

Marysville Primary School Newsletter

Week 9
Monday 24th March 2025

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Salutations,

On Monday, March 24th, we held a very special assembly where all of our leaders received certificates from Sandice McCawley, recognizing their leadership roles for 2025. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Sandice for taking time out of her busy schedule to present these meaningful certificates. They serve as a symbol of our leaders' commitment and will be treasured for years to come.



On Monday, March 4th, the school captains attended the Halogen Leadership Conference in Melbourne. The event was held at the Melbourne Convention Centre and welcomed 2,000 students from across Victoria. Surrounded by these young leaders, they listened to inspiring role models, including Olympian Emma McKeon, actress Catherine Laga'aia, and AFL player Majak Daw. Each speaker shared powerful stories about their personal leadership journeys, resilience, determination, and the mindset necessary for achieving success. Our students were captivated by the stories of overcoming obstacles, setting goals and striving for excellence. They left feeling motivated to bring the lessons back to school to share with others aiming to share the same dedication and drive as the leaders that they admired did.

Events like this shape the confident, forward thinking young people that we nurture at Marysville Primary School where leadership, personal growth and ambition are part of every day.

We are committed to developing confident and capable young leaders through meaningful experiences outside the classroom. By offering opportunities such as Halogen this year and Dream and Lead last year, we equip our students with the skills, mindset, and ambition necessary to succeed in any path they choose.



Responsibility

Community

Respect

Our Junior School Council is a group of young leaders who are honing their leadership skills. The new council has met several times and has many activities planned for the year. Last week, they did an excellent job organizing Harmony Day, where they prepared and shared orange jelly, and cordial.

Looking ahead, the Junior School Council will be running our Easter Bonnet Parade on April 4th and has organized a fantastic Easter raffle.

Tickets for the raffle have been sent home and are also available in the foyer.

We look forward to seeing as many grandparents as possible at the Easter Parade. We hope they will join us for our Easter story at church and participate in our community walk. Everyone is welcome.

Our Grade 3 and 5 students have participated in the NAPLAN testing last week. We made sure that we reminded the child that they don't need to stress about NAPLAN. We want them to do well and we are confident they will do so. Our message was to read the questions carefully, take their time and try to focus. If they do this, they will do their best which is what we want.

I would like to warmly welcome Grace and Jarrod to our School Council. We met a couple of weeks ago, and everyone is excited about the year ahead and the role the Council will play. We also want to thank Clea for her ongoing support, along with Charro and Emma. This small group plays an important role, and we appreciate their time and dedication to the school.



Now that School Council has held its first meeting, I would like to invite our school community to a morning tea where we will present the Marysville Primary School 2024 Annual Plan. I look forward to welcoming you at one of the two sessions being offered: **Tuesday 1st April at 9:15am or Tuesday 1st April at 2:30pm**

New School Community Member

We are excited to announce that a new member will be joining our school community: Agnes the Therapy Dog! Starting Wednesday, Agnes will become a part of our school environment. The School Council has discussed the numerous benefits of having a therapy dog and has approved this initiative.

Therapy dogs provide much more than companionship; they also offer a variety of health benefits. From reducing anxiety to addressing well-being issues, they serve as a valuable resource for our students and staff.

Mental Benefits

Dogs have a natural ability to bring happiness and provide comfort to those in need. Therapy dogs offer a gentle way for individuals who struggle with social interactions or experience loneliness to engage with others. These dogs provide support without judgment and offer unconditional love. The benefits of therapy dogs include reduced anxiety and stress, as well as increased self-esteem.

Physical Benefits

Interacting with a therapy dog can help alleviate tension, regulate the cardiovascular system, and even lower blood pressure. Children are encouraged to perform better when they know they can engage with a therapy dog. Activities like playing with and grooming the dog can also improve fine motor skills and physical agility.

Emotional Benefits

One of the most remarkable benefits of therapy dogs is their ability to alleviate negative emotions. The love and affection from these valued companions can help replace those feelings. It's not surprising that interacting with therapy dogs can help children improve their understanding of meditation, which we practice here at Smiling Minds. Generally, meditation involves focusing your attention on the pure experience of the present moment. Agnes will assist with this process.

Agnes is currently in training with Mel as her trainer, who is responsible for her. We look forward to



Marysville Primary

NATURE & NURTURE



TERM ONE

In Term One students have been identifying what in nature is important to them, they are encouraged to think about all things in nature that they can nurture and how they might go about this.

Seeds and seed collection. How do plants reproduce?

Students understand that plants can reproduce in a variety of ways. Such great understandings were that, plants reproduce by producing flowers, flowers produce seeds. Seeds are spread in a variety of ways, via wind, flood, by birds, insects and animals.

Students understand that all plants are a reproduction of an existing plant.

Students have identified plants in the school garden that have gone to seed. We have collected seeds and brought along some seeds from home.

The grade preps have made great Maracas that are storing our sunflower seeds for next Spring.



Growing plants from runners

We also have had a great look at our strawberry plants from the strawberry patch. How do they reproduce? Runners!! We can grow new strawberry plants from these! Amazing and a great way to save money.

Maths in Gardening



Grade 5/6 have been interested in growing raspberry plants that also grow from runners. These need to be contained. We have some large planter boxes that need to be filled soil, but how much soil is needed? Students had to calculate the volume of the large pots and convert this to litres to find out how many bags are needed to fill the pots! What a great job! We can use some of the soil we have made in our compost bins, another great way to save on money and add valuable nutrients to the soil.



Happy Gardening everyone!

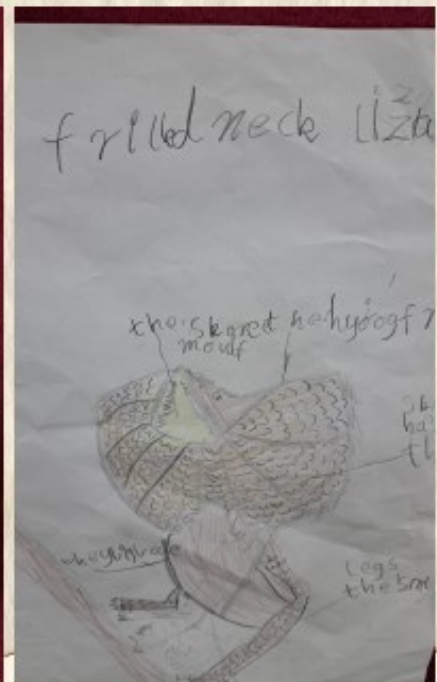
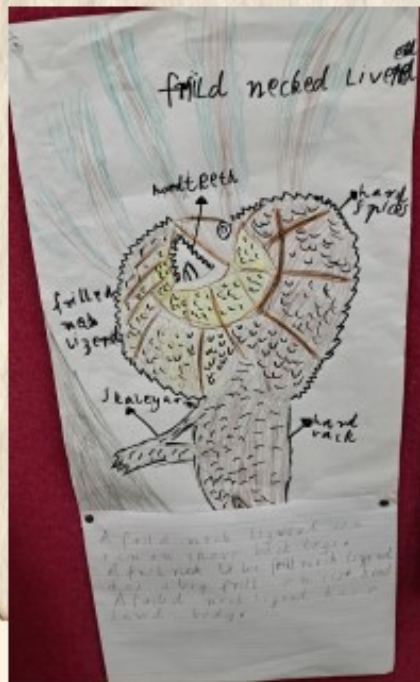
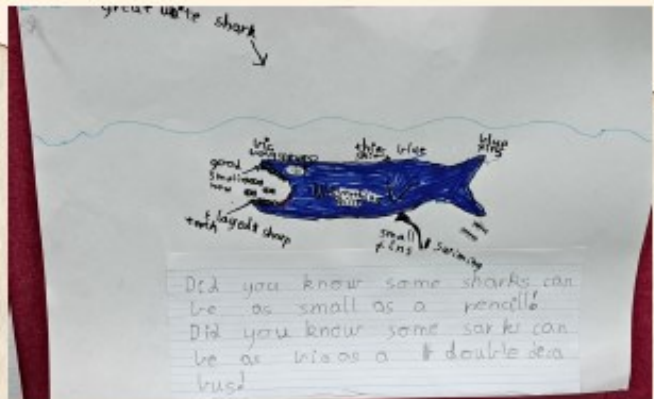
Kim Darbyshire (Nature and Nurture teacher)

Nourishing Kitchen Garden program

Enhancing Literacy and Numeracy

Developing a deep sense of place through Nature Education

Expanding and Enriching our Education Landscape



In P/1/2 we have been exploring features of information texts.



Harmony Day

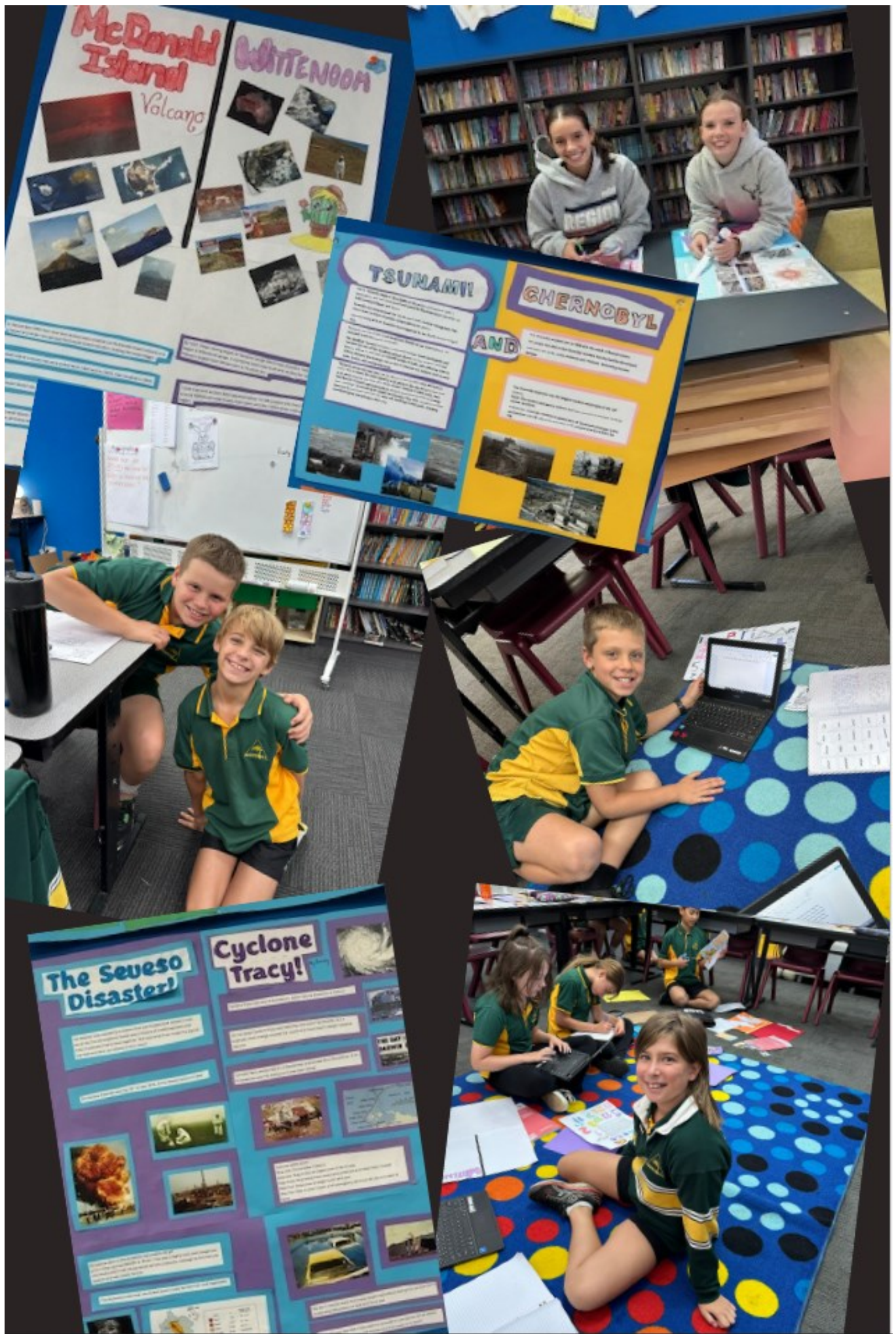
We also loved celebrating Harmony Day!





Grade 5&6

working on their disaster projects!



McDonald Island Volcano

Whittenooh

TSUNAMI!

CHERNOBYL

AND

The Seveso Disaster!

Cyclone Tracy!

March

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sun

					1	2
3	4	5 Halogen Leadership	6	7	8	9
10 Labour Day Public Holiday	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 Harmony Day Wear Orange	22	23
24	25 Cluster Athletics Alexandra	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sun

	1	2	3 School Council	4 Easter Parade Easter Raffle Draw End of Term	5	6
7 School Holidays	8 School Holidays	9 School Holidays	10 School Holidays	11 School Holidays	12	13
14 School Holidays	15 School Holidays	16 School Holidays	17 School Holidays	18 School Holidays Good Friday	19	20
21 Easter Monday	22	23 Ditto - Bravehearts	24	25 ANZAC Day	26	27
28 Labyrinth Walk	29	30				