



RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

SAFETY

# SCHOOL NEWS



## HAPPY RETIREMENT

On Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> of March, Sebastopol Primary School Community members celebrated 40 years in education by Michelle Wilson. Michelle has made the decision to retire from Sebastopol Primary School and start a new chapter of her life. Several speeches were made by various important figures of Michelle's career in Education. Sally regaled the attendees with highlights of her time working with Michelle, Lisa Wilson, Michelle's sister spoke on behalf of Robyn Ballinger, former principal at Rainbow, and Wendy Baker, a former employer of Michelle from the Department of Education spoke to Michelle's passion for Education. Thank you for everything you've done for Sebastopol Primary School and its community. Happy retirement, Michelle.



**SEBASTOPOL  
PRIMARY  
SCHOOL**



ISSUE: 20260401  
[www.sebasps.vic.edu.au](http://www.sebasps.vic.edu.au)  
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# Principal's Report

*Kane Tolliday*

Week 10 has finally arrived. While at times it has felt like a very long term, it has also somehow gone incredibly quickly.

Firstly, I would like to sincerely thank our community for the many well wishes following the announcement of my provisional appointment as substantive Principal of Sebastopol Primary School. This is something I am incredibly excited about, and I would like to thank our staff, students and community for making me feel so welcome when I first arrived in Term 4. It was an easy decision to want to become the substantive Principal here at Sebastopol Primary School.

I am very excited about working alongside our staff and School Council over the next five years as we continue to build on the great work already happening across the school and create even more opportunities for our students.

As we finish up the term, there have been many wonderful highlights to celebrate.

Our Grade 3 and Grade 5 students did an exceptional job completing NAPLAN. We are very proud of the way they approached the tests and represented our school so positively.

Across the school, there has also been some wonderful learning taking place in classrooms. This year, for the first time, we have introduced Science and Auslan as specialist subjects. These are two exciting additions to our curriculum, and both students and teachers have done a fantastic job learning and teaching in these areas.

We also had students proudly represent our school at the Begonia Festival Parade, which was a fantastic opportunity to showcase Sebastopol Primary School within the wider community.

Our House Sports day was another highlight of the term. It was wonderful to see students participating, supporting one another and demonstrating excellent teamwork and school spirit throughout the day.

Last Wednesday, we also celebrated World Maths Day across the school. A big thank you to Ms Peach for organising such a wonderful whole-school event. It was fantastic to see students engaged in maths activities and enjoying learning in a fun and interactive way. If your child hasn't mentioned it already, ask them what my favourite number is.

Looking ahead to Term 2, it will be another very busy term. Staff will be taking part in a full day of professional learning with Glenn Pearsall, along with a range of other professional learning opportunities across the term.

Regarding staffing, we will continue to update our staffing profile and keep the school community informed as we move forward.

A reminder that the final day of Term 1 is Thursday, with students finishing at 2:10pm.

I would like to wish all of our students, staff and families a very happy and safe Easter break. Thank you for your ongoing support throughout Term 1. I cannot wait to begin Term 2 as your substantive Principal.



# Student Achievements

## **Bariz Usman - P/1**

For writing sentences that contain a complete thought, start with a capital letter, words are spaced out and he always remembers to punctuate.

## **Thomas Scott - P/1**

For great work learning about place value breaking teen numbers into one ten and ones and making visual representations on ten frames.

## **Colt Bell- 1/2**

For making an excellent start in the 1/2 classroom. We warmly welcome you and your family to the SPS community.

## **Scarlett Davey- 1/2**

For making an excellent start in the 1/2 classroom. We warmly welcome you and your family to the SPS community.

## **Sophie Tallentyre - 1/2**

For being a superstar mathematician and correctly using the structure of a persuasive essay.

## **Ethan Parkes - 3**

For showing excellent persistence during morning laps.

## **Eli Cole - 3**

For making excellent progress in staying on task.

## **Chayse Van Der Linde - 3**

For always having a positive attitude and being a great friend.

## **Ariana Lalic - 4**

For following the correct paragraph structure in your persuasive writing. Well done!

## **Breanna Lucido - 4**

For using interesting vocabulary to add flair to your writing. Well done!

## **Jaxon Davey - 5/6**

For making a confident start at Sebastopol Primary School.

## **Maeve McAdie - 5/6**

For contributing thoughtfully during inquiry discussions.

## **Tyson Dickinson - 5/6**

For showing great responsibility and leadership by helping out at Breakfast Club.

## **Maeve McAdie - 5/6**

For showing great responsibility and leadership by helping out at Breakfast Club.

## **Liliana Kline -5/6**

For your artistic Contribution to the Begonia Festival Rotary Club Art Show.

## **Ava-Grace Elliott -5/6**

For your artistic Contribution to the Begonia Festival Rotary Club Art Show.

## **Lakaysha Weetra -5/6**

For your artistic Contribution to the Begonia Festival Rotary Club Art Show.

## **Madalyn Miller -5/6**

For your artistic Contribution to the Begonia Festival Rotary Club Art Show.

## **Evie Hickson -5/6**

For achieving 'Highly Commended' for your artistic Contribution to the Begonia Festival Rotary Club Art Show.



## School Captains' Awards

**Thea May:** For respectful listening in class.

**-Mikaeel**

**George Hennessy:** For showing politeness during P.E.

**-Lily**

# Alfredton Rotary Club Begonia Festival Art Show

Primary School proudly participated in the Ballarat Begonia Festival Art Competition, organised by Alfredton Rotary. This year's theme, "My Ballarat," invited students to reflect on what they love or know about the local area.

Five students from the Grade 5/6 class submitted entries, each showcasing their unique perspective of Ballarat. Over the course of two lessons, students developed their ideas and completed their final artworks, which were then displayed in the Rotary Art Marquee at the festival.



A special congratulations goes to Evelyn Hickson, who received a Highly Commended award for her artwork featuring "The Pikeman's Dog," inspired by the monument at Eureka Stockade Memorial Park.

The other student entries included:

- Liliana – "My Lovely Home"
- Lakaysha – "Wildlife Park Ballarat"
- Madalyn – "My Mind"
- Ava-Grace – "Ballarat Feel"



The school is incredibly proud of all participants for their creativity, effort, and representation of Ballarat through art.

Please follow our new Facebook and Instagram pages!



# WORLD MATHS DAY SCAVENGER HUNT



On Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March our school came alive with excitement as we celebrated World Maths Day in style!

Students worked in mixed groups, encouraging collaboration across year levels, as they searched high and low around the school to solve a variety of engaging mathematical challenges.

At each station, teachers were ready to check answers and sign off as teams progressed through the hunt.

The day was filled with problem-solving, teamwork, and plenty of laughter. It was wonderful to see students supporting one another, thinking creatively, and embracing the joy of mathematics.

Fun was had by all, and it was a fantastic way to celebrate learning in such an engaging and memorable way!



**WITHOUT MATHEMATICS, THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO. EVERYTHING AROUND YOU IS MATHEMATICS. EVERYTHING AROUND YOU IS NUMBERS**

# Life in 'New Gold Mountain'

Year 5/6

新金山



# Class Item

## Prep/1

Term 1 has gone quickly and the Prep/1 class have grown so much, both in stature and in what they have achieved. A strong classroom routine and structure has enabled all students to feel comfortable and confident and has resulted in an increasing independence across all aspects of school life. A wonderful home school partnership has been established with a very supportive parent group. Thank you for supporting Rest Days to help our Prep students build stamina and also to Ms Mac for being so welcoming to our Year 1 students on those days. Miss Maddie has initiated Student Support Group Meetings to put in place additional supports where needed and Miss C has been a welcoming face in the Wellbeing Hub helping students transition to the classroom. Our Year 5/6 Buddies have guided and supported us showing great leadership, kindness and respect.



This term, we have had many people from outside our school in to provide additional support and set our students up for success: Amy the School Nurse, Glasses For Kids, Foodbank, Breakfast Club and Megan from Away With Words. A particular highlight was our Prep students featuring in 'Big Steps for Little Feet' in the Ballarat Courier.

Beyond the classroom we have participated in specialist classes for LOTE, PE, Art, Music and Science. Some students have participated in Music Therapy, and the Karaoke Club is a big hit every Friday. Students have enjoyed borrowing books weekly from our School Library. Our annual Sports Day at Llanberris Oval and celebrating World Maths Day were both days full of fun and adventure.

In the classroom every day we continue to build on what has already been learnt. Small steps have enabled the pieces of the puzzle to come together, and I am very proud of what each student has achieved in reading, writing and maths and also their personal growth. The foundations have been set for an exciting term ahead.

A very special 'shout out' to our ESO's Chris, Montana and Jemma whose knowledge, support and care has been invaluable.

Tomorrow will be our very first assembly performance. Please come and cheer us on. Happy Easter and have a restful holiday break.

-Mrs Lawes



# Battle Bots in Action at Earth Ed

Last week, our year 5/6 students had an action-packed day with the Battle Bots program at Earth Ed! They designed, built, and programmed LEGO EV3 robots using sequences, loops, and conditional logic.

The highlight was testing their creations in friendly robot battles, refining designs on the go while having a blast. It was an exciting, hands-on experience that boosted problem-solving, coding, and teamwork skills for everyone involved!

## Headlice

Head lice are a very common insect that like to live in human hair which can cause the scalp to become itchy. They are most commonly found on school aged children. They can be spread through contact with others. For this reason, students identified as having head lice need to remain home from school until the day after treatment has commenced. Responsibility for the control of head lice lies with the family.

Further information on how best to prevent the spread of head lice can be found at [www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au](http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au)



## Real Support Right Now

With cost of living becoming more and more challenging, Sebastopol Primary School would like to highlight some of the initiatives that are available.

These include:

- Breakfast Club, operating daily, 8:35-8:50AM. This is run by volunteers using food from Foodbank and Coles Sebastopol.
- State School's Relief, applications for uniform items, personal care items and basic stationery are made through the office.

- Free period products, accessible to students in the student bathroom.
- Glasses for Kids, recently visited to complete eyechecks for students and then send free pairs of glasses to support children to learn and excel.

These initiatives serve to bring down barriers to children attending school and accessing their education.

**REAL RIGHT NOW SUPPORT**

Welcome to our school — help is available

Victorian public schools have programs to help families with the cost of living and education.

Visit our website to learn about support for families and students including:

- more affordable uniforms
- free breakfasts and period products for students
- free dental checks, and free vision checks for eligible schools and students.

Ask us about what support is available at our school.  
[vic.gov.au/education-cost-of-living-support](http://vic.gov.au/education-cost-of-living-support)

**VICTORIA** Department of Education

# What's On?



## Neurospicy Parents Group

Neurospicy Parents Group will be running on Wednesdays, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM in the Multi-Purpose Room for parents of neuro divergent children. Young children are welcome.

## Bunnings BBQ

Thank you to our Sebastopol Primary School fundraising team and staff who took time from their weekends to run the sausage sizzle at Bunnings DTC. Sebastopol has raised around \$1,800.

## Volunteering Opportunities

Currently at Sebastopol Primary School, we are looking for parents and friends who would like to get involved with volunteering around the school. In particular, we are looking for volunteers to support of school breakfast club program on Mondays and Fridays. There will also be opportunities to get involved at school fundraisers and other school events.



## Easter Raffle

Last minute raffle tickets can be purchased before the assembly on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. The raffle will be drawn during this assembly.

Every child in attendance will receive a free entry into the raffle. 6 Prizes to be won!

## Easter Bonnet Parade

Sebastopol Primary School students will be participating in the Easter bonnet parade at the final assembly for Term 1 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April. Students are encouraged to get creative at home to produce their Easter bonnets.

## Easter Egg Hunt

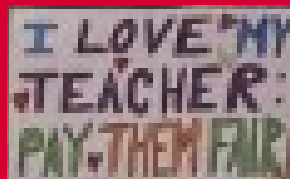
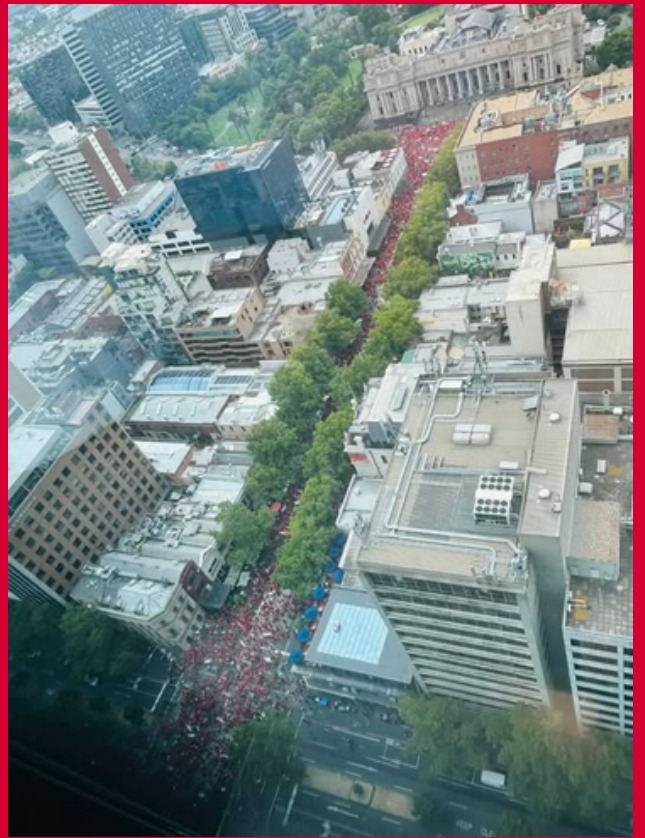
Students are set to participate in an Easter egg hunt on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April. All students will search for Easter eggs that have been carefully hidden in the school grounds. If your child has any dietary restrictions not already on file, please contact the office.



# AEU Stopwork

By Chris

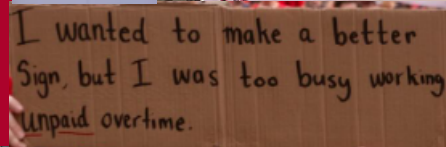
On Tuesday the 24<sup>th</sup> of March, 2 teaching staff and 4 education support staff made the decision to sacrifice a day's wage and participate in a stop work as part of the industrial actions of the Australian Education Union (AEU) in negotiations with the Victorian government. This choice was made after a counteroffer was issued to the AEU with a 17% increase for teaching staff and a 13% increase for support staff. This would mean that the education staff of Victoria, the education state, continue to be the lowest paid in Australia.



This decision to take stopwork action was made after over a year of negotiations regarding pay increases and working conditions of education staff. Victoria saw the largest teacher strike in its history including 6 Sebastopol Primary School staff, 3 of whom joined the march of 35,000 people as estimated by Victoria Police. Negotiations are still ongoing.



What do we want?  
A fair deal!  
When do we want it?  
Now!



# A recipe from Foodbank...

## Pancakes

**Feeds: 4-6**

**Season: All**

Try serving this family favourite with seasonal fruit, cinnamon, a small dollop of reduced-fat Greek yoghurt or toasted nuts and seeds.

### Equipment

measuring cup (1 cup)	ladle
measuring spoon (tbsp)	egg flip
whisk	bowls (1 large, 1 medium)
mixing spoon	large frying pan

### Ingredients

1 cup self-raising flour	2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil for frying
1 egg	2 cups fresh seasonal fruit
1 cup reduced-fat milk	

### What to do

1. Place the self-raising flour in the large bowl.
2. Crack the egg into the medium bowl and add the milk.  
Whisk to combine.
3. Add the egg and milk mixture to the flour. Whisk well until you have a runny batter.
4. If time allows, set batter aside in the fridge for 10–15 minutes (optional). This will result in a smoother batter.  
Prepare your toppings while you wait (e.g. slice fruit, toast nuts and seeds).
5. Heat olive oil in the frying pan over medium heat.
6. Remove batter from the fridge and give it a stir with the mixing spoon.
7. Scoop a ladleful of the batter into the middle of the frying pan (or use a smaller spoon and cook 3–4 smaller pancakes at a time).
8. Cook for 1–2 minutes, until bubbles appear on the top, then flip over and cook for a further 1–2 minutes, until golden (flip the pancakes only once and do not press down on them, as this can lead to a rubbery texture).
9. Serve with seasonal fresh fruit. You may also like to try a dollop of reduced-fat Greek yoghurt and some toasted nuts and seeds.



# Community Events



**SEBASTOPOL**  
FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB

Join the  
**SEBASTOPOL FNC**  
**UNDER 8's**

2026 SEASON STARTING  
★ **FRIDAY NIGHTS - TERM 2!** ★

FUN, FRIENDSHIP & FOOTY!  
LEARN SKILLS, HAVE A BLAST!  
BOYS & GIRLS WELCOME!

**REGISTER NOW!**

LIMITED SPOTS - BE PART OF SOMETHING SPECIAL IN 2026!

ENROL NOW FOR A FUN GYMNASTICS CLASS FOR YOUR CHILD

**JOIN EUREKA GYMNASTICS**



DEVELOP BALANCE, STRENGTH AND COORDINATION

OPEN TO ALL SKILL LEVELS: BEGINNER, INTERMEDIATE, ADVANCED

[WWW.EUREKAGYMNASTICS.COM.AU](http://WWW.EUREKAGYMNASTICS.COM.AU)

ENROL IN A TRAIL TODAY



11 Mentay, Mitchell Park



0403506322



**HAVE FUN AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS**

Now until 9<sup>th</sup> Apr-**Ballarat's Easter Display**-Sturt Street

3<sup>rd</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> Apr-**Sovereign Hill Autumn School Holidays**-Sovereign Hill

4<sup>th</sup> Apr-**Ballarat Book Sale**-Ballarat Airport

4<sup>th</sup> Apr-**Cosmic Eggstravaganza: A Family Easter Event**-Ballarat Municipal Observatory and Museum

4<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> Apr-**Aussie Animals Scavenger Hunt**-Eureka Centre Ballarat

7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> Apr-**Junior Keeper Program**-Ballarat Wildlife Park

8<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> Apr-**Kids Autumn Animal Art Class**-Buninyong Town Hall

8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Apr-**The Little Mermaid Ballet**-Her Majesty's Theatre Ballarat

11<sup>th</sup> Apr-**Drag Bingo: School Holiday Family Friendly Edition**-Piano Bar

11<sup>th</sup> Apr-**Ballarat Farmers Market**-Lake Wendouree

15<sup>th</sup> Apr-**Art Club**-Wendouree Library

15<sup>th</sup> Apr-**Play Date**-Her Majesty's Theatre Ballarat

16<sup>th</sup> Apr-2<sup>nd</sup> May-**Bellmorn Art Exhibition**-BAaD Gallery

19<sup>th</sup> Apr-**Auto Fest Ballarat**-Ballarat High School

1<sup>st</sup> May-**Where is the Green Sheep?**-Her Majesty's Theatre Ballarat

9<sup>th</sup> May-**Teeny Tiny Stevies: Brain Fart Tour**-Ballarat Mechanics Institute

# Holiday Programs

## Autumn Holiday Program

Alfredton, April 2026 | 7 am - 6 pm

\$110 per day\*  
Includes  
Excursions  
& Incursions  
\*less your CCS

Tuesday April 7

### Sensory & Messy Play

Dive into a whirlwind of sensory fun! From ooey-gooey oobleck to colourful spray bottle art, we're celebrating creativity and messy-play magic.

Wednesday April 8

### Wheels Day

Pass the test to get your license, design a skate park, build a car, and play red light green light with a twist! Don't forget your bike or scooter and helmet.

Excursion: Alfredton Reserve Pump Track, 10:15am-11:45am

Thursday April 9

### Paper Industrials

A world of creativity in every fold. Fold, cut, stick and design with the simplest of materials. Origami, book making, snowflakes and much more.

Friday April 10

### Outdoor Adventures

Adventure awaits as we build a camp site, make potions using natural materials, join in a scavenger hunt and explore the world of mini beasts

Incursion: Living with Wildlife, 1.30pm-2.30pm

Monday April 13

### Farm to Plate

Today we are exploring where our food comes from and making yummy nutritious meals.

Incursion: Food is Free, 9.40am-12.20pm

Tuesday April 14

### STEAM Challenges

We're tackling epic challenges, from building robots and catapults to creating fizzing, bubbling science experiments and colour-changing flowers.

Wednesday April 15

### Retro Games Day

We're off to the cinema for the latest Mario movie, followed by an afternoon of classic games and a Mario-themed obstacle course.

Excursion: Showbiz Cinemas, 9.30am-12.30pm

Thursday April 16

### Miniature Day

Step into a world where big ideas come in small packages. We have itty bitty crafts, pint sized games and tiny worlds where fairies and dinosaurs roam.

Friday April 17

### Farewell Party

Join us as we bid farewell to Alfredton Vacation Care and celebrate the wonderful memories, laughter and achievements.

Scheduled activities and bus times may change due to circumstances beyond our control. Please confirm with the venue if needed.

Venue Incursion Excursion

For more information and to book call 0492 847 596 or visit [yballarat.org.au](http://yballarat.org.au)



# BADAC

## School Holidays Family Day Camp

Fun & Adventurous Outdoor Activities

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2026

at Log Cabin Camp  
270 Ascot-Creswick Rd,  
Creswick Victoria 3363  
from 9.00am - 06:00pm

Lunch provided

Activities:

- Zipline
- Archery
- Giant Swing
- Challenge Course
- Milk Crate Stacking

Register your family

For more information and bookings call:  
Daen: 0457 274 414  
Kristie: 0476 982 732

BADAC/Cultural Therapeutic Support Program

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.

**nab AFL Auskick**  
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.

**AFL Superkick**  
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.

\*Kids can join NAB AFL Auskick if they are turning 5 in the calendar year (before 30th June in WA)

## BALLARAT SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

BALLARAT NORTH SESSION  
TUES APRIL 7 | 9AM-3PM  
C.E. BROWN RESERVE

BALLARAT SOUTH SESSION  
TUES APRIL 14 | 9AM-3PM  
MT CLEAR REC RESERVE

# Term Calendar

Personal calendar is available on Compass for more information on upcoming events.

## Term 1

	Mon Mar 16	Tue Mar 17	Wed Mar 18	Thu Mar 19	Fri Mar 20
W8			Hot Cross Bun order forms due	09:00: RDA Horse Riding	02:40: Assembly Yr 5/6 Item
	Mon Mar 23	Tue Mar 24	Wed Mar 25	Thu Mar 26	Fri Mar 27
W9	NAPLAN closes		Hot Cross Buns ready to collect 11:45: The Great SPS Maths Scavenger....	09:00: RDA Horse Riding	09:00: 5/6 Earth Ed Battlebots
	Mon Mar 30	Tue Mar 31	Wed Apr 01	Thu Apr 02	Fri Apr 03
W10				Last Day of Term 2:10 Finish Easter Egg Hunt 09:00: RDA Horse Riding 01:30: Assembly Yr P/1 01:30: Easter Bonnet Parade	Good Friday Public Holiday

## Term 2

	Mon Apr 20	Tue Apr 21	Wed Apr 22	Thu Apr 23	Fri Apr 24
W1	First Day of Term 2			09:00: RDA Horse Riding	Whole School ANZAC Service
	Mon Apr 27	Tue Apr 28	Wed Apr 29	Thu Apr 30	Fri May 01
W2				09:00: RDA Horse Riding	
	Mon May 04	Tue May 05	Wed May 06	Thu May 07	Fri May 08
W3	10:00: Scheduled School Tours - 2027....			09:00: RDA Horse Riding 01:00: Scheduled School Tours - 2027....	
	Mon May 11	Tue May 12	Wed May 13	Thu May 14	Fri May 15
W4				09:00: RDA Horse Riding	Education Support Personnel Day
	Mon May 18	Tue May 19	Wed May 20	Thu May 21	Fri May 22
W5				09:00: RDA Horse Riding	
	Mon May 25	Tue May 26	Wed May 27	Thu May 28	Fri May 29
W6			11:00: National Simultaneous Story time 11:30: P/1 Sebastopol Library	09:00: RDA Horse Riding	



## Important Date or Events

**2<sup>nd</sup> Apr:** Easter Egg Hunt

**2<sup>nd</sup> Apr:** Easter Bonnet Parade at assembly 1:30pm

**20<sup>th</sup> Apr:** First Day of Term 2

**24<sup>th</sup> Apr:** Whole School ANZAC Service

**4<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> May:** School tours for 2027 Prep Families

**15<sup>th</sup> May:** Education Support Personnel Day