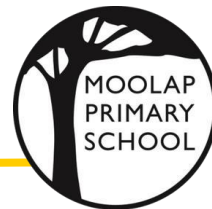


FRIDAY 17 OCTOBER 2025

ISSUE 14

MOOLAP PRIMARY SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER

Fire Danger Period: Moolap PS actions

Moolap PS is listed as a Category 4 school with regards to the Bushfire-At-Risk-Register (BARR), which is the Victorian Government's register of schools and early childhood centres that are deemed at risk should there be a bushfire or grassfire in the local area. Category 4 inclusion declares that Moolap PS is at some lower risk of bushfire or grassfire. As part of this register, the school is required to add this risk to our Emergency Management Plan and identify an area of the school that is deemed safe to evacuate to if a grassfire was to occur during school hours. This also means that we practice additional 'Shelter in Place' drills during Term 1 and 4 each year. Our Shelter in Place location is the BER/ STEM space and surrounding classrooms, which also have access to running water and toilets. An additional guideline for Category 4 BARR schools is the mandatory closure of the school in the event that a 'Catastrophic' fire danger day is determined in our local fire weather district. If this was to take place, parents would be notified via Compass with as much notice as possible. Any camps or excursions that are scheduled in areas of the state deemed 'Catastrophic' on a particular day will not go ahead or be cancelled. As part of its annual Emergency Management Plan process, the school completes a Risk Management Plan, which identifies potential risks and mitigation measures. One example of this is to ensure that gutters are regularly inspected and cleaned of debris and the maintenance of trees and overhanging branches near buildings. Parents will notice that the works to upgrade our fire service to include new water tanks and pumps have begun on site. These are expected to be completed by December.



It's great to see student work from Moolap sitting proudly at the **Geelong Show**. Following a very successful Art Show at school at the end of Term 3, Mrs Taylor set up the display at the Geelong Show this week. Congratulations to all students for this terrific work and thanks to Mrs Taylor for celebrating student achievement in such a positive manner!



We love to celebrate our students and share wonderful stories with our community! Both Eva C and Micha S have been selected as the only Victorians to represent Australia in Fiji in an under 12 Oceania Football (Soccer) Tournament! They will be travelling to Fiji to play against overseas teams and further develop their skills with experienced coaches. Congratulations to Eva and Micha, we are all really proud of you! All the best for your competition.

CAR PARK REMINDER

A reminder to please obey all signage in the school carpark, no parking, bus zone areas etc. The carpark is owned by COGG, and local laws do patrol the area, families will receive fines for not obeying the signage. Be conscious of speed and aware of students walking to cars. Parents and students need to use assigned pathways to get to and from their vehicles. (There are two paths: one running alongside the school and the other clearly marked with yellow feet in the car park.

1. Parents and visitors need to back their cars into car spaces. This makes it safer when you drive out.
2. Parents of younger students should walk their children into and pick them up from school grounds.
3. The school does not have a drop off area. You will need to park the car to drop off your children.



Term 4 Dates (please check Compass Calendar for updates as more dates may be added):

Curriculum Day #4: Friday 17 October

Geelong Cup Holiday: Wednesday 22 October

Prep 2026 Meet and Greet session: Thursday 23 October (all Prep Orientation dates have been emailed to parents)

SVR Whitehaven Visit: Thursday 30 October

Prep-2 Swimming Begins: Monday 10 November

Year 5-6 Camp Kangarooobie: Monday 17- Wednesday 19 November (information posted on Compass)

Whole-School Athletics Day: Wednesday 3 December

State-wide Orientation Day: Tuesday 9 December (including Prep transition)

Christmas Concert: Thursday 11 December

Year 6 Graduation: Monday 15 December

Semester 2 Student Reports to Parents: Monday 15 December

Year 6 Adventure Park Excursion: Tuesday 16 December

Class Parties and Final Assembly: Wednesday 17 December

Term 4 Ends: Friday 19 December @ 12:30pm

Other Dates:

School Council Dates: 12 November and 10 December

MCG Meetings: 30 October and 20 November, 2:30pm

School Assemblies: Friday 24 October, 7 November, 21 November, 5 December

FURTHER BUSHFIRE SEASON NOTIFICATION TO FAMILIES

School preparations for the bushfire season

Each year, we undertake a range of activities to ensure the safety of our school and to prepare for bushfires and grassfires.

An important part of this process is communicating to parents what will happen when certain fire danger ratings are issued to help ensure the safety of students and staff.

Our school has been identified as being at risk of bushfire or grassfire and is a Category 4 school.

Our school will **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating in South West fire district**. Closure of the school due to a Catastrophic fire danger rating will be enacted when the Bureau of Meteorology forecast and related public safety messaging are confirmed. Due to uncertainties in the forecast, the timing of this confirmation may vary. Information regarding potential or confirmed Catastrophic fire danger days will be communicated to you by Compass notification.

It is also important to be aware that:

- No one will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Catastrophic day.
- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast for fire weather district in which the camp is located, or if the travel involves passing through areas that have Catastrophic fire danger.

As part of preparing our school for the fire season, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan and clear our facility's grounds and gutters.

What can families and the school community do to help us prepare?

- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers.
- Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, checking our [website](#), by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements if our school is closed due to Catastrophic fire danger. Further information can be found on the [CFA's website](#).
- Action your family's bushfire survival plan if your own triggers are met. Our school community may be spread out across many areas and some families may be at higher risk than others. Your family's safety is critical, so please let us know if you are actioning your bushfire survival plan and if your children will be absent on these days.
- If your child is old enough, talk to [them about bushfires](#) and your family's bushfire survival plan.

Families are encouraged to action their [Bushfire Survival Plan](#) on Catastrophic fire danger rating days in their district. The safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Catastrophic day. **On such days, children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**

You can find more information on emergencies, warnings and preparedness actions here:

- VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices
- VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)
- Website <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>
- Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency>)
- Twitter (<https://twitter.com/vicemergency>)
- ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the department's policy?

The Department of Education annually assesses the fire risk of all schools and early childhood services with the support of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO). They are allocated a category of risk (categories 0 to 6). Schools and services that are Categories 0-3 are published on the [Bushfire At-Risk Register \(BARR\)](#). Schools at some risk of bushfire and grassfire are published on the [Category 4 List](#).

The department's [Bushfire and Grassfire Preparedness Policy](#) requires all schools and early childhood services on the BARR and the Category 4 List to close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district. All school bus routes which travel in or through a district with Catastrophic fire danger must also be cancelled. The policy also requires that schools at the highest risk of bushfire (those in Categories 0, 1 and 2 of the Bushfire At-Risk Register) enact pre-emptive action plans based on the fire danger forecast for their Local Government Area (LGA).

Who issues fire danger forecasts?

The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) provides public fire danger rating forecasts each day of the fire danger period using fire weather district areas. In Victoria, there are 9 fire weather districts, which are based on Local Government Area boundaries.

The department uses these forecasts when supporting schools to enact their pre-emptive bushfire actions plans.

Peter Knight
Principal

2025 Deakin University Diwali Festival

This is a free, family-friendly community event with:

- ▶ cultural performances
- ▶ DJ
- ▶ food and market stalls
- ▶ free activities and henna art
- ▶ rangoli artwork display
- ▶ and a spectacular fireworks display!



Friday 24th October 2025, 6pm- 9pm,
Deakin University, Waurin Ponds Campus



Free entry, register now:
deakin.edu.au/diwali



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FOR 2025/26 SEASON**

\$70

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TO REGISTER**



AGES 4-9

THURSDAYS BEGINNING

6TH NOVEMBER, 2025

5PM - 6PM

**ALL EQUIPMENT INCLUDED
at Memorial Park - Leopold
Community Bank Oval**

9 WEEK PROGRAM

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:

Brett: 0412 453 248 or

Chris: 0433 382 010

email: blasters@leopoldcricketclub.com



ONE HOUR OUT IN THE SUN AWAY FROM SCREENS LEARNING SOCCER WITH FRIENDS HAVING FUN & BEING ACTIVE

SOCCER SESSIONS

LEOPOLD (LEOPOLD PRIMARY SCHOOL)
EVERY THURSDAY 4-5PM
STARTING 16TH OF OCTOBER

BELMONT (OBERON PRIMARY SCHOOL)
EVERY SUNDAY 9-10AM
STARTING 19TH OF OCTOBER

NORLANE (NORTHERN BAY PEACOCK)
EVERY TUESDAY 4-5PM
STARTING 21ST OF OCTOBER



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And The Ditzzy Dizzard



- Kids in Adelaide

Kids laughing within seconds

- Weekend Notes



SUNDAY 2ND NOVEMBER, 12.30PM

GEELONG ARTS CENTRE, 50 LITTLE MALOP STREET

TICKETS: GEELONGCOMEDYFESTIVAL.COM.AU

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