

Cook's Log

Principal News



What an amazing night, last Wednesday 19th August! "Such is the Life of Gordon Mallard" was such a gift to us all. Danielle Dark asked me pass on her thanks and appreciation to the entire James Cook PS community for bringing one her family's favourite stories to life. 'One of the best ever' I've been told so many times by many members of our community since then.



The excitement is very real about our new buildings. The staff were treated to a tour of the building works just this morning (Thursday 27th) and are looking forward to moving into the fresh, new spaces. The revised finish date is now December 4th, 2026. Furniture orders for the new classrooms have been finalised in time for delivery at the end of this year.



Parent Survey



Your Opinion Counts

I'd like to ask you all again to remember to complete the Parent Opinion Survey for 2026. This survey provides me with valuable insights into our school. The link to the survey is in your newsfeed on Compass and should only take about 5 minutes to complete. I would very much appreciate your support with this 😊

This week's buzz has been all about Book Week 2026 – "A Symphony of Stories". One of the highlights was most definitely the Dressup Parade on Wednesday. So many creative students (and parents no doubt) came dressed in their best, including the staff team as the characters from '101 Dalmatians'. I have included some photos of some of our best-dressed.



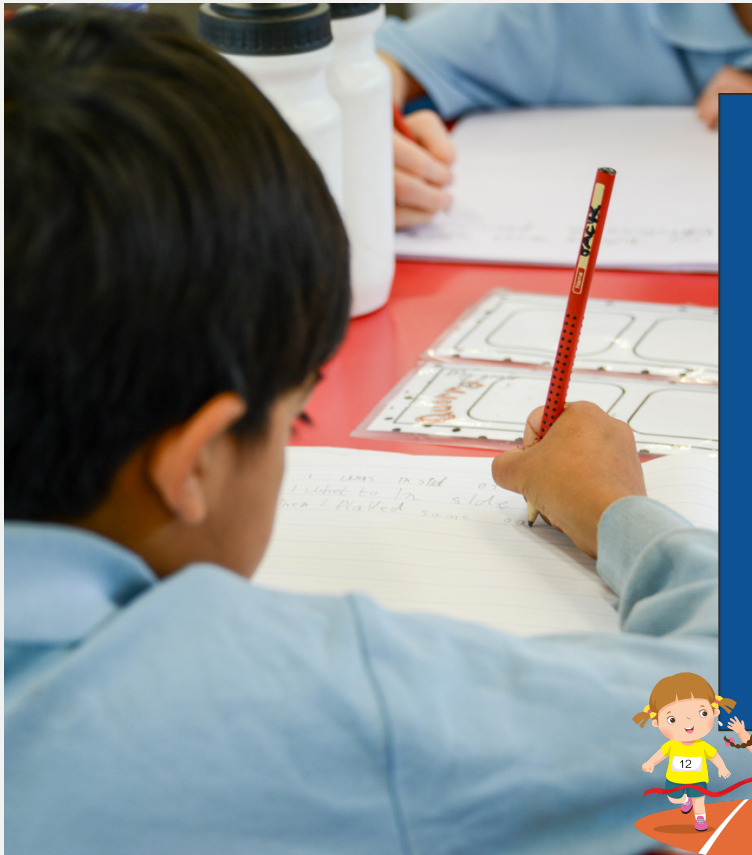
~ Anne

"Reading is dreaming with open eyes." ~ Unknown



Anne Burgess
Principal

Upcoming Events



SEPTEMBER



Wed 2nd	Indigenous Literacy Day
Fri 4th	Father's Day Breakfast
Tues 8th	International Literacy Day
Thurs 10th	R U OK Day
Tue 15th	School Council Meeting
Wed 16th	Division Athletics
Fri 18th	Footy Colours Day Special Pie Lunch Last Day of term 2:30



OCTOBER



Mon 5th	First Day of School
Mon 12th	Year 6 Graduation Photos
Tues 8th	School Council Meeting
Mon 19th	Whole School Incursion Boori Monty Pryor: Indigenous Author & Storyteller
Fri 30th	World Teachers' Day



Students of the Week

Weeks 6 & 7: 2026

OOT

Elia

For his amazing writing using capital letters and full stops. Well done!

Czarinah

For her excellent engagement and respectful behaviour during our school musical rehearsal.

**super
duper** ✨

12E

Prajesh

For consistently using his manners and making safe choices in class and in the yard.

Lucas

For making a terrific effort with his phonics tasks and being a supportive friend to others.

12W

Vesa

For always approaching every task with enthusiasm, trying her best, and showing wonderful passion and dedication in her role in the school musical.

Asra

For her growing confidence, always giving new challenges a go, and asking for help when needed to support her learn

34H

Amir

For contributing with fantastic responses and enthusiasm during discussions on camp. Well done!

Anabia

For participating enthusiastically in all camp activities, pushing themselves to try new challenges, supporting their peers, and following instructions with maturity.

34S

Bardh

For contributing with fantastic responses and enthusiasm during discussions on camp. Well done!

Eric

For trying new things and stepping out of his comfort zone during camp. Keep it up!

Students of the Week

Weeks 6 & 7: 2026

56L

Troy

For consistently putting in his best effort with his creative writing tasks.

Zahra

For experimenting with new and more expressive vocabulary in her writing this week

Mehdi

For actively contributing to class discussions, keep it up !

56R

Jaden

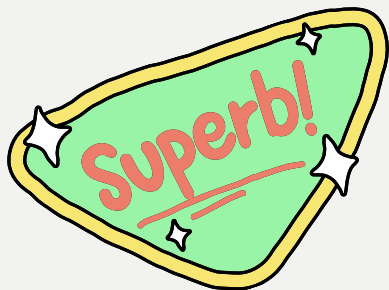
For continuing to push himself academically, especially in Maths.

Mahla

For stepping outside her comfort zone and participating in her first James Cook Musical Well done!

Kaydence

For consistently taking responsibility for the condition of our classroom, always supporting her peers and trying her best at all times.



ART

Fatima 12E

For always focusing during Art sessions and showing creativity and originality in her work. Well done Fathima!

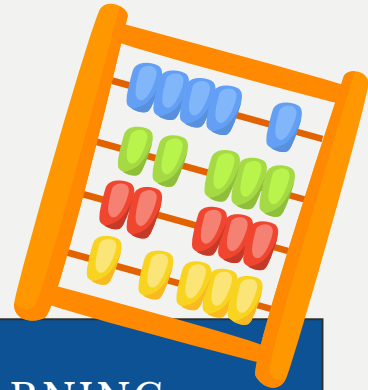
Luka 34S

For always setting a positive example and putting in his very best effort during Art sessions.



Module 2

Foundation



WHAT WE ARE WORKING ON

Literacy

- Read and spell words using the letter combinations ck, th, wh and qu.
- Recognise ck, th, wh and qu in words and say their sounds.
- Blend and segment words such as lock, thin, whack, quit, and whip.
- Read and spell high-frequency words such as he, she, like, and some.
- Read simple texts fluently and talk about what they mean.
- Write sentences using capital letters, finger spaces, and full stops.
- Listen for sounds in words and record them in our writing.

Numeracy

- We have been learning to:
- Identify one less for numbers to 20.
- Count forwards and backwards and recognise numbers to 20.
- Compare numbers and identify which number is smaller or larger.
- Put numbers to 20 in order from smallest to largest.
- Use a number track to identify numbers that are one more or one less.
- Find missing numbers on a number track.
- Sort collections into two groups and explain how the groups are different.
- Count each group carefully and identify which group has more or less.

FUTURE LEARNING

Literacy

We will be learning to:

- Read and spell words using the letter combinations ck, th, wh and qu.
- Recognise ck, th, wh and qu in words and say their sounds.
- Blend and segment words such as neck, quick, whack, thin, and wham.
- Read and spell high-frequency words such as he, she, like, and some.
- Read simple texts fluently and talk about what they mean.
- Write sentences using capital letters, finger spaces, and full stops.
- Listen for sounds in words and record them in our writing

Numeracy

We will be learning to:

- Recognise, read, and compare numbers to 20 and explore number relationships.
- Use a number line to identify numbers, find missing numbers, and count forwards and backwards to 20.
- Start with the larger number and count on to solve addition problems more efficiently.
- Solve simple addition stories using materials, drawings, number lines, and mental strategies.
- Collect, sort, and organise information into simple data displays.
- Read data displays and answer questions by comparing and discussing the information

Module 2





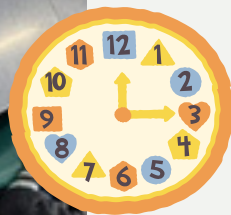
Module 3

Years 3 & 4



WHAT WE ARE WORKING ON

- Mathematics: Time and duration, followed by decimals and how they are used in everyday situations.
- English – Reading: Reading and exploring Finding Our Heart, with a focus on comprehension, vocabulary and class discussion.
- English – Writing: Writing book reports, including summarising key information and sharing opinions about texts.
- Science: Exploring living things, their features, what they need to survive and how they depend on their environment. Students explored our school gardens to find the different kinds of living things in the garden.
- Finishing our musical performances to put on a great show at the Drum Theatre.



FUTURE LEARNING

- Reading: Beginning our new class text, The Twits.
- Mathematics: Exploring angles, followed by mass and capacity.
- English: Continuing to develop reading comprehension, vocabulary and writing skills through our new class text.



UPCOMING EVENTS/NEWS

- Father's Day
- Footy Colours Day – last day of Term 3
- End of Term 3 – Friday 18 September





Module 3

Years 5 & 6

WHAT WE ARE WORKING ON

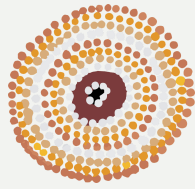
- What an incredible whole-school musical experience! Our students and staff worked together to create a truly memorable performance.
- From rehearsals and costumes to singing, dancing and acting, our students showed enthusiasm, teamwork, perseverance and confidence.
- It was wonderful to see students supporting one another, stepping outside their comfort zones and giving their very best on stage.
- A huge congratulations to everyone involved — it was a wonderful success and an amazing experience for our whole school community!
- We have been celebrating Book Week with lots of reading, sharing and talking about books!
- Students have explored a wide variety of stories and authors, discovering new characters, ideas and adventures along the way.
- Our Book Week Dress-Up Day was a wonderful celebration, with students and staff bringing favourite book characters to life through their fantastic costumes.
- It has been fantastic to see our school community celebrating the joy of reading and the wonderful world of books!



UPCOMING EVENTS/NEWS

- Father's Day Breakfast
- Division Athletics





Art



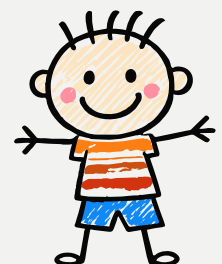
Students have been learning about the meaning and symbolism behind Indigenous Art. Activities have included the creation of rain sticks, clapping sticks, handprints and group poster work using traditional symbols and dot painting.



Self portraits in the form of wacky hair designs, superheroes and abstract work have been a fun way to present themselves. Students have been learning to translate human features into geometric shapes, as well as using line, proportion and self-expression to create their self portraits.



The 5/6's have been invited to participate in the Penguin Rockeries, Australian Antarctic Festival 2026 in Hobart, Tasmania. Classroom globally and across Australia paint plain wooden penguins cut-outs to form colourful colon which are displayed along the foreshore from August 20-23



Everyone will



when we all follow our "Matrix of Expectations."

Let's just 	 Safe Protecting yourself and others	 Responsible Looking after yourself and making good choices	 Respectful Looking after people and property
ALL SETTINGS	We keep our hands and feet to ourselves. We use property and furniture for its correct purpose. We transition in two lines. We tell a staff member if something is wrong. We stay in designated areas.	We return equipment to its rightful place. We put rubbish in the correct bins. We keep all our belongings in their correct place. We follow instructions from staff. We wait quietly when lining up. We ask for help when needed. We admit our mistakes.	We share school property. We wear the correct school uniform. We take turns. We use please, thank you and excuse me. We ask before touching others' belongings. We transition quietly during learning times. We let other out the door before entering.
TOILETS	We give others privacy. We wash our hands with soap. We report problems to a staff member.	We close the door when in use. We flush the toilet. We leave when finished.	We use toilets for their correct purpose. We are quiet. We wait our turn.
LEARNING AREAS	We get permission before leaving. We walk inside. We remain properly seated during learning times.	We have our tools and equipment ready. We are on time. We complete our work on time. We stay on task to reach our goals.	We are quiet during independent learning times. We allow others to stay on task. We wait our turn to speak.
OFFICE	We use the correct doors. We listen to office staff. We sign in and out, when we are late or leaving early. We return to class straight away.	We bring one person only with us to first aid. We sign our mobile phone in and out. We place all payments and forms in the post box.	We wait until the first aid adult invites us in. We enter the office quietly. We wait our turn.
PLAY AREAS / OUTDOORS	We walk on ramps. We stay in the correct play areas. We leave sticks, rocks and stones on the ground.	We move to the Module as soon as the music starts. We ask the yard duty teacher for help if needed. We bring our equipment and belongings in after play.	We discuss, agree to and follow the rules of the game. We accept or decline politely others' playing choices.
ICT	We only use sites on Bookmarks. We use our own log in details. We keep our passwords private. We walk with our Chromebook.	We adhere to the ICT user agreement. We carry our Chromebook as instructed. We return our Chromebook to the charging area. We plug in the charger.	We remove our earbuds when the teacher is giving instructions. We half-close the lid when the teacher is speaking. We keep our hands off the keyboard when the teacher is giving instructions.



JAMES COOK PRIMARY SCHOOL MATRIX OF EXPECTATIONS

Our goal is to build successful and responsible learners, in a safe and respectful environment.



LOST PROPERTY ANNOUNCEMENT

There are a number of clothing items currently in lost property.

If your child is missing any clothing, you may visit your child's module in between 3:00 - 3:15pm.



To assist with the return of misplaced items, we kindly ask that all children's uniforms and belongings are clearly labelled.

Labelling can be done using a black permanent marker or iron-on labels. This simple step greatly reduces the likelihood of items being lost or unclaimed.



FOOD PANTRY

Every Wednesday

8:30am – 9:00am

Module 4

Community News

iROCK
MUSIC SCHOOL



James Cook
Primary School

IROCK@SCHOOL

WANNA ROCK AT JAMES COOK?

**COME LEARN AN INSTRUMENT WITH THE
IROCK TEAM TODAY!**

PRICES START FROM \$25* PER LESSON

OR CALL US ON 1-3000-IROCK

WANT TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT WHAT WE DO?

WWW.IROCKMUSICSCHOOL.COM.AU

VOCALS, GUITAR, DRUMS, BASS, UKULELE AND KEYBOARD

Unleash
your
inner
ROCKSTAR

OR HEAD TO FACEBOOK AND
SEND US A MESSAGE!



*\$25 EXCLUDES GST



AUTUMN PLACE COMMUNITY HUB

AFTER SCHOOL YOUTH PROGRAM

Join us for a fun after-school program where young people can connect, make new friends, and take part in simple cooking activities. Designed to encourage social interaction and skill development, the program offers a welcoming space to build confidence, learn practical everyday skills, and enjoy being part of a supportive group.

Wednesdays

4.00pm - 5.00pm

Age - 11 to 16 years

Autumn Place Community Hub

FREE PROGRAM

Bookings essential:

trybooking.com/CYHGK



Contact us on 9792 7382 or autumnplacech@casey.vic.gov.au for further information



Register here



COME & TRY SOFTBALL

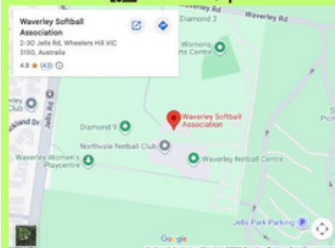
Join the fun, excitement and unforgettable memories that makes softball the best sport and community to be apart of!

There are opportunities to be involved in social grades to elite level for all ages!



TRY SOFTBALL TO

- ✓ Make new life long friends
- ✓ Learn to hit a ball
- ✓ Run the bases and slide
- ✓ Throw, pitch and catch



WE ARE LOCATED IN JELL'S PARK, WHEELERS HILL MEET @ DIAMOND TWO

WHEN?

Join now and enjoy the fun

29th AUGUST 2026 @ 12PM - 2PM
12th SEPTEMBER 2026 @ 12PM - 2PM

SCHOOL HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS

Stage School Australia

 SCREEN ACTING 4-18 YRS 	 CREATIVE PLAY 5-7 YRS 	 MUSICAL THEATRE 8-18 YRS 	 DRAMA 8-18 YRS 	 TAP INTENSIVE 8-18 YRS 	 AUDITION MASTERCLASS 14-19 YRS 
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- 1 Scan the QR Code
- 2 View class timetable
- 3 Select 'Book Now' and login or create an account
- 4 Select 'Make A Booking' for your preferred workshop(s)





SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM



age 5-12

21-SEP TO 2-OCT | 8AM-4:30PM

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

- Multi-sports
- Inflatables
- Arts n' Crafts
- Nerf
- Face Painting
- Bumper Cars
- Circus Workshop
- & MUCH MORE



\$10+ / day
w/ CCS



APPROVED BY
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

PRIVATE FUNCTION \$510
FOR 2 HOURS

SPACE
JUMP
\$268 FOR 10

LASER
TAG
\$378 FOR 10

NERF
\$338 FOR 10

DODGEM
CARS
\$328 FOR 10

BUBBLE
SOCCER
\$338 FOR 10

MULTI-
SPORTS
\$318 FOR 10

party
food
incl.

WWW.SPRINGVALEINDOORSports.COM.AU/SCHOOL-HOLIDAYS

Journey

A RESILIENCE CAMP FOR BOYS

Push your limits. Find your potential.

Today's young people are navigating a fast-paced world filled with constant pressure, digital distractions and changing expectations. Boys need spaces where they can be themselves, build genuine friendships and learn what it means to be confident, capable and connected.

The Portsea Camp Journey Program gives boys the opportunity to step away from everyday life and experience adventure, teamwork and personal growth in a supportive environment.

Participants will take on challenges that encourage resilience, leadership and independence while developing practical outdoor skills.

From hiking coastal trails and exploring by bike, to kayaking, camp cooking and sleeping under the stars, boys will learn how to work together, overcome challenges and discover what they are capable of.

With guidance from experienced facilitators, participants will build confidence, strengthen friendships and create memories that last long beyond camp.



Hike



Bike Ride



Kayak



Tent
Camping



Trangia
Cooking



Self-care &
Mindfulness

Why This is a Game-Changer

- **Confidence:** Overcome physical and mental challenges, proving personal strength.
- **Resilience:** Learn to adapt, stay focused, and push through obstacles.
- **Endurance:** Discover the power of perseverance and mental fortitude.
- **Connection:** Form lifelong friendships and strengthen teamwork skills.
- **Nature:** Experience the benefits of outdoor adventure for mental and emotional well-being.

28 SEPT - 2 OCT
8-12 YO



Book Now



mad@theportseacamp.com.au
(03) 5984 2680

The Portsea Camp
3704 Point Nepean Rd,
Portsea





Tuning in to Toddlers™ Officer

This fun, practical, and evidence-based 6-week program is designed for parents and carers of children aged 1 to 4 years.

Discover how to navigate your toddler's big emotions while building a calm, confident, and strong connection.

Come along and learn how to:

- Understand, accept, and respond to your toddler's emotional needs.
- Build practical skills to stay calm during tough moments.
- Deepen your daily connection and attachment.
- Create a safe environment for your toddler to grow, learn, and thrive.



Please note: This program is for caregivers residing in the City of Casey, Cardinia Shire, and Greater Dandenong who have at least 50% custody. Please be aware that children cannot attend the sessions, and childcare services are not provided.

COST
Free

DATES
Wednesdays

July: 29th
August: 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th
September: 2nd

TIME
10am until 12:30pm

VENUE
Kurmboon Child and Family Centre
297 Pink Hill Blvd, Officer

Light refreshments will be served

Bookings Essential
REGISTER HERE:

<https://forms.office.com/r/es1LPlKZdyG>



ENQUIRIES
P: 9704 8377

groupwork.south@vt.uniting.org

Uniting



Tuning in to Kids™ Dandenong



This engaging six session parenting program is designed for parents and carers of children aged 3-12 years.

Based on an easy-to-follow five-step emotional coaching approach, Tuning in to Kids™ empowers families to build stronger relationships and support children's emotional wellbeing.

Join us and make a lasting impact on your family's wellbeing!

By participating, you'll learn how to:

- Understand and nurture your child's emotional intelligence.
- Confidently coach your child through big feelings by tuning in to their emotions.
- Equip your child with tools to manage emotions, solve problems, and navigate challenges.
- Teach your child healthy ways to handle conflict and build resilience.

Please note: This program is for caregivers residing in the City of Casey, Cardinia Shire, and Greater Dandenong who have at least 50% custody. Please be aware that children cannot attend the sessions, and childcare services are not provided.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Scan the QR code to register

<https://forms.office.com/r/12ub4HWWZv>



COST

Free

DATES

Thursdays (6 weeks)

Starts 30th July
6th, 13th, 20th and 27th August
3rd September

TIME

10:00am until 12:30pm

VENUE

Uniting, Dandenong
51 Princes Hwy
Dandenong 3175

Light refreshments will be served

ENQUIRIES

P: 9704 8377

E: groupwork.south@vt.uniting.org



Parenting Adolescents

Narre Warren

This 6-week program offers an opportunity to reflect on parenting and adolescents, and how you can support your child in having the experiences you hope for as they grow. It is suitable for parents and carers of children aged 10 to 17 years.

The Bringing Up Great Kids Parenting Adolescents program supports you as a parent or carer to:

- explore your parenting style.
- learn more about brain development during the adolescent period and its influence on the adolescents thoughts, feelings and behaviour.
- explore new ways of communicating with your adolescents.
- discover ways to take care of yourself, practice self-compassion and how to find support when needed.

Please note: This program is for caregivers residing in the City of Casey, Cardinia Shire, and Greater Dandenong who have at least 50% custody. Please be aware that children cannot attend the sessions, and childcare services are not provided.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Scan the QR code to register

<https://forms.office.com/r/f1uNRQTPt5>



COST

Free

DATES

Mondays [6 weeks]

27th July and 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th,
31st August 2026

TIME

10:00am until 12:30pm

LOCATION

Uniting Narre Warren;
55 Webb Street, Narre Warren
VIC 3805

ENQUIRIES

P: 9704 8377

E: groupwork.south@vt.uniting.org



Uniting

Victoria Police

Casey PSA Neighbourhood Policing Forum



VICTORIA POLICE

The Victoria Police Neighbourhood Policing Forum welcomes local services and community members to talk with police about what issues are important in your community.

The forum will explore topics including:

- Current crime trends and crime prevention
- Young people
- Family violence
- Road policing
- Drugs and drug related crime.

The Neighbourhood Policing Forum will be run by a Victoria Police panel and questions will be taken from the audience throughout the event.

Registration is a must.

To attend, please register by sending your details to:

CASEY-CEC-MGR@police.vic.gov.au

or scan the QR code.

To submit a question prior to the forum:

[CASEY NHP questions](#)

Event details

Date:

20th August 2026

Time:

6:00pm – 8:00pm
(Doors open 5:45pm)

Location:

**Bunjil Place,
2 Patrick Northeast Drive,
Narre Warren 3805**



**Scan here to
register your
attendance**



Got a question for police?

Scan the QR code to submit
prior to the forum



A SAFE VICTORIA

Food and Emergency Assistance

Do you need food or emergency support?

We provide **material aid** for people and families experiencing crisis or emergency situations.

✓ What support can we provide?

-  Food hampers / pantry items when available
-  Food vouchers
-  Help with some medical prescriptions
-  Shower passes

What to expect when you visit

Our staff and volunteers will:

-  listen to your situation (listen to you about your situation)
-  complete a short assessment
-  work with you to find the right best support available

Ongoing support

Our funding is limited, so we will not be able to provide ongoing support. We can help you to **connect with other food relief agencies** if you need continued assistance.

We can also help with

-  referrals to other community services & organisations
-  referrals to financial counselling for budgeting and money management
-  finding better utility providers (electricity and gas)
-  organising setting up payment plans

Please note: we cannot pay utility bills, but we will help you explore your options.

Language support

Telephone Interpreter Services are available.

You don't have to go through this alone - We're here to help.

