



# Patchwork News

*Respect, Responsibility, Integrity*

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November Term 4 Issue 1

Telephone: 9756 7463 OSHC: 9756 7463 / 0419 515 494

Email: [the.patch.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:the.patch.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au) Website: [www.thepatchps.vic.edu.au](http://www.thepatchps.vic.edu.au)

## Dates to Remember

### November

Mon 6 <sup>th</sup>	Planning Day for Teachers
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup>	CUP DAY (Public Holiday)
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup>	Yr 1-4 Swimming
Thu 9 <sup>th</sup>	Book fair Begins
Thu 9 <sup>th</sup>	Prep 2018 transition session
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup>	Yr 6 'Taming of the Butterflies' session
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup>	Book club catalogues expected to go out
Thu 16 <sup>th</sup>	Book fair closes
Thu 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Open Garden Day- 10yr Celebration
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup>	Prep & Yr 6 Buddie Excursion
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup>	Yr 2 Day Camp
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup>	Premier's Reading challenge presentation
Mon 27 <sup>th</sup>	Yr 6 'Taming of the Butterflies' session
Wed 29 <sup>th</sup>	2018 Prep Information Night 6-7pm

### December

Tue 5 <sup>th</sup>	Group 1 TOTB Presentation Night 7pm
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup>	Group 2 TOTB Presentation Night 7pm
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Carols
Tue 12 <sup>th</sup>	Step Up Day

## Fundraising dates to remember

### November

Tue 21 <sup>st</sup>	Yr 6 Cupcake Fundraiser
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*Reminder*

### CURRICULUM DAY TOMORROW

(NO STUDENTS)

\*

### TEACHER PLANNING DAY MON 6<sup>TH</sup>

(ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM FOR STUDENT'S  
RELIEF TEACHERS EMPLOYED)

\*

### MELBOURNE CUP DAY

TUE 7<sup>TH</sup>

(SCHOOL CLOSED)



## From the Principal...

*Thought for the week:* Education's purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one - Malcolm Forbes.

It promises to be a very busy and eventful term for the children. Teachers have started to work through engaging, carefully constructed units of study with the children. Our core focus at The Patch is student learning with a focus on literacy and numeracy, in particular this year with an emphasis on our teaching of writing.

Our curriculum is planned to ensure that all students maximise their learning in literacy and numeracy and all of our extra-curricular activities are selected, so these links. Teachers will be continuing to complete a range of assessment activities in preparation for the end of year reports – it is very important that children attend school every day.

### PUPIL FREE DAY and PLANNING DAY

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November is Curriculum day and is a student free day. OSHC will be offering a Curriculum Day program so please ensure you make a booking. The following Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November, the day prior to Melbourne Cup Day public holiday, is a whole school planning day for teachers. This will involve employing Casual Relief Teachers for the day to take classes. Staff will be using these two days for Professional Learning on THRASS.

### THRASS

What is THRASS = Teaching Handwriting, Reading and Spelling Skills.

THRASS is NOT a program. It is a tool we can use to help our students to learn the 44 phonemes of spoken English and the spelling patterns we use to represent those phonemes in every writing. It is an explicit process for teaching students the code of English and will guide us in how we teach Literacy. We don't *do* THRASS, we *practice* THRASS.

Staff of The Patch PS believe that literacy and numeracy are the cornerstones of education. English does not have a 1:1 ratio of letters to sounds, and the traditional way of teaching phonics is not helping all of our students to break the code of written English. THRASS reduces handwriting, reading and spelling to their basics and allows us to explicitly teach students the basic building blocks of English.

Students are taught that:

**Reading** involving changing graphemes (letter or letters that represent a single sound) into phonemes (single sounds such as the **s** in **small**).

**Spelling** involves changing phonemes (single sounds) into graphemes (letter or letters that represent a sound).

THRASS enables students to read and spell words that contain graphs (one letter representing one phoneme), digraphs (two letters representing one phoneme), trigraphs (three letters representing one phoneme) and quadgraphs (four letters representing one phoneme). It helps students to understand the relationship between the 44 phonemes of spoken English and the 26 letters of the alphabet.

KEY IDEA: A LETTER DOES NOT MAKE A SOUND UNTIL IT IS IN A WORD!

### Writing the 26 letters of the alphabet.

Students must be able to correctly form the 26 letters of the alphabet in lower case and capitals. It is vital that students start their letters in the correct position.

## Continued...

### Why is daily handwriting practice so important?

We want writing to be a fluid process to free up our working memory. Handwriting must be an automatic skill to allow the writer to process thoughts as they write. Daily handwriting practice allows students to get the formation of letters into their muscle memory. Correct pencil grip will also ensure legibility, fluency and pain free handwriting.

### TERM 4 IS A SUN SMART TERM

Parents and children are reminded that this term children must wear school sun smart hats every day during school excursions, recess and lunch breaks.

### GRADE SIX GRADUATION:

Preparations have begun for our Year 6 Graduation on December 20. This year we are once again holding the graduation at Nathania Springs. We have found this to be very successful and the venue accommodated all the adults who wanted to attend.

Information will be sent home on a regular basis.

The year six students are also preparing for the next phase of their education. It is an exciting time for them with many changes occurring as they progress through to Secondary College. Discuss these changes ~~transition~~ with your child in a positive way to ensure that the transition is a smooth one.

Secondary school can be a daunting thought for not only our students but parents as well. You may have many questions that are not fully answered at information nights and orientation days.

The Department of Education and Training have developed an informative site, which provides hints, tips, advice and information on how to support your child through the transition from primary to secondary school at:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/secondary/Pages/bphome.aspx>

Should you have any other concerns, please speak to Kellie McDonald.

### GOAL SETTING FOR A SUCCESSFUL TERM

Planning ahead is an important skill that can be learnt and further developed at all ages – even adults! Organisation at school means setting a goal to do your best in your school work, listening carefully to your teacher's instructions, planning your time so that you are not rushed, having all your school supplies ready at a neat table, recording your projects and their due dates and planning when you are going to do your homework so that you have enough time.

Two positive *Habits of the Mind* that help develop a young person's organisation skills include:

- *Setting Goals* - s thinking that setting a goal can help me to be more successful at a task.
- *Planning My Time* - thinking about how long it will take me to do my school work and planning enough time to get it done.

## Continued...

Some ideas to help children become more organised and have a more successful term are:

1. **Chunking:** Breaking complex tasks into small, manageable steps. For instance, week-long school projects can be broken down into a series of smaller tasks that can be completed daily.
2. **Goal-setting:** Helping children set small and large goals is one tangible way of increasing their effectiveness. e.g. "I want to learn to spell 20 new words from my list by Friday."
3. **Making plans:** Working out steps required to help achieve goals and objectives requires children to look ahead. "I will learn five words a night. I'll ask an adult to test me each night."
4. **Managing time:** Time planning tools such as lists and diaries can help children keep schedules, hand work in on time and help prevent children overestimating what they can achieve.
5. **Routines take the worry out of remembering.** Homework routines, morning routines, even after-school unpacking routines help children to be organised. For instance, an after-school routine may include unpacking a schoolbag, handing school notices to a parent and eating a snack.
6. **Have regular homework time.** Establish a regular homework time and help your child to stick to it. If no formal homework has been set then use this time for reading.
7. **Have morning round-up.** Remind children of the day's events each morning so they can plan accordingly.
8. **Use routines and structure.** There are times when so much is going on in young people's lives that they need structure and routine to help them get organised. Gentle reminders to pack lunches, take notices to school and even to dress appropriately can assist children when they are busy.
9. **Make use of a check list when it all seems too much.** Place a list of routine morning activities by a child's bed and insist that it be checked before he or she goes to school.
10. **Clear away the clutter.** A regular clean-up of desks and work areas can help children regain control of their environment.
11. **Less is better.** Encourage children and young people to bring home only the books that they will work on each night. Some children become overwhelmed when they have a bagful of books and they have difficulty knowing where to start.

**Deb**

[Herrmann.debra.a@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:Herrmann.debra.a@edumail.vic.gov.au)

## OUR SCHOOL GARDEN IS HAVING A BIRTHDAY!

Can you imagine it is 10 YEARS since we turned the first sod to begin our school garden! After nine months of exploring, examining, researching and planning by every student from prep to year 6 in 2007, the final garden plan was ready for implementation. To launch the garden project (as it was called then), we held our inaugural working bee in November of that year and began the journey that has seen the transformation of our school grounds into a stimulating, inspiring, educational, and multi-award winning "learning landscape".

So to celebrate, we are designating **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23**, as an open garden day. On this day, our garden will be open from 9am until 5.30pm to allow all our students, their families and friends and past members of our community to explore our grounds, enjoy a picnic, participate in outdoor learning activities and further promote the benefits of this beautiful space. There will be music, performances, tours and lots of fun.

Pencil the day in your diaries and check with grandparents and special friends if they can come along to help celebrate. We would like picnic lunches and snacks to be rubbish free on this day (nude food) and we may even have our pizza oven fired up! There will also be displays of how the garden design was created and photographs of all our major projects since then.

More information will be available closer to the day but check the date now so you don't miss out on an important opportunity to relax and explore some of the great learning opportunities your children enjoy in our outdoor spaces.

If you know of someone who would be interested in attending this event, please pass on the date and encourage them to come along. Our garden would not be what it is today without the input of a huge variety of helpers.

If you have any questions, please see Michelle Rayner.



## Melbourne University Visit

Last Thursday, we enjoyed a visit of students from the University of Melbourne who are undertaking an Associate Degree in Horticulture and exploring the area of sustainability in garden design. Students from year 5 worked in pairs or threes to tour small groups of mature students around our garden and eco-centre and answered questions, explained processes and generally demonstrated a sound knowledge and understanding of many aspects of horticulture and ecology.

Feedback from the university lecturer responsible for the visit:

*"Thanks for the day once again... I've never had so many thanks (from this cohort!) for taking them to the Patch today. Please pass on my congratulations (if that's the right word) to the students for being such great hosts and tour guides. ....The day really opened their eyes and inspired them".*

## New Gardener

You may have heard we have a new gardener at our school working once a week to ensure the grounds are looking their best (there is a bit of catching up to do of course!). His name is Ken Colley and he is an experienced and skilled horticulturist. Ken mostly works on Tuesday so you may see him in the garden. He did a beautiful job ensuring the front of the school looked tidy and neat for the first day of term 4. Thank you Ken ☺

## New String Teacher

A warm welcome to Michaela Tory who will be teaching our string students at The Patch on Fridays. If you are interested in your child learning a string instrument, please contact her on 0423 434 598 or email: [michaelatory@tpg.com.au](mailto:michaelatory@tpg.com.au).

## Showcase Kitchen

If you were fortunate enough to enjoy some of the food on offer from the kitchen during the Showcase last term, you will know that a lot of work must have gone into the organisation, preparation, cooking and selling of the delicious food. Our quesadillas, cheese toasties, roast cauliflower soup and chunky minestrone soup had people coming back for more and stopped the tummies from rumbling during the performances.

A big thank you must be extended in particular to Becks Wapshott and Megan Holmes for overseeing, shopping and preparing for this massive task and also to Josie Zwiers, Ji Young BAIK, Trish Healy and Bruce Campbell, Jess Dunn and daughter Isabelle, Catherine Sands, Sarah Tebbutt, Claire Pritchard, Lynne Davidson-Tuck, Lisa Rutzou, Nadine Knight, Cecile Mayor, Sarah Grigg and Rachel Zerner for their help in preparation, cooking, serving and cleaning up. You are wonderful!

Altogether we sold over \$1300 worth of yummy meals and look forward to next time when we shall hone our skills even further!





## **Preps learn chicken development**

On Tuesday, Melissa Gollin and her daughter Miette visited the prep classes for a very exciting project. Melissa brought us fertilised chicken eggs and some incubators. She taught us lots of information about chickens and how they develop in their eggs. The incubators are set up in our classroom and in 21 days' time we will have baby chicks! Thank you so much Melissa!



## **Respect, Responsibility, Integrity**

### **Pick-Up/Drop off**

While staff try their best to load all children into cars as quickly and as safely as possible, if you are in a hurry or find the process frustrating you may prefer one of the options listed below to pick up your children.

- Come 10 minutes early, park and meet your children at the greeting tree or their classrooms.
- Park at the hall on The Patch Road and meet your children at the end of the track on The Patch Road.
- Arrive at 3.40pm when most of the traffic has subsided and your children should be waiting for you without you having to do a lap.
- Send your children to after school care and miss the traffic altogether!

The loading zone is NOT to be used to drop your children off. It is becoming a habit to some parents and it is very dangerous, as we have observed some near misses. Please use the 'Drop off' zone to drop your children off.

If you choose to use our pick up/drop off procedure (**including no parking in the drop off or loading zone**) we ask that you follow the rules and procedures. This includes doing a lap if your child is not ready to pick up and being courteous to our staff who are only there to help.

Thank you to the parents who have been following our procedures properly.

## VIP of the Month

Our lovely neighbour and community member, Rob Campbell, is a familiar and friendly face around our school. He has spent many of his working years involved in the research and development of forest systems and has a wealth of information regarding local history, health and well-being, ecology, and much, much more.

Rob lives in the cottage beside the gravel car park and has assisted in a range of programs at our school over the last 10 – 15 years. He is a husband, a father, a grandfather and an active member of the community and we love and value his interactions with our school. **Thank you Rob for all the wonderful stories, skills and knowledge you have shared with us over the years.** Rob meets all the department requirements, has a working with children permit and loves meeting new people. Go and introduce yourself!



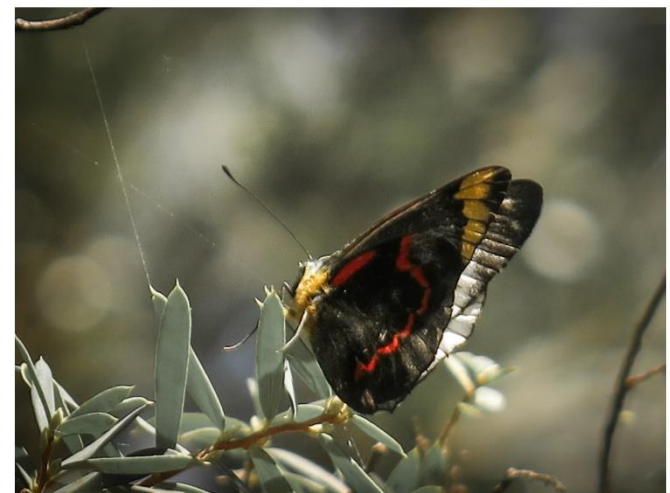
Learning about life in the wetlands with Rob.



Tuning in to the natural world.



Snapshots from the week by our amazing  
Yr 5 photographer Ted





# Enrol now!



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**FIRST  
CLASS  
FREE!**



**MONBULK  
MILO  
In2CRICKET  
2017/2018**

[monbulkcc.vic.cricket.com.au](http://monbulkcc.vic.cricket.com.au)



Milo Cricket is back at Monbulk. Over the years our program has been of the most successful in the state, including one of the largest for female participants. The MILO in2CRICKET program is an introductory program designed for kids between 5 and 9 years of age. The aim of the program is to provide young people with a fun and enjoyable way of learning the fundamentals of cricket while, at the same time promoting the values of the game – teamwork, friendship, and fair play.

**Where** Monbulk Cricket Club (Monbulk Recreation Reserve 124 J1)  
**Why** A fun and organised 12 week program that helps develop cricket skills, fitness, social skills and sportsmanship.  
**Who** All girls and boys aged 5 - 8  
**Contact** Bronwyn Badgerly  
**Phone** 0488 566 443  
**Cost** \$85 (includes bat, ball, t-shirt, back-pack, hat, drink bottle and more)  
**Day / Time** Fri 5.30pm-6.30pm (BBQ each evening)

**Registration Day:** Friday 20th October - 5.30pm @ Monbulk Cricket Clubrooms  
If possible, please register online @ [playcricket.com.au](http://playcricket.com.au) (enter Monbulk or 3793).  
Please just pay on the 20th if you register online.

Dates:	Friday	3rd	November	1st session / hand out packs
	Friday	10th	November	
	Friday	17th	November	
	Friday	24th	November	
	Friday	1st	December	(Grand Parents / Special friend Day)
	Friday	8th	December	
	Friday	15th	December	Milo Christmas
	Friday	2nd	February	1st session for 2018
	Friday	9th	February	
	Friday	16th	February	
	Friday	23rd	February	
	Friday	2nd	March	Trophy Day / Last session for season

- More info and photos can be found on the Monbulk Cricket Club website in the Juniors section: [monbulkcc.vic.cricket.com.au](http://monbulkcc.vic.cricket.com.au).
- If you are 8 or 9 years old you might like to play for Monbulk in the U10 'Big Bash' Competition also played on Friday nights.



## Put Monbulk & District Community Bank on your shopping list.

If you are looking for a new bank or any banking service then we ask you to put Monbulk & District Community Bank on your shopping list. When you bank with Monbulk & District Community Bank you can not only expect good old fashion service but through our partnership with The Patch Primary School, your school will benefit.

### Good for your School

Monbulk & District Community Bank® Branch will reward The Patch Primary School by contributing funds for each new loan, credit card, personal account or everyday account opened. Your school will receive:

	Contribution
Bendigo Home Loan	\$500
Bendigo Personal Loan	\$250
Insurance Cover	\$100
New Business Account	\$50
Appointment with Financial Planner	\$50
New Personal Account	\$25
New Term Deposit over \$10,000	\$25

The more banking you do with Monbulk & District Community Bank® the more you and your School will benefit. Drop into the branch at 70 Main Rd Monbulk or phone 97521130 to discuss your banking needs. Offer valid for eligible products taken out at Monbulk & District Community Bank® Branch. Terms, conditions, fees, charges and eligibility criteria apply. All loans subject to the bank's normal lending criteria.

## Emerald Lakers Junior Basketball

**Where** **Emerald Primary School Sports Stadium**

**Junior Girls 6 to 8 yrs old**

**Wednesday 5 to 6 pm**

**Little Lakers 4-6 yr olds**

**Begins Monday 30th Oct and goes through to Monday 11th Dec 4.15pm to 5pm \$30 per term**

**Junior Boys 6 to 8 yrs old**



**Wednesday 4pm to 5pm**

**Skills & Drills Tuesdays 4 to 5pm \$5.00 per week**

**Call Lisa: 0438 900 611 to find out more.**

**join@emerald Lakers.com.au**

**TERM 4  
2017**

**Aussie Hoops is Basketball Australia's official junior game development program for children aged 5—10 years.**

**PROGRAM DETAILS**

**WHEN:** Saturday 14th October - Saturday 9th December (No session Cup weekend)

**WHERE:** Cockatoo Reserve Stadium, Mountain Road, Cockatoo Mel. Ref. Map 311 J3 11:30am until 12:30am (approx.)

**TIME:** 11:30am until 12:30am (approx.)

**COST:** \$80 for new players \$60 for returning players

**All Participants Receive:**

- 1 x Peak Aussie Hoops backpack
- 1 x Spalding size 5 Aussie Hoops basketball
- 1 x Peak Aussie Hoops reversible singlet.

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

Email: [hoops@sherbrookebasketball.asn.au](mailto:hoops@sherbrookebasketball.asn.au) or [juniors@sherbrookebasketball.asn.au](mailto:juniors@sherbrookebasketball.asn.au)

Detach and bring with cheque made payable to: Sherbrooke B.A., P.O. Box 1121, Upwey, 3158.

Name.....Age.....Birthdate.....Gender M/F

Address.....

Postcode.....Phone number.....What school do you attend?.....

Parents Names.....

Do you require any medication? Y / N If yes, for what condition?.....

Singlet size:    8    10    12    14    Email Address.....

## Join the adventure



**1<sup>st</sup> Kallista Cubs & Scouts**  
 Cubs: Mondays 7:00 – 8:30pm  
 Scouts: Thursdays 7:00 – 9:00pm  
 For further contact:  
 Stephen Hall  
 (Group Leader)  
 0437 193 388



**PREPARE FOR  
ADVENTURE  
PREPARE FOR LIFE**



**Check out Scouts!**

Contact your local Group Leader through our website,  
[www.scoutsvictoria.com.au](http://www.scoutsvictoria.com.au)

**1800 SCOUTS**  
[fb.com/scoutsvictoria](https://fb.com/scoutsvictoria)

6-7    8-10    11-14    15-17    18-25 years  
Joey Scouts    Cubs    Scouts    Venturers    Rovers



## The Importance of Attendance

Please remember that all students are expected to be in their classroom, ready to begin lessons by 8.50am.

We understand that now and again things don't go to plan, but all families should aim for their children to be at school by this time.

Parents should also remember that late arrivals or early leavers must be signed in or out by their parent or guardian using the system on the iPad at the office. The appropriate orange or red tag must also be given to the classroom teacher when collecting your child.

The Department of Education & Training has very specific expectations about school attendance and we ask that all parents be mindful of the importance of prompt and regular attendance at school.

# Community Notices

## In Schools Music

Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, French horn, Trombone, Tuba, Drums, Percussion, and Bass Guitar. **New students.** Enrolments to Andrew McAlister on 0408467147 or email [ismusic@bigpond.com](mailto:ismusic@bigpond.com)

## Music Tuition with Chris Walker

Lessons in piano, guitar and bass guitar during school hours and after.  
Phone 0407 049 012 or email [chrisw7@ymail.com](mailto:chrisw7@ymail.com)

## Violin, Viola & Cello Lessons

Lessons are available at school on Fridays with experienced strings teacher Michaela Tory.  
For further information call: 0423 434 598 or email: [michaelatory@tpg.com.au](mailto:michaelatory@tpg.com.au). Be quick as there are currently only a small number of places available for new pupils.

## Private Ukulele Lessons

The Patch School students now have the opportunity to take private ukulele lessons. The Patch School parent, Jess Dunn, has had 6 years' experience teaching ukulele to kids and adults and loves teaching at The Patch. The cost is \$18 for a 20-minute individual lesson or \$12 for a 20 minute group lesson (subject to suitable pairing). For more information, please call or email.  
0408 102 542 [jessdunn.arts@gmail.com](mailto:jessdunn.arts@gmail.com)

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