



Edition 14 – 4th September 2024

Contact Us: 5664 7382

e: meeniyah.ps@education.vic.gov.au

w: www.tarwinvalley.vic.edu.au

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Unfortunately, I'm writing again in relation to a significant weather event affecting our communities. Once again, you all did fantastically well and we emerged out the other side safe and well. This is our number one priority.

With staff and students travelling through numerous hazards on Monday morning, the safest choice was to stay home.

The clean up for many people was equally serious. With trees and damage to buildings and fences, families and staff had to prioritise these essentials to prevent further issues. Thanks to all those people who lent a hand, a generator and other forms of support; it's what makes our communities such special places.

Although most people have power back now, some of us don't. It's important we take this into consideration going forward. Events like this take a significant toll both physically and emotionally, the last thing we need is added pressure to 'fit everything in' and try to jump straight back into the fast lane.

Breathe, take a moment to reflect and when that doesn't work, repeat. 😊

Gene Vander Zalm, Principal

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

On Wednesday 21st August we held our Jump Rope for Heart day. The students jumped rope from 2:45pm and then Mr Reid invited the teachers to participate, which brought a lot of excitement and gave everyone a good laugh. The afternoon was finished off by Mr Reid announcing that we had raised an impressive \$1200 for the Heart Foundation! Well done to all involved and thank you to all who donated to the cause!



CALENDAR

Current 3rd Sept – 16th Sept

4th Sept - School Council Meeting

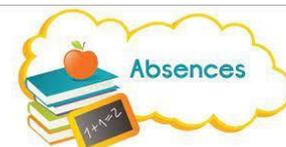
12th Sept - Division Athletics

Upcoming

19th Sept - School Concert

20th Sept - Footy Colours Day

20th Sept - Last day Term 3



A friendly reminder to please record your child's absence on Compass if they are not at school. If you are unable to login to Compass, you can email or phone the office.

BOOK WEEK

We held our annual book week dress up day on Friday 23rd August, starting the day off with each class showcasing their costumes in a parade. Students and staff showed great creativity and imagination when putting their costumes together and had a fantastic day celebrating their love of books.



BOOK CLUB

A reminder that Issue 6 of Book Club closes this week. Please place all orders via the LOOP app on your phone, or via the Scholastic website by COB Friday 6th September. Please **do not** send orders into the school office.

Every order gets a **\$5 PROMO CODE** to spend on Issue 7!

Don't forget to use your **PROMO CODE** if you ordered on the last Issue!

LOOP orders only. See LOOP for details

How To Order Online

BOOK CLUB LOOP for parents
Linked Online Ordering Platform

LEARN MORE

OR

DOWNLOAD THE HANDY **LOOP APP.**

GET IT ON Google Play
Download on the App Store

Visit scholastic.com.au/LOOP to order

AUTHOR VISIT

Author, Sofie Laguna recently came to visit Meeniyan Primary School. She read to the students and had some of the children perform as characters from her books too! She was extremely charismatic and engaging. Some of the children had read her books and were very happy to meet her.



SHRINE EXCURSION

On Friday, the Grade 5's went on an exciting excursion to Melbourne. Our adventure began at the National Gallery of Victoria, where the students were captivated by the stunning array of artwork on display. Following our artistic exploration, we made our way to the Shrine of Remembrance. There, the students participated in a guided tour, gaining valuable insights into Australia's military history and the sacrifices of our soldiers. The day was both educational and inspiring, leaving the students with a deeper appreciation for art and history.



RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

Last night my daughter and I went for a short walk, the dog had been couped up for 2 days and he was restless. There was a window of opportunity in the weather and we took it. We walked on the rail trail feeling cocooned from the weather and walked and talked in the dark.

We got close to my daughter's favourite place in the whole world, the creek. We paused our chatter for a moment to look at the stars through the trees and listen to the sound of the creek thumping. In that pause we hear the sound of the trees moaning and creaking. Daisy whispered "Mum- that is freaking me out, can we turn back please".

So, we did.

This morning the wind had stopped and finally I could get out at 5:30am as usual to trot down the trail with my wild dalmatian. My heart skipped a beat when I got to the creek – three large black woods had come down right where we had turned around last night.

This made me think about the pause we took. The moment we took to stop, to take in our surroundings and to consider our planet. That moment was intended for admiration, gratitude and an exhale but it turned into a moment for our intuition to kick in, to turn us around, to take us somewhere safe.

I think about how often we have a soundtrack to our day, a distraction from the mundane. A podcast, music, an audiobook, social media, you-tube clips – when maybe we need the mundane. To feel the wind, hear the creaking, to sit with the boredom and to notice changes. Not only for safety but also to be well and happy.

Donna Giliam, Primary Welfare Officer

SCHOOL CONCERT

This year's annual School Concert, "Space and Beyond", will be held on Thursday 19th September at The Meeniyan Hall. There will be a matinee and an evening performance.

Tickets are available online or from the school office.



CHILD SAFETY STANDARDS

- ❖ Everyone connected to our school can help children be safe.
- ❖ We have zero tolerance of any abuse of children.
- ❖ We have policies and procedures in place to protect the care, safety and welfare of children.
- ❖ There are clear boundaries about how adults in our school community may interact with our students.
- ❖ The new Child Safe Standards go further than child protection arrangements did in the past.
- ❖ The Child Safe Standards apply to school staff, volunteers, contractors, visitors and students' family members. Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility.
- ❖ To ensure you know how we are keeping your children safe at school, and how we would like you to support us.
- ❖ Unsupervised contractors will be asked about their child safety arrangements as a condition of working with us if they work with children enrolled in the school (or children can reasonably be expected to be present while they are at the school).

Please see further information on Child Safe Standards on our school website.

Community members are encouraged to raise any concerns about child abuse with the Principal or report directly to Child Protection / Police.