



# NEWSLETTER

Our school will be having an **Open Day** next Wednesday the 25<sup>th</sup> March. This enables those in the wider community to come in to school to hear about our approaches and see classrooms in action. We are aiming to fill two Prep classes in 2027 (we have enough for one already), so are encouraging any interested prospective parents and families to come along to school. There are two sessions- one at 9:15am and another after school at 3:45pm and visitors can choose which session they attend. Parents of students already enrolled for Prep in 2027 do not need to attend. Please encourage any parents who are actively looking for a school for their Prep student to come along. We also conduct personalised tours for prospective enrolments. Parents are encouraged to make contact with the school office to arrange a tour, which enables detailed discussion whilst walking around the school to visit learning spaces.

Congratulations to all Year 3 and 5 students who completed **NAPLAN testing** during the past week. Students had four tests to complete: a written story in response to a prompt, followed by reading, language conventions and spelling and then numeracy. The tests are conducted nationally and designed to test skills from early primary all the way into secondary level within each test. Naturally, students can get to some parts of the test and find the questions quite tricky. Parents receive the results of the tests sometime during Term 2. Our students held a very positive attitude towards the assessments throughout the week. We like them to try as hard as they can, but also remind them that the tests are just one snapshot of how they are learning and just part of the overall picture of their strengths as a young person.

On Friday our students and staff will celebrate **Harmony Day**. We love having our students work in cross-age groups so that they interact with other students and build a sense of community. Harmony Day is an annual celebration of diversity and tolerance and students had various activities to participate in during the day, as well as a magnificent breakfast organised by our amazing ES staff and an afternoon community event.

**We need your ideas!** Our first meeting to begin our organisation of next year's 150<sup>th</sup> Celebrations will take place on Thursday April 23 at 2:30pm, which is the first week of Term 2. We invite any interested parents and carers along to help list ideas for commemorative celebrations throughout the year. The more ideas, the better the year will be for our school and wider community. We'll also invite some of our school leaders to take part as well and then communicate the ideas to the community following the meeting.

Students in Year 5-6 participate in a **woodwork program** with the Barwon Valley Woodwrights here at school. Over a few weeks, the students learn basic woodworking skills, such as safety, drilling, joining and sanding. They construct objects to take home. We are really proud to have the Woodwrights on site and excited that our students can participate in this unique program! The group volunteer their expertise to the students using donated materials.



Our partnership with the **Moolap Tennis Club** has not only included after school tennis sessions, but it has seen some tennis clinics taking place during PE time for our Year 1-2 and 2-3 classes this week!



On Wednesday Laura (from the office) and myself has the pleasure of taking some of our school leadership team along to the **Dream and Lead Conference** in Melbourne. It was a day full of fun activities, with high energy and plenty of audience participation! The students returned with an idea of a student-led project that they will survey the students about shortly.



Our school focus on developing student leadership skills has seen lots of other work taking place over the last few weeks:

Our **Art Leaders**, Kellie and Imogen, have ran a Harmony Day colouring competition, which has been open to all students in the school. The winners are announced at this week's assembly.

**Student Voice Representatives** have been working with Mr Trenorden to provide feedback from students in their class on our canteen, decide on a name for our wellbeing space and devise a focus for house tokens for the next few weeks. This will see students being recognised by SVR leaders and staff for their sportsmanship and co-operation when out in the yard.

**House Leaders**, Winter, Zali, Jax and Mia, have been working on hosting a downball competition for students in Year 3-6 during the last week of school. Students will compete individually and for their house group.

Throughout the year, all Year 5-6 students will work in pairs to operate the **school canteen** with our volunteer parents. They take money and give change, sell items and assist to clean the space during last recess on Friday afternoons. Such positive skills to reinforce (seeing the old fashioned skills in taking money and giving change is great to see!).

How amazing is it to see our students so actively taking part in their school decision making and working together to build a sense of community!!

Next week is our annual **Cross Country** afternoon (Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March). All students have been practising their running stamina during PE sessions and will show off their running skills during the afternoon in age groups. As with all events, students are required to wear their sunsmart hat and uniform and apply sunscreen before and during the event. Races begin at 1:10pm and parents and guardians are welcome to attend. Best of luck to all students!

Best of luck also to Year 3-4 students and staff who are heading off to **Camp** at Sunnystones (near Bacchus Marsh) next Thursday and Friday. We know that this will be the first trip without parents and families for several students, but also know that they will have lots of fun participating in the many outdoor activities on offer. Many of us as adults still remember our experiences at camp as young people, so we are happy that we can continue to provide this to our students. Unfortunately the costs of running camps, along with transport, have become higher each year, but know that our families still value the opportunity to send their children along.

**Upcoming Dates:**

Whole School Cross Country: 25 March

MPS Open Day (for prospective 2027 Prep students): March 25, morning and after school sessions

Year 3-4 Camp: March 26-27

Prep Health Assessments: March 30-31

School Council: March 31

Easter Hat Parade: April 2

Last Day of Term 1: April 2, 2:30pm finish

**Peter Knight  
Principal**

**ZEN HEN HULA ArtClub**

# ART CLASSES FOR KIDS

## EASTER HOLIDAYS

Fun and supportive school holiday sessions for all kids.

**LOCATED IN BELMONT**

[ZENHENHULA.COM.AU](http://ZENHENHULA.COM.AU)

<p><b>Tuesday 7th April</b> 10am - 11am <b>Sharks in the Water!</b> \$15pp</p> <p>11.30am - 12.30pm <b>Kpop Demon Hunters</b> \$20pp</p>	<p><b>Wednesday 8th April</b> 10am - 11am <b>MYO Journals</b> \$20pp</p> <p>11.30am - 12.30pm <b>Watercolour Dolphins</b> \$15pp</p>	<p><b>Wednesday 8th April</b> 5pm-7.30pm <b>Pizza + Painting Pyjama Party</b> \$50pp</p>
<p><b>Thursday 9th April</b> 10am - 11am <b>Frozen</b> \$15pp</p> <p>11.30am - 12.30pm <b>Moana</b> \$20pp</p>	<p><b>Sunday 12th April</b> 1.30pm - 4pm <b>DnD Paint + Play</b> \$50pp</p>	<p><b>Monday 13th April</b> 10am - 11am <b>Who's That Pokemon?</b> \$15pp</p> <p>11.30am - 12.30pm <b>Minecraft Making Mayhem</b> \$20pp</p>
<p><b>Tuesday 14th April</b> 10am - 11.30am <b>Embroidery</b> \$20pp</p> <p>11.30am - 12.30pm <b>Trolls</b> \$20pp</p>	<p><b>Tuesday 14th April</b> 9am-3.30pm <b>Code + Create: Roblox special event with iCode</b> Lunch included \$150 Book via <a href="http://icodeschool.com.au">icodeschool.com.au</a></p>	<p><b>Wednesday 15th April</b> 9am-3.30pm <b>Code + Create: Minecraft special event with iCode</b> Lunch included \$150 Book via <a href="http://icodeschool.com.au">icodeschool.com.au</a></p>
<p><b>Thursday 16th April</b> 10am-11am <b>Make Your Own Photofame</b> \$20pp</p> <p>11.30am-12.30pm <b>Bag Charms!</b> \$20pp</p>	<p><b>Friday 17th April</b> 11.30am - 12.30pm <b>Neon Portraits</b> \$20pp</p> <p>11.30am-12.30pm <b>Harry Potter Potions</b> \$20pp</p>	<p><b>Friday 17th April</b> 5pm-7.30pm <b>Pizza + Painting Pyjama Party</b> \$50pp</p>

# SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

GEELONG  
REGIONAL  
LIBRARIES



## JOIN IN THE FUN AT LEOPOLD LIBRARY

We've got your kids covered these school holidays!

Explore our exciting range of events and activities covering literacy, STEM, social connections, and creative exploration. There is something to entertain children of all ages and interests.

Scan the QR code for the full details of all events on our website. Bookings open two weeks before school holidays start.



[www.grlc.vic.gov.au](http://www.grlc.vic.gov.au)

book  
now

### **Fact or Fib? (8+)**

Wednesday 8 April 10:30am - 11:30am

### **Roll a Story (5+)**

Wednesday 8 April 2:30pm - 3:30pm

### **'Real or Ridiculous' Preschool Storytime**

Thursday 9 April 10:30am - 11:30am

### **Scavenger Hunt - Hidden Creatures (5+)**

Monday 13 April 2:30pm - 3:30pm

### **Fact or Fiction: Loch Ness Monster (8+)**

Wednesday 15 April 10:30am - 11:30am

### **'Mixed Up Fairytales' Preschool Storytime**

Thursday 16 April 10:30am - 11:30am

All events are **FREE** unless otherwise specified.

**Bookings essential.**

Online [www.grlc.vic.gov.au/events](http://www.grlc.vic.gov.au/events).

In person at any library or phone 12010 600





GEELONG  
HIGH SCHOOL

# 2026 SCHOOL TOURS March & April

Book a guided tour of Geelong High School, view classes, ask questions and experience what Geelong High School has to offer.

Available on Mondays and Wednesdays at 11:30am throughout March & April

Please contact the school on (03) 5225 4100.

## 2027 ACCELERATED LEARNING PROGRAM

### Applications Now Open

Geelong High School's Accelerated Learning Program is a great opportunity for Grade 6 students who are looking for extra challenge in Years 7-9.

### How Do I Apply?

Grade 6 students looking to be accepted into the GHS Accelerated Learning Program should apply by visiting our school website and downloading an application form. Applications close in Term 2 but students can apply at any time from January.

Check the Geelong High School website for more information.

• *Prepares us for Life* •

[geelonghigh.vic.edu.au](http://geelonghigh.vic.edu.au)

# AUSKICK COME & TRY

COME AND TRY DAY  
Saturday March  
28th  
9:30AM  
Grinter Reserve



NAB AFL Auskick is Australia's premier introductory football program for children, typically aged 4 to 8, designed to teach basic Australian Rules Football skills through, safe, game-based activities. It focuses on fun, fitness, and building skills like kicking and marking in a non-contact environment.



## SCAN TO REGISTER



COACH NUJ GIUFFRE

# JUNIOR FOOTY COME & TRY



Looking to play footy in 2026? Do you want to join a family friendly club and feel part of something?

## WE WANT YOU!

Newcomb Power FNC is the place to be. We are super excited to welcome juniors ranging from Under 9's to Under 14's to our come and try day. Come along and see what it is all about. No experience needed, just bring a can do attitude and a massive smile!

## SCAN TO REGISTER

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup>  
March  
9:30AM - 10:30AM  
Grinter Reserve  
Under 9's - 14's



“

This has made my year!  
Meli staff made it happen  
in 20 minutes.

”

FREE  
Pop-Up Birth Certificate  
Support Day



Tuesday 31 March 2026  
10am-1pm  
Whittington Neighbourhood House  
20 Worden Court, Whittington 3219