FISHY NEWS NUMBER 22 RESPECT FAIRNESS COMMITMENT 30TH JULY 2026

Fishy News

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Principal's Message

Naplan

We are incredibly proud to share the outstanding NAPLAN results achieved by our students in 2026. Across Reading, Writing and Numeracy, our students demonstrated excellent achievement, with results highlighting the high-quality teaching and learning taking place at Fish Creek and District Primary School.

Our **Year 3** students achieved exceptional results, significantly outperforming both similar schools and our local network, across all three assessed areas (For you reference "similar schools" are schools from around the state that have a similar size and financial demographic, "the network" refers to all primary schools in the South Gippsland area) :

- **Reading: 89%** of students achieved in the **Strong or Exceeding** proficiency levels, compared with **69%** in similar schools and **73%** across the network.
- **Writing: 88%** of students achieved **Strong or Exceeding**, compared with **80%** in similar schools and **80%** across the network.

Numeracy: 89% of students achieved **Strong or Exceeding**, well above **69%** for similar schools and **70%** across the network.

Our **Year 5** students also produced some amazing results:

- **Reading: 100%** of students achieved **Strong or Exceeding**, compared with **74%** in similar schools and **72%** across the network.
- **Writing: 85%** of students achieved **Strong or Exceeding**, outperforming both similar schools (**68%**) and the network (**67%**).

Numeracy: 92% of students achieved **Strong or Exceeding**, compared with **72%** in similar schools and **71%** across the network.

Prep 100 days of school

On Tuesday, our Prep students celebrated the exciting milestone of **100 Days of School**. It was wonderful to see so many students dressed up for the occasion, with plenty of creative outfits helping to make the day extra special. We were also delighted to welcome parents and family members to join in the celebrations and share this memorable achievement with our youngest learners. The day was filled with fun activities centred around the number 100, giving students the chance to reflect on everything they have learned and accomplished during their first 100 days of school.

Congratulations to our Prep students on reaching this fantastic milestone!

Cheers, Dale Banks

Fish Creek & District Primary School

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Important Dates

August:

11th – Bug Blitz Landcare Incursion

Primary Welfare

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Compass

Events needing to be actioned on COMPASS:

VicSpell - selected students

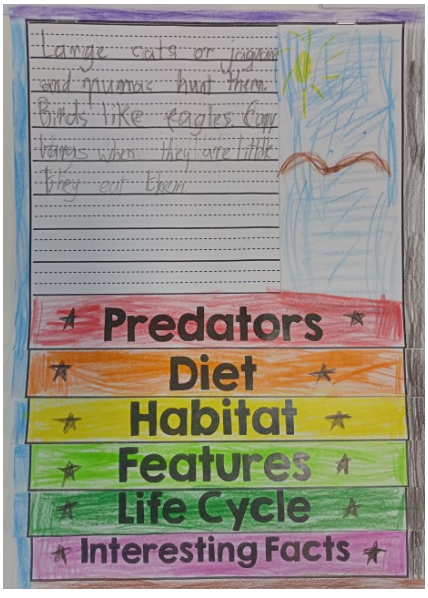
Please remember to check here and COMPASS regularly

Student of the Week 13-17 July

Student of the Week 20-25 July

Grade 1/2 Information Texts

The Grade 1/2 students have been exploring information texts in writing. They have been researching the habitats, diets, features and interesting facts about their chosen animal. They have also started creating a triorama to design an artistic habitat for their animal and will finish the unit with an oral presentation to the class. We can't wait to see how it all turns out!



Local Author Michael Hyde pays a visit

On Monday, students from grades 3 to 6 were lucky enough to participate in a writing workshop with published author and local, Michael Hyde. Michael took our kids through his planning process and how to develop stories from our own experiences. Through endless stories and tales of his own, students experimented with the five senses to describe what a setting might look like, its smell, taste, what you might hear and feel etc. It was great to see the kids so engaged and excited about their own writing. Thankyou Michael.

Welfare Report

Friesian is my dad's first language; Dutch is his second and English, his third. Most people would not know that – unless they are one of his children and it is a curriculum day and his children think 'Great- today I am going to sit on the couch and read my book all day' and dad comes in and he says 'Books down you blokes, today is a working bee' and we say, 'Dad we just want to read today' and he says 'NO, all you blokes ever do is read' and we say 'Dad we are your daughters, not 'blokes' and isn't it good that we read?' And he would pause and say 'After the lawns or the lamb marking or the leaf raking' or what ever it was he wanted us 'blokes' to do.

Despite all these annoying disruptions to our reading, us 'blokes' (my siblings and I) all became very good readers, we also became pretty good story tellers. My sister and I on paper and my brother, the campfire variety.

HOWEVER, I am a terrible speller, this, for a long time, limited me when I was writing – I was always looking for a word I could spell – rather than the word I wanted to use. It limited me in other ways too. I took a very long time to do my teaching degree and part of that was the murmur in the back of my mind saying, 'You can't be a teacher, if you can't spell – shame on you for even dreaming this'.

That is, until the day I was doing my teaching rounds at Foster Primary School. At recess we had a morning tea for a teacher who had been an excellent well loved educator for 35 years. In the following session a student from his class came into my class and said, 'Mr Webster wants to know if cantaloupe starts with a k or a c'. That magic moment taught me that teaching is so much more than being good at the spelling and the maths and the full stops.

That moment taught me that knowing how to ask the question and fix the mistake was more important than memorising the word. That moment told me to get out there and teach, to get out there and write – ask the questions, read all the books, listen to the story, fix the mistakes and slowly learn the words.

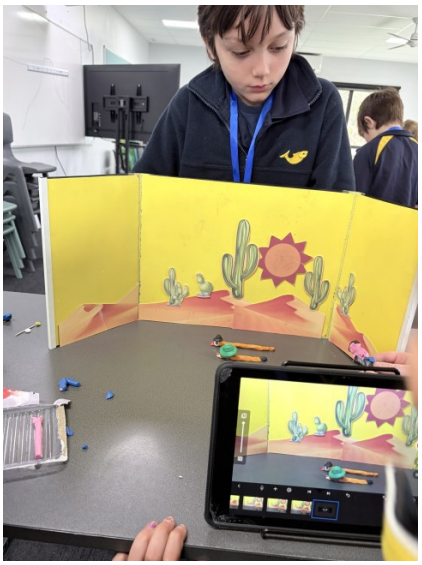
I love writing and I love teaching – spelling is a work in progress, but I am happy that it did not get in the way of the writing and the teaching!

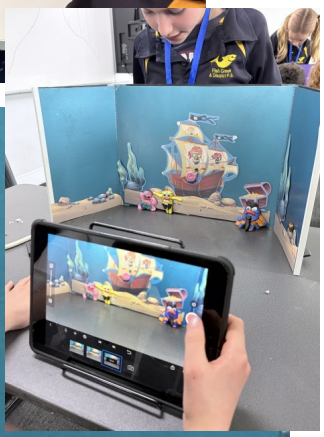
Donna Giliam
Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader and Marrung Lead
Fish Creek and Meeniyan Primary School.

Images from NAIDOC Celebration Day

Toonworld Stop Motion Incursion

On Friday 24th July, our students enjoyed a fantastic Toonworld incursion, where they stepped into the exciting world of stop-motion animation. Working in small groups, students created their own clay characters and sets before bringing their stories to life one frame at a time. They also had the opportunity to direct their own movies, record voice-overs and add sound effects, making each production unique and creative. It was wonderful to see students collaborating, solving problems and using their imaginations throughout the day. A big thank you to Toonworld for delivering such an engaging and hands-on learning experience that combined creativity with digital technology.





More Images from NAIDOC Celebration Day

MARC Library News

Term 3 in MARC library begins with excitement as we start to delve into the books shortlisted for the CBCA book of the year. This year we celebrate a 'Symphony of Stories', sharing titles which encourage thoughtfulness about the author's purpose, the use of schema to broaden connections and consideration of the main idea. Above all, the books shortlisted engage and support our students' love of literature and encourage some wonderful discussion as students attempt to explain their preference for titles and justify their favourite for book of the year.

Upon the conclusion of Children's Book Week for 2026, each class will be undertaking an author study. Each week in MARC library we will feature another title or two by the same author, students will also watch video clips and read interviews with their author as they look more deeply into what characterises their style.

In Term 3 our preview of learning looks like this:

Week	Junior	Middle	Senior
1-6	CBCA – Picture Book of the Year Shortlisted titles in this category will be read and classes will vote on their book of the year.	CBCA – Eve Pownall Award for best Non-Fiction Book. Students will cast their votes for the book they feel is 'best'.	CBCA – Fiction for Younger Readers Students will share the blurbs and first chapters of shortlisted books.
7	Book Week – Exploring the theme – 'A Symphony of Stories'		
8-10	Author Study – Anna Walker	Author Study - Phillip Bunting	Author Study – Claire Saxby

Yours in reading and learning,
Sophie Callcott & Anda Banikos