FISHY NEWS NUMBER 21 RESPECT FAIRNESS COMMITMENT 16TH JULY 2026

Fishy News

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Principal's Message

Great to be back

It is great to be back at Fish Creek and District Primary School after an amazing term of Long Service Leave. I was fortunate to spend the time travelling around the west coast of Australia with my family, creating memories that we will treasure for years to come.

We were lucky enough to experience so many incredible highlights along the way – from crossing the vast Nullarbor Plain, relaxing on the stunning beaches of Western Australia, exploring the breathtaking gorges of Karijini National Park, trekking through the spectacular Kimberley region, and finishing our journey with a visit to the iconic Uluru. Australia truly is an amazing country, and we feel incredibly fortunate to have experienced so much of it together.

While I thoroughly enjoyed the adventure, it is wonderful to be back at school and reconnect with our students, staff and families for what promises to be another exciting term.

I would also like to extend a sincere thank you to Clare Ellis for her outstanding leadership while I was away. Clare did a fantastic job ensuring the school continued to run smoothly, and I greatly appreciate her dedication, professionalism and commitment to our school community.

Industrial Action

The Australian Education Union (AEU) has called on its members to take protected industrial action (strike) on **Thursday 23rd of July 2026.** This strike has been called due to stalled negotiations for a new agreement regarding pay and working conditions.

AEU members have until 8am on Tuesday 21st of July 2026 to inform me in writing of their intention to participate in the strike. As such, I will not be able to communicate to you the impact of the intended strike on our school operations until that morning.

NAPLAN

Individual NAPLAN results will go home with grade 3 and 5 students today. Students did a fantastic job and I was very proud of their efforts. As a collective school we were considerable higher than the average in 8 out of the 10 areas assessed (I will go through this further in upcoming newsletters). However, NAPLAN is just one form of assessment on a given day and should be used more as a guideline rather than the "be all and end all". If you wish to discuss your child's NAPLAN results please do not have any hesitation in getting in touch with me.

Shelley LSL

On Monday, 20th July, Mrs Shelley will begin five weeks of Long Service Leave. During her absence, the Prep/1 class will be taught by Mrs Sammy Zeller on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and by Mrs Amy Wallace on Tuesdays and Thursdays. They will also be supported by Mrs Murray in the 1/2 class to ensure continuity of learning throughout the term.

Mrs Shelley will return on Monday, 24th August. We wish her and her family a wonderful holiday as they travel around Thailand and hope they enjoy a well-deserved break.

Cheers,
Dale Banks

Fish Creek & District Primary School

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Fish Creek VIC 3959
03 5683 2271

Important Dates

July:

13th-17th NAIDOC week
17th - NAIDOC celebrationn day @ Fish Creek & District P.S
24th - Claymation - Toonworld Incursion

Primary Welfare

Donna Giliam
Phone: 03 9080 1881
email:
Donna.giliam@education.vic.gov.au

SCHOLASTIC
Book Club
orders are due:
Thurs 23rd July

Compass

Events needing to be actioned on COMPASS:

NAIDOC Celebration Day - **Whole School**

URGENT

Please remember to check here and COMPASS regularly

Book Club

Issue number 5 is being sent home today with this newsletter. Please return any orders to the office by Thursday of next week (the 23rd July)

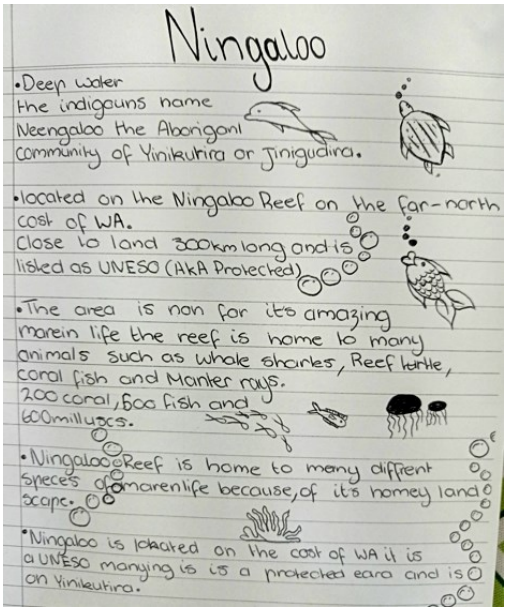
Bus Travellers

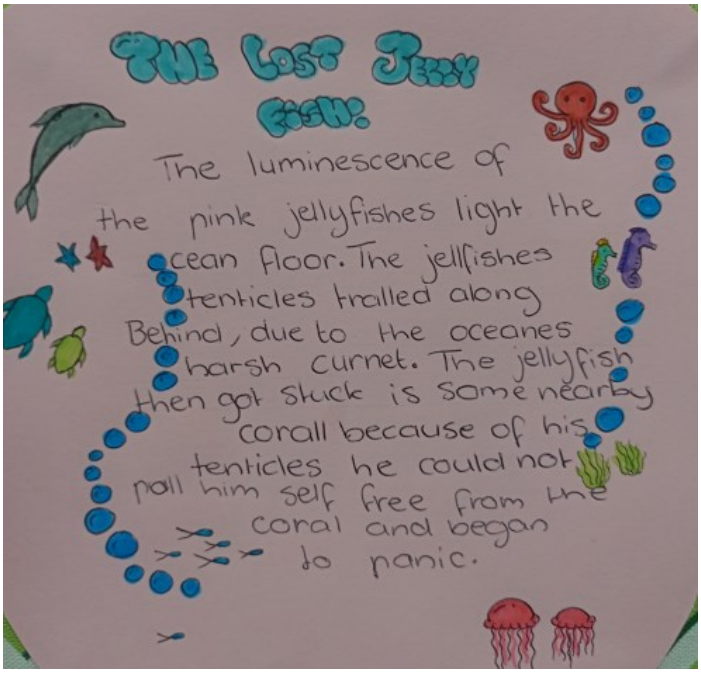
With the new term commencing, a reminder to parents of bus travellers to please let the office know of any changes, permanent or temporary, to bus travel arrangements. Permanent/regular changes must be submitted in writing to the office.

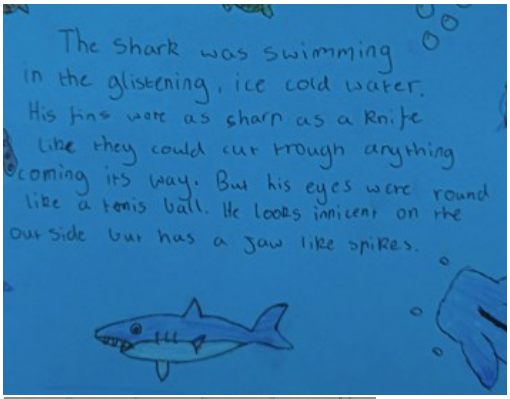
Late Arrivals/ Early departures

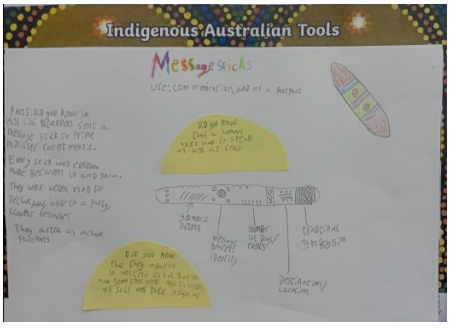
Just a reminder, students arriving late to school need to be walked in by an adult who needs to register the late arrival on the iPad at the office. If you are collecting your child early from school, please head to the office and record their early departure on the iPad also.

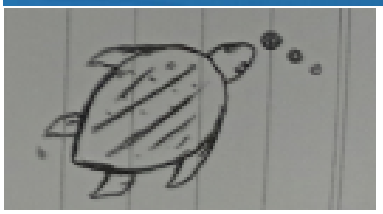
NAIDOC WEEK - Student Work

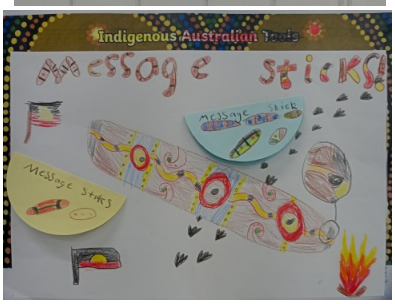


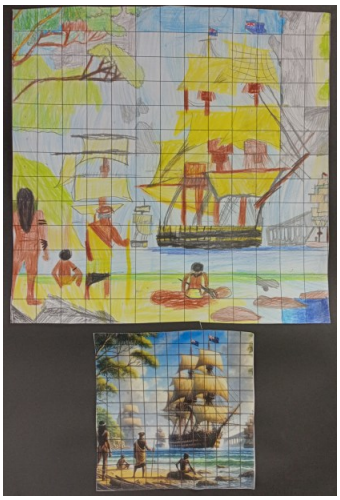


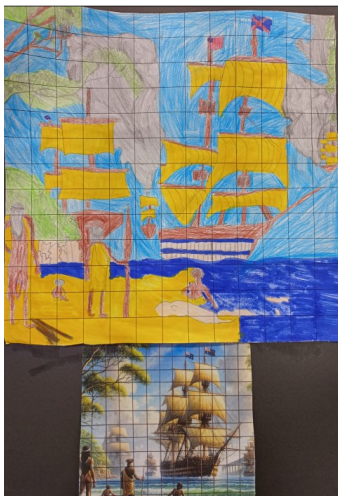












Welfare Report

A few years ago Mr Banks, Mr V (from Meeniyan Primary School) and myself attended a life changing professional development. We spent a number of days sitting in a yarning circle with people across the whole scope of education. The first thing we were asked to do was ‘leave our roles at the door’. Everyone sat in the circle with shared and equal power and then we talked about making our excellent schools even better.

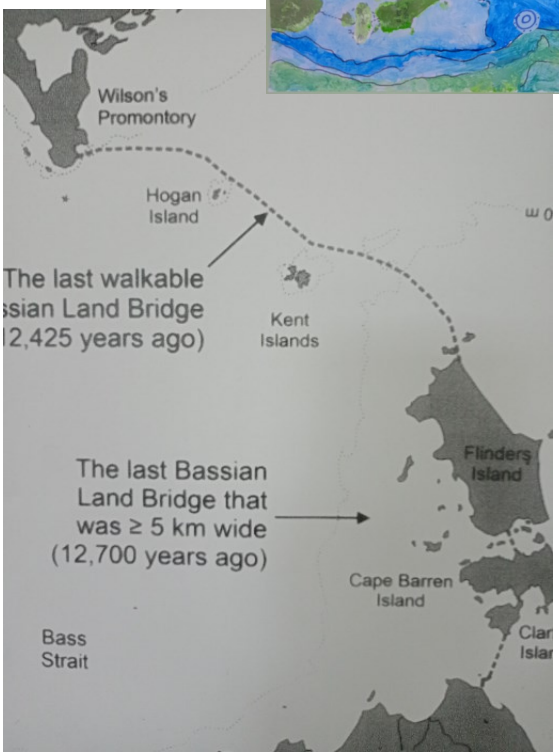
Somewhere in our conversations Mr Banks said, 'I want to take both our schools to The Prom for NAIDOC’ and I got goosebumps because this idea had been a dream of mine! To take a heap of kids out onto the beautiful lands to walk, talk and acknowledge Country and Elders – past, present and future (future being our first nation kids in our schools!!) was something I had only dreamt was possible.

Mr Bank’s seed grew into fruition and so, in 2024 we all went to the Prom. There was so much learning and connection that happened that day it made us want to do it again. So, last year we had all the kids from Fishy go over to Meeniyan for the day and we connected and celebrated First Nation excellence and had some fabulous guest speakers.

Tomorrow, Fish Creek are hosting Meeniyan Primary School, and it is shaping up to be a day of connection, celebration and learning. Teachers from both schools have some fantastic lessons planned and the kids will rotate through different activities. Including some tasters made by our fabulous parent groups and some tree guard decorating for Landcare Australia.

The grade 5/6 students will get industrious with a screen printer and if your child brings a blank named T-shirt of any colour into school our team of ‘grade 5/6 screen printing superstars’ will be able to print a spectacular art piece designed by artists: Jarrah, Oceaiana, Sailor, Lily, Josh, Scarlett, Emmy, Claire and Sophie.

Thanks, Mr Banks, for having a 'goosebumps' idea and thanks to our school community for giving it legs!

Donna Giliam
Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader and Marrung Lead
Fish Creek and Meeniyan Primary School.
Donna.giliam@education.vic.gov.au

Mrs Shelley has made preparations for one of the workshops tomorrow discovering how Indigenous people were taught pathways between Wilson’s Prom and Tasmania to find foods and warmer climates thousands of years ago.