

YINNAR

YINNAR PRIMARY SCHOOL

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CALENDAR AND REMINDERS

Thursday 6th September
Friday 7th September
Monday 10th-12th September
Thursday 13th September

Chinese Cultural Day at Kurnai College - Prep-Grade 2
Landcare Tree Planting Day at the Franklin Farm SGS & Grade 2W
Grade 3/4 Camp at Coolamatong
Market Day (more information to follow)
Scholastic Bookclub Issue 6 due back by 9am

Friday 14th September
Wednesday 19th September
Friday 21st September

Footy Colours Day & Sausage Sizzle (order forms due no later than Friday 7th)
Melbourne Zoo Trip for Grades 1/2H and 2W
Last Day of Term 3- this is NOT a free dress day.

2019 Student Enrolments Are Now OPEN

Please feel free to call into the office to pick up an Enrolment Package.

Dear Parents and Carers

We welcomed Miss Halket back to school this week, from her long service leave. The students in her class were very excited to see her this morning. When we have teachers take leave or are away from the school for professional learning, we endeavor to maintain the regular classroom routines so that learning continues seamlessly. We are very fortunate to have some of our part time staff work full time to cover these types of situations. Thank you to Sheena Peters who stepped in for Tamara.

You would have been extremely proud of your children last week as they explained to our visiting teachers and Principal from Boisdale Primary School what it means to be a resilient, resourceful and reflective learner. They talked to them about their learning muscles, how feedback helps them to improve and some of the challenges they may have faced in their learning recently and what strategies they used to help them tackle that particular challenge.

This week I received the individual NAPLAN results for our Years 3 and 5 students. Parents of Year 3 and 5 students will have received their child's results booklet home this week. These individual reports are only a snapshot of how your child was progressing against national standards in May this year.

There are many factors that may influence the results achieved on the day of the assessment. A student may not have performed to the best of their ability, as a

result of illness or other distractions, and equally, some students may perform much better than expected when compared against their regular classroom assessment results.

At Yinnar we have rigorous, ongoing assessment practices at school that teachers use daily to inform their teaching and track learning progress.

If your child's NAPLAN results are higher or lower than you expected, please discuss these results with your child's classroom teacher, alongside their ongoing classroom assessments. This will give a clear and current picture of their learning progress, gaps, and ways to support them at home.

As a staff we will look closely at our overall school results and explore areas of strength and areas for improvement. This takes some time to dig into and in the next few weeks I will share these results with the school council and the school community. Overall our results were pleasing, with our year three reading above state average, high growth in spelling across the board and, our improvement focus of numeracy, whilst still further work to be done, has shown improvement.

Our classroom teachers (Prep-6) have again been taking each of their students through an individualized Mathematics assessment. This is called the Mathematics Online Interview and it enables teachers in a one-on-one situation to determine students' existing mathematical knowledge in relation to growth points. The interview consists of hands-on assessment

tasks where students demonstrate mathematical understanding and preferred strategies for solving progressively more difficult tasks. It involves the classroom teacher observing how each child engages with the tasks, noting their responses to individual questions and recording strategies each child uses and explanations of their thinking.

As I mentioned earlier in the year when teachers undertook this assessment with your child, this is our way of monitoring our student's mathematical learning and progress for their whole time here at Yinnar. This continues to provide our teachers with important assessment information on areas of strengths and gaps for our learners as compared to March 2018 and 12 months ago. Teachers will use this information again to target their teaching accordingly.

I hope all our fathers, grandfather's, uncle's or special male person had an enjoyable and relaxing Father's Day last Sunday and appreciated a small gift that may have come their way.

It's always a delight to watch the children browsing the stall searching for that perfect gift.

Thank you to our Parents Club organisers Kylie Naporowski and Paula Ryan, as well as the many parent helpers for taking the time to assist with the stall. And thank you to all our families for supporting this fundraising event.

Tamina Taylor

GRACE OUTDOOR AWARDS

At Yinnar Primary School we value our Core Values- **Growth Mindset**, **Respect**, **Aim High**, **Curiosity** and **Enthusiasm**. Thank you to the following students for displaying one of these Core Values out in the playground **Nick W**, **Stanley**, **Suede**, **Billy**, **Declan** and **Tayla**. We hope you enjoyed your prize from the GRACE Lucky Dip Box.



SCHOLASTIC BOOKCLUB

Issue 6 has been distributed. Orders can be made on LOOP or returned to the office by Thursday, Sept 13 at 9am.

LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to our Learners of the Week:

Prep /1 H- Xavier, Prep /1 N – Dusty & Alice, 1/2H-Kiana D, 2W-Jacinta, 3/4 V- Cooper, 5/6C– Zac & 5/6T- Troy.
Well done and keep up the great work.

SUNSMART & HATS

Please start checking the Sunsmart App daily. As the days are getting warmer the UV levels have been >3. Students need to start bringing their hats to school in readiness for term 4 when hats must be worn.

SQUEEZE BOTTLES FOR THE ART ROOM

If anyone has clean, empty squeeze bottles from sauce etc, they would be very much appreciated in the art room! Thank you, Kate Try

MESSAGE FROM MRS DOONAN

Many thanks to those responsible for setting up the clavivova before our piano recital last Friday and to Mrs Peters for providing that lovely piano stool. Also, thank you to all those enthusiastic pianists who played so well.

TENNIS

Any students who are interested in playing tennis this summer season - either being coached or playing in junior teams, please contact Malcolm Swinley on **0419 563 877** as soon as possible for commencement in term 4.

Coaching can be arranged in a small group (4), semi private (2) or private coaching (1).

Junior teams play on Saturday mornings during term 4, 2017, through to the end of term 1, 2018 in the Latrobe Valley Junior Competition. It is a great sport to be involved in and the commitment is a couple of hours on a Saturday morning.

Coaching and teams are currently being organized so be quick and get involved in this great summer sport. For further information you can also contact Donna on 0439 631 470.

THE BISCUIT SHOP

CHILDREN'S YO-YO BISCUIT DECORATING CLASSES

Thursday 27th September: 10:00am, 11:30am, 1:00pm & 2:30pm

Venue: Mid Valley Shopping Centre, Morwell

Cost: \$12 per child, two or more children register under same name \$11 per child.

Each child will receive their own 8 mini yo-yo biscuits to decorate packed in their own decorated bag to take home.

To register please contact Jamie at The Biscuit Shop on 0499602562



Do you remember how excited your children were about maths* when they were young? How they were excited by patterns in nature? How they rearranged a set of objects and found, with delight, that they had the same number? Before children start school they often talk about maths with curiosity and wonder, but soon after they start school many children decide that maths is confusing and scary and they are not a "math person". This is because maths in many schools is all about procedures, memorization and deciding which children can and which cannot. Maths has become a performance subject and students of all ages are more likely to tell you that maths is all about answering questions correctly than tell you about the beauty of the subject or the way it piques their interest.

Given the performance and test-driven culture of our schools, with over-packed curriculum and stressed out students, what can parents do to transform maths for their children? Here are some steps to take:

- 1** Encourage children to play maths puzzles and games. Award winning mathematician, Sarah Flannery reported that her maths achievement and enthusiasm came not from school but from the puzzles she was given to solve at home. Puzzles and games – anything with a dice really – will help kids enjoy maths, and develop number sense, which is critically important.
- 2** Always be encouraging and never tell kids they are wrong when they are working on maths problems. Instead find the logic in their thinking – there is always some logic to what they say. For example if your child multiplies 3 by 4 and gets 7, say – Oh I see what you are thinking, you are using what you know about addition to add 3 and 4, when we multiply we have 4 groups of 3...
- 3** Never associate maths with speed. It is not important to work quickly, and we now know that forcing kids to work quickly on maths is the best way to start maths anxiety for children, especially girls. Don't use flashcards or other speed drills. Instead use visual activities such as <https://bhi61nm2cr3mkdgk1dtaov18-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/FluencyWithoutFear-2015.pdf>
- 4** Never share with your children the idea that you were bad at maths at school or you dislike it – especially if you are a mother. Researchers found that as soon as mothers shared that idea with their daughters, their daughter's achievement went down.
- 5** Encourage number sense. What separates high and low achievers is number sense – having an idea of the size of numbers and being able to separate and combine numbers flexibly. For example, when working out $29 + 56$, if you take one from the 56 and make it $30 + 55$, it is much easier to work out. The flexibility to work with numbers in this way is what is called number sense and it is very important.
- 6** Perhaps most important of all – encourage a "growth mindset" let students know that they have unlimited maths potential and that being good at maths is all about working hard. When children have a growth mindset, they do well with challenges and do better in school overall. When children have a fixed mindset and they encounter difficult work, they often conclude that they are not "a math person". One way in which parents encourage a fixed mindset is by telling their children they are "smart" when they do something well. That seems like a nice thing to do, but it sets children up for difficulties later, as when kids fail at something they will inevitably conclude that they aren't smart after all. Instead use growth praise such as "it is great that you have learned that", "I really like your thinking about that". When they tell you something is hard for them, or they have made a mistake, tell them: "That's wonderful, your brain is growing!"



* I use maths, rather than math, partly because I am from the UK and we say maths there and partly because maths is short for mathematics, it is a plural noun. Mathematics was chosen to be plural to reflect all the many parts of mathematics - drawing, modeling, asking questions, communicating, etc. Math sounds more singular and narrow. (Do the math, usually means do a calculation!), and I prefer to keep the idea that maths is a multidimensional and varied set of mathematical forms and ideas.

For more resources see <https://www.youcubed.org>

Online Courses for Students, Teachers and Parents

<https://www.youcubed.org/category/mooc/>

Student Page

<https://www.youcubed.org/students/>

Parent Page

<https://www.youcubed.org/parents/>

Recommended Apps and Games

<https://www.youcubed.org/category/teaching-ideas/math-apps/>

More Information about Brain Science

<https://www.youcubed.org/think-it-up/>

Jo's Mindset Book

<http://tinyurl.com/qxhnqsh>

Maths Tasks to Do At Home

<https://www.youcubed.org/tasks/>

Summer Camp Video

<https://www.youcubed.org/youcubed-summer-math-camp-2015/>

Week of Inspirational Maths Curriculum

<https://www.youcubed.org/week-of-inspirational-math/>

