Bayswater North Primary School

CONNECTION RESPECT PERSEVERANCE

THE LINK

A NEWSLETTER LINKING THE BAYSWATER NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY

From the Principal's Desk

World Teacher's Day.

A simple 'thank you' is not enough to express to our amazing teaching staff how much I appreciate everything they do each day to teach, nurture and support our students at Bayswater North PS.

On any given day teachers will commence work well before school starts. They will check their planned lessons, make adjustments based on what happened in the previous lesson, read and respond to emails, check in with colleagues and make sure all the learning materials are ready for classes.
During the day they will engage in countless interactions with students - teaching lessons explicitly, providing small group and one to one supports where needed, work with education support staff, remind of expectations, complete yard duty allocations, read more emails.
After school, they will again reflect on how the day went, contact parents, attend meetings, complete professional learning tasks, organise special events or excursions.

As you can see, actual 'teaching' is just one part of what is always a busy day. They teach because they love working with students and they love making a difference. Often you don't even know for sure what that bit of difference might be, and it's hard to measure.

Yesterday after the wonderful BNPS Talent Show, we presented our teachers with their own Ninja Awards using the comments sent in by our students and families. Our teachers really appreciated the recognition that the effort they put in every day is noticed. Thank you to everyone who sent a response. Any teachers who were not at the assembly will receive their awards during the week next week.

Please remember to thank our staff when you see them around the school - not just today, but any day. Or send an email and let them know that you appreciate their work and support. Bayswater North would not be the school it is without our dedicated professionals.



Calendar

Friday October 30 2026
Volume 36 Number 16

November

Tuesday 3rd
Melbourne Cup Day
Public Holiday

Friday 6th
Assembly 2.45pm

Wednesday 11th
Prep 2027 Transition Session 3

Friday 13th
The Link

Tuesday 17th
Student Free Day

Friday 20th
Assembly

Wednesday 25th
Prep 2027 Transition Session 4

Friday 27th
The Link

Monday 30th
Christmas Concert

December

Friday 4th
Assembly

Monday 7th
Year 6 – Luna Park Excursion
Prep – Year 5 EOY celebration

From the Principal's Desk continued...

Grounds Update

Our school grounds are really starting to look fantastic, and there is a lot of work going on both as part of our building projects and also just our ongoing commitment to improving facilities for our students.



The Gaga Pit has now been installed, and students will be able to begin playing it very soon - maybe even next week!



Our two asphalt courts now both have new multi-purpose rings on them, preparation work completed on the old asphalt, and the blue coats beginning to be installed - the colour looks brilliant! Line marking is the last step.



Mrs Holland and her husband have turned some of the student ceramic Art work into a permanent art installation outside the front office.



Narelle has also been busy this week getting to work on installing paving stones and beginning to plant in the new sensory garden in the junior courtyard.

Paul (our gardener and odd jobs person) has been pruning, weeding and mulching lots of areas around the school as well.

There are also many projects being planned and regular maintenance work going on in the background, and it is so lovely to see some of these projects take big steps forward - our school is beginning to look pretty good!

A huge thank you to everyone involved who has contributed to these projects.

2027 Classes and Transition Sessions

It is the time of the year when we begin working on class allocations for next year - both for students and teachers.
We are currently working through some recruitment processes, so I cannot yet provide the final list of staff for classrooms.

Our process for allocating students into classes is a complex process, and includes consideration of the following elements:

- Student friendship preferences
- Academic levels and needs
- Student wellbeing and social-emotional needs
- Students requiring additional support or extension
- Parent requests

While some parents may request for their child to be with a specific teacher, this is not something that we can necessarily deliver on - the teacher requested may not even be teaching that year level the next year.
Students are required to provide a list of 4-5 names of students that they would like to be with in a class, either due to friendships or students they work well with. We aim to ensure that students are placed with at least ONE of the people from their list.
We also try to balance all classes using the criteria above.
We will not be announcing final class lists until we feel we have this right, and this can take quite some time.

To support students with the transition into the next year level and class, we have set aside 4 sessions from week 8 to week 11 of term. The first two of these sessions will be with the year level cohort rather than individual class. If possible, the final two sessions will be with the allocated teacher for 2027.

If you have any concerns or questions about the transition process, please contact your child's classroom teacher to discuss.

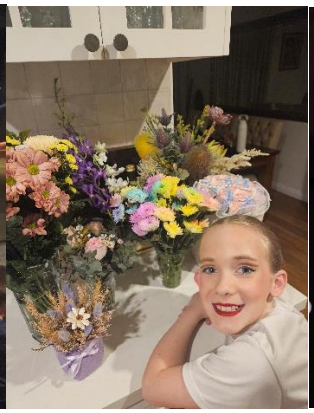
Mrs Graunke
Principal

What a performance!

Congratulations Charlotte!

Here a few photos of Charlotte with the State Youth Ballet Company in its September production of *The Clockmaker's Daughter*.






Junior School News

Little Learners Love Literacy

The Prep students have been learning about digraphs which is two letters, one sound. The digraphs they have met recently are ph and wh. They have been learning to read and spell words with ph and wh in them. The teaching focus for the Grade 1 students has been the long vowel phoneme /ō/. Students learnt the three new graphemes to spell /ō/ – o-e as in nose and o as in pony and oe as in toe. They are learning not to pronounce the e at the end of the word.





The teaching focus for the Grade 2 students is on morphologies -er as in gardener and -or as in visitor. They are also learning two syllable words and open syllable words ending with le as in little and morphology -al as in natural.

English

The Preps have been introduced to persuasive writing and have been reading I Wanna Iguana and gave a reason why they should be allowed to have an iguana as a pet. The students have been learning that Literal Comprehension is when they can identify main characters, recall important events from a story, and answer, who, what, where and when questions. They are currently learning about Inferential Comprehension and how to identify a clue in the words or illustrations in a text and explain how they know what a character might be thinking or feeling.

The book we have been reading with and to the students has been 'The Best Pet of All'.

Maths

The Preps have been learning to measure and compare the heights of objects using the language of tall/taller and short/shorter. They have also been learning to share in equal groups and have used money to share equally and purchase toys. The students are learning about money. Students revised the different notes and coins and applied addition and subtraction skills to money problems. They played the money board game together and they also used grocery catalogues to create our own shopping lists.



Kitchen Garden

We have been busy planting fruit trees around the school. The Preps got to plant a mandarin tree and a blood orange tree. The Grade 1 /2 students got to plant a mandarin tree as well as an apple tree.

Integrated

The students are learning about healthy eating, the different food groups, and how to safely use kitchen utensils. They got the opportunity to use a grater to grate carrots and learnt how to use a knife carefully when cutting a banana.

Colour Run

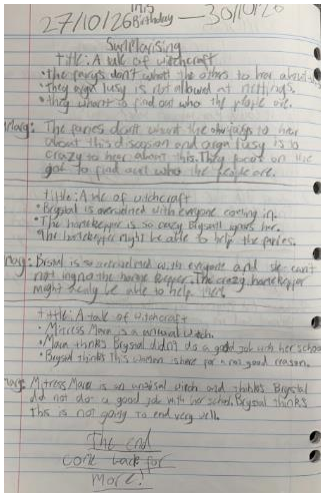
The students were enthusiastic during the Colour Run being drenched in water and powered with colour!It was wonderful to see the colourful shirts and the smiles on their faces. Well done to Ms Gao for getting slimed!

Wellbeing

In Wellbeing, Grade 1/2 students have been learning about consent and personal space. They explored what consent means, including asking for and giving consent when playing together. They also learned the importance of respecting other people's choices and consent, as well as keeping their own bodies safe by maintaining personal space and respecting the personal space of others.

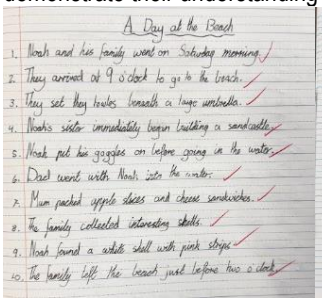
Students also explored the importance of sleep and healthy bedtime habits. They created their own bedtime routines, practised strategies to help them calm down before going to sleep, and designed their own calm and relaxing bedrooms to support a good night's sleep.

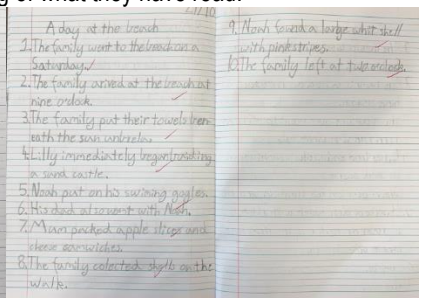
IN GRADE 3/4 ...

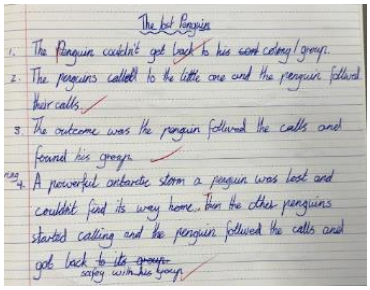


Reading

For the past two weeks, students have been focusing on literal comprehension and summarising. We have been practising identifying information that is directly stated in a text and using key words to locate answers to comprehension questions. Students have also been developing their summarising skills by identifying the main events and important details in a text while leaving out unnecessary information. They have been learning to retell information in their own words and write clear, concise summaries that demonstrate their understanding of what they have read.

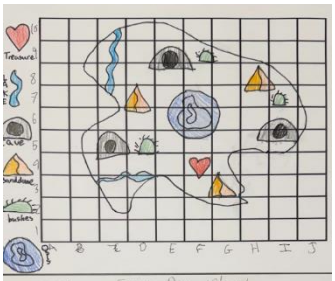


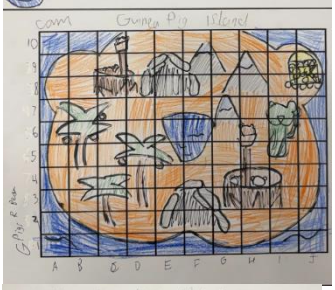


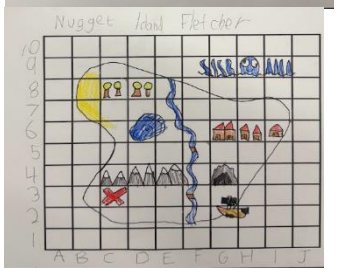


Writing

In Writing, students have been exploring persuasive writing, learning how to express their opinions and convince readers to agree with their point of view. We have been focusing on the structure of a persuasive text, including writing engaging introductions, developing strong arguments supported by explanations and examples, and finishing with convinces conclusions. Students have also been experimenting with persuasive language techniques, such as rhetorical questions, emotive language and personal opinions, to make their writing more effective and engaging.



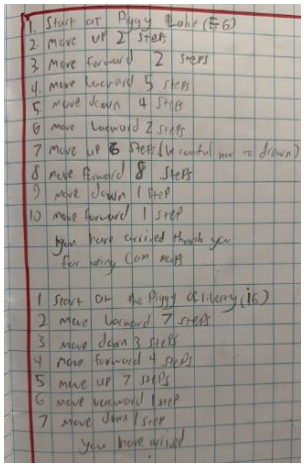


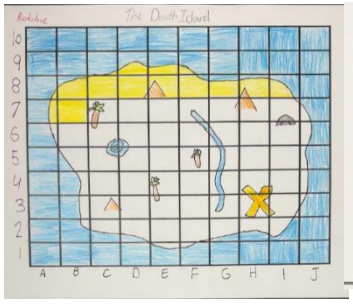


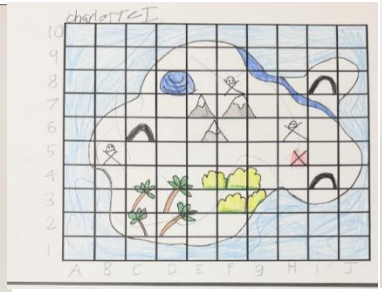
Mathematics

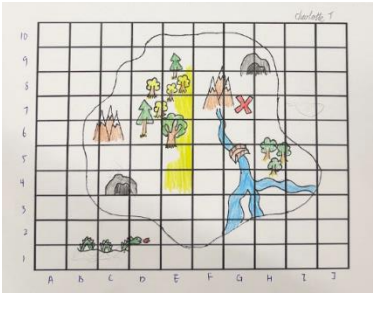
In Maths, students have been exploring location and transformation, developing their understanding of directions, maps and how shapes move. They have practised giving and following directions using positional and directional language, as well as drawing and interpreting maps to describe locations and pathways.

Students have also investigated different transformations, including slides, flips and turns, and explored how shapes change position while maintaining their size and shape. This week, we have moved on to money, where students are learning to add and subtract decimal amounts, calculate the total cost of items and work out change in real-life shopping situations.



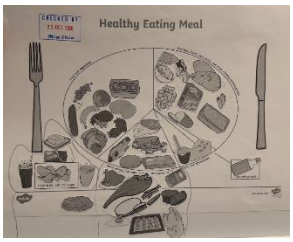






Wellbeing

Our Grade 3/4 students have been learning about the importance of healthy eating and getting enough sleep to support their physical and mental health and wellbeing. We explored the different food groups using the Australian Guide to Healthy Eating, discussing the importance of eating a variety of foods and maintaining a balanced diet. Students have also been learning about the benefits of sleep, including how getting enough rest helps our bodies grow, improves concentration and supports our mood and energy levels.









Children's Week and Talent Show

As part of our Children's Week celebrations, our school came together to celebrate this year's theme, *Celebrating Culture and Diversity*. One of the exciting highlights was our Children's Week Talent Show, where students from across Grades 3 and 4 had the opportunity to showcase their wonderful talents and interests. We enjoyed watching a variety of performances, including dancing, singing, gymnastics and other creative acts. The event was a wonderful celebration of the unique talents and diversity within our school community!





Integrated Studies

In Integrated, students have been exploring the history of Bayswater North and its surrounding suburbs, learning about how our local community has changed over time. We have been investigating what these areas were like in the past, including how the land was used, the development of schools, farming and the growth of local communities. Students have been comparing the past and present to identify changes in buildings, transport, facilities and the way people lived.

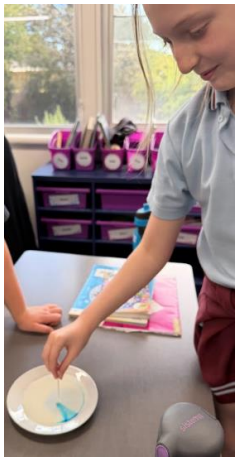
Science Experiments

Students have also been enjoying our weekly science experiments, where they have had the opportunity to explore scientific concepts through fun, hands-on activities. We recently conducted the Milk Fireworks experiment, where students observed how food colouring moved and spread through milk when dishwashing liquid was added. This week, students participated in a Balloon Rocket experiment, using balloons, string and straws to investigate how escaping air can create movement. We have definitely been having lots of fun along the way!











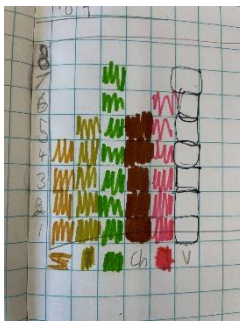
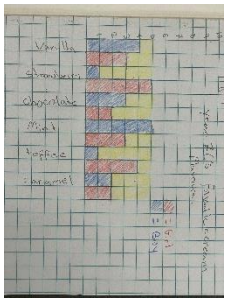
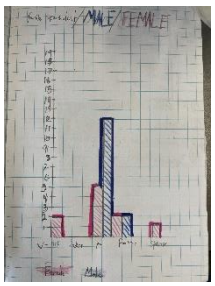
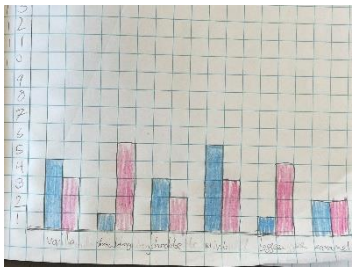
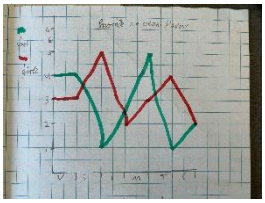
GRADE 5/6 Classroom News

Year 5/6 LINK
It's been another busy couple of weeks in Year 5/6, with students continuing to develop their skills across a range of learning areas. We've also had some great sporting efforts to celebrate, with our boys' Hoop Time team representing the school brilliantly!

Literacy
In Reading, students have been developing their questioning skills, thinking about the types of questions they can ask before, during and after reading. We have been using the text *The Stranger* as a focus for this work. We have also explored music in visual texts, looking at how music can influence the way we interpret and respond to what we see.

In Writing, our focus has shifted to descriptive writing. Students have been exploring how to bring their writing to life through the use of adjectives and adverbs, as well as incorporating descriptions of the five senses to help readers picture and experience what is happening.

Mathematics
In Mathematics, students have been working with data, learning how to read and interpret different data displays and select appropriate graphs to represent information. This has included thinking about which types of graphs are best suited to different sets of data and what information we can draw from them.

Integrated Studies
We have continued our work on Biological Adaptations, exploring the physical and behavioural adaptations that help animals survive in their environments. Students have been looking at the different features and behaviours animals use to find food, avoid predators and cope with the conditions around them.

Hoop Time
A special mention to our Year 5/6 boys' Hoop Time team, who had a fantastic day representing Bayswater North. Despite having to play short-handed, the boys battled their way through the competition and made it all the way to the regional semi-final, where they went down by just one point! We were incredibly proud of their efforts, teamwork and determination throughout the day.

Homework Reminder
There will be no homework set for Week 5, with Melbourne Cup Week upon us. Our regular homework will resume the following week. However, students should continue to fill in their reading diaries and keep track of their reading throughout the week.

We hope everyone enjoys the Cup Week break and has a relaxing long weekend!



Indonesian News

This term in the Indonesian classroom, our students are learning about “makanan” (food).

The junior school students are focusing on labelling fruit and vegetables. Grade 3/4 students are learning to state preferences, such as “Saya suka makan..” (I like to eat), “Saya tidak suka makan..” (I do not like to eat) and “Saya belum makan..” (I have not yet tried to eat). Our senior students will demonstrate their knowledge of numbers and concept of bargaining by creating and performing in role plays set at a local market. They have enjoyed translating a McDonalds menu, converting Indonesian rupiah to Australian dollars.

Just a reminder that if your family is heading to Bali, I have put together a pack of ideas for things to do and useful phrases for the students to practise. Students can collect packs from my classroom.

Terima kasih,
(Bu) Mary-Ellen Dowling









Connections & Fundraising

Our Colour Run was a great success! The weather was excellent and the kids were very excited that it was warm enough to include a sprinkler station in the course. A big thank you to Alana R, Sarah R, Jonno R, Mel H-G, Corina H, Tanya H, Chivonne S, Holly D, Bree S, Chris W, Casey B, Ingrid G, Charelle F & Rory F for helping to set up the course and manning the colour and slime stations during the event, and to the extra parents and stuff who jumped in and assisted us along the way.

We can't forget our very brave volunteers who so kindly sacrificed their comfort to be slimmed by 4 lucky winners; Ms Gao, Mr Tait, Ms Sharkey & Mrs Graunke, we hope you managed to wash the slime out of your hair easily enough!









Our next (and final!) event for the year is the Election BBQ, we're very grateful to have BNPS host as a polling booth again. It gives us an extra opportunity to fundraise from the wider community, as well as give the local community a glimpse into our little school community and what we're about. If you can spare some time on Saturday 28th November, please keep some time free to join us for a shift at the bbq.

We will also be holding a cake stall, and would love to have a wide variety of yummy treats to sell at the bbq as well. Keep an eye out on compass for more info to come.

We hope you all have a wonderful (unofficial) long weekend, wishing our teachers a very Happy World Teachers' Day!

Connections & Fundraising Committee

Chaplain's Spot

10 Common Challenges of Parenting When Raising a Child"



https://www.firstschool.net/blog/10-common-parenting-challenges-when-raising-a-child

Parenting is a beautiful yet demanding journey filled with love, laughter, and inevitable parenting challenges. From sleepless nights with newborns to dealing with teenage emotions, every phase brings common parenting problems. Modern parenting problems like screen time and academic stress add new layers of difficulty in today's digital age. But with the right effective parenting strategies, these hurdles become manageable.
Explore 10 parenting difficulties and practical solutions to raise a happy, well-adjusted child.

1. Managing Tantrums and Emotional Outbursts

Tantrums are among the most common child behavior problems, especially in toddlers. They often stem from frustration, exhaustion, or an inability to express emotions.
Tips to handle tantrums:
Stay calm and avoid yelling. Use distraction or redirection. Teach simple emotional vocabulary ("I see you're angry"). Set clear boundaries while offering comfort. You help your child develop emotional regulation skills by addressing parenting struggles with patience.

2. Setting Consistent Rules and Discipline

Discipline is essential, but finding the right balance between firmness and nurturing can be tricky. Inconsistent rules confuse children and lead to more behavioral issues.
Effective parenting strategies for discipline:
Establish clear, age-appropriate rules. Use natural consequences (e.g., no toys if they're thrown). Praise good behavior more than punishing bad behavior.
Consistency reduces parenting difficulties and helps children feel secure.

3. Encouraging Healthy Screen Time Habits

One of the biggest modern parenting issues is managing screen time. Excessive use can affect sleep, social skills, and attention spans.
How to create balance:
Set daily limits based on age. Encourage outdoor play and offline hobbies. Model healthy tech habits as a parent. A structured approach minimizes conflicts over screens.

4. Handling Sibling Rivalry

Sibling conflicts are inevitable, but constant fighting can strain family dynamics. Common triggers include jealousy, competition, and attention-seeking.
Ways to foster harmony:
Avoid comparisons. Teach conflict resolution skills. Spend one-on-one time with each child.
Addressing these parenting struggles early helps build lifelong sibling bonds.

5. Managing Parental Stress and Burnout

Parenting stress is real, and burnout can affect your ability to care for your child effectively.
Self-care tips for parents:
Take short breaks when needed. Share responsibilities with a partner or support network.
Practice mindfulness or light exercise. A well-rested parent handles the challenges of parenting better.

6. Dealing with Academic Pressure

School-related stress impacts both kids and parents. Pushing too hard can backfire, while being too relaxed may lead to underperformance.
Raising a child tips for academic balance:
Focus on effort rather than grades. Create a structured homework routine. Encourage breaks and extracurricular activities. A supportive approach reduces pressure while promoting learning.

7. Managing Behavior Problems

Some behavioral problems are normal, while others may need professional guidance.
How to address them:
Use positive reinforcement. Communicate with teachers if issues persist. Seek help if behaviors are extreme (e.g., aggression). Early intervention helps manage child behavior problems effectively.

8. Maintaining a Strong Parent-Child Bond

A strong emotional connection is the foundation of good parenting.
Ways to strengthen your bond:
Spend quality time daily (reading, playing). Listen actively without judgment. Show affection and verbal appreciation. A secure attachment makes handling parenting challenges easier.

9. Teaching Responsibility and Independence

Kids need guidance to become self-sufficient.
How to encourage responsibility:
Assign age-appropriate chores. Let them make small decisions. Allow natural consequences (e.g., forgetting homework). These effective parenting strategies build confidence and accountability.

10. Adapting Parenting Styles to Changing Needs

What works for a toddler won't work for a teen. Flexibility is key.
Parenting tips for toddlers vs. teens:
Toddlers: Set simple rules and offer choices.
Teens: Encourage open discussions and respect privacy.
Stay open to new approaches. Adapting reduces parenting difficulties as your child grows.

Enjoy being empowered in your parenting role.

Breakfast Club: Our students enjoy the weekly Thursday Breakfast program before school in the Canteen. We are part of the Foodbank program, and we are able to offer fruit, toast, and milk, cereal and other special items.
Emergency food: We have food items from Foodbank, including cereal, tinned fruit, lunch snacks, tinned baked beans and spaghetti and soups. Check these out at Breakie Club, or the food pantry in my room if that is more convenient for you.

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. Even once a month would be helpful. We need our volunteers to ensure that the program continues to run.

We have plenty of second-hand uniforms and school bags for sale, for gold coin donations.
If you have a Prep starting next year, you can get in early with uniform or school bags in good condition. We need more larger size jackets at the moment, so if you have any at home please recycle them. Thanks.

Contact: Feel free to contact me about anything that is of concern for you or your family, whether emotional, social, spiritual or practical. I am happy to meet with you on a Wednesday or Thursday, if you would like to chat about any life challenges.
Regarding contact with students, I can meet with a student once, and for further contact we ask parents/carers to sign a Consent Form. If you would like a form, see me at Breakfast Club, I can send one home with your child, or I will email one to you.

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






[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.

OSHClub

Bayswater North OSHClub

Newsletter

OSHClub

Over the past two weeks at OSHClub, we have been excited to introduce our new afternoon OSH-Clubs, and they have been a fantastic success! The children have embraced the opportunity to explore new interests, develop friendships, and participate in a range of engaging activities. In particular, Games Night and Science Lab have quickly become favourites among our attendees.

Games Night has been filled with laughter, teamwork, and friendly competition. Pictionary has encouraged creativity and communication, while Giant Jenga has tested patience, strategy, and steady hands, providing plenty of excitement for everyone involved.

Meanwhile, Science Lab has sparked curiosity and wonder as the children have enjoyed hands-on experiments and discovery-based learning. The Coke Bottle Experiment has been especially popular, captivating the children as they observed exciting reactions and learned about basic scientific principles in a fun and interactive way.

It has been wonderful to see such enthusiasm and participation, and we look forward to offering even more exciting OSH-Club experiences in the weeks ahead.





Fortnightly Recap!!











Mon-Fri 7-9am & 3-6pm
0427 856 973
bayswaternorth@oshclub.com.au

oshclub.com.au
1300 395 735

Commitment to Safeguarding

Junior Adventures Group's commitment to safeguarding children and young people is embedded in our organisational culture and every aspect of our

programming.

It drives our strategic decisions and our collaborations with partners and communities worldwide. By fostering a safe, inclusive and empowering environment, we support the holistic development of children, preparing them to navigate a complex and ever-changing world with resilience and capability.

This commitment is deeply rooted in our belief that all children have inherent

rights, as articulated in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and our

corresponding duty to provide special safeguards that protect children and

help them thrive and grow with confidence.

Videos, Film and Multimedia

At OSHClub, the children are encouraged to build meaningful, positive relationships with others through play-based activities and experiences. The role of technology is given thoughtful consideration to ensure it is intention, safe and a learning opportunity.

Any use of technology is under the strict guidance and supervision of educators. Here we have used educational videos as a part of our science activities, wellbeing activities and even sports activities.

These videos have provided children the opportunity to learn visually. If you have any further questions regarding this policy, please

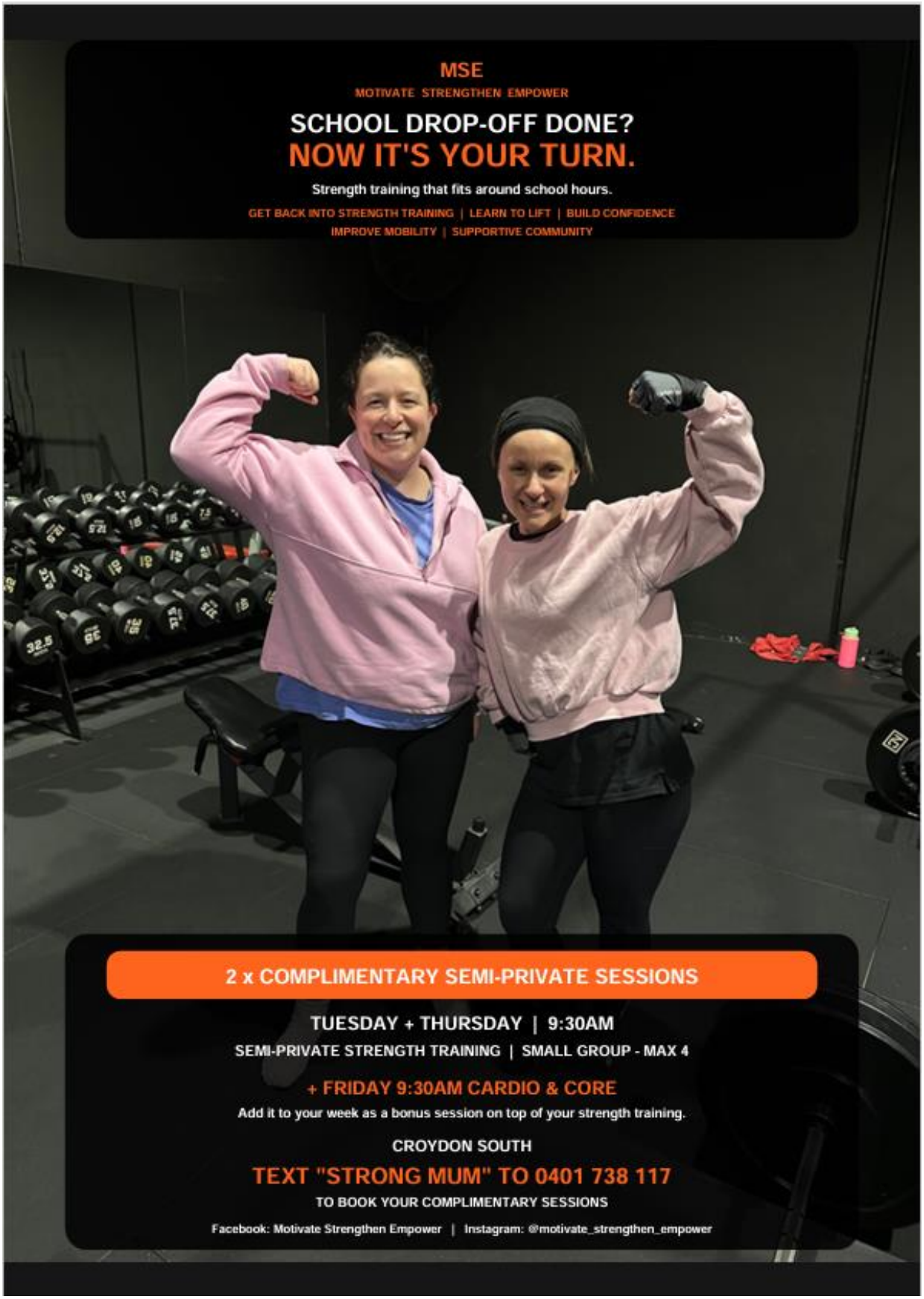
We'd love to hear your feedback!

If you have any suggestions, please leave us some Resonate feedback or feel free to chat with our educators in service.

Join us on Class Dojo!

Scan to join Bayswater North OSHClub

Community News



RINGWOOD & HEATHMONT UNITING CHURCH

CHOCKERS

Creative Holiday Opportunity For Can-Do Kids

A pre-Christmas event for primary school children focusing on the traditional nativity story through art, craft, physical challenges, cooking & games.

Monday 21st December, 9.30 - 1.00pm

PRE-REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL BY 10th December

Contact: lucy.graham@ringwood.unitingchurch.org.au



