

Principal's Post - Xuno Notifications - Parent Information - Student of the Week - Life is for Learning - Community News



## Diary Dates 2023

### TERM 1

30 Jan	Curriculum Day - Student free
6 Feb	Curriculum Day - Student free
22 Feb	District Swimming Championships
13 Mar	Labour day - <b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b>
21 Mar	Harmony Day
6 Apr	Easter Parade
6 Apr	Last Day of Term - Students finish at 1:30pm

### TERM 2

24 Apr - 23 Jun

25 Apr	Anzac Day - <b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b>
8 May	Mother's Day Stall
14 May	Mothers Day
18 May	School Photos
22-26 May	Lamonts Book Fair
25 May	National Simultaneous Storytime
2 Jun	Report Writing Day - Student free
12 June	Kings Birthday - <b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b>
23 Jun	Last Day of Term - Students finish at 1:30pm

### TERM 3

10 Jul - 15 Sep

	<b>SEALS Program Commences</b>
3 Jul	NAIDOC Week
19-26 Aug	CBCA Book Week
28 Aug	Fathers Day Stall
30/31 Aug	School Concert
3 Sept	Fathers Day
15 Sept	Last Day of Term - Students finish at 1:30pm

### TERM 4

2 Oct - 20 Dec

29 Oct	Grandparents Day
3 Nov	Report Writing Day - Student Free
7 Nov	Melbourne Cup <b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b>
5 Dec	International Volunteer Day Morning Tea
19 Dec	Curriculum Day - Student free
20 Dec	Last Day of Term - Students finish at 1:30pm

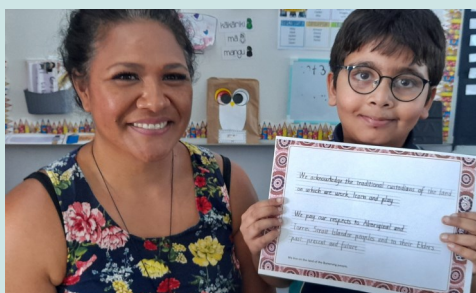
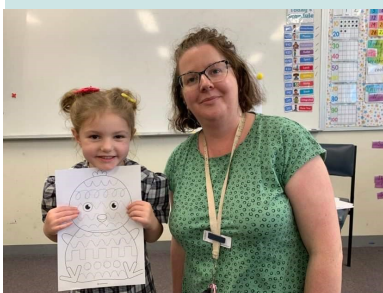
*In the spirit of reconciliation PHPS acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their elders past and present and extend that respect to*

# Principal's Post

## Welcome

I trust you all had a good holiday. Everyone appears to have settled well and engaged in their learning. Our School has grown this year due to a number of new enrolments. I would like to take the opportunity to welcome all of our new families to Pakenham Hills.

I am pleased to introduce 3 new Classroom Teachers to our team. Penny Eager (0E,) Xavier Maota (12X) and Sasha Conte (34C). I am also pleased to inform you that Clint Sezney has returned and will be our PE specialist teacher. A new classroom is being created for grade 4/5 students. Jonathon Joseph has been appointed and will be joining us next week, (more info to follow on XUNO).



This year our continued focus on Eudamonia and student wellbeing remains a priority. We continue to use the positive behaviour matrix, developed as a school-wide template for consistent student expectations. During the first weeks two weeks of term, our 2 curriculum days enabled all staff to attend further training around managing challenging behaviours.

To support our positive behaviour approach, parents are encouraged to download the "Class Dojo" app for further updates.

Last year, PHPS students demonstrated growth and improvements in Literacy and Numeracy NAPLAN results. A range of strategies and resources have been developed to sustain these improvements in students learning outcomes. (See pg 9-11)

Please ensure you have access to XUNO School Management app. This is an essential tool for teachers and parents communication for all notifications and the events calendar.

You are able to contact your child's teacher directly via the app as well as recording absences, providing payment and approval for events. If you need any help with getting XUNO set up, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Kind Regards

**Dale Hendrick**

**Principal**



## Xuno Notifications Sent

### IMPORTANT INFO REGARDING XUNO

Xuno is our main method of communication with families of students.

**Parents must have access to this portal in case of an emergency.**

Please download the app on your phone (download via Google Play or Apple store).

If you need help setting up, do not hesitate to get in touch with the Office for assistance, we will be only too happy to help: 03 59414436



# Parent Information



## 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:

[www.pakenhamhills.ps.vic.edu.au/school-policies/](http://www.pakenhamhills.ps.vic.edu.au/school-policies/)

We ask parents to also review the *guidance we provide* on how we use Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education, please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy — information for Parents](#) and Carers (on the School website).

*This information is also available in ten community languages:*

Amharic	Somali
Arabic	Sudanese
Dari	Turkish
Gujarati	Urdu
Mandarin	Vietnamese



## Dojo Points and Pakky Shak

Class Dojo is the app we use school wide to connect teachers with students and parents/carers to build amazing classroom communities.



### Create a positive culture

Teachers can encourage students for any skill or value—whether its working hard, being kind, helping others or demonstrating the School Values, “Be Safe, be Respectful, be a Learner.” The students are rewarded with “Dojo points.”

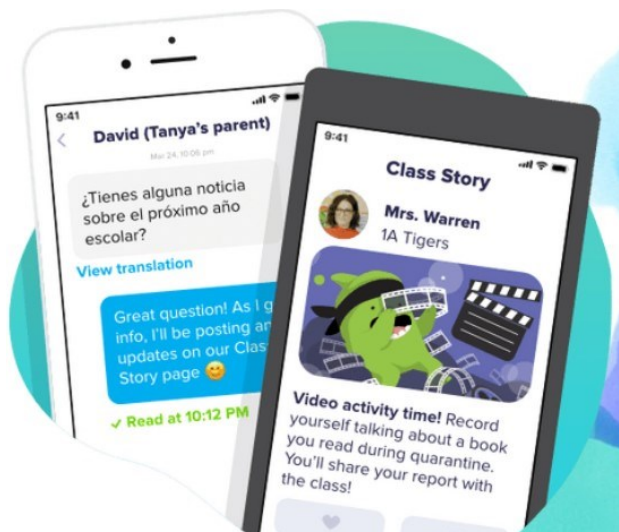
Dojo points can be spent in Pakky Shak on super rewards, more info to follow next issue.

### Share moments with parents/carers

We hope to engage with parents/carers by sharing photos and videos (permissions approved) of wonderful classroom moments.

Families will need to download the ClassDojo app from their App store. If you need help, please do not hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher.

(Classroom teachers may be contacted directly via our Xuno app).





# Parent Information



In primary school, some students **miss** on average **3 weeks** of school **per year**. That's **half a year** of school by the end of **year 6**.



## EVERY DAY COUNTS

Primary school attendance

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

### Why it's important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

### Getting in early

Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It's vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

### What we can do

The main reasons for absence are:

**Sickness** – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

It's vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term if it can be avoided.

**"Day off"** – Think twice before letting your child have a "day off" as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

**Truancy** – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent's permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don't fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.

- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child's school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

**For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:**

[www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx)



# Parent Information



## Volunteering at PHPS - Parent helpers

Volunteering at a school is a great opportunity to make new friends and connections and a wonderful way to make a difference to our School Community.

We provide you with any training needed and arrange a brief OHS induction in line with PHPS Volunteer Policies and Procedures. We ask that you have a current Working With Children Check.

<https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/>

## Volunteers Needed!



We are looking for helpers for the ***Mother's Day stall in May.***

We have had an amazing response from our families who have helped with book covering. There has been enough interest in this for it to be made a regular event on a Friday morning. (More info to follow shortly via XUNO).

**Thank you all so much for your generous support.**

## Working Bees

Working Bees rely on the generous support of our Parents and Community members. The Working Bees are purely voluntary providing a great opportunity to foster friendships and a strong sense of our School Community.

We would like to host a Working Bee to begin refurbishing the "Veggie Garden." We have plans to transform the space into a **Sensory Garden** and outdoor learning space. There is a team of committed Teachers and Aides ready to get started.

Don't worry if you have never been to a Working Bee we will show you how! Come and get your hands dirty while doing an act of kindness for our school.

We are particularly keen to hear from you if you have ground working equipment and relevant licence.

Please get in touch, via the link below or contact the Office for further information.



**To register your interest and availability:**  
<https://pakenhamhillsp.vic.edu.au/volunteers/>



# Notifications from First Aid



## Head Lice...They're Back!

Head lice do not transmit infectious diseases – they are transmitted by having head to head contact with someone who has head lice. You may be reassured to know that head lice are commonly found in places other than at Pakenham Hills Primary School. Head lice are common in school-aged children and are the most adaptable of creatures. They have survived living solely on humans for 10,000 years!

### What can you do?

I seek your cooperation in checking your child's hair and in those instances where head lice or eggs are found, treating your child's hair. Please visit [www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au](http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au) and search for "head lice (nits)" for advice on finding, treating and preventing head lice.

The school also has additional information available regarding treatment and controlling head lice. Please don't hesitate to contact me on 03 5941 4436 to obtain this information.

### If head lice or eggs are found on your child's hair you need to inform:

- the school and advise when the treatment has started, via the *Action Taken Form*.
- parents or carers of your child's friends so they too have the opportunity to detect and treat their children if necessary.

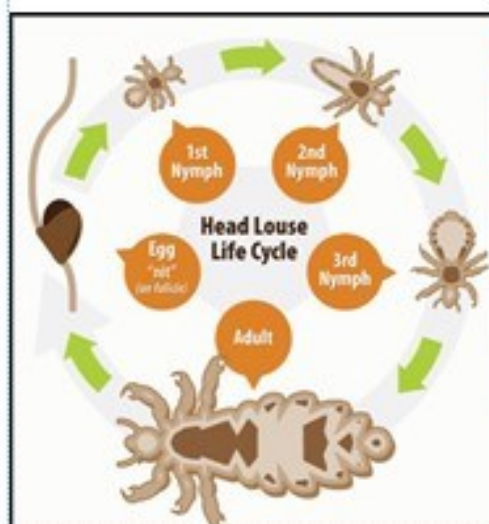
### When can my child return to school?

Health regulations requires that where a child has head lice, that child should not return to school until the day after appropriate treatment has started. Please note, this refers only to those children who have live head lice and does not refer to head lice eggs. More information about exclusion requirements can be found by searching for "school exclusion table" at [www.health.vic.gov.au](http://www.health.vic.gov.au).

Pakenham Hills Primary School is aware that head lice can be a sensitive issue and is committed to maintaining your confidentiality. When a student is identified with live head lice, our school provides the student with a note take home to inform their parent/carer that their child has head lice and exclude the student from school until after treatment has commenced.

Thank you for your continued support,

**Sue Bonaviri**  
First Aid Coordinator



# Student of The Week



	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
00A		Lily A	Arynsh S	
00E		Madison C		
00K		Kiah W	Madelyn Kelly	Raphael L
01OH		Ollie K		Phailin P & Junior H
12M	Finn B. Heather H, Mila H	Archer G, Stanley H		Sophie T & Karan S
12J				
12K		Frankie M-E, Jakob C		Aliyah I
12X	Heidi, Lyric, Aiyana-Rose	Maggie, Jayden	Afsa H	Mikaella C
12R		Zahra W	Daniella V	Bryce L
34C	Alex C	Franklin S, Dhiya S	Aryan J	
34L		Reef C	Amber L	
34M		Chelsea R, Lachlan E	Joseph L & Tyler R	
34W		Bonnie S	Jaimann T	
45B				
56D		Natasha E, Pepper G, Bonnie L, Krish S	Senuka S	
56L	Will H, Jaylee D	Ellie I		
56J	Ella A	Shaylah E		Brody S
Per-formi				
Visual Art		Aiva I, 34M	Bonnie S, 34W	
PE				
Auslan		Jaylee D, 56L	Ella S 34L	



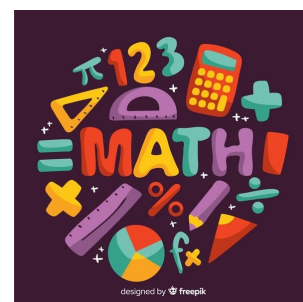
# Life is for Learning



## Curriculum Focus: MATHEMATICS & NUMERACY

Last year, the teachers at PHPS created a Vision Statement for Mathematics at PHPS.

The following is a summary of this statement which may be of interest to you.



### When students learn mathematics at PHPS, they...

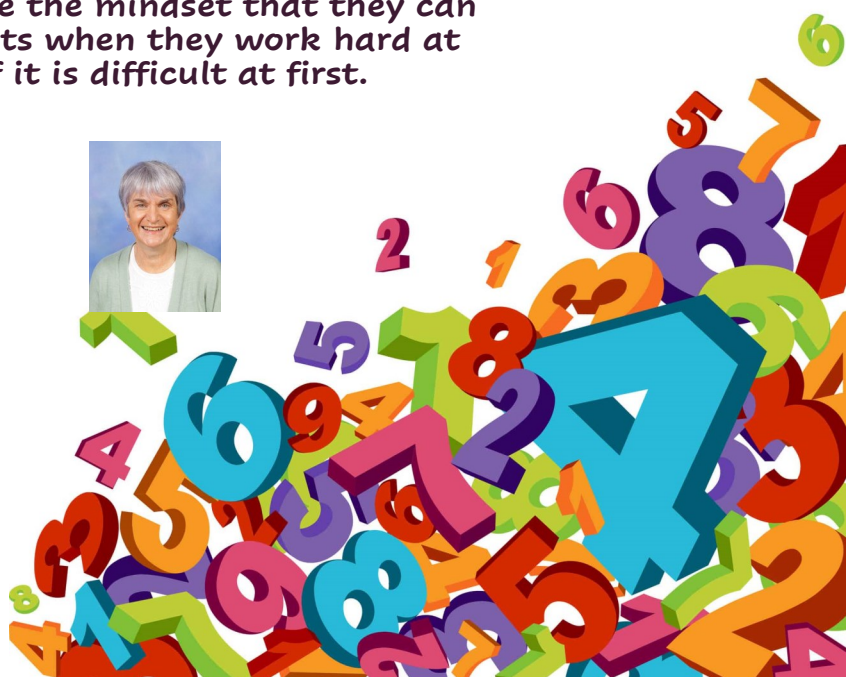
- ... think actively about mathematical problems and solutions
- ... feel comfortable making mistakes as part of the learning process
- ... keep trying even when the task is difficult
- ... offer their solutions and strategies to others and explain and justify their response
- ... listen to and learn from each other and work collaboratively to develop deeper understandings
- ... set learning goals for themselves based on reflection and formative feedback
- ... practise mathematical skills and strategies to build fluency and consolidate their learning
- ... have fun!

We hope that in 2023 your children will enjoy learning Mathematics at school and display some of these skills and behaviours at home as well!

**It is particularly important that you should praise struggle and effort; tell them "I'm impressed with that hard work" rather than "You are so smart".**

**This will encourage the mindset that they can achieve good results when they work hard at something, even if it is difficult at first.**

**Sue Slattery**  
**Maths Learning Specialist**





# Life is for Learning



## Curriculum Focus:

### LITERACY



## Ways to Help Your Child... Learn Phonological Awareness!

### What is Phonological Awareness?

Phonological awareness is the ability to recognize sounds in words. This is a key pre-reading skill.

What sounds do kids need to be able to recognize?

 Rhymes

 Syllables

 Individual letter sounds

### Sing! Read! Play!

- ✓ **Sing nursery rhymes.** Remember Jack & Jill and The Itsy Bitsy Spider? They help your child learn to hear rhyme so sing and say as many nursery rhymes as you can think of.
- ✓ **Clap the sounds.** You can do this one with syllables and individual letter sounds. Simply have your child clap, stomp, hop or skip the number of syllables or letter sounds (not actual letters) in a given word. Try their name, your name, short words, long words, anything goes!
- ✓ **Read Rhyming Books.** Read Dr. Seuss, Julia Donaldson, Eric Carle and many more great authors that write books that rhyme. Pause occasionally to allow your child to fill in the rhyming words.
- ✓ **Sing silly songs.** There are many songs that allow your child to play with the sounds in words. The Name Game (aka the Banana Fo Fana song) is a great one! Check out some of the websites below for more.
- ✓ **Build words.** Use Lego to help kids identify the syllables and letter sounds. Have them use one brick for each syllable or letter sound. How big is the tower? Which words have the biggest towers?

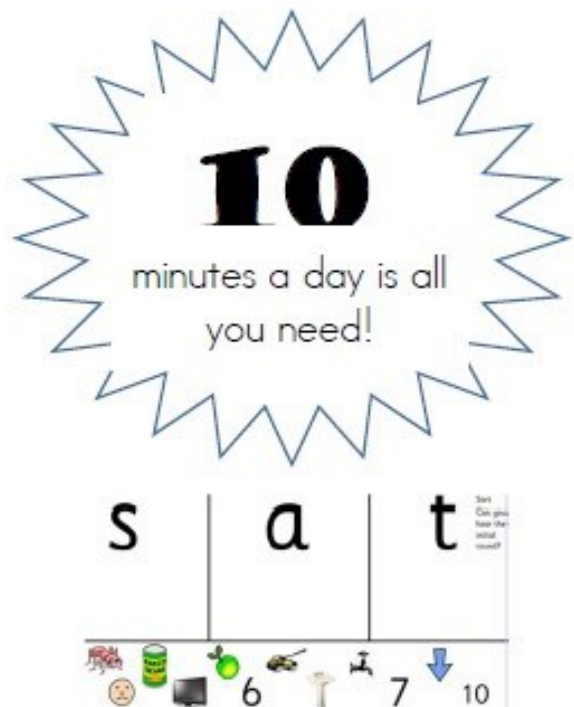
# Life is for Learning

## Curriculum Focus: LITERACY

### Don't Have Time?

Use these activities to fit practicing early reading skills in to your busy day.

- Sing rhyming songs while in the car (see below for links)
- Play I Spy using the first sound of the object (I Spy with my little eye something that starts with /b/)
- Play a deletion game - have your child say rainbow, then say it again without saying rain. Try other compound words!
- Use "robot talk" to ask your child for simple objects; break the word apart in to its sounds (b-a-g) and see if they can figure out what you're asking for



### Did You Know?

Knowledge of letter names and awareness of sounds in words (known as phonemic awareness) are two of the greatest early predictors of later reading success.


### Apps & Websites


 <http://www.notimeforflashcards.com/2013/02/picture-books-that-rhyme.html>

 <http://www.songsforteaching.com/nurseryrhymes.htm>

 <http://www.kidsongs.com/lyrics/the-name-game.html>

 <https://sites.google.com/site/faveapps/reading/phonemic-awareness>

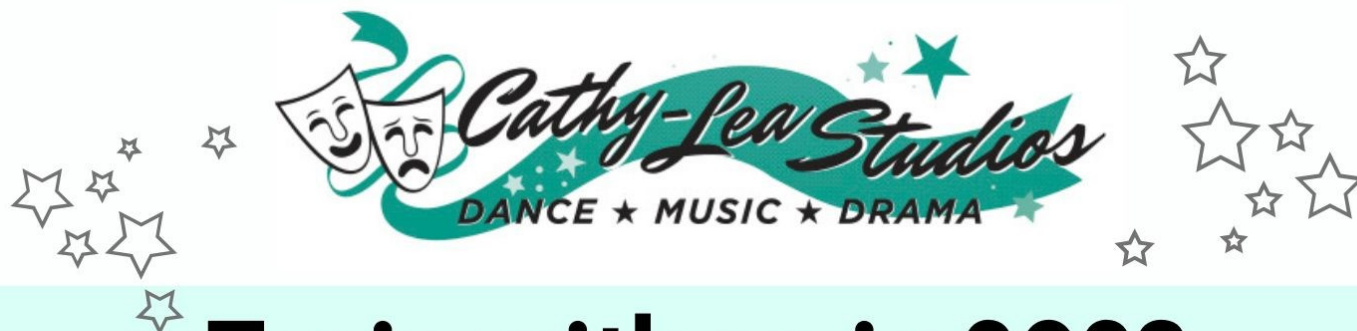
 PBS Kids - Super Why (app & website)

 ABC Pocket Phonics (app)



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# Train with us in 2023



## Dance Music & Drama classes

- \*All ages \*All abilities \*Free trial classes \*Fee discounts
- \*Recreational and pre-professional training
- \*Ready Set Dance \*VCE & VET Dance

## Creating stars since 1991



📍 5/15-19 Vesper Dve, Narre Warren ☎ 9704-7324

🌐 office@cathy-lea.com

🌐 www.cathy-lea.com

# Community News

[www.jpoundsmusic.com](http://www.jpoundsmusic.com)

## JP SOUNDS

MUSIC LESSONS + SOUND HIRE

### GUITAR & KEYBOARD LESSONS



**STARTS FEB 8TH**  
**EVERY WEDNESDAY AT SCHOOL**  
**ENROL: [www.jpoundsmusic.com/schools](http://www.jpoundsmusic.com/schools)**



# Community News



Karate (4-6 yrs, 7-12 yrs, Teens/Adults)  
at Pakenham Hills Primary School

**4 Weeks Training + Uniform - \$39.99**



- Confidence • Focus • Resilience
- Commitment • Respect • FUN!!

**Register Online Now**



Ph: 0467 049 139 E: [pakenham@allstarsdefence.com.au](mailto:pakenham@allstarsdefence.com.au)

Location: Pakenham Hills Primary School Gym - 15 Kennedy Road, Pakenham, VIC  
(enter via Glenvista Rd)

When? Friday After School Classes

**[www.allstarsdefence.com.au](http://www.allstarsdefence.com.au)**

*Fridays:*

*4:00pm – 4:30pm (4-6 yrs)*

*4:30pm – 5:15pm (7-12 yrs)*

**0467 049 139**



# Community News



## Drawing with Georgia

SAKURA CREATIONS  
PRESENTS CREATIVE DRAWING  
CLASSES



### Encourage your child to explore their creativity

**During Term 1, 2023 - Private Art Classes for children who are looking to develop their skills in the Visual Arts.**

**Where: Pakenham Hills Primary School - Multipurpose room (located same building as Gymnasium)**

**When: Tuesdays**

3:15pm - 4:15pm

Minimum of 6 students will be required for classes to run. Maximum 15 students.

#### **CREATIVE DRAWING CLASSES**

Emphasis will be on developing a wide range of drawing techniques. Classes encourage all students to expand and develop their own drawing skills. Students will learn composition skills, exploring perspective, colour and media. Classes are designed specially to develop your child's own personal drawing style. We will explore value, line, texture & shading while using different mediums such as pencils, markers & water colour.

**All materials are supplied.**

**Price: \$160.00 for Term 1, 2023**

**8 Week Program**

**8 Sessions (\$20.00 per session - per child)**

**Classes Start - Tue 7th February 2023**

**Last Classes - Tue 28th March 2023**

**To Enrol:**

Contact Georgia via mobile or email for an enrolment form. This will need to be completed & returned as soon as possible. Payment details are explained on the enrolment form.

**Email: sakurafp20@gmail.com**

**Mobile: 0410 900 109**

**Please contact Georgia for all enquiries**



# Community News



*We warmly invite you to our...*

## GRADE 5 & 6 OPEN NIGHT

THURSDAY 23RD MARCH 2023

5 PM - 6:30 PM

Our College aims to provide a quality education for all students :

- Friendly and Caring Environment
- Supportive Learning Communities with Modern Learning Facilities
- Extensive Sports, Music, Creative, and Performing Arts Programs
- EduNet's BYOD - Bring Your Own Device Program
- Compass Education School Management System

Alternatively, you can book a tour held each Wednesday at 11 AM for interested families that are unable to attend

For all enquires and to book a tour please contact Administration



03 5997 1444



[www.kwrsc.vic.edu.au](http://www.kwrsc.vic.edu.au)



[Koo.wee.rup.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Koo.wee.rup.sc@education.vic.gov.au)



[www.facebook.com/kwrsc](https://www.facebook.com/kwrsc)

Learn more information about:

- Transition from Grade 6 to Year 7
- Our Learning Communities and Facilities
- Excellence Program - S.E.A.L.
- School Bus Program
- Inclusive Education Program
- Extra-curricular Activities
- College Experiences



KOO WEE RUP  
SECONDARY COLLEGE



### Autism Spectrum: diagnosis, strategies, supports

Presented by Laura Sealey,  
Irabina Autism Services

- Comprehensive overview of Autism, neuro-diversity and ADHD spectrum
- Assessment and diagnosis - what is involved?
- Strategies and services for support.

**Date:** Friday, 14 April, 2023  
**Time:** 9.30 am - 4.30 pm  
**Where:** The ParentZone Hub, 75 Army Road, Pakenham

**ENQUIRIES:**  
[CECCardina@anglicarevic.org.au](mailto:CECCardina@anglicarevic.org.au)  
or call 0457 825 076

Register at:  
<https://forms.office.com/r/6XUmx2TFfw>



Official provider for the Australian Government,  
Department of Social Services,  
New South Wales and the Victorian Government.

PARENTZONE



or scan QR code

[anglicarevic.org.au](http://anglicarevic.org.au)

BETTER  
TOMORROWS



### Beyond the Violence- Pakenham

A Free 8 week program for women and children who have been impacted by family violence.

- Are you dealing with the after-effects of family violence?
- Does your child's anger or anxiety worry you?
- Can you identify the warning signs in a new relationship?
- Do contact visits unsettle your child?
- Do you feel alone?

**DATES:** Thursday 9th February - 30th March 2023

**TIME:** 4.00pm - 6.30pm

**WHERE:** Provided upon booking

**COST:** Free, Bookings are essential.

All enquiries contact - Carey Cole -  
0437 428 281  
[carey.cole@anglicarevic.org.au](mailto:carey.cole@anglicarevic.org.au)

PARENTZONE

BETTER  
TOMORROWS