



UPCOMING

- Friday, 1st May
Division Athletics
- Wednesday, 6th May
SGSSSA Cross Country
- Friday, 8th May
Mother's Day Breakfast
- Wednesday, 13th May
School Council
- Wednesday, 20th May
Mr. Snotbottom
Regional Arts Victoria
- Tuesday, 26th May
National Sorry Day
- Wednesday, 27th May
School Photos
- Wednesday, 27th May
Simultaneous Storytime
- 27th May - 3rd June
National Reconciliation
Week
- Monday, 8th June
Public Holiday
- Wednesday, 17th June
School Council
- Friday, 26th June
Last day of Term 2, 2.30
finish

Principal's Report

It has been a busy and rewarding start to the term, with our students engaging in a range of valuable learning experiences both within and beyond the classroom.

Grace's class recently enjoyed a visit to Dartmoor Primary School, where they joined with their students and Year 10s from Heywood District Secondary College for a fantastic games day.

This was a wonderful opportunity for our students to build connections, develop teamwork skills, and enjoy some friendly competition in a supportive environment.

All students proudly represented our school at the Tappoc Cross Country held in Peshurst. It was great to see every student participate with enthusiasm and determination. Events like these highlight not only physical fitness, but also resilience and sportsmanship: qualities we are always proud to see in our students.

We also came together as a school community to hold a meaningful ANZAC service. Our students demonstrated great respect as they reflected on the significance of this important occasion, honouring those who have served and sacrificed.

Students have been working with Bec to explore Budj Bim's Six Seasons. This learning has provided rich opportunities to deepen students' understanding of Indigenous perspectives and the connection between people, culture, and the environment.

Finally, we wish our Grade 6 students all the very best as they represent our school at Division Athletics this Friday. We are proud of their efforts and know they will do their best.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support.
Miss Nat



(03) 5578 6253

Find us on Facebook

<http://www.bwcs.vic.edu.au/>

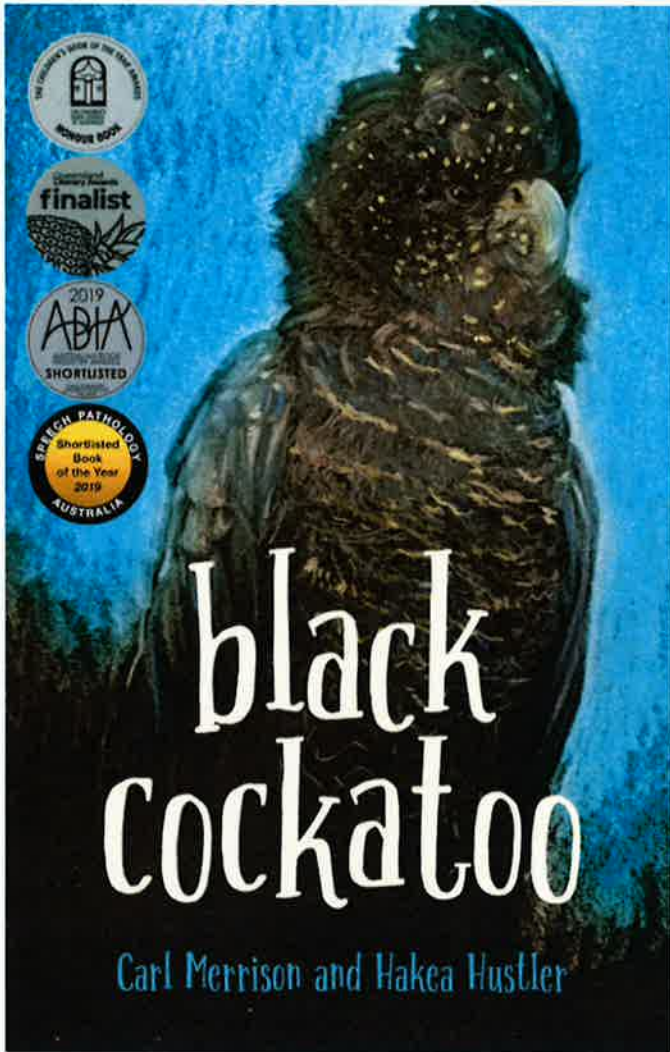
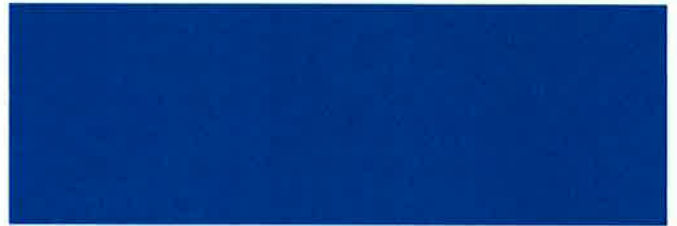
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Senior Room

We are currently exploring the novel *Black Cockatoo* as our focus text. Set in a small Australian town, the story follows Mia as she uncovers hidden histories and learns about truth, respect, and cultural understanding.

As part of our learning, students are developing their character analysis skills by closely examining how Mia changes throughout the story. We are exploring her thoughts, actions, and relationships, and using evidence from the text to explain how and why her character grows. This work is helping students build deeper comprehension, strengthen their ability to justify ideas, and engage thoughtfully with important themes.

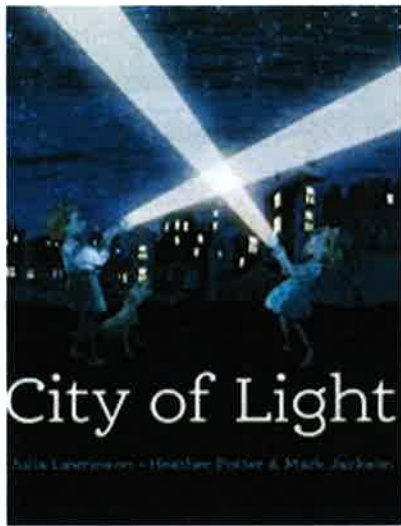


Numeracy

In Numeracy, we are currently focusing on fractions. Students are building their understanding of how fractions represent parts of a whole, as well as learning to place and compare fractions on number lines. We are also exploring the connection between mixed numbers and improper fractions, using hands-on materials and visual models to support understanding.



Junior Room

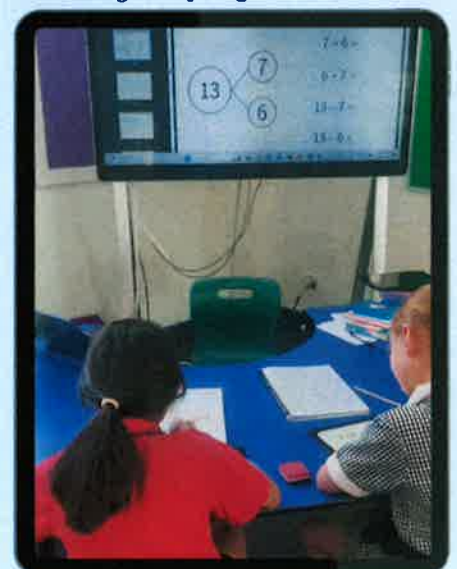
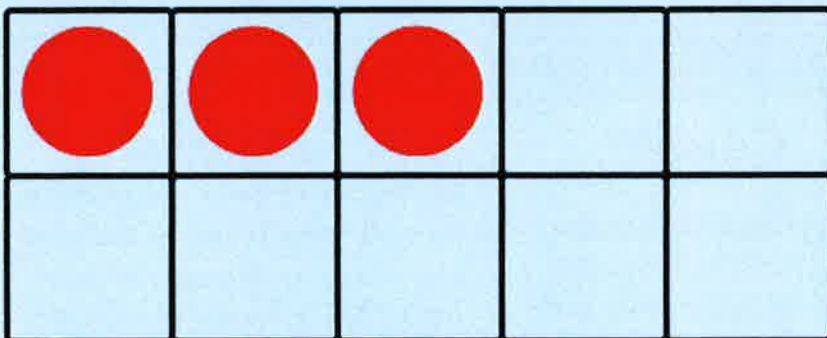


In Literacy students have engaged in meaningful learning around ANZAC Day, exploring its significance through rich texts, symbols and reflective discussions that have built their understanding of history, remembrance and respect. We are now exploring a class text: *City of Light*, which re-tells the actions of the residents of Perth who created 'The City of light' for astronaut John Glenn who was the first American to orbit the Earth.



Numeracy

In Numeracy we have started using the Explicit Maths Program (EMP). Group one are focusing on counting to 20, number formation, ordinal numbers and using ten frames to represent numbers. Group two are focusing on addition and subtraction fluency, plus two digit addition and subtraction with no regrouping.



Cluster Games at Dartmoor

On Wednesday the 29th of April, Miss Grace's class headed to Dartmoor Primary School for a games day.



Nate

My favourite game was Capture the Ball. The aim of the game was to get the ball on the other team's side of the court while they tried to stop you. It was my favourite because I thought I was good at defence and was able to stop the other team from getting the ball.



Kristianna

My favourite game was Yoshi. In that game, we had to try to get to the other baseline against another team. If you got tagged, you had to crouch down. To win, your team needed the most players across the baseline when the timer went off. It was my favourite because I enjoyed working as a team and trying to get past the other players.



Robert

My favourite game was Time Tag. The aim of the game was to tag people on the other team as fast as we could. The winner was the team that tagged everyone the fastest. It was my favourite because it was one of the first games, and I could warm up.



Hunter

My favourite game was Capture the Ball because we had to use strategies as a team to win. We won the game once, and I think I worked well with my team during Capture the Ball.



Cooper

My favourite game was also Capture the Ball. It was my favourite because I was the only one who got the ball twice, helping my team win the game.



Maddie

My favourite game was Aussie Pursuit. In that game, all three teams competed against each other. The aim was to run laps of the track and try to overtake the other teams. It was my favourite because I like to run, and I was able to overtake two teams.

Women in War

In Humanities, we explored ANZAC Day by learning about the significant contributions of women in wartime. Students investigated individual stories to better understand the diverse roles women played and the lasting impact of their service.

Elsie Inglis



Elsie is studied for ANZAC Day because she helped soldiers in World War I. She showed bravery and care, and led teams that included Australian and New Zealand nurses.

Nancy Wake



Nancy Wake was born in New Zealand and grew up in Australia. She was a brave World War II spy who helped people escape and was called the “White Mouse.”



**Vivan
Bullwinkel**



Vivian Bullwinkel was an Australian nurse in World War II. She survived an attack by enemy soldiers on a group of nurses and showed great bravery, later sharing their story so people would remember them.

**Marion Leane
Smith**



Marion Leane Smith was the first known Aboriginal Australian nurse to serve in World War I. She cared for injured ANZAC soldiers in hospitals in Egypt and England. She showed bravery and kindness, helping others even when times were very hard.

**Alice Ross
King**



Alice Ross-King was from Australia. She was a brave World War I nurse who cared for soldiers near the front lines. When a bombing raid hit her hospital tents, she kept working to help the injured. She later received many medals for her bravery.



Science

Kitchen Science was the focus during week 1. Students made Anzac biscuits and the aim was to create biscuits with a light and chewy texture. When baking soda mixes with the melted butter / golden syrup mixture, a chemical reaction occurs, forming carbon dioxide (CO₂). Carbon dioxide is a gas – the same gas that makes fizzy drinks all fizzy – and this is what causes the mixture to froth up and become light in texture. Cooking time also comes into play - longer cooking time results in a less chewy texture.



Vale Mrs Griff

The staff, students and families of the Braxholme Wallacedale Community School extend our heartfelt condolences to the Griffiths family. Mrs Griff was a valued member of our community, whose presence, kindness, and contributions will be remembered.



Thank you

Thank you Nev Roberts for whipper snipping around the Anzac garden and along the front of the school to have it looking neat and tidy for the ANZAC Service.

TAPPOC Cross Country

Students participated in the Tappoc Cross Country at Penshurst on Thursday.



Berry Street Education Model - Relationships

Qualities Of A Good Friend

Lasting bonds and meaningful connections require time and effort. Here's what you should keep an eye on.



01. Trustworthy
A good friend is someone you can always rely on and is honest with you.



03. Empathetic
A good friend listens to your concerns, shares in your joys and sorrows, and tries to see things from your perspective.



05. Reliable
A good friend is dependable. They follow through on commitments and are there when you need them.

02. Respectful
A good friend respects your boundaries, opinions, and values, even if it differs from their own.



04. Loyalty
A good friend stands by your side and prioritizes your friendship even when you face challenges.



06. Positive
A good friend makes you feel better through humor, enthusiasm, or support.



Students have been challenged to think deeply about what they value most in a friendship and the helpful qualities they look for and appreciate in others.



BERRY STREET

Proudly part of
Berry Street Yooralla

Building empathy



Branxholme Wallacedale Community School is a Child Safe school

Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture

Branxholme Wallacedale Community School is committed to making child safety part of everything we do.

We openly commit to keeping children safe. You'll see and hear this in our policies, communication, and everyday practices. Everyone plays a role. From staff, volunteers, students, and families, we all work together to create a safe and respectful environment. Strong leadership and clear systems are in place. Our policies and decision-making processes support child safety at every level of the school. We have clear expectations for behaviour. All staff and volunteers follow a Code of Conduct so they understand how to act appropriately and responsibly around children. We actively manage risks. We look for possible risks to children's safety and take steps to prevent and address them. We handle information carefully. Staff and volunteers are trained to share information and keep records in ways that protect children and meet legal requirements.

Child safety isn't just a policy, it's part of our school culture, guiding how we lead, act, and care for every child, every day.



Hi Families,

This week in our Empathy lesson, we explored the positive benefits of helping others and acts of kindness for both the helper and recipient. We engaged in dramatic play, crafting and creating comic strips, and discovered that we can look for opportunities to help others in need wherever we go.

Developing empathy helps us to identify, understand and feel what another person is feeling. When we practise empathy by doing something kind for someone else, our brain releases oxytocin. This results in an increase in our self-esteem, confidence, energy levels, positivity and overall happiness.

TRY IT AT HOME FAMILY ACTIVITY:
HELPING HANDS

YOU WILL NEED:

- Time together as a family.
- Blank piece of paper.
- Pencils and textas.

WHAT TO DO:

- As you are sitting around as a family, discuss the different ways you could help each other out at home (this could be helping to set the table, making your own bed, helping to cook dinner, etc).
- Have each family member trace around their hand on a blank piece of paper.
- On each finger, invite them to write a way they could help around the house. This means each person would have five things they could do to help around the house.
- On the palm of the hand, have each person draw how they would feel when helping each other around the house.

As a family, make a pledge to carry out these tasks for the week (or beyond).

Family Empathy habit builder:

When you are sitting around the dinner table, discuss what acts of kindness each family member has done that day or week. Talk about how it made them feel.

We would love to see what you are doing at home. Please share some photos or let your child's teacher know what you have enjoyed.

JOIN US FOR

  
MOTHER'S

 DAY


BREAKFAST



FRIDAY 8TH MAY
8.45 A.M



B.W.C.S MULTI PURPOSE
ROOM



Many new items have been added to both boxes recently - thankyou to those people who have donated items! Please remember these items are there for anyone in the community to make use of.

Give what you can, Take what you need!

Donations much appreciated



GOOD LUCK COOPER, KRISTIANNA AND ROBERT



2026 SCHOOL SPORT VICTORIA DIVISION TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS WARRNAMBOOL

Please get in touch if you would like to place an ad for your business or event in our newsletter.

	1/8 page	1/4 page	1/2 page	Full page
1 edition	\$5	\$10	\$15	\$30
5 editions 1 term	\$22	\$45	\$67	\$135
10 editions	\$42	\$85	\$127	\$255
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kids
help
line

Call Us! **1800 55 1800**

We're here to talk 24/7
Every day and night.

 **1800 55 1800**

*We're here for you. Any time. Any reason
Talking helps!*

*No problem is too big or too small.
24 hours a day, 7 days a week.*

Acknowledgement of Country

We would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land; the Gunditjmara people, who have cared for this area for over 60 000 years.

We pay our respects to Elders past and present. Kurtuk-Kurtuk, meaning sisters, is the traditional place name for Branxholme.

The Branxholme area is home to the Direk Gunditj clans of the Gunditjmara Nation.

We have beautiful plants, trees and animals.

There are gum trees, emus, kangaroos and red and yellow tailed cockatoos surrounding us every day.

We are especially proud of the rare native plant called the dianella, which grows around Kurtuk-Kurtuk.

The land we are on now, the land where we live, learn, breathe, eat, and sleep:

Always Was, Always Will Be! Aboriginal land!

Written by the students of Branxholme Wallacedale Community School