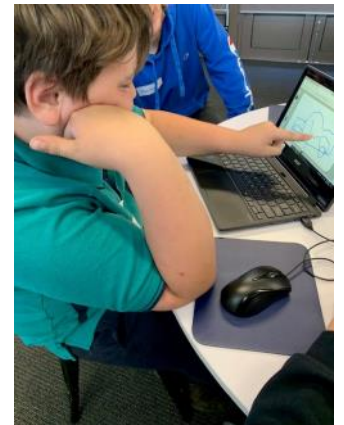
**Hunter, Shelby-Anne, Oliver B.**



### Earth Ed

On Wednesday we also went to Earth Ed in Mt Clear. When we arrived at Earth Ed we started learning all about AI (Artificial Intelligence) and ML (machine learning). They had set up some computers for us and we sat down with Meredith and Lal Lal Primary Schools. We watched a video about how people can deep-fake celebrities and they put Dwayne the Rock Johnson face over the face of Dora the Explorer. Though it was tough to talk to new students we're sure most people did give it a shot and did well. Overall, it was a great excursion.

**Grade 4 - 6**



# Art

Last week in Art, the students created artworks to commemorate Remembrance Day. We watched a video about the importance of Remembrance Day and some of the symbols they may see and recognise as a part of this day. Students created mixed media poppy artworks using watercolour paint for the backgrounds and materials of their choice to create the red poppy. It was fantastic to see the artworks come together and display a range of creative yet different artworks.



# Wellbeing Update



## Outside School Hours Care

This week the OSHCLUB children were adventurous in creating catapults and playing Pirate games such as walk the plank pirates treasure. We made our own pirates from clay, cooked some pirate grub, and created our own floating pirate ship. Next week we will continue with our planting activities. All welcome at OSHClub.

**Heather** - Coordinator Cape Clear OSHClub

## Chaplain's Word

### Signs of Caution

When we drive a car in Australia there are signs everywhere telling us directions, destinations, conditions, speed limits, and reasons for caution. The same can be said for people. Unless we are purposefully hiding our difficulties, we all have signs which tell others when we need to slow down, when there's reason for caution, and when we are struggling. If a family member is struggling one of the following then there is reason for CAUTION: Getting up in the morning, lacks motivation, has worry/anxiety over going somewhere, they are easily irritated or prone to tantrums, are struggling with sleep, have physical uncomfortableness or pains, withdraws from others, runs away or hides, and exhibits other behavior which is not usual for the child, then these are signs.

If you notice these things in your child then it's worth having a conversation, and taking the time to work out where these feelings are coming from. It's never just because they are going through puberty or have had a surge of hormones. There is almost always a second, or even third reason. Perhaps they feel worthless, or they hold the belief that they aren't good enough? Perhaps they are experiencing conflict with their friends? The reasons are endless.

The more we facilitate these conversations the more emotional intelligence we are helping to teach and form in our family members' lives. When we grow this emotional intelligence, we grow the ability to be able to self-correct, self-regulate, fix thought patterns, have intimate relationships, help to prevent mental health issues, and even function better in the workplace later in life. Let's read the signs people are giving us, and not ignore these warnings.



The Victorian Government is keen to get more children outside and active, connecting with nature and enjoying time in the great outdoors. Fishing is a great way to do that, which is why the State Government is investing \$96m to improve fishing, boating, piers and aquaculture.



Little Angler Kits are the perfect way for primary school aged children to try fishing. They include a rod, reel with line, tackle tray, some tackle and information on how to use them all. All grade 5 students are being offered a kit FREE this year.

The Victorian Government selected Grade 5 age students based on the Victorian Curriculum focus, movement and motor development, and safety considerations.



This year, unfortunately our visit from Australian Dental Health didn't go ahead due to staffing shortages. For next year we have decided to go with Smile Squad. Smile Squad is a Victorian Government program that provides free dental care to all Victorian government primary and secondary school students.

The friendly Smile Squad dental team will visit Cape Clear Primary School next year to conduct a free annual dental health examination for every student and provide free follow up treatment as needed.

### What do you need to do?

Nothing at this stage. Closer to the date next year we will send out more information and provide parent consent forms for those who wish to engage in the program.

In the meantime, we have provided smile squad dental packs. This week your child received a Smile Squad dental pack. The pack includes all the tools your child needs for good oral health – a full sized tube of toothpaste, a toothbrush and a brochure full of helpful hints and tips for a healthy smile.



# School preparations for the bushfire season

Each year, to prepare for bushfires and grassfires, schools and early childhood services complete a range of activities. The Department of Education runs an annual fire risk assessment of schools and early childhood services. They are allocated a category of risk (categories 0 to 4) and are published on the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR). Cape Clear Primary School is a BARR Category 4 site.

All schools and early childhood services listed on the BARR and Category 4 list will close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district.

When the Bureau of Meteorology provides public fire danger rating forecasts or fire weather warnings, they use fire weather district areas. In Victoria, there are 9 fire weather districts, which are based on Local Government Area boundaries. Our school is in the central district.

As part of preparing our school for the fire season, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan and reprioritised any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire and cleared our facility's grounds and gutters.

### **What does this mean for our school?**

- Our school has been identified as being at risk of bushfire or grassfire and is a Category 4 school.
- Our school will close on a day forecasted as Catastrophic fire danger rating in the Central fire district.

### **What is the department's policy?**

The department's Bushfire and Grassfire Preparedness Policy requires all schools and early childhood services on the BARR and the Category 4 list to close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district. All school bus routes which travel in or through a district with Catastrophic fire danger must also be cancelled.

### **When will our school be closed due to Catastrophic fire danger?**

Our school will close on a day forecasted as Catastrophic fire danger rating in the Central fire district .

Closure of the school due to a forecast Catastrophic day will be confirmed on the day prior and we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day. Any information regarding potential or confirmed Catastrophic fire danger days will be communicated to you by phone and at school pick up.

**Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, even if the weather forecast changes.** This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to be aware that:

- No one will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Catastrophic day.
- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days.
- All bus routes that travel through the Catastrophic area will be cancelled.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast for fire weather district in which the camp is located, or if the travel involves passing through areas that have Catastrophic fire danger.



Families are encouraged to action their Bushfire Survival Plan on Catastrophic fire danger rating days. **On such days, children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Catastrophic days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Catastrophic day.

### **What can families and the school community do to help us prepare?**

- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers.
- Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, checking our website and Facebook page and by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed due to elevated fire danger or closed due to a Catastrophic fire danger. Further information can be found on the [CFA's website](#).
- Action your family's bushfire survival plan if your own triggers are met. Our school community may be spread out across many areas and some families may be at higher risk than others. Your family's safety is critical, so please let us know if you are actioning your bushfire survival plan and if your children will be absent on these days.

If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan.

You can find more information on emergencies, warnings and preparedness actions here:

- VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices
- VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)
- Website <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>
- Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency>)
- ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters