



RESPECT



RESPONSIBILITY



SAFETY

SCHOOL NEWS



LEST WE FORGET

In commemoration of ANZAC Day, Miss Peach, the year 3 class and our school captains held an ANZAC Day service in the Atrium. During this service, our classes laid wreaths that they had made on the stage by the flags to pay respects to the indigenous and non-indigenous Australians and New Zealanders who fought in the war. We also stood together to listen to Last Post, a tune historically used to signify that camp was secure for the night, and observe 1 minute silence. Sebastopol Primary School was also represented by a number of students who participated in the Sebastopol ANZAC Service facilitated by the RSL Sebastopol Branch. Maeve, Ava- Grace, Mikael, Mackenzie, Lily, Cooper, Theo, Colt, and Mishel marched in the parade with our new Assistant Principal, Maddie, Lily and Chris. Mikael and Lily later held the responsibility to lay the wreath down at the Sebastopol Cenotaph. Thank you to those who were able to make it and represent our school with our school values of Respect, Responsibility, and Safety. More photos inside.



**SEBASTOPOL
PRIMARY
SCHOOL**



ISSUE: 20260430
www.sebasps.vic.edu.au
(03) 5335 8157

Principal's Report

Kane Tolliday

Welcome back everyone following the Easter break. I hope all of our students, families and staff had a wonderful break, enjoyed some special time with family and friends, and that the Easter Bunny found plenty of homes across our community.

We were certainly lucky with the weather over the holidays, and it has been great to return to some sunshine. It always helps everyone feel a little more vibrant and positive. As we know though, the colder weather is not far away, so this is a good reminder for students to wear suitable footwear and to bring warm clothes and jackets to school each day.

As the weather begins to change, there will be times we move to a wet weather timetable. Wherever possible, we will still be encouraging students to get outside during breaks, particularly into our undercover areas. Fresh air, movement and a chance to reset away from the classroom are really important for our students and help them return to learning settled and ready to go.

On a personal note, I am really excited to officially begin as the substantive Principal of Sebastopol Primary School. In many ways, it does not feel like a lot has changed from being Acting Principal, and that is because the support from our staff and wider community has been so strong from day one. Thank you for making the transition so easy and for the trust you continue to show in our school.

I would also like to officially welcome Maddie Witcher into her role as Assistant Principal. Maddie has already been working incredibly hard in the wellbeing space and continues to make a positive difference for our students and families. Alongside Wil Juarez, our Leading Teacher for Teaching and Learning, our leadership team remains strongly focused on supporting students, supporting staff and continually improving outcomes across our school.

Term 2 is shaping up as a very busy and exciting 10-week term, with plenty happening across the school.

Next week we begin our 2027 Foundation school tours, with tours available on:

- Monday 4th May at 10:00am
- Thursday 7th May at 1:00pm

We will also hold our 2027 Foundation Information Night on Tuesday 12 May at 5:30pm.

A special thank you to Ms C for her outstanding work with flyers, social media and connecting with local kindergartens to promote our school. We are proud of what Sebastopol Primary School has to offer, and it is great to see that message being shared in the community.

I would also like to warmly welcome all new families who have joined us this term. Our current enrolment sits at 106 students, which is fantastic, with more families continuing to show interest in joining our school community.

Earlier this week we held our Cross Country trials. I would like to congratulate every student who participated and gave their best effort. I am also very excited to acknowledge the following students who have qualified to represent our school at the Sovereign District Cross Country Event at Ballarat High School on Friday 8 May:

Charlotte, Mishel, Jada, Chase, Eli, Jackson and Ava

We wish them all the very best and know they will represent our school with pride.

Thank you again for a fantastic start to Term 2. I hope all families have a lovely weekend, and I look forward to speaking with you again next week.



Student Achievements

Holley Burrows - P/1

For working hard to learn letter names and sounds.

Malakai Langley - P/1

For working hard to learn letter names and sounds.

Kiara Cross - 1/2

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

Jaxon Gower - 1/2

For an excellent start to term. Jaxon displayed the quality of "ready to learn" multiple times in class.

Theodore Canham - 1/2

For demonstrating our school values and representing Sebastopol Primary School at the Sebastopol ANZAC Day Service.

Colt Bell - 1/2

For demonstrating our school values and representing Sebastopol Primary School at the Sebastopol ANZAC Day Service.

Kiara Murray - 3

For an amazing start at Sebastopol Primary School.

Markell Weetra - 3

For starting the term with a great attitude and excellent progress in his phonics!

Chayse Van Der Linde - 3

For demonstrating excellent addition and subtraction skills.

Bella Franks - 4

For writing a descriptive and heartwarming letter to an ANZAC soldier. Well done, Bella!

Lachlan Camilleri - 4

For showing greater focus and stamina on learning tasks. Keep up the good work, Lachlan!

Mackenzie Canham - 4

For demonstrating our school values and representing Sebastopol Primary School at the Sebastopol ANZAC Day Service.

Mishel Sami - 4

For demonstrating our school values and representing Sebastopol Primary School at the Sebastopol ANZAC Day Service.

Jaxon Davey - 5/6

For bouncing back from a disappointment to then show leadership during an activity.

Haylo Van Der Linde - 5/6

For showing persistence when experimenting with rotation.

Maeve McAdie - 5/6

For demonstrating our school values and representing Sebastopol Primary School at the Sebastopol ANZAC Day Service.

Ava-Grace Elliott - 5/6

For demonstrating our school values and representing Sebastopol Primary School at the Sebastopol ANZAC Day Service.

Cooper Canham - 5/6

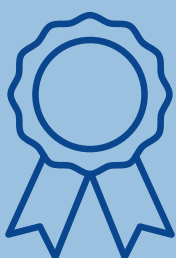
For demonstrating our school values and representing Sebastopol Primary School at the Sebastopol ANZAC Day Service.

Lily Anderson - 5/6

For demonstrating our school values and representing Sebastopol Primary School at the Sebastopol ANZAC Day Service.

Mikaeel Hussain - 5/6

For demonstrating our school values and representing Sebastopol Primary School at the Sebastopol ANZAC Day Service.



School Captains' Awards

Alex Hall: For an excellent play on Healthy Habits.

-Mikaeel

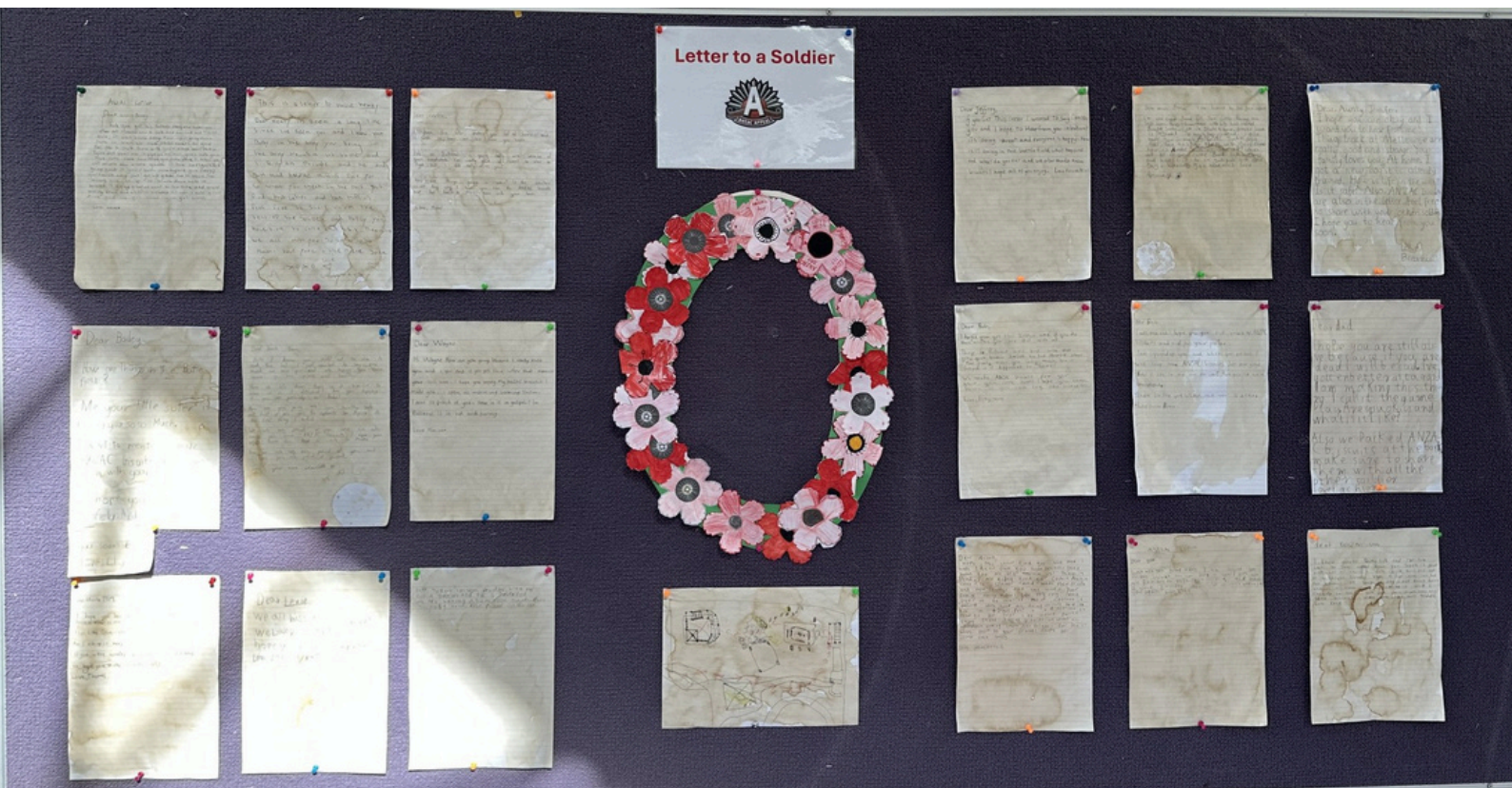
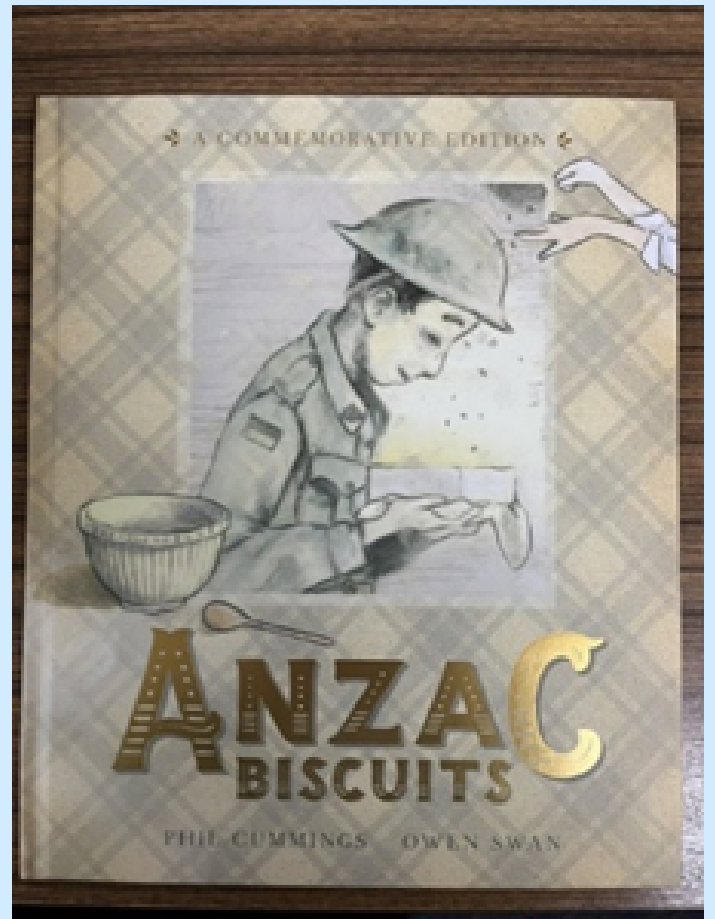
Ava-Grace Elliott: For showing incredible determination in running 12 laps of the oval during cross country trials.

-Lily

Class Item

Year 4

Year 4 has been recently learning about the importance of ANZAC Day. We have learned about the history of the ANZAC campaign at Gallipoli and what life was like for those on the front line. The book "ANZAC Biscuits" compared the experiences of a family separated by war, as those at home prepared a care package to be sent to their loved one at Gallipoli. Our class used this as inspiration to write a letter to a soldier at war, explaining what life was like at home and sending love and encouragement to the soldier. These letters were then coffee-stained to give them a proper old-fashioned look. We gained an appreciation for the sacrifice of the ANZACs and an understanding of their legacy.





I am very proud of how students are applying their learning and carefully watching others to support their understanding.

Ms Kate Landry

Auslan (Australian Sign Language) is the language of the Deaf community in Australia and it has been wonderful to see students building their communication skills and understanding of Deaf culture.

This term, students have explored similarities and differences between Auslan and English, including the importance of eye contact, facial expressions, and how signs use handshape, location and movement. They have also learnt respectful ways to gain attention and strategies such as pointing when unsure of a sign.

Students are regularly using Auslan to greet others, ask and answer questions, give and follow instructions, and participate in signing games.

Students have also been reflecting on their progress using Auslan "I can" statements aligned with the Victorian Curriculum F-10 Languages, helping them to recognise their growth and build confidence in their learning.



An Auslan alphabet chart is included in this newsletter to encourage conversation and interaction at home with your child.



Try this at home 🙌

- Fingerspell your child's name and have them teach you theirs
- Use simple signs like hello, thank you and how are you? during daily routines
- Play a guessing game: fingerspell a word and see who can work it out first
- Use facial expressions to show meaning

These small activities are a fun way to build confidence and keep the learning going beyond the classroom.

My Alphabet Mat



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 neurodivergent children. Young children are welcome.

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.



Hamburger Hot Food Day

The fundraising team will be holding a Hot Food Day on Friday, 22nd of May. Order forms will be distributed this week, so please keep an eye out for these forms coming home in reading bags. Forms will be due back by Friday, 15th of May.



Smile Squad



Smile Squad is coming to our school

Sebastopol P.S families,

The Smile Squad team from Grampians Health are coming to our school soon.

Smile Squad is the Victorian Government free school dental program.

This means all students can get a free dental check-up, preventive services, and treatment at school.

How to access free dental care

Grampians Health will be sending to your school the next generation of oral health professionals and your child will be seen by a dental/oral health student working under the supervision of a qualified smile squad clinician. We need your consent before we can provide services. Consent is usually provided by a parent or guardian. To be seen on site at school you must tick YES in the box to be seen by a student.

Sign up to Smile Squad at: <https://bit.ly/smilesquadvic>

OR use the below QR code:



Please complete and submit the consent form by the 27th July 2026

Paper copies of the consent form are available. Please contact the school office if you would like to request one.

The electronic consent form can be translated into more than 100 languages, and the paper form is available in 13 languages.

Smile Squad dental packs

All children deserve a healthy smile, and the Smile Squad free school dental program is working hard to help make sure this happens.

Your child(ren) will have received a free dental pack to bring home. The dental pack contains a toothbrush, full sized toothpaste, and an oral health brochure. Please take the time to read the brochure. It's full of helpful hints and tips to help your whole family eat well, drink well and clean well – for life.

Standard strength toothpaste

Smile Squad provides standard strength fluoride toothpaste that is generally used by ages six and over, unless recommended by a dental or trained health professional.

If your child is under six, please talk to a dental or trained health professional to find out if your child might benefit from using this toothpaste. You can also choose to put the toothpaste away until they turn six or give it to someone else in your family to use.

Do I need to attend my child's appointment?

No, you do not need to attend your child's appointment. If you prefer to attend your child's appointment, you can take your child to the community dental clinic.

The Grampians Health Smile Squad look forward to seeing you soon.

Kind regards,

Grampians Health

Smile Squad

Parenting Support Group

Support for Parents of Neurodivergent Children is a six-week, semi-facilitated peer support group for parents and primary carers of neurodivergent children. It will be held every Friday from 10:30am to 12:00pm across Term Two, beginning Friday 1st May and concluding Friday 5th June, in the Group Room at The Centre for Perinatal Health & Parenting.

Each week, your facilitator will open the session with a topic and some gentle discussion prompts to guide the conversation. From there, the space belongs to the group. You are warmly invited – and genuinely encouraged – to show up, share your experiences, ask your questions, and connect with other parents who really get it.

The six weekly topics are:

- Week 1 – Building Safety & Shared Experience
- Week 2 – Understanding Neurodivergence Differently
- Week 3 – The Parent Nervous System: Self-Care Without Guilt
- Week 4 – Co-Regulation in Real Life
- Week 5 – Shame, Comparison & The Stories We Carry
- Week 6 – Advocacy & Moving Forward

What This Space Is

This is a warm, non-judgmental space for connection, reflection, and mutual support. It is a place where you don't have to explain yourself, justify your child, or pretend everything is fine. It is a place where your lived experience is valued, and where the wisdom in the room – including yours – is part of what makes it work.

What This Space Is Not

This group is not a therapy or counselling group. While it is professionally facilitated, it is a peer support space. If anything comes up for you during the group that feels like it needs deeper support, we would gently encourage you to bring that to your own counsellor or psychologist. If you aren't currently seeing someone and would like to explore that, please don't hesitate to reach out to us directly.

A Few Things to Know Before You Come

Confidentiality is a shared responsibility – what is shared in the group stays in the group, and we'll agree on this together in our first session. There is no pressure to share anything you're not ready for. You are welcome to listen, reflect, and simply be present. We ask that we hold a spirit of non-judgement for one another – no fixing, no advice-giving unless it's invited, and a genuine curiosity for each other's experiences.

Contact Stacey:
5324 2900
reception@perinatalhealth.com.au





BASKETBALL PROGRAMS

TERM TWO FUN!

Aussie Hoops

Introductory program for children aged 4 to 11

All Abilities Hoops

Development program for children living with disability

Next Level

Aimed at 10 to 15 year old domestic players



Community Events

Until 10th May-**Creative Connections Craft Exhibition**-Art Space Ballarat

1st-10th May-**Ballarat Craft and Design Week**-The Mining Exchange

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

1st May-**Beyond the Book**-Sebastopol Library

9th May-**Teeny Tiny Stevies: Brain Fart Tour**-Ballarat Mechanics Institute

9th May-**Ballarat Farmers Market**-Lake Wendouree

14th May-**Explore Watercolours**-Buninyong Community House

19th May-**A Pressing Engagement**-Ballarat Library

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

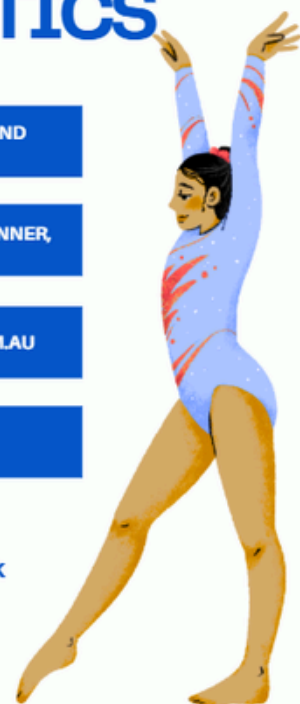
ENROL IN A TRAIL TODAY



11 Mentay, Mitchell Park



0403506322



HAVE FUN AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS

Term Calendar

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

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	02:40: Assembly Year 4 Item
	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....	09:00: Cross Country
	Mon May 11	Tue May 12	Wed May 13	Thu May 14	Fri May 15
W4		05:00: Information Evening for New....		09:00: RDA Horse Riding	Education Support Personnel Day 02:40: Assembly 5/6 Item
	Mon May 18	Tue May 19	Wed May 20	Thu May 21	Fri May 22
W5		Student Free Day - Staff PD		09:00: RDA Horse Riding	
	Mon May 25	Tue May 26	Wed May 27	Thu May 28	Fri May 29
W6		Sorry Day	Reconciliation Week 11:00: National Simultaneous Story time 11:30: P/1 Sebastopol Library	Reconciliation Week 09:00: RDA Horse Riding	Reconciliation Week 02:40: Assembly P/1 Item
	Mon Jun 01	Tue Jun 02	Wed Jun 03	Thu Jun 04	Fri Jun 05
W7	Reconciliation Week	Reconciliation Week	Mabo Day	09:00: RDA Horse Riding	
	Mon Jun 08	Tue Jun 09	Wed Jun 10	Thu Jun 11	Fri Jun 12
W8	King's Birthday Public Holiday	Student Free Day - Report Writing		09:00: RDA Horse Riding	02:40: Assembly 1/2 Item
	Mon Jun 15	Tue Jun 16	Wed Jun 17	Thu Jun 18	Fri Jun 19
W9				09:00: RDA Horse Riding	
	Mon Jun 22	Tue Jun 23	Wed Jun 24	Thu Jun 25	Fri Jun 26
W10				09:00: RDA Horse Riding	Last Day of Term 2 01:40: Assembly Year 3 Item



Important Date or Events

4th & 7th May: School tours for 2027 Prep Families

8th May: Sovereign Cross Country

12th May: Information Evening for 2027 Prep Families

15th May: Education Support Personnel Day

19th May: Pupil Free Day

27th May: National Simultaneous Storytime