

IMPORTANT DATES

- Friday, 4th September
BioLab for Grades 5 & 6
- Friday, 11th September
R U Ok? Day
- Thursday, 17th September
End of Term Assembly 3.10pm
- Friday, 18th September
Last day of Term 3, 2.30pm finish
- Monday, 5th October
Term 4 begins
- Wednesday, 14th October
Scott's BMX Trick Bike Show (incursion)
- Tuesday, 20th October
Readers' Cup
- Tuesday, 20th October
Diwali
- Tuesday, 27th October
Basketball at Penshurst
- Friday, 30th October
Student Free Day
- Saturday, 31st October
Halloween
- Monday, 2nd November
Student Free Day
- Tuesday, 3rd November
Public Holiday - Melbourne Cup
- Friday, 6th November
Grade 5 & 6 Cluster Sports Day at BWCS
- Tuesday, 10th November
National Recycling Week
- Wednesday, 11th November
Remembrance Day
- Thursday, 19th November
International Men's Day
- Wednesday, 25th November
16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence
- Friday, 27th November
Student Free Day
- Friday, 4th December
Elephant Ed @ Merino for grade 5 & 6 students
- Monday, 14th December
Hanukkah begins
- Friday, 18th December
Last Day of Term 4



Branxholme Wallacedale
Community School

Newsletter

Term 3 Week 8 2026

An interview with...

Gabrielle

What is your favourite book and why?
'Charlotte's Web' because I like how we both have a barn.

What is the funniest thing that has happened to you? When I slipped on a rug when I was roller skating. It was funny because I landed on my bottom.

If you could only eat one food for the rest of your life, what would it be? Passionfruit

What is the best thing you have learned how to do? Maths

What is your favourite game to play at recess? Tiggy

What is the best thing about our school? The teachers

What makes someone a good friend? When they cheer you up!

What do you like to do with your friends? Play tiggy

If you could be any animal, which one would you be and why? A cheetah because I could run around.

If you had \$1,000 to spend on anything you wanted, what would you buy? Clothes

If you could make up a new holiday, what would it be called and how would you celebrate it? Run Around Day' and you have to run around all day.

If you won a million dollars, what would you buy? A really, really big trampoline!

What do I always say to you? Flo

What job would you like to do when you grow up? Be a dentist.

Who is the strongest person? My Mum!



What's the worst rule at school?
Having free time only on Fridays.

What song makes you want to dance?
The Dancing Queen

What are you scared of? Snakes

What is your favourite colour?
Light purple

Where do you want to live when you grow up? The Gold Coast

What is the safest place in the world?
Cuddled up with Harmony

If you could have any superpower, what would it be and why? Being able to fly because I would be able to see everything!

What makes you feel truly happy?
Drawing

What is something you are proud of?
Placing 1st at Cross Country.

What is something you can do today that you could not do last year? Draw a rose.

If you could visit any place in the world, where would you go? Chilli because I am learning to speak Spanish.

(03) 5578 6253

Find us on Facebook

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

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

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



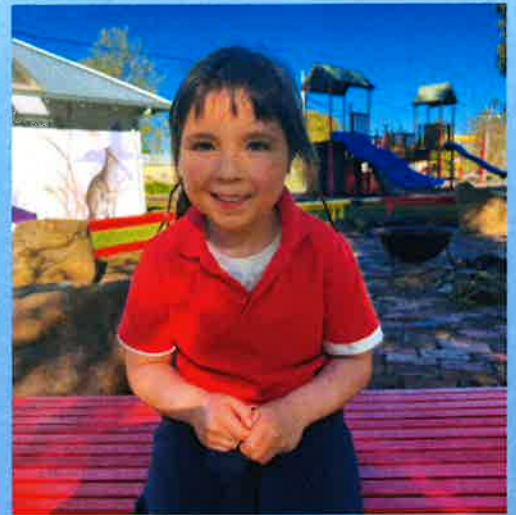
Student of the Week

Hannah has shown amazing resilience and courage during our cluster days with other schools.

She has bravely stepped outside her comfort zone, joining in with students from different schools, participating in activities and embracing new experiences with a positive attitude.

It has been fantastic to see Hannah's confidence grow as she made connections, showing that being brave can lead to lots of fun and new friendships.

We are incredibly proud of how she demonstrated our school values of resilience, integrity, safety and endeavour.



Super Speller Awards

Our students participate in daily Spelling Mastery and Phonics Plus lessons.

Spelling Mastery is an evidence-based program that explicitly teaches spelling through phonics, spelling patterns, rules and word structure. Rather than relying on memorisation alone, students develop a deep understanding of how words work by learning strategies that can be applied to unfamiliar words.

The program uses carefully sequenced lessons, explicit teaching and regular review to ensure students develop accuracy, confidence and automaticity in their spelling. Students' progress when they demonstrate mastery, helping to build strong foundations for reading and writing.



To celebrate effort, perseverance and achievement, students earn Super Speller awards when they successfully complete each level of the program. These awards recognise the consistent practice and dedication required to reach mastery and acknowledge the significant progress students make throughout the year. We congratulate all of our students on their commitment to becoming confident and capable spellers!

Congratulations to this week's Super Speller recipients:
Gabrielle, Maria, Robert and Cooper

Home Reading Awards



At Bransholme all students receive a home reading journal to encourage regular reading, track reading habits, support communication between home and school, and provide helpful reading ideas for families.

Students are encouraged to record all reading activities, including take-home books, novels, magazines, newspapers, reading with younger family members, and other reading experiences. Reading books and journals are transported in a reading satchel, and students can exchange their take-home books each day.

Students are rewarded with a gifted book for every 5 full weeks of home reading, with a full week consisting of at least 4 nights of reading signed by a parent or carer.

Congratulations to our Home Reading Award recipients:

Hannah for 25 full weeks of Home Reading
Maria for 25 full weeks of Home Reading
Kristianna for 25 full weeks of Home Reading
Cooper for 25 full weeks of Home Reading



SALT RESTAURANT
WITH RESPECT TO INGREDIENT & TECHNIQUE



\$150 voucher
donated by Salt Restaurant
Winner: Ryan McLean

\$100 voucher
donated by
Fringe Benefits
Winner: Nick Williams



\$50 voucher
donated by
Shwe and Nev Roberts
Winner: Amelia Clyde



\$50 voucher
donated by the
Heywood Hotel
Winner: Tyrone Ross



\$50 voucher
donated by
Coles Hamilton
Winner: Belinda Payne

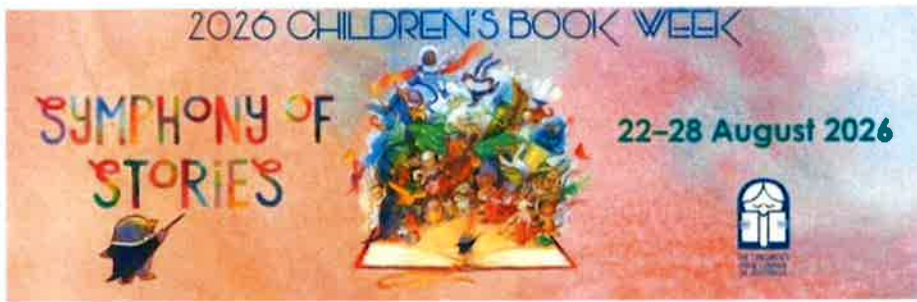


\$50 voucher
donated by
Your Regional Butcher
Winner: Cooper



\$50 voucher donated by
Stalker's Bend
Winner: Ivy McCabe

The raffle was
drawn at
assembly on
Thursday 3rd
September
Please see below
each prize for the
winners



Tappoc Book Week was a wonderful celebration across our cluster of three schools. Students came together to enjoy a colourful book week parade, explore the shortlisted books and take part in a range of fun literacy activities. A highlight of the day was the exciting scavenger hunt, organised and run by our fantastic Grade Six students. It was a great opportunity for everyone to celebrate a love of reading, work together and enjoy plenty of book week fun!



Tappoc Cluster Book Week

A very special part of Book Week 2026 was having Miss Nat share her culture, stories and family traditions with our school community.

Miss Nat read *Possum Skin Cloak*, a beautiful story that celebrates Aboriginal culture, connection to Country, family, storytelling and the passing down of knowledge through generations. The students were captivated as they learnt about the significance of possum skin cloaks and how they are traditionally made and used to carry stories, memories and connections.

Even more special, every student had the opportunity to see and try on Miss Nat's own family possum skin cloak, a truly meaningful experience that brought the story to life.

We were also incredibly proud to gift Penshurst, Macarthur and Shane from CEP a possum skin, representing Tappoc in the middle and the journey lines to each school and CEP in Ballarat.

It was a beautiful reminder that when we share our stories, culture and experiences, we strengthen the connections within our community.



Book Week Student Activities

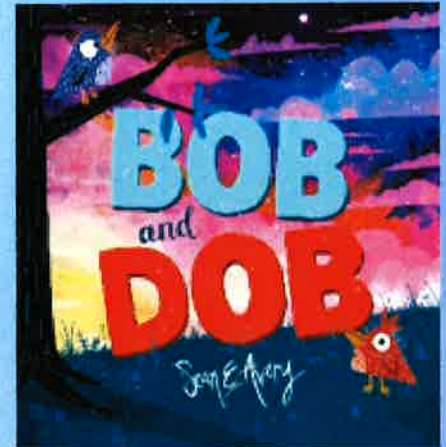
What a wonderful Book Week activity day we had! Our school was filled with colourful characters, creative costumes and plenty of book-inspired fun. Students enjoyed celebrating their favourite stories through a range of engaging activities, sharing their love of reading and letting their imaginations run wild. It was fantastic to see so many smiling faces and to watch our Tappoc school community come together to celebrate the joy, wonder and magic that books bring. A big thank you to everyone who helped make the day so special!

Bob and Dob

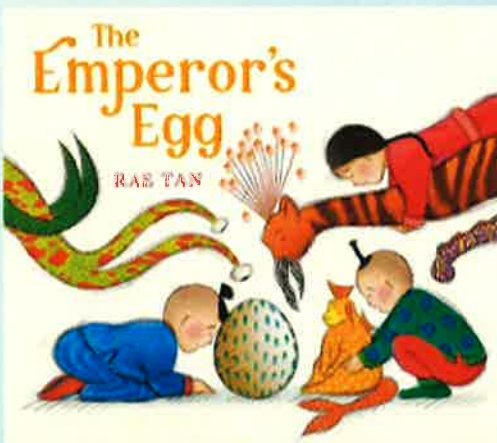
Our students had a fantastic time diving into *Bob and Dob*, a hilarious retelling of the classic *The Boy Who Cried Wolf* fable. Through Bob and Dob's entertaining adventures, students explored the importance of honesty, trust and the wonderful power of storytelling.

Things took a wonderfully imaginative turn when students coloured and captioned artwork from the book with their very own fabulous fibs. There were plenty of creative ideas, giggles and tall tales along the way. To finish the session, students put their book knowledge to the test with a fun children's literature trivia quiz.

It was a fabulous celebration of stories, creativity and a love of reading.



The Emperor's Egg



The Emperor's Egg is a beautifully illustrated and enchanting retelling of an ancient Chinese folktale. When an emperor gives every child an egg and asks them to return in thirty days with what they have grown, Ren lovingly cares for his egg – but it never hatches! As magical creatures appear from the other children's eggs, Ren must find the courage to be honest and present his very different egg to the emperor. This heartwarming story explores honesty, integrity, courage and patience, while celebrating the importance of being true to yourself.

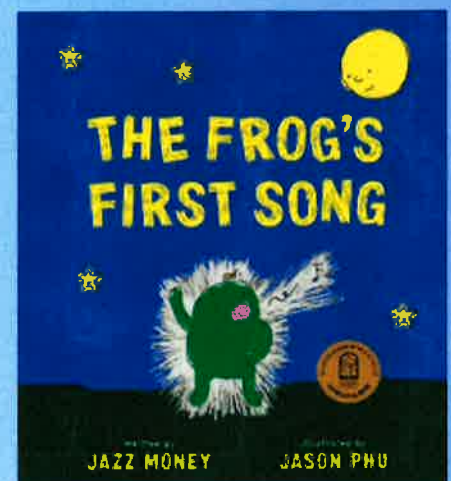
Our students let their imaginations run wild as they designed and created their very own magical creatures. They then brought their creations to life by decorating their own board game counters with colourful and imaginative artwork.

The fun continued as students used their magical counters to play a specially designed board game, with actions and challenges inspired by the story. There was plenty of creativity, excitement and laughter as students raced around the board and put their storytelling skills to the test.

Frog's First Song

The Frog's First Song is a playful and beautifully imaginative story by Wiradjuri poet Jazz Money. The story begins in a dark, quiet well, where one little frog bravely finds its voice – and soon discovers that it isn't alone. As more frogs join the chorus, the world fills with colour, music and joy. Inspired by Chinese parables and First Nations Creation stories, this delightful book celebrates courage, friendship, belonging and the power of coming together. It is a wonderful reminder that sometimes all it takes is one small voice to inspire a whole community to sing along!

Our students got creative with paper folding and construction techniques to bring their very own **bouncing frogs** to life. With a little cutting, folding and plenty of imagination, each student created a cheerful frog ready to sign and dance on its very own lily pad stage. It was wonderful to see their creativity, confidence and storytelling skills take centre stage.



Branxholme Wallacedale Community School is proud to support the Macarthur Swimming Pool—affectionately known as “The Fun Pool”—as it celebrates 60 years in November 2026.

Operated by a dedicated volunteer committee and supported by the wider community, the pool offers far more than swimming. With a waterslide, splash pad, inflatables, movie nights, community events, swimming lessons and all-abilities facilities, it provides a welcoming and inclusive space for everyone.

Our students benefit directly from the committee’s generosity. Each year, the pool hosts the Tappoc Cluster’s swimming program and carnival free of charge. These experiences bring our Tappoc Cluster students together to develop essential swimming skills, build confidence and enjoy time with their peers.

The committee is currently raising funds for a \$145,000 sustainability upgrade, including a heat pump, solar infrastructure and thermal blankets. This will provide consistent water temperatures, longer opening hours and more opportunities for lessons, rehabilitation and exercise programs.

We are pleased to support the committee’s fundraising efforts, including the upcoming Budj Bim Lava Blast running festival. The Macarthur Swimming Pool is an incredibly valuable community facility, and we thank the committee for everything it provides to our students, families and wider community.



**BUDJ BIM
LAVA BLAST
MACARTHUR
Running Event**

Sunday 11th October 2026
21km Trail run . 10km Trail run.
3km Trail run. 1km all abilities
family walk/run.

Community Bank
Bendigo Bank

SOUTHERN
GRAMPPIANS
REAL ESTATE

Nutrien
Ag Solutions
SAVING LIVESTOCK MAKING TIME



Native Nourish
REAL FOOD. REAL PEOPLE. REAL CONNECTION.

Good Food
Stronger Community

**WE ARE
OPENING
AT
Macarthur Hall**

**MONDAY
14 SEPTEMBER | 7AM**

For more information
CALL TYE ON 0422592599

Thank you for supporting local and
Aboriginally owned.



Native Nourish
VEGETARIAN
**TACO
TUESDAY**
Mexican Night

MACARTHUR HALL TUESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER SERVING DINNER 5:00PM - 8:00PM

**OPENING WEEK SPECIAL
\$5 TACOS**
Yes, just \$5!

Delicious
VEGETARIAN tacos,
packed with
Mexican-inspired
flavour &
friendly service
from the
Native Nourish team

Fresh
Flavours!
Great
Company!

DINE IN OR TAKEAWAY - ALL WELCOME!
Good food. Strong community.

WELCOME



We warmly welcome Tilley and her family to Branhholme Wallacedale Community School. We are delighted to have you join our school community and look forward to learning, growing and sharing many wonderful experiences together.



Little Angler Kits

Victorian Fisheries Authority want more kids to catch a new hobby - fishing - because it's a healthy and active pastime that gets them into the great outdoors, experiencing nature with friends and family.

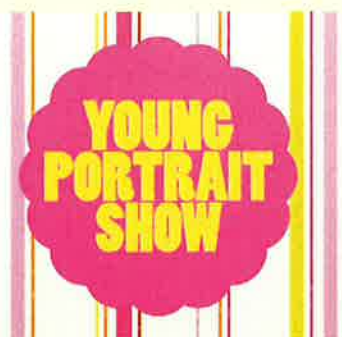
To make that happen, the Victorian Government gave away 82,500 Little Angler Kits to grade 5 primary students, funded by recreational fishing licence fees.

Each kit includes a fishing rod, reel with line, tackle box with hooks, lead-free sinkers, swivels and a lure, along with a Kids Guide to Fishing – all FREE!

Their kid-friendly web hub has lots of useful information and instructional videos with advice on how and where to use Little Angler Kits.



Warrnambool ART GALLERY



We were invited by
the Warrnambool Art
Gallery to enter their
Young Portrait Show.

We were able to
showcase our
creativity and people
we admire.



SALT.

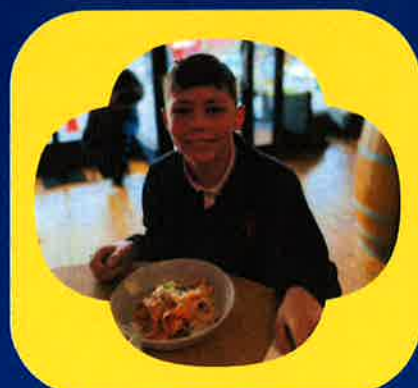
I liked the Salt Restaurant cooking masterclass because the chef, Matt, was teaching us how to make pasta, and he explained everything. He also showed us how to correctly cook fresh pasta and the correct amount of time to cook it. It was really fun when we got to roll out the pasta and then chop it into pappardelle. Matt also told us about the different types of pasta and the different machines that chop the pasta into different shapes. We got to watch Matt cook the pasta, and then we got to eat it. One thing that they could work on was evening out the table legs so that when we cut the pasta, the table didn't wobble. Overall, I would go again. Cooper

I loved going to the Salt Restaurant because Matt and Lilli were very nice and helpful. When Nate and I were done making the pasta, Matt let us go into the kitchen to show us how to cook the pappardelle pasta. Lilli also let us make the drinks for everyone. After we made the drinks, Nate and I took the food out to the other kids. At the end of lunch, Lilli gave us a 5 dollar tip for helping. I give Salt Restaurant a 5 out of 5 stars. Hunter

The Salt Restaurant Masterclass was amazing!! I loved that as soon as we walked in, everyone was super welcoming. During the Masterclass, we learnt how to make pappardelle pasta from scratch. This experience alone was wonderful, but the way everything was organised and handled was great! Everyone was having so much fun. Matt and Lilli even taught some of us how to be waiters/waitresses! If anyone or any schools are thinking of doing this Masterclass, I would definitely recommend it! Kristianna

I give the Salt Restaurant 5 stars, the community (Lilli and Matt) were very friendly towards our school. Their pasta was divine, and Matt, the owner, helped us to make pasta! He was very generous. He showed us what we needed and would help us if we got stuck on a step. His partner, Lilli, would greet people when they came in and helped us when we were making pasta. Inside, it was all neat and tidy, with the tables spread out evenly, and the floor was very clean. They were very generous, letting us inside the kitchen to see how the kitchen was set out. Hunter and I also got to make drinks and serve the food. I would recommend the Salt Restaurant Masterclass a great experience for anyone looking for fun and for having a great time alongside family! Nate

I gave the food 5 stars because it was flavourful but not too full, and all the flavours mixed nicely with the delicious pasta. I give the preparation time 4 stars because, if you don't have it prepared, you need certain ingredients, like 1 egg for every 100 grams of flour. Other than that, it was a really good, fun time. I give the cooking time 5 stars because it only took 1–5 minutes to cook and prepare the food. A big thank you to Lilli and Matt for letting us make the pasta. I give all of it 14/15. Robert



SALT.



SALT.



**Congratulations Kristianna
and the 13 & under netty
team for winning the
Preliminary Final.**



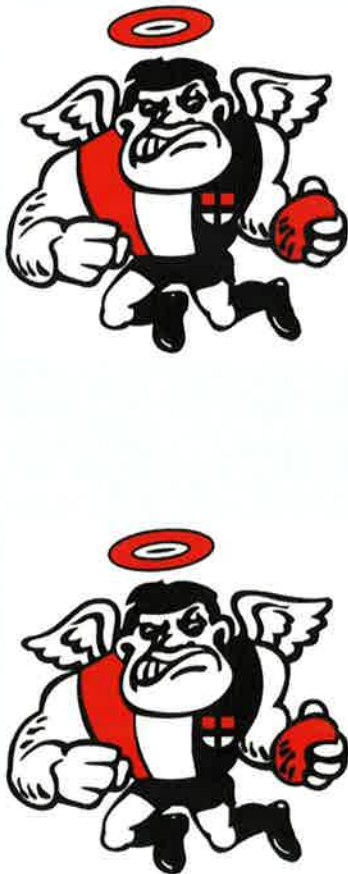



The Finals

Preliminary Finals

A Grade
Branxholme Wallacedale 43
def.
Westerns 39

13 & Under
Branxholme Wallacedale 24
def.
Tyrendarra 15







2026 GRAND FINALS

SATURDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER
 CAVENDISH REC RESERVE

NETBALL

17&U		HEYWOOD	V		CAVENDISH	10.00AM
B GRADE		COLERAINE	V		WESTERNS	11.00AM
15&U		CAVENDISH	V		COLERAINE	11.15AM
A RESERVE		CAVENDISH	V		WESTERNS	12.30PM
13&U		COLERAINE	V		BRANX/WALL	12.45PM
C GRADE		CAVENDISH	V		WESTERNS	1.45PM
A GRADE		TYRENDARRA	V		BRANX/WALL	2.30PM

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.

Child Safe Standard 9

Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.

What does this mean at Branxholme Wallacedale Community School?

Physical and online environments minimise the opportunity for abuse and harm

At Branxholme Wallacedale Community School, child safety is embedded in everyday planning, decision-making and governance. We proactively identify, assess and reduce risks while respecting children's rights to privacy, participation, information and meaningful learning.



IDENTIFYING AND MANAGING RISK

We identify risks through our Emergency Management Plan, grounds inspections, classroom assessments, excursion and camp planning, disability inclusion, behaviour support, online learning practices, and reviews of incidents, concerns and near misses.



SAFE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENTS

High levels of supervision and strong knowledge of every student help us identify risks early. Safety is embedded in daily routines, yard duty, classroom organisation, visitor management, transport, camps, excursions, sport and Interschool activities.



SAFE ONLINE ENVIRONMENTS

Policies, ICT Acceptable Use Agreements and explicit cyber safety education set clear expectations for safe behaviour, respectful communication and responsible technology use. Students learn to recognise online risks, seek support and make safe decisions.



LISTENING AND RESPONDING

Staff, students and families are encouraged to raise safety concerns. Feedback informs ongoing improvements. Staff receive clear guidance and regular professional learning to identify and respond to physical and digital risks.



EXTERNAL PROVIDERS

Contractors, volunteers and visiting organisations must meet our child safety expectations. Required screening, including Working with Children Checks, is completed. Child safety responsibilities guide procurement, service agreements and external programs.



CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Leadership regularly reviews policies, risk assessments, incidents, complaints and Department of Education guidance. Higher-risk activities have tailored plans and safeguards that protect children without unnecessarily limiting participation, learning or connection.

Thoughtful planning • Vigilant supervision • Digital safety • Strong governance



**EVERY CHILD IS SUPPORTED TO
LEARN, PARTICIPATE AND THRIVE SAFELY**

Thank

You

**Nev for picking up
the rubbish and
taking it to the tip!**

**Dale and Vanessa
for all the extra
work you do to keep
our school looking
amazing!**



The items in both the Little Pantry and the Book Box are available for EVERYONE in the community to access.

The book box is currently overflowing - have a look - there may be some great books in there for you to enjoy!

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

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



Mental Health Services and Support

Beyond Blue

24/7 mental health support service

1300 22 4636

beyondblue.org.au

headspace

Online support and counselling to young people aged 12 to 25

1800 650 890

(9am to 1am daily)

For webchat, visit:
headspace.org.au/
ehespace

Kids Helpline

24/7 crisis support and suicide prevention services for children and young people aged 5 to 25

1800 55 1800

kidehelpline.com.au

1800 RESPECT

24/7 support for people impacted by sexual assault, domestic violence and abuse

1800 737 732

1800respect.org.au

QLife

LGBTI peer support and referral

1800 184 527

(6pm to 10pm daily)

qlife.org.au
(online chat 3pm to midnight local time, including over holidays.)

Lifeline

24/7 crisis support and suicide prevention services

13 11 14

lifeline.org.au

Suicide Call Back

24/7 crisis support and counselling service for people affected by suicide

1300 659 467

suicidecallbackservice.org.au

Mensline

24/7 counselling service for men

1300 78 99 78

mensline.org.au

13YARN

24/7 crisis support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

13 92 76

13yarn.org.au

If you are concerned about someone at risk of immediate harm, call 000 or go to your nearest hospital emergency department.



With delivery partners



Funded by



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 Branhholme.

The Branhholme 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 Branhholme Wallacedale Community School