



School Newsletter

7th February 2025

Just Around the Corner	Coming Up	Later on
19th – 21st February - Grade 5 Camp: Cave Hill Creek 10th March - Labour Day Public Holiday 12th– 14th March - NAPLAN	20th March - Close the Gap Cultural Gathering (Koorie Students) 26th March - Dream & Lead Conference (School Leaders)	21st – 23rd May - Grade 3 Camp: Angahook 17th – 19th November - Grade 6 Camp: Lady Northcote

Principal Report

Welcome Back

Welcome to the 2025 school year to all our families. New beginnings, new hopes, some new staff and many new students. This is a wonderful time of the year as our Foundation students enter school for the first time. It has been tremendous seeing the students transition back to school so well over the past two weeks. It has been a pleasure to welcome our families back and see our students arriving back on the first day of the school year. I thoroughly enjoy greeting the students each morning and catching up on their news. May the year ahead be filled with growth, learning, positive achievements, and lots of fun for our students!



Grade 4 Camp

We have already had a very hot and successful Grade 4 camp to Coastal Forest Lodge in Anglesea/Torquay area. Our students need to take a bow as they consistently showed our school values of Respect, Excellence, Pride and Resilience. The camping experiences are part of our extra-curricular activities and provide the students with many learning experiences. We are lucky again to be joining the Moorabool Valley Association, comprised of 4 schools: Anakie Primary School, Lethbridge Primary School, Shelford Primary School and Meredith Primary School. Our students have the opportunity to enjoy their camping experiences and socialise with students from the other local government state schools. I would like to thank Mrs. Edmiston for giving up her personal time to attend the camp, without this support camps would not be possible for our students. See images of all the fun that was had!



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



PRIDE



EXCELLENCE

School Uniform

We have plenty of stock of our school uniform in the office. It is the expectation that all students wear the correct uniform to school every day.

Our dress code (uniform) aims to:

- foster a sense of community and belonging and encourage students to develop pride in their appearance and the school.
- support the school's commitment to ensuring that our students feel equal and are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities.
- reduce student competition based on clothing.
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community.

Uniform support is available through State Schools Relief for families enduring financial hardship. This includes generic items, vouchers for items with our school logo as well as school shoes, socks and underwear. Please contact Jude in the office for further information.

Arriving at school on time

A reminder to all families that school starts at 9am sharp. All classrooms begin their learning at this time and students who arrive late to school miss vital information about their learning activities. If students arrive late, they must go through the office and receive a late pass that is then handed to their classroom teacher. Jude in the office will record their late arrival and presence at school to avoid the classroom teacher being distracted from the class teaching and learning. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

The school yard is supervised from 8:45am each day. If your child arrives prior to this time they will need to be booked in and taken to the Outside School Hours Care program. Please see Jude or Kym for booking and app details.

Meredith PS Technology Agreement

Next week, students will bring home (or parents receive at the Parent Information Evening) our school Digital Technology Agreement. It is mandated as part of our child safe standards, that your child and yourself read through the agreement and sign. Once this is completed could you please return the signed copy either back to the office or the classroom teacher.

Students will be taught positive behaviours while online and to remain safe when accessing online tools. We encourage all parents and carers to assist us with these messages, as a lot of online behaviours occur at home.

There are lots of wonderful resources available via the E-Safety Website: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/>

Lunch Orders

Lunch orders have already kicked off for the year. This year the Meredith Community Centre volunteers will be preparing our students lunch orders every Wednesday. Lunch orders need to be in the black box at the office by 9:30am on Tuesday to receive the order on Wednesday. We have sent home Lunch Order Forms with all families, and if you require more at any time, please see Jude in the office. Thank you again to Leah and her team at the Community Centre for taking this on for our students.



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Auslan



Last week we welcomed Lauren Stancliffe, our new Auslan teacher to Meredith Primary School. We are excited for our students to learn this expressive language and continue to help create an inclusive culture within our community. Research improves student language and cognitive development, can improve spatial awareness and even multitasking. Yet another significant benefit and opportunity that is created through the teaching of Auslan is for the community at large, to support deaf and hard of hearing children and adults. Auslan is on every Thursday for all students across the school. A great way to get involved is to ask your child/dren to teach you something they have learned. Just like our classrooms, it may be something that you are able to use and learn with at home.



Kind regards
Lachlan Day
Principal



We recognise the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first custodians of the land. We acknowledge the Wadawurrung people and extend respect to all Indigenous peoples of this continent recognising their cultures as the oldest continuous living cultures in human history.

Privacy Reminder for our school community

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' Privacy Policy and the Schools' Privacy Collection Notice.

Our Photographing, Filming and Recording Students Policy, describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn.

We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use [Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education] safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using [Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education], please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents.



**Welcome!
Our 2025
Foundation
Students**



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A huge thank you to all the families that helped care for our Chooks and Gardens over the school holidays.



Zooper Doopers!

Available on Tuesdays & Thursdays
\$1 each

All funds raised go towards Grade 6 Graduation



Orders Due Wednesday 12th February

Additional
catalogue copies
available at the
office

SCHOLASTIC **Book Club**



Outside School
Hours Care



We recycled milk
cartons into bird
feeders, had an
excursion to the
Meredith Skate
Park and had an
incursion with
Mr D - The
Music Man

So much fun on
our School
Holiday Program!



OSHC Awards

Phoebe Geddes

For her RESPECT, RESILIENCE & great attitude in our
OSHC Holiday Program. Well done!!!

congratulations

Student Achievement Awards

Week 2

Foundation / Grade 1

Leilani Measures

For displaying our school value RESPECT,
by making sure rubbish goes in the correct bin

Grade 1/2

Darcy Jones

For his enthusiasm for being back at school and for helping his classmates

Grade 3/4

Noah Gebbie

For jumping straight into his learning, creating 3 excellent posters
on Australian Animals

Grade 5/6

Kira Dickers

For an excellent start to the school year, taking on all challenges
and doing her best with her work!

The Arts

Aayan Poudel

For showing EXCELLENCE with his knowledge and recall of Art

PE

Nikola Mijatovic

For his great enthusiasm and helping the preps

SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOURS

Cody Elder

For demonstrating incredible RESILIENCE at camp, embracing every activity with a positive
attitude and smile



School Phone Numbers

School Landline: 03 5286 1313

School Mobile: 0439 611 476

OSHC Mobile: 0436 395 288

Our school landline is now working after a long wait. Please use this number to contact the school between 8.30am – 4.30pm.

The school mobile is usually carried by Lachlan Day (Principal) and should be used for after-hours communication that can't wait until the next school day.

The OSHC mobile is carried by our OSHC Coordinator (Kym). Please remember that Kym works morning and afternoon/evening, so you may need to leave a message if you are calling outside of OSHC hours.

Term Dates 2025

Term 1:	29 January to 4 April
Term 2:	22 April to 4 July
Term 3:	21 July to 19 September
Term 4:	6 October to 19 December

NOTE: Preps do not attend school on Wednesdays: Feb 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th, March 5th, 12th

Public Holidays 2025

Labour Day	10th March
Good Friday	18th April
Easter Monday	21st April
Anzac Day	25th April
King's Birthday	9th June
Melbourne Cup Day	4th November



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A reminder to all families that during Term 1 and 4 all students must wear a hat outside for any purposes including recess and lunch play. No hat means no play! This follows our school and Department of Education SunSmart Policy.



1800RESPECT

NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT, DOMESTIC
FAMILY VIOLENCE COUNSELLING SERVICE

1800RESPECT.org.au



kidshelpline
Anytime Any Reason

1800 55 1800 | CALL | EMAIL | WEBCHAT

BREAKFAST CLUB

We need your help!

Breakfast Club is on every **Monday** and every second **Wednesday** morning and is an integral part of supporting students and their wellbeing. We usually have 10-15 students at Breakfast Club, enjoying yummy food, great conversation, and a full belly to start the school day. Students come to Breakfast Club for a variety of reasons - they may have been running late, they may not have been hungry at home, or they are still hungry! Breakfast Club is provided for all students without question or judgement.

To make Breakfast Club even more awesome, we need some helpers from 8:30am-9:30am. Duties include making toast/cereal, serving students and washing dishes, and you won't be on your own. Anyone can do it! You may be available once a term or more than once. Could you please complete the section below to indicate when you are available to help and return to the school office? We will be in touch to confirm the roster. Thank you so much.



The School Breakfast Club program provides breakfast foods to schools so students can learn with a full stomach and get the most out of their education.

Breakfast clubs have been shown to improve student-teacher relationships.

Coming together for breakfast has a positive effect on social skills, learning, concentration, and student behaviour.

Breakfast Club is provided by the Victorian government and it is **FREE** for everyone.
Feedback School Breakfast Club Program

I am available on the following days to help with Breakfast Club:

WEEK	MONDAY	WEDNESDAY
2	☐ 3 February	
3	☐ 10 February	☐ 12 February
4	☐ 17 February	
5	☐ 24 February	☐ 26 February
6	☐ 3 March	
7	No Breakfast Club	☐ 12 March
8	☐ 17 March	
9	☐ 24 March	☐ 26 March
10	☐ 31 March	

Parent/Carer name: _____ Student name: _____

Parent/Carer phone number: _____

Foster Care

Information Sessions On Now

Foster Care is about creating a safe space for children in our community. Take the next step in becoming a foster carer with Cafs.

Foster Care

Respite Care • Short-term • Long-term • Emergency Care

Other Types of Care

Permanent Care • Kinship Care • Adoption



REGISTER YOUR INTEREST

Visit cafs.org.au or call 1800 692 237

cafs 
WE CARE

**9-15
FEBRUARY**



National Lunch box Week

By offering practical, non-judgemental support, we can work together to make nourishing lunchboxes the norm.

www.lunchboxweek.org

[#NationalLunchboxWeek](https://twitter.com/NationalLunchboxWeek)



Nutrition
Australia



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Child Car Seat Safety



Rear Facing



For babies up to about 30 months old

Forward Facing



This seat is for children who have outgrown their rearward facing seat.

Booster



This seat lifts the child up so that an adult seat belt fits.

Seat Belt



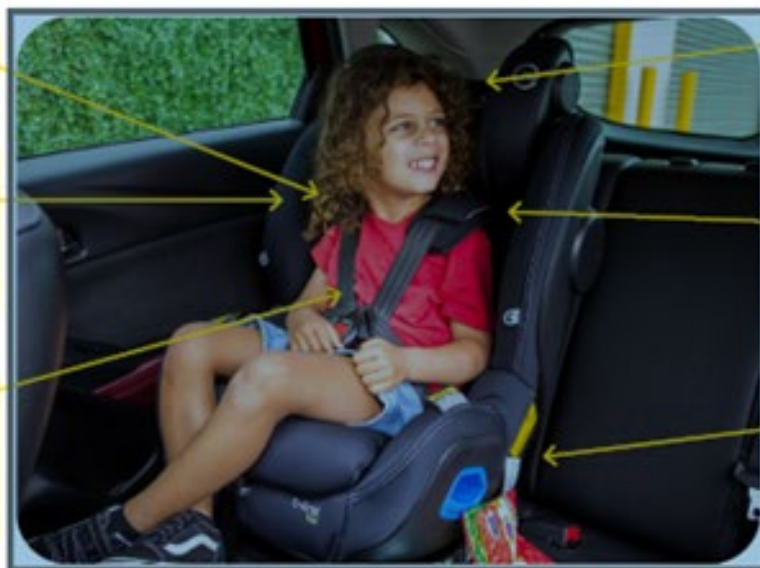
Use the 5-step test to see if your child is ready to be in a seat belt.

It is important that children **DO NOT** move to the next seat before they are ready as this could cause serious injury. Always use the shoulder markers on your seat to guide you.

Straps are at shoulder level.

Check against minimum and maximum height markers, located on the child seat.

Make sure straps are not twisted and are a snug fit with one finger-width of slack.



Ensure rear tether strap is secured to the correct anchor point.

Position your child with their back and bottom flat against the car seat.

Ensure the seat belt is tight, keeping the car seat in place.



Check that the top tether strap is fixed to the anchor point and is pulled tight with no slack/give and has no twist



Locate the car's factory fitted child restraint anchorage point (see car manual if not able to find) and confirm that you are using the correct anchor point of your car.

Presented by

ROAD SAFETY
EDUCATION
VICTORIA



EARLY
LEARNING
ASSOCIATION
AUSTRALIA

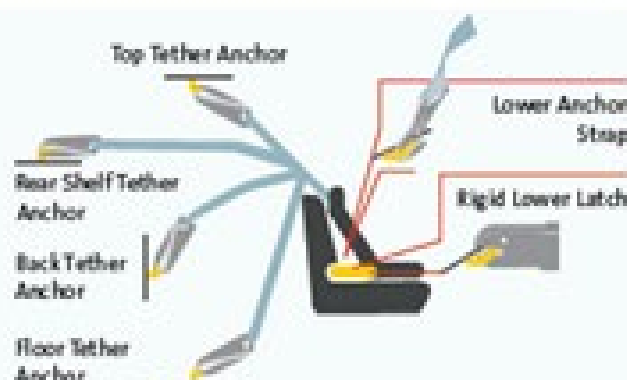


Child Car Seat Safety

For all child car seats and capsules the tether strap should be straight. You may need an extension tether strap to reach the anchor point. Also remember to use the stabilizer bar when seat is rear facing. Either use the seat belt or Isofix connectors.



Make sure you use the correct anchor point for the child seat. These can be found in the areas shown on this diagram. Use your car manual to find the right one.



The lower anchor strap and rigid lower latch as shown are used **ONLY** in car seats fitted with ISOFIX connectors.



Make sure the seat has an approved Australian Standard Sticker and labeling showing AS/NZS 1754. Stickers should **NOT** be damaged or removed. Seats without appropriate stickers should not be used.



Before moving a child from a Child Booster Seat, please ensure that they meet all 5 steps of the test.

If they do not pass all 5 Steps they must remain in a Booster Seat. This is at around 145cm

THE FIVE STEP TEST



The safest place for children to sit is in the rear seats. Children from the age of 12 over 145cm are able to sit in the front seat. Never place a rear-facing car seat where an active air bag is fitted.



For more information go to ELAA's Starting Out Safely website www.childroadsafety.org.au



HOOK IN 2 HOCKEY

HOCKEY GEELONG
GEELONG HOCKEY ASSOCIATION



FIRST SESSION IS FREE!
ALL EQUIPMENT PROVIDED!
CALL OR EMAIL FOR DETAILS!

Club: **Geelong Hockey Club**

Venue: **Stead Park, Corio** (<https://w3w.co/coiling.oldest.winters>)

Program Start Date: **Wed 5th of March, 2025**

Time: **5:00 - 5:50pm**

No. of Weeks: **5 weeks**

Price: **\$59 (or \$129 with equipment purchase)**

Registrations: **Hookin2Hockey - Geelong Hockey Club**

(www.revolutionise.com.au/geelonghc/events/261650)

Coordinator Name: **Chris Medlin**

Coordinator Email: hookin2hockey@geelonghockeyclub.com

Coordinator Phone: **0410 413 616**



**SCAN HERE
TO REGISTER**





Bannockburn Lethbridge Scout Group

Come and try Scouts
Check them out for your child!



For girls and boys

Cub Scouts 8-11 years old

Venturers 14 to 17 years old

Scouts 11 to 14 years old

Rovers 18 to 25 years old

Adult Leaders and Supporters 18+

Scouts of all ages enjoy adventure, imagination, and being outdoors.

Less screens - and more action, more fun, more friends, and more social skills!

Help us start a Joey unit for ages 5 to 8 years old



Enquiries:

gl.bannockburnlethbridge@scoutsvictoria.com.au

Group Leader Judith Wood 0435 042 077

Facebook Bannockburn Lethbridge Scout Group

www.scoutsvictoria.com.au