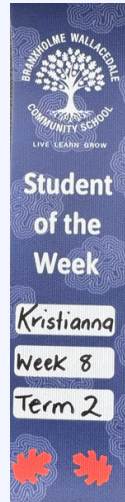


IMPORTANT DATES

- Monday, 15th June
Elder Abuse Awareness Day
Refugee Week
- Wednesday, 17th June
School Council
- Saturday, 20th June
World Refugee Day
- Monday, 22nd June
Reports go home
- Wednesday, 24th June
Student Led Interviews
- Thursday, 25th June
Macarthur Performance
- Friday, 26th June
Last day of Term 2, 2.30 finish
- Monday, 6th July
NAIDOC Week
- Monday, 13th July
Term 3 begins
- Friday, 31st July
National Tree Day
- Tuesday, 4th August
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day
- Wednesday, 12th August
International Youth Day
- Tuesday, 18th August
TAPPOC Science Event
- Wednesday, 19th August
World Humanitarian Day
- Wednesday, 26th August
TAPPOC Book Week Event
- Thursday, 27th August
Excursion to Warrnambool Art Gallery and Salt Restaurant Masterclass
- Friday, 4th September
BioLab for Grades 5 & 6
- Friday, 11th September
R U OK? Day

An interview with...

Kristianna



What is your favourite book, movie, or TV show and why? My favourite movie is *The Grinch* because the Grinch is a very funny character and I like impersonating him.

What is the funniest thing that's ever happened to you? When I was with my friend, we were walking down the street, and a person came past on their scooter, and he looked at us weirdly and we laughed so hard we fell into an old man's bush!

If you could only eat one food for the rest of your life, what would it be? Probably chicken fried rice.

What is the best thing you have learned how to do? How to canter on a 16.5 hand horse

What is your favourite game to play at recess? I think it would be tag.

What is the best thing about our school? Being able to know everyone well.

What makes someone a good friend? When they cheer you up if you're sad and always being there for you.

What do you like to do with your friends? Be silly! And do fun activities together.

If you could be any animal, which one would you be and why? I would be a bird because I would be able to travel everywhere and see everything.

If you had \$1,000 to spend on anything you wanted, what would you buy? I would buy a new bride.

If you could make up a new holiday, what would it be called and how would you celebrate it? I would make a holiday where kids from the age of 8 to 18 can do whatever they want for one whole day, everything will be free for them!

If you won a million dollars, what would you buy? I would buy a horse arena with the rest stables and tack.

What do I always say to you? Hello donkey! And you call me Kristianna Banana or Flo!

What job would you like to do when you grow up? A lawyer because you can help others knowing what is right or wrong and I want to defend them.

What song makes you want to dance? Taylor Swift's 'You Belong with Me'

What are you scared of? The deep, deep ocean.

What's your favourite colour? Dark olive green.

What kind of car do you want when you grow up? White Ford Everest or black Toyota Hilux.

Where do you want to live when you grow up? I'd like to live in the north island of New Zealand.

What's the safest place in the world for you? The safest place for me would be in my bed with my little sister.

If you could have any superpower, what would it be? Invisibility so I could sneak into shops and steal stuff but because I'm a lawyer I'll get myself out of going to jail.

What makes you feel truly happy? Going to carnivals with my friends and family.

What is something you are proud of from this year? I am proud of my BWFNC team being first on the ladder in netball.

What is something you can do today that you couldn't do last year? I can do half rolls off my player when playing netball.

If you could visit any place in the world, where would you go? I'd like to travel the whole world but if I had to choose one place it would be Greece.

(03) 5578 6253

Find us on Facebook

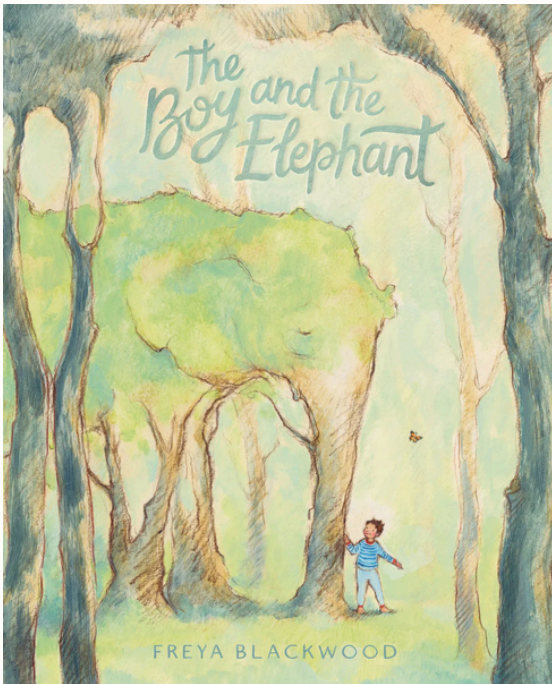
<http://www.bwcs.vic.edu.au/>

branhholme.wallacedale.cps@education.vic.gov.au

PO Box 69, Branxholme, Vic 3302 103 - 113 Monroe St, Branxholme, Vic, 3302

Junior Room

This week in Literacy



Our current text study, *The Boy and the Elephant*, explores resilience, friendship, imagination, conservation and nature.

Students have been learning about persuasive text features: inclusive and emotive language, rhetorical questions, commands and conjunctions.

They will use these features to create a persuasive paragraph about the importance of looking after the environment.

Special Visitor

We had a special visitor at school this week, Vicki Fisher, an Education Improvement Leader, who came to do a learning walk.

Vicki observed our phonics and spelling program and even joined in with our positive primer during circle time.

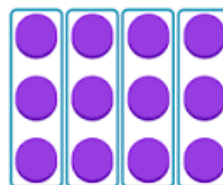


This week in Maths

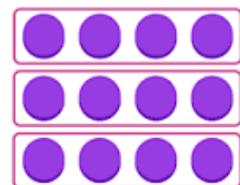


Group 1 have been practising oral counting to 20, counting on, and part, part, whole using tens frames.

Group 2 have been learning about using columns and rows to help them record multiplication equations.



Columns



Rows

Senior Classroom

Whats new in the senior room?

Last week was an exciting week in the senior classroom as students received their new laptops. The class discussed the importance of using technology responsibly and respectfully to support learning. Students explored how the laptops will help them with research, writing, maths, projects, and building their digital skills. There was lots of excitement as students began setting up and learning how to care for their new devices. We are looking forward to using these laptops to enhance learning and create new opportunities in the classroom.



Readers' Cup team 2026

CONGRATULATIONS on being selected into the 2026 Readers' Cup team for Branhholme! What a fantastic achievement!

The Readers' Cup is an interschool reading challenge, with one team of four students from each school, (Branholme-Wallacedale, Cavendish, Coleraine, Dunkeld, Macarthur and Peshurst), all competing for top honours.

The Readers' Cup challenge day is set for Tuesday October 20th and will be held at the Branhholme Wallacedale Community School.

What Else Has Been Happening?

The senior classroom has been busy! We are finishing Dirrarn and have completed our assessments for the semester. Students are now reviewing their new SMART goals and preparing for their upcoming Student-Led Interviews.

In Maths, we have started learning about probability and exploring the likelihood of different events. Did you know there are over 8 million possible outcomes in a standard Lotto draw? This has led to some interesting discussions about chance and probability!



The Merino Digby Lions Club is an active community service group based dedicated to local fundraising, emergency relief, and community projects. Operating under the international motto "We Serve," the club is a cornerstone of the Merino and Digby communities, hosting events and maintaining vital public facilities.



Our students were very fortunate to have a free Vision Screening provided by the Merino and Digby Lions Club.



Vision Screening Device (Camera)

To detect any vision issues associated with:

- Myopia (near sightedness)
- Hyperopia (farsightedness)
- Astigmatism (blurred vision)
- Anisometropia (unequal refractive error)
- Binocular Vision (eye misalignment)
- Anisocoria (unequal pupil size)

The Vision Screening Device (Camera) is a state of the art piece of equipment that takes a photo of the child's eyes. A technical report is produced, that can be downloaded from the device.

Visual Acuity

Purpose: To determine how sharp vision is a longer distances.

Visual Acuity is tested using a Lea Symbol Chart. From a 3m distance, the child is asked to the read symbols on a chart. They are asked to perform the task with both eyes together and then separately with their left and right eyes. This helps to determine how sharp vision is at longer distances.

Colour Perception

Purpose: To determine if the child perceives colour as most people do.

Colour Perception is checked by asking children to identify the numbers on different coloured backgrounds, which determines whether colours are being perceived normally.

Depth Perception

Purpose: To assess the binocular function of the eyes at near tasks.

Depth Perception is observed using an image of a fly and animals in boxes. Wearing 3D glasses, the child is asked if they can see the fly jumping out at them and which animal is trying to escape from their box. This shows if a child can determine distances between objects and sees the world in 3D.

July 2026 **Council** Age under 12s
School Holiday Program *Week One*

All Holidays VSG Pause & Play - Design a Tourism Postcard or Sticker. All ages. Free. Drop in to Hamilton VIC. Hamilton Visitor Information Centre

1 July - 12 July Toy Box Scavenger Hunt. Free for all ages. Drop in to Customer Service, the Cinema or the Visitor Information Centre.

JUN 27 Lego Club. 9:15am-10:15am. Ages 5+. Free. Themed Lego challenge. Hamilton Library

JUN 29 Scavenger Hunt - Paint @ PAC Forecourt. 1:00pm-3:00pm. Ages 10+ Come help create our winter scavenger hunt items. Toy Story themed. Hamilton PAC

JUN 29 Spike the Echidna. 10:00am & 12:00pm. Ages 4-12. \$5 - bookings or drop in. Hamilton PAC

JUL 1 Movie Craft. Minions and Monsters. 11:15am - craft, 12:00pm - movie. Ages 5-12. \$10.50 per person. Bookings required. Hamilton PAC/Cinema

JUL 2 Cardboard Construction. 11:00am-12:00pm & 3:00pm-4:00pm. Ages 5-12. Cardboard play. Bookings required. Hamilton Library

For more information on all our programs and to book please visit: www.sthgramplains.vic.gov.au/Our-Services/School-Holiday-Programs
All bookings through the PAC




July 2026 **Council** Age under 12s
School Holiday Program *Week Two*

All Holidays VSG Pause & Play - Design a Tourism Postcard or Sticker. All ages. Free. Drop in to Hamilton VIC. Hamilton Visitor Information Centre

1 July - 12 July Toy Box Scavenger Hunt. Free for all ages. Drop in to Customer Service, the Cinema or the Visitor Information Centre.

JUL 7 Gardening Activity @ the Community Pocket Garden. 11:00am. All ages. Free. Bookings required.

JUL 8 Mr Snotbottom. Mr Snotbottom is a hysterically disgusting kids comedian brimming with all the ooey, gooey yucky things kids love. 10:15am. Ages 5-12. \$5 - bookings required. Hamilton Library

JUL 8 The Farmy Farm Circus Workshop. Participants will explore basic skills in acro balance, tumbling and juggling in a safe and supportive environment! 2:00pm. Ages 5-12. \$5 - bookings required. Hamilton PAC

JUL 9 The Farmy Farm. Join Kenny & Jenny for a day in the life of getting their jobs done with a tractor-load of circus and farming tomfoolery. 10:00am. Ages 3-12. \$5 - bookings or drop in. Hamilton PAC

JUL 10 Quiz it - Literally. Riddles, rhymes and brain twisters. 11:00am-12:00pm. Ages 8-12. Free. Bookings required. Hamilton Library

For more information on all our programs and to book please visit: www.sthgramplains.vic.gov.au/Our-Services/School-Holiday-Programs
All bookings through the PAC





Gardening

Students have been busy preparing their garden beds – weeding and topping up with soil.

They have also planted herbs and vegetables which they will use in their MasterChef cooking program next term.

Each group will be responsible for looking after their own ‘patch’ in order to have food ready to use in the kitchen next term.

Branxholme Wallacedale Community School is a Child Safe school

The Child Safe Standards are a set of principles and requirements that guide organisations to create environments where children and young people are safe, respected, and protected from harm.

They outline how BWCS promotes child safety through strong leadership, clear policies, staff training, safe recruitment practices, and a culture that listens to and empowers children.

These standards are important because they help prevent abuse and neglect, ensure concerns are identified and addressed early, and create a culture of accountability.

By embedding child safety into everyday practice, we can better protect children's rights, build trust with families, and support the wellbeing and development of every child.

**Standard Three -
Children and young people are empowered
about their rights, participate in decisions
affecting them and are taken seriously.**



What does this mean?

Child Safe Standard 3 is about ensuring students are informed, listened to, respected, and actively involved in creating a safe school environment. Student voice, participation, and peer support are essential elements of child safety.

At Branxholme Wallacedale Community School, we are committed to ensuring every student feels safe, respected, valued and heard. Child Safe Standard 3 focuses on empowering students by teaching them about their rights, encouraging them to participate in decision-making, and providing opportunities to raise concerns in a safe and supportive environment.

Student voice is an important part of our culture. Students are involved in decisions about school activities, learning programs and community events, while also being encouraged to set goals, take on leadership opportunities and contribute ideas. Through programs such as Respectful Relationships, Berry Street and The Resilience Project, students learn about personal safety, respectful relationships, online safety and how to seek help when needed.

Strong relationships between students, staff and families help create a culture of trust where concerns can be raised and addressed. Multi-age learning, buddy opportunities and inclusive practices create a sense of belonging and peer support. We also ensure all students can participate meaningfully by adapting communication and providing support that meets individual needs.

By listening to and acting on student voice, we help build confident, resilient young people who know their rights and feel empowered to contribute to a safe and inclusive school community.

Needed... *Art Challenge Using Natural Materials*

Our students will be making paint from natural items like flowers, grass, soil etcetra, with a mortar and pestle.

This is a wonderful, tactile process.

On the weekend please take your child for a nature walk to collect items out of the natural world around us. You could look in your backyard, or go for a walk in the park, to find natural objects.

Try to find things with different colours and bring the collection into school on Monday.





Thank you to everyone who has donated items recently. It's wonderful to see these resources being used and appreciated by members of our community.

Our students are always excited to spot someone visiting one of the community boxes!

A reminder that these items are available for everyone in the community to access. The book box is currently overflowing with great reads, so if you're looking for something to enjoy during these cooler days, be sure to take a look, you may find just what you're after.

"Give what you can, take what you need."



Donations are always greatly appreciated and help keep this valuable community resource thriving.

Celebrating Significant Dates and Cultural Traditions

As part of our learning, students have been exploring significant dates from around the world. These include globally recognised cultural, historical, and commemorative events that help shape our international community and identity.

Learning about these important days helps students develop global awareness, understand historical milestones, and appreciate the diverse experiences, traditions, and celebrations that are valued by people across the world.

We recognise that many significant dates are unique to individual families, cultures, and communities. We encourage you to talk with your child about special dates that are important to your family, whether they are cultural celebrations, religious observances or commemorative events.

We would love for you to share these dates with us so that we can include them in our school calendar and celebrate the rich diversity of our school community together.

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 2 terms	\$42	\$85	\$127	\$255
15 editions 3 terms	\$62	\$125	\$187	\$375
20 editions 4 terms	\$75	\$150	\$300	\$450



Macarthur Primary School
Proudly Presents:

Pirates of the Curry Bean

A Musical by Craig Hawes

Thursday 25th June
5:30pm
Macarthur Hall
Entry by
Gold Treasure Donation

Join us for an adventure on the high seas!

GEM Chats

Mindfulness

CREATING WELLBEING HABITS & CONNECTION

GEM Chats help families practice The Resilience Project's principles, offering a simple wellbeing check-in while **building stronger connections through daily conversations.**

HOW TO USE GEM CHATS

Make GEM Chats a part of your dinner routine to reflect, check in, and practice mindfulness.

Try these prompts:



What **mindfulness tools** did you use today?



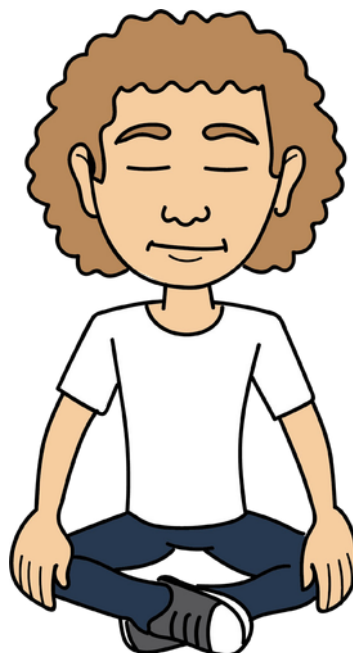
Take a moment to look out the window or around the room.

» 3 things you can see.

» 2 things you can hear.

» 1 thing you can feel.

» Notice how you feel after stopping for a moment.



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE RESILIENCE PROJECT, HEAD TO:



@theresilienceproject__



The Resilience Project



The Resilience Project



theresilienceproject.com.au



Call Us! **1800 55 1800**

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

 **1800 55 1800**



**kids
help
line**

*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 65 000 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