

Bayswater North
Primary School

THE LINK

A NEWSLETTER LINKING THE BAYSWATER NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY

From the Principal's Desk

As we get close to the end of Term 2 and the mid way point through the year, it is hard to believe just how quickly this year is flying past. Looking back over previous LINK articles, I can see that I often write about how busy school life is and how many activities and experiences our students have had - and I guess this would be one of the reasons why the year seems to go by so fast.

Finishing the term with a week of swimming, followed by a whole school World Cup Soccer themed day next week will certainly make sure our students head into the holidays ready for a break and hopefully with some fun memories of this term.

Thank yous

Our school community is fortunate to benefit from wonderful volunteers who really help our staff, students and families in many ways.

To all the parents who have helped out at sports events, come along to our Open Night, listened to reading, helped with swimming and of course volunteered for our recent Bunnings BBQ last weekend - a huge thank you to you all. No matter what capacity you have to help out, it all makes a difference to the smooth running of our school. Special mention to our wonderful fundraising gurus - Alana Robertson and Sarah Robin - who really do go above and beyond to make sure these events happen and are successful.



We also have our wonderful volunteers from Ed Connect who come and spend time each week in a variety of ways across the school. Ed Connect is an organisation that recruit, train and support skilled volunteers to provide learning support to students in schools. This is our third year of partnering with Ed Connect, and we currently have six of their volunteers coming into school regularly. Fiona helps in the library, Malcolm helps in STEM, and we have Jen, Margaret, Maria and Sonia who provide learning support in classrooms as well. Please say hello if you see them around. If you would like to find out more about Ed Connect please visit their website: <https://www.edconnectaustralia.org.au/>

A final thank you to all of our teachers and education support staff - they really do go above and beyond to ensure our students receive high quality teaching and extra curricular experiences in a supportive environment in every class. Special mention to Aaron Tait and Christine Breen who have replaced Sandra Gray this term - I know the students have loved having you both!

Calendar

Friday June 19 2026
Volume 36 Number 9

June

Wednesday 24th
Soccer World Cup/Sport Day

Friday 26th
Last Day of Term 2
2.30pm Dismissal

July

Monday 13th
First day of Term 3

Thursday 23rd
Prep – Year 2 Aquarium
Excursion

From the Principal's Desk continued..

Playgrounds and Building Work

Playgrounds

Remember way back in May 2024 when I was really excited about being awarded a large grant to upgrade our playgrounds?....Well.....we finally have a firm start date!! We have received a work schedule, and the first part of the playground upgrade will begin early next term. Thankfully the plans include keeping at least one playground open so we will still have plenty of play space for students during construction.

The first area to be upgraded will be the Prep Playground and Junior Playground. I've added a couple of pictures so you can join me in imagining what the finished spaces will look like.

The senior playground and GaGa Pit will be next, and finally the hard court resurfacing is due to begin around October when the weather gets a bit warmer. The whole job is due to be completed before the end of this year - I'm crossing all fingers and toes that this goes smoothly without too many delays.

I will be so excited when this big project is completed, as I think it will make such a difference to the everyday experience students have when playing at school.



Junior Building

I am also very happy to report that the repair works in the Junior Building should also commence shortly. This project is also being funded by the VSBA, and I have been advised this week that a contractor has been appointed and will meet with us shortly to review what needs to be done. We are really looking forward to having these rooms back on track and able to be used by our Prep class again. Huge thanks to our prep families, and especially Mrs Tyrrell, for being so patient with this process so far this year.

Student Semester One Reports

Reports are in the process of being finalised, and will be published to families through Compass by the end of Friday next week. Due to the Industrial Actions that took place earlier in the term, these reports will contain Progression Points and Effort and Behaviour marks only, and not the usual teacher comments. Fortunately our teachers present detailed information about what students have been learning each fortnight in the LINK, and regularly communicate with families if they have any concerns about specific students. Parent teacher conferences early next term (July 14th) will provide a great opportunity to touch base with your child's teacher as well - bookings for the conferences open this afternoon at 4pm.

Mrs Graunke - Long Service Leave

For the first two weeks of Term 3, I will be away on long service leave. My husband and I are really looking forward to going on a little adventure with our caravan to South Australia and the Northern Territory for a few weeks. Alisha Wildey will be the Acting Principal in my absence.

Mrs Graunke
Principal

Junior School News

Little Learners Love Literacy

The Preps have now met all the letters of the alphabet! They are learning to spell CVC words and form each letter of the alphabet correctly. The Grade 1 students have been reviewing all the phonemes and graphemes we have learnt since the beginning of the year. For the last two weeks of term, the students will be learning and practising using the grapheme /oo/ - oo as in goose.

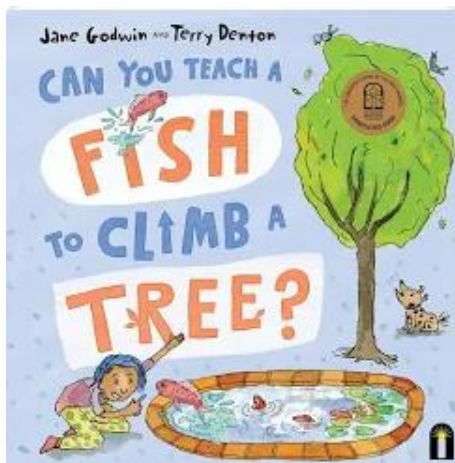
In Grade 2 students have learnt the suffix -ous. The suffix -ous means *full of or lots of*. It turns a noun into an adjective, for example joy – joyous. We add this suffix to base words and apply any relevant spelling rules (drop the e). In Week 9 we focussed on the r-controlled vowel phonemes /or/ and /ar/ and ways to write them. Next week, we will continue to revise and extend our knowledge of r-controlled phonemes and graphemes with /er/.

Reading and Writing

The Preps have been completing their weekend recounts each Monday and writing and spelling as part of Little Learners Love Literacy sessions. They also completed a cold write about Edward the Emu which included a beginning, middle and end. They are working on remembering to start with a capital letter, leave a finger space between each word as they write, write all the sounds they can hear in each word and finish with a full stop!

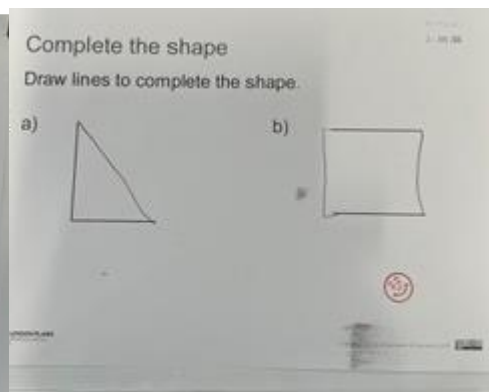
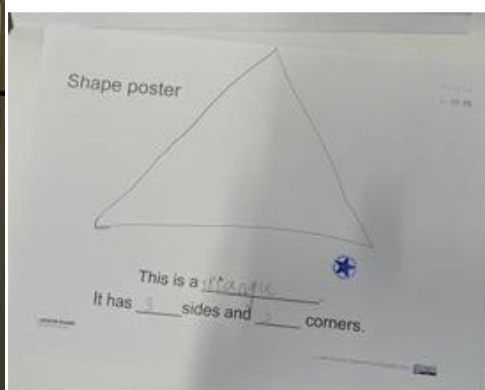
The Grade 1 and Grade 2 students have been practising adding boundary punctuation to their writing. We read a book called 'Can you Teach a Fish to Climb a Tree?' by Jane Godwin and Terry Denton and looked at how the author used question marks in the sentences and then switched to full stops when making statements. They have also been practising using exclamation marks in their writing.

When coming back from swimming students have settled back into the classroom with independent or partner reading. Independent reading fosters personal autonomy, vocabulary acquisition, and deep concentration. Partner reading builds oral fluency, comprehension, and collaborative skills through peer support. Together, these strategies help readers confidently engage with texts. It has been wonderful to hear students are adding completed books to their Premiers Reading Challenge Target. Keep reading till the 4th September when the Challenge finishes!

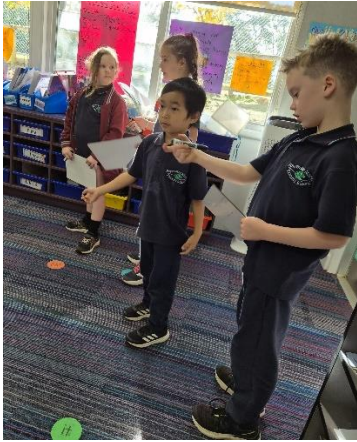


Maths

The Preps have graphed the results of a question that was posed by Mr Tait which was - 'What is your most favourite sport?' The outcome to this question was ... basketball. The students have also been learning about 2D shapes and how to draw shapes such as squares, circles and triangles.



The Grade 1 / 2 students have been practising identifying and describing key features of a map. They came up with directions for their Learning Partners to follow, using terms such as 'go straight ahead, backwards, forward, turn right, turn left, go back'. We even used our listening skills and followed a dance routine *Cha Cha Slide* making sure we were sliding left and right and stomping left and right when required!



Swimming!

Wow what a fun but exhausting week the junior school has had with swimming this week. It has been fabulous to watch everyone's skills continue to develop as well as their confidence in the water. Well done everyone!

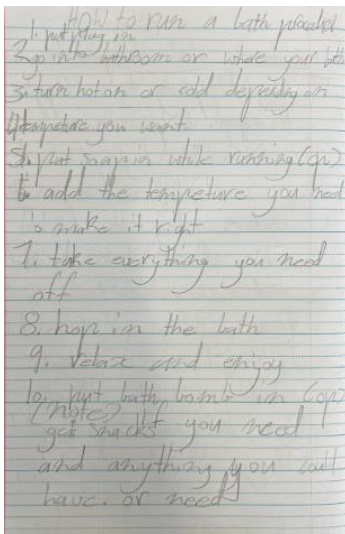
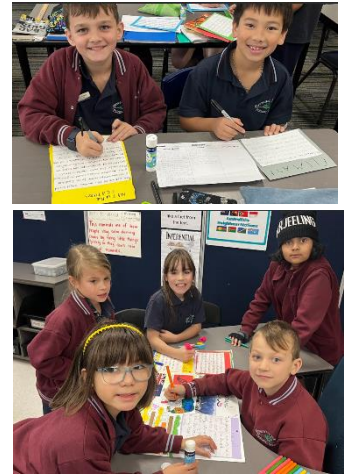


IN GRADE 3/4



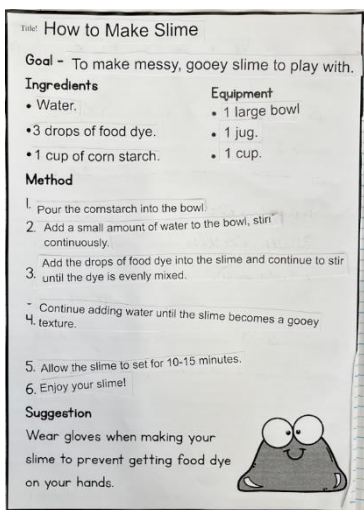
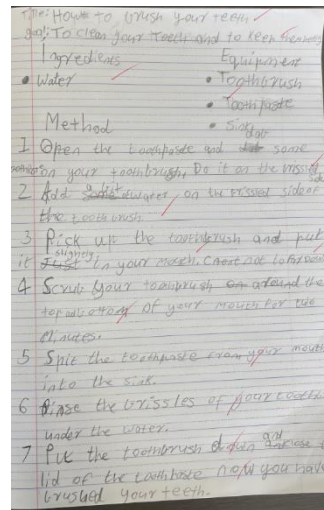
Writing - Information Report

Our Grade 3/4 students recently completed their Information Report unit, and some had the opportunity to present their posters at assembly. Students researched a country of their choice from New Zealand, the Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, or Timor-Leste and learned how to organise information into clear sections using headings and facts. They worked extremely hard to research, draft, edit, and publish their reports before creating eye-catching posters to showcase their learning. The teachers are incredibly impressed by the effort all students put into their information reports and the way they have developed their research, writing, and presentation skills throughout the unit.



Writing - Procedures

This week in Writing, the Grade 3/4 students began learning about procedural texts. Students explored the purpose and features of procedures, including a title, goal, ingredients, materials, numbered steps, adverbs, and action verbs. Together, we analysed examples and discussed the importance of writing clear instructions in the correct order. We also watched a "How to Make a Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich" video, which demonstrated the importance of providing clear and detailed steps. Students then practised creating their own simple procedures.



Wellbeing - My Identity Wheel

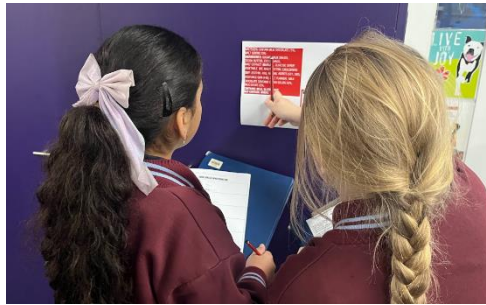
As part of Wellbeing, students completed an Identity Wheel, a tool designed to help them record and share different aspects of who they are. The activity encouraged students to reflect on and share information about themselves, highlighting their individuality and unique qualities. It also provided an opportunity for students to learn about the similarities and differences that exist between people in the class.



Reading - Food Labels

In Reading last week, students learned how to read and interpret food labels. They explored different parts of food packaging, including ingredients lists, nutrition information panels, serving sizes, and allergen information. Students compared a variety of food labels and used evidence from the labels to make informed decisions about food choices. It has been wonderful to see students developing practical, real-world reading skills that they can apply in everyday life.





Swimming

Our Grade 3/4 students thoroughly enjoyed participating in the swimming program. Throughout the week, students have been developing their confidence, water safety awareness, and swimming skills through a variety of activities and lessons.

Students were especially excited for the Water Fun Play session, where they had the opportunity to jump off diving boards, go down water slides, and make their way through an inflatable obstacle course. More photos will be posted on Facebook!



Kitchen Garden - Warrigal Green Pesto Pasta



GRADE 5/6 Classroom News

As much as we may say this in every newsletter, it truly has been a very busy and productive couple of weeks in Years 5 and 6!

Literacy

Students have continued their work on information reports, with each student researching and writing a report on a country from around the world. We are approaching the conclusion of this unit, which will link closely with our Integrated Studies topic as students create a poster showcasing their chosen country.

In Reading, we have continued our study of *Blueback* by Tim Winton. As we approach the end of the novel, students will engage in further discussion and analysis of the text as a whole. During the final week of term, we have explored the themes of the novel, including how the characters' attitudes contribute to them.

Mathematics

Over the past few weeks, students have been learning about angles, including how to identify, label and accurately measure them. They have also developed their understanding of complementary and supplementary angles and have practised calculating missing angles in shapes where the total angle measurement is 360 degrees.

Integrated Studies

We are currently finalising our unit on Countries Around the World. Throughout the term, students have learned about the seven continents and have now selected a country to investigate in greater depth.

As part of this project, students are creating an information report and accompanying poster. Their work includes information about the country's geography, people, culture and other significant features.

Sports

Our Years 5 and 6 students represented the school exceptionally well at the recent interschool sports competition. Congratulations to all members of our Hotshots Tennis, Soccer, Netball, AFL and Volley Bounce teams for the way they participated and conducted themselves throughout the day. Their teamwork, effort and sportsmanship reflected the values we are proud to see in Bayswater North students.

A special congratulations goes to our Mixed Netball team, who were victorious on the day and will progress to the next round of competition in the first week of next term.



Another exciting sporting event on the horizon is our Soccer World Cup Day next Wednesday. The Year 5/6 students will play a significant role in presenting and supporting activities throughout the school. We have drawn the countries of Germany (56A), Argentina (56B) and Mexico (56C) and are looking forward to a fun and engaging day for all students.

Homework

Thank you for your continued support of our homework program. It has been pleasing to see so many students regularly bringing their diaries to school and having their home reading signed off each day.

As a reminder, students who have not completed their required home reading will be expected to do so during our Book Club sessions at recess.

Thank you for your ongoing support throughout the term. We wish all families a safe, restful and enjoyable break!

Chaplain's Spot

10 Cool Ways to Beat the Winter Blues



Oh, the weather outside is frightful...and you may not be feeling so delightful. Luckily, there's a lot you can do both to prevent the winter blues and improve your mood.

More than half the people living in places where there are four seasons report having the "winter blues" – [a mild depression](#) characterized by a lack of motivation and low energy. In 2-3% of the population, these difficulties are very severe. They recur as an annual depression called *seasonal affective disorder* (SAD), with women more affected than men.

Here are some tips for making peace with winter and cheering up:

1. Think like a Norwegian: In Northern Norway, people view winter as something to be enjoyed, not just endured. What if you embrace winter instead of resisting it? A [study](#) in Norway found that people are actually less depressed because they have a positive wintertime mindset. The cold gives them a chance to drink hot beverages, skate or ski, build snowmen, or sit by a fire and visit with friends. Mindset research shows that it doesn't take much to shift one's thinking. Consciously aim for a positive mindset!
2. Let the sunshine in: Research shows that exposure to bright light upon awakening is very effective in treating winter depression. [Light therapy](#) can help relieve symptoms, along with medication or aerobic exercise. Light therapy mimics natural outdoor light and has a positive effect on brain chemicals linked to mood. Open blinds and curtains, trim back tree branches, and sit closer to windows for an extra dose of sunshine. Lighten up...literally!
3. Activity: Take it outside: Regular aerobic exercise works like an antidepressant. Morning exercise is best. So pick up a new winter sport. There's a saying that there is no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing. So, invest in clothing that keeps you warm, cozy, and dry? A recent study in the *Scandinavian Journal of Medicine & Science in Sports* reports that a 30-minute lunchtime walk three times a week boosts mood, while increasing alertness and enthusiasm. Outside is best, or exercise under bright lights to boost your mood.
4. Turn on the tunes: You know how vacuuming goes better with music, like anything you really don't like to do? Crank up your favourite music – something that makes you want to dance or takes you to another (perhaps warmer) place. A [2013 study](#) reported that listening to upbeat or cheery music significantly improves mood in both short and long term.
5. Cook up some comfort: Mac'n cheese, cinnamon buns ...yum. We all love winter comfort foods and in moderation, these are fine. But good nutrition [makes a difference for our mental health](#). For those times when you just want to curl up under a warm blanket, meal planning can help you avoid the lure of takeout and comfort food. Get your daily fruits and vegetables with roasted veggies, stewed winter fruits, and healthy soups.
6. Drink lots...of water: It's important to stay hydrated. Water helps keep your skin healthy and helps remove toxins and waste from your body. It can prevent headaches and reduce joint and muscle pain. Try adding a slice of lemon, lime, or cucumber for increased flavour and a flash of colour.
7. Find an activity you enjoy and do it...a lot! Find something that you like and then commit to doing it. Think back to what you enjoyed as a child or always wanted to do. Maybe you've always wanted to learn how to play an instrument, study a new language, or make something. It doesn't have to cost anything. Ask someone to share their talent or offer your own skills in exchange for theirs.
8. Treat yourself – plan ahead: Make a list of the things you are looking forward to this winter? Look at it whenever you start to feel down about the season. Even better, plan things to look forward to and put them in your calendar. Research shows that simply anticipating something you like makes you happier, and this is a practical way to put that into action. This can be a weekend getaway, massage, time at a spa, special dinner, party with friends, or concert...start dreaming now.
9. Laugh and get social: Author Victor Hugo once said, "Laughter is the sun that drives winter away from the human face." Laughter can help [decrease stress hormones and lighten your mood](#). Watch funny movies, play board games. Keep a list of people you can turn to when you're down and need a pick-me-up: family, friends, mentors, coworkers, and neighbours. A simple phone call, chat over coffee, or nice email can lift your mood.
10. Ask for help: If these tips are not enough to get you out of the winter blues, don't be afraid to ask for help. Speak to your doctor or call your local mental health centre.

Like it or not, winter is coming. We may as well roll with it. Snowball fight, anyone? **Elizabeth Shein – Trainer, Crisis & Trauma Resource Institute**

<https://ctrinstitute.com/blog/10-cool-ways-beat-winter-blues/>

Our annual chess tournament

Here are some pictures from our school tournament in week 7. Next week the Bayswater schools tournament will take place at BNPS. Our 6 top students will compete against other school champions, including Secondary students. It was a fabulous experience last year, and so we are excited about the second tournament.



Community wellbeing: Our Breakfast program is run each Thursday before school in the Canteen. It is open to all students. We are part of the Foodbank program, and we are able to offer fruit, toast, and milk, cereal and other special items.

Roster: If you would like to help out regularly, or just occasionally, please let me know. We would be rapt to welcome any new team members.

We have plenty of second-hand uniforms for sale, for gold coin donations. There are also numerous school bags – only 50 cents for these! Please remember to keep the labels on uniform before recycling items to us, and wash them so they are ready to wear. We need more of the larger size jackets at the moment, so if you have any at home please help us restock. Thank you

We still have food items from Foodbank, including cereal, tinned fruit, lunch snacks, tinned baked beans and spaghetti. See us at Breakie Club if you would like some of these.

Contact: Feel free to contact me about anything that is of concern for you or your family, whether emotional, social, spiritual or practical. Regarding students, I can meet with them once, and for further contact we ask parents to sign a Consent Form. If you would like a form, I can send one home or email one to you.

Alan Silverwood: Chaplain - Pastoral care for our community. [Wednesday & Thursday]



[\[alan.silverwood@education.vic.gov.au\]](mailto:alan.silverwood@education.vic.gov.au)

Supporting the School community in emotional, social, spiritual and practical wellbeing.

Our Chaplaincy program is funded by the Federal Government's 'National Student Wellbeing Program', the GRPS School Council and donations.



**BE
THE
BEST
YOU**

Connections & Fundraising Committee

We can't believe Term 2 is almost over! We are very glad to report our Bunnings BBQ was a great success. We are finalising the total amount raised, but as we needed to purchase more sausages & bread to last to the end of the day, that's a good indicator of a very worthwhile day. That success wouldn't have been possible without the support of our staff and parent volunteers who came along and gave up their time on a chilly Saturday. Sam G, Liz P, Alan S, Louisa P, Tammy M, Brooke R, Lauren F, Caroline T, Bree S, Alicia T, Jonno R, Krystal S, Sarah R, Alana R, Jeramiah M (with Kate M helping to pack up), and the whole McGrath family coming to help us pack up at the end. Thank you to those in our school community who came along to buy a sausage, it was great to see so many familiar friendly faces on the day. If you would still like to contribute, you can purchase a 'virtual sausage' until the end of term, <https://www.trybooking.com/au/donate/2026bunningsbbq>

We have an exciting and busy Term 3 ahead of us. First up with our Glow Party on Friday 31st July. This is always such a fun event that the kids really look forward to, and we have booked in the same group as last year who did a great job of running lots of fun games and great tunes. Tickets will go on sale very early in Term 3, so please keep an eye out. Tickets will also include a Glow Pack for each child. Please be sure to save the date for your kids, as well as yourselves if you would like to volunteer to help on the night. If you are planning to volunteer or to stay and support your child at the Glow Party, please ensure you have your Working With Childrens Check completed and registered with the school office before then.

Other events we have coming up for Term 3 are our Fathers Day Stall, BBQ at the Art & STEM show, and plan to wrap up the term with a special Footy Lunch.

Wishing you all a relaxing school holiday, stay warm & well!

From the Connections & Fundraising Committee



Community News

K< KARTING MADNESS

AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST INDOOR GO KART VENUE
RACING LEAGUES / BIRTHDAY FUNCTIONS

- > MINI Karts
- > ADULT Karts
- > ROOKIE Karts
- > DUAL SEATED Karts

AGES 4+



**OPEN
7
DAYS**



ARCADE GAMES
POOL TABLES
TICKET GAMES

BAYSWATER

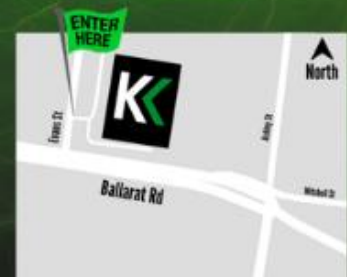
(03) 9720 8284

9A/841 Mountain Hwy,
Bayswater 3153



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LASER TAG
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(03) 9317 8222

234 Ballarat Rd,
Braybrook 3019



coaches4u
Australia's largest and most experienced soccer coaches network

Presented by
The National Soccer Coaches Association of Australia (NSCA)



ActiveActivities
Australia's largest and most experienced active activities network

Presented by
The National Active Activities Association (NAAA)



KIDS' SOCCER CLASSES RUNNING AT THIS VENUE



Saturday Morning classes in School Gym

Register your kids now!

MINI PROGRAM

For boys and girls aged 1.5-3 year

PRESCHOL PROGRAM

For boys and girls aged 3-5 year

JUNIOR PROGRAM

For boys and girls aged 6-8 year

PREMIER PROGRAM

For boys and girls aged 9-11 year

SoccAJoeys programs are designed to introduce your child to the early learning principles of soccer, along with increasing their physical and social development including coordination and communication.

 www.soccajoeys.com

 ringwood@soccajoeys.com

 1300 781 735

 soccAJoeys

Looking for a coaching job? apply by emailing us.



SCHOOL HOLIDAY *fun!*

Looking for something fun these school holidays? We've got you covered! Join us for action-packed sessions filled with:

- Games
- Giant circuits
- Trampoline & foam pit
- Climbing, swinging & jumping fun
- Loads of energy & laughs!

WEEK 1 Tuesday 30th June Thursday 2nd July	TIME 1:30PM – 3:30PM
WEEK 2 Monday 6th July Wednesday 8th July	COST \$40 per person, per session
	AGES 5-12 (Primary school participants only)

No experience needed — just come along, have fun & burn some holiday energy! Spots fill fast, so book via knoxgymnastics.org.au or contact customer service today!



School Holiday Softball Program

Unlock your Softball potential these July School holidays, with this fun and engaging program, designed for kids of all skill levels aged 7-14

Programs across metro Melbourne on various days, times and venues, visit the website or scan the QR code for further details



REGISTER HERE:
www.softballvic.org.au/events/363049

CONTACT: Tim Hatzl - State Participation & Development Manager
 Email: tim.hatzl@softballvic.org.au
 or Ph: 0479 104 403

About

- 4 hour duration ✓
- Experienced Coaches ✓
- Equipment Provided ✓
- Safe & Inclusive & Fun Environment ✓



2026 Junior Development Program

Get a head start over Winter, join the Softball Victoria Junior Development Program tailored to beginner to intermediate skilled players from 7 to 15 years of age, and develop fundamental skills and game sense leading into the 2026/2027 Summer season!

Venues across metro Melbourne and Regional Victoria, visit the website or scan the QR code for further details

Learn from experienced coaches and state representative players

Experience and develop the different elements of Softball including batting, fielding, pitching, catching and base running

2 hours each week over 6 weeks

\$90 registration includes participant pack with T-shirt, cap & drink bottle

Shaping Tomorrow's Softball Stars

REGISTER HERE:
www.softballvic.org.au/events/363067



Contact: Tim Hatzl - State Participation & Development Manager email: tim.hatzl@softballvic.org.au or ph: 0479 104 403

In one fun-filled day, kids will learn and play footy in a safe, inclusive environment. They'll pick up new skills, play mini-games and get creative with designing a footy or uniform. Plus have a footy goodie bag to take home.



4-7 YEAR OLDS*

Our youngest players learn footy through fun, age-appropriate games that build skills, confidence and teamwork, led by NAB AFL Auskick coaches.





7-12 YEAR OLDS

Older kids level up their footy skills through modified game play and challenging activities that build teamwork, leadership and lasting memories in a fun, energetic day.



KILSYTH HOLIDAY PROGRAM

TUESDAY JULY 7TH | 9AM-3PM

KILSYTH RECREATION RESERVE
\$55 TO REGISTER

4-7 YEAR OLDS



7-12 YEAR OLDS



Exclusive \$15 Adult General Admission ticketing offer for staff and families of students for our Round 16 match against GWS at the MCG on Friday 26 June.

HOW TO REDEEM R16 \$15 ADULT GENERAL ADMISSION TICKETS + KIDS GO FREE TICKETS

- Go to TICKETEK website or link [here](#)
- On "Select date" dropdown, choose option "Fri 26 Jun 2026 7:40pm - Club Members & Public Reserve."
- A box below will appear and copy your promo code BNPS16 in and click "Unlock tickets"
- You will be taken to a page where a map will appear. On the right-hand side, click "Find Best available"
- Select "Adult" ticket (maximum qty 10) and "Children 6-14 years" (maximum qty 10) for kids go free ticket. Click next and follow steps to check out.
- General admission seating areas will be posted in the link [here](#), 24 hours prior to the match.

