

Katunga Primary School

Newsletter

February 8TH, 2023

Phone: 58 646 365
Email: Katunga.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Math Awards
Benji Reedman

Students Of The Week
Ivy Tille, Lola Feldthmann,
Keelan Lewis & Charlie Taylor



At Katunga Primary School we pay our respects to Aboriginal Elders past, present and emerging, the traditional custodians of the lands we meet today. We are on the lands of the Bangarang people of the Yorta Yorta nation. We acknowledge the



deep feelings of attachment and spiritual connection that our First Nation's people have to this country.

Calendar of Events:

Term Dates 2023

Term 1: 27th January (school teachers start), 30th January students commence to 6th April *

Term 2: 24th April to 23rd June

Term 3: 10th July to 15th September

Term 4: 2nd October to 20th December

Friday, 10th February

Wednesday, 15th February

Monday, 27th February

Wednesday, 29th February

Monday, 13th March

Tuesday, 28th March

Wednesday, 5th April

Parents Club meeting @ 9.15am

School Council meeting @ 5.00pm

Fun Day @ Tocumwal Pool, whole school excursion

Backyard Dinosaurs, incursion

Labour Day, Public holiday

Grade 6 Leadership Conference

Mary Poppins Musical, Melbourne, whole school excursion

REMINDER
FOUNDATION STUDENTS ARE
NOT REQUIRED AT SCHOOL ON
WEDNESDAYS FOR THE MONTH
OF FEBRUARY

Nats News

Hello KPS school community,

Another great week at Katunga Primary School. Classes are getting routines and the playground is a buzz of happy activity. Classroom teachers have sent home letters explaining their class set up this week and a little get to know your teacher profile is attached to the newsletter today. They have also made a commitment to contact all families in the

next two weeks to find out how children have settled into school. This will either be by phone, email or in person. We hope that all our families feel that they can contact the school at any time. Open communication between school and home is vital to achieve the best outcomes for students' wellbeing and learning.

Just a reminder about the times that teacher supervision is provided at school before school. Students should not arrive before 8.45am unless they are dropped off by the school bus. We do not have a teacher in the yard before this time. If your child/ren need to be here before then they need to be booked in and attend the before school program. If it is a one off or something unusual is happening, please contact me and we can discuss it further. Thanks for your cooperation.

Last Saturday night at 10.30pm we had some unwanted vandals in the school causing some damage. Luckily, we have excellent security footage of what happened, and this is being followed up with Numurkah Police. They also caused some damage to local homes. Over the school holidays we had security cameras added to the golf course area and along with the lights we have really good monitoring of our grounds. Please keep an eye on our little school and help us maintain the great facilities we have.

Please reach out and get in touch if needed.

natalie.hopcroft@education.vic.gov.au or phone the school on 58 646365 or message me via facebook/messenger

Thanks everyone,

Kind regards,

Nat Hopcroft

School Council Elections

School Council is a vital and integral part of any school. Being on School Council is a great way to contribute to the operations and the direction of the school. All parents of students enrolled are eligible to nominate for School Council. Each year the School Council has its annual elections and this year we are again looking for interested parents to join School Council.

The Notice of Election and call for nominations is today Wednesday the 8th of February. Nominations will close on Wednesday the 15th of February, 2023 at 4.00 pm. If the number of nominations exceeds the number of vacancies, a ballot will be held on the 22ND of February, 2023.

The School Council comprises of 15 members; 8 parent representatives, 5 education department representatives and two community representatives. There are two vacancies in the parent category of School Council, two in the department category and one in the community member category.

If you would like more information about School Council please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Student Absence

Attached to today's newsletter is a notice for parents/guardians to complete informing the school when their child/children will be absent from school. It is a requirement by the Department of Education and Training for parents/guardians to inform the school in writing or verbally. Parents/Carers will be contacted by the school if there has been no correspondence.

We encourage parents to keep absences to a minimum as we want all our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Parents' Club



Parents' club will be holding their next meeting on Friday the 10th of February at 9.15 am. All are welcome to come along and enjoy a cuppa and a chat.

School Levy

Each year Katunga Primary School parents show positive support for the school through parent payments and fundraising efforts.

Within our school this support has allowed us to organise and coordinate rich, extensive programs outside of the traditional teaching and learning programs. Our reading and numeracy materials are very extensive, and we are constantly adding new material for teachers to use to support personalised and quality learning. We can also plan for renewing our digital technology and subsidise camps and excursions.

The cost for curriculum contributions for 2023 will be \$100.00 per student. This can be paid by cash or cheque or by direct debit to account – 063524 10041488. The cost of extra curriculum activities such as camps and excursions will be advised closer to the event.

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Classroom consumables, materials & equipment	
Exercise books, maths books, pens, textas, eraser, sharpener, pencils, colour pencils, Glue, scissors, pencil case, notebook, diary, paper, book box, ruler, Reading journal (list quantities for Senior and Junior classes available from the school office)	\$70.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MARC Van • MACC Van 	\$20.00
Printing and photocopying	\$10.00
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
School Sports Victoria membership	\$
Student wellbeing programs	\$
First aid equipment	\$
School grounds maintenance and improvements	\$
Total Amount	\$100.00

Library Books

For the 2023 school year the MARC Library Service require parents/guardians to sign the attached agreement. If you have any queries please contact the school office.



ICT Acceptable Use Agreement

In order to complete our records and for your child to participate safely in any ICT programs held within the school we ask for parents/guardians to complete and return the attached ICT agreement.

Privacy Information for Parents / Carers

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools Privacy Policy. Please take time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our website.

Staying safe from mosquitoes

Recent wet and warm weather has increased mosquito breeding. Mosquitoes can carry diseases that may be passed on to people through mosquito bites. A range of mosquito-borne diseases have recently been detected in mosquitoes in northern Victoria. Mosquito-borne diseases can cause serious illness, including infections of the brain, with children particularly at risk.

The best way to prevent mosquito-borne diseases is to avoid mosquito bites.

In line with community health advice, families can protect against mosquito bites by:

- using insect repellent that contains picaridin or DEET on all exposed skin if outdoors when mosquitoes are observed, from October to March
- wearing long, loose-fitting clothing outdoors if possible if mosquitoes are around and covering exposed skin as much as possible. Summer school uniforms, including polos and shorts, can continue to be worn, but students should use insect repellent on exposed skin if mosquitoes are active
- limiting outdoor activity when mosquitoes are active.

Further information

- A [handy guide](#) to help protect you and your family from mosquito-borne disease
- Better Health Channel [information about preventing mosquito-borne diseases](#).

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUNDING (CSEF) - FOR NEW FAMILIES ONLY

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you have a valid means-tested concession card, such as a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible. There is also a special consideration category for asylum seeker and refugee families. Payment amounts this year are \$125 for eligible primary school students. Payments are made direct to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions and sporting activities for the benefit of your child. If you applied for CSEF through our school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year, unless there has been a change in your family circumstances. If you would like to apply for the first time, please contact the school office and ask for an application form. You can find out more about the program and eligibility, on the Department of Education and Training's Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund web page. Check with the school office if you are unsure, and please return completed forms to the school office as soon as possible.

Immunisation & Birth Certificates

Parents of all new students are reminded that it is a requirement of the Department to provide a copy of your child's Birth and Immunisation Certificate upon enrolment. If you have not already provided us with a copy of these documents, please do so as soon as possible.

Newsletter

Our Newsletter is distributed each Wednesday, paper format and by email. If you would like to be added to the email list please contact the school office.

Healthy Snack time at School

Don't forget to pack your child's fruit or vegies for Healthy Snack Time. Water bottles are also encouraged for in the classrooms (water only).

Change of Contact Information and Student Information

If your contact details, emergency contacts, or student information have changed from what was previously advised, please contact the school office so that we can update our records.

Home Reading

The benefits of reading with a family member include:

- Improved self-esteem and confidence.
- Memory improvement and better focus.
- Increased academic outcomes in all areas of the curriculum.
- A larger vocabulary and increased language development.
- Improved focus and concentration.
- Better writing skills.



To support your child's home reading you can:



- Make a regular time for reading every day.
- Encourage your child to read for around 15 minutes every day.
- Make reading time fun and ensure that there are no interruptions.
- Listen to your child read.
- Encourage your child to read independently.
- Read with and to your child.
- Encourage your child to use reading strategies that they have learned at school.
- Remind your child to bring their take home book to and from school daily.
- Complete the reading log each day to celebrate home reading.

Friday Stall!!!

Every second Friday there will be a stall in the Maker's Shed!!! You will be able to come and buy some food from the stall after you have eaten at lunch time. This will begin on Friday the 10th of February.

Menu

Prima	\$1.50
Zooper Dooper	\$0.50
Shapes (mini pack)	\$1.00
Fairy Bread	\$1.00
Cookies	\$0.50



MR TROWER

GRADE 5/6

About Me

This is my first full year as a teacher. I was lucky enough to begin my career at Katunga Primary School in Term 3 last year. I am 23 years old and spend most of my time outside of school playing sport at Waaia. I always enjoy helping out my community and contributing in anyway possible. I am looking forward to great year in the grade 5/6 classroom.

My Favourites

Colour: Blue
 Movie: Cars/The Incredibles
 Food: Pasta
 Drink: Chocolate Milkshake
 Sport: Footy
 Team: Adelaide Crows
 Subject to Teach: QUEST

My Contacts

Email:
jesse.trower@education.vic.gov.au

Phone:
 Katunga P.S. (03) 58646365

My Family

I live outside of Waaia with my girlfriend Jemma. We have also just recently bought a new puppy. He is a brown Labrador named Wally (Big Wal).

MEET

Ms Kellie McLinden

Selfie



Welcome to Foundation/1

Hello to all my wonderful Foundation and Year 1 families. I am very excited to be working with you all this year. I love the outdoors, science, trying new things and having fun. Anything that involves dressing-up is a must. I have a dog and two cats who all keep me very busy.

Be ready for lots of laughter, fun, mess and learning this year.

Contact

Email

Kellie.mclinden@education.vic.
gov.au

Favorites

Dogs
Camping
Hiking
Drawing
Christmas
Gardening
Making a mess

MEET THE TEACHER

Mrs. Hibberson



ABOUT ME:

This is my first year being a school teacher, and I think I have the best class ever. I have previously worked in the Early Childhood sector. In my spare time I like to cross stitch, however my children keep me very busy!

Contact Details

michelle.hibberson@education.vic.gov.au
Katunga Primary School: (03)58646365

FAVORITES

Colour: Purple
Drink: Coffee
Food: Chocolate
Grade: 4/5!
Animal: Butterfly
Holiday: Christmas



FAMILY

I live on a dairy farm at Strathmerton with my husband Todd, and children Amy, Matt, Sophie, Natalie and Kelsey. We have 3 cats, 2 turtles and lots of chickens.



©The Little Ladybug Shop

Meet Your Teacher



about me

Hi! My name is Mrs. Mynard.

I have been a teacher since 2001 and this is my fourth year back at Katunga P.S. since returning from Family Leave.

When I'm not teaching I spend most of my spare time watching my own kids participate in sports such as cricket, football, swimming and dancing (and driving them places!)

I am looking forward to another awesome year in the Grade 2/3 classroom.

my favourites

COLOUR: Blue

FLOWER: Snapdragon

HOBBY: Reading

DRINK: Coffee

FOOD: Mexican

SUBJECT TO TEACH: Reading

SUBJECT TO LEARN: Science

my family

I live on a 10 acre pistachio nut grove just out of Cobram with my husband Tim, my sons Oliver, Cooper and Harrison, and my daughter Lucy. We have a Labrador named Buddy and a cat named Coco.

contact

krystin.mynard@education.vic.gov.au

Katunga P.S. (03) 58646365

KATUNGA PRIMARY SCHOOL BORROWING AGREEMENT FOR THE MARC LIBRARY SERVICE

The MARC service to rural schools in our area provides a valued and important service to children in small schools. The service provides access to a wider range of learning resources than would otherwise be the case and overcomes some of the potential disadvantages of school size and rural isolation. Teaching sessions focus upon literature, information skills and technologies with access to a large school library.

Participating schools pay a per capita levy to the MARC Service for the purchase and maintenance of stock and teaching resources. The Committee of Management of the Congupna based MARC Van requires that individual schools take responsibility for the cost of books and materials that are lost or damaged.

\$25.00 Hardcover.

\$12.50 Softcover.

** Teaching materials at cost value.*

Katunga Primary School Council has made the decision to pass this responsibility on to parents.

For children to be able to borrow books from the MARC service, a signed agreement from parents will be required.

For the 2023 school year:

STUDENT	GRADE

As parent/guardian of the above student/s, I accept responsibility for the books borrowed under their names and agree to pay the replacement cost for lost or damaged books whilst on loan to the above students.

Signature of parent/guardian: _____

Date: _____

Acceptable Use Agreement

School profile statement

At Katunga Primary School we support the right of all members of the school community to access safe and inclusive learning environments, including digital and online spaces. This form outlines the School's roles and responsibilities in supporting safe digital learning, as well as the expected behaviours we have of our students when using digital or online spaces.

At our School we:

- Have a **Student Engagement Policy** that outlines our School's values and expected student behaviour. This Policy includes online behaviours;
- Have programs in place to educate our students to be safe and responsible users of digital technologies.
- Educate our students about digital issues such as online privacy, intellectual property and copyright;
- Supervise and support students using digital technologies for school-directed learning;
- Use clear protocols and procedures to protect students working in online spaces. This includes reviewing the safety and appropriateness of online tools and communities, removing offensive content at earliest opportunity, and other measures;
 - See: [Duty of Care and Supervision](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/cybersafety/policy)
(<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/cybersafety/policy>)
- Provide a filtered internet service, at school, to block inappropriate content. We acknowledge, however, that full protection from inappropriate content cannot be guaranteed
- Use online sites and digital tools that support students' learning;
- Address issues or incidents that have the potential to impact on the wellbeing of our students;
- Refer suspected illegal online acts to the relevant Law Enforcement authority for investigation;
- Support parents and caregivers to understand safe and responsible use of digital technologies and the strategies that can be implemented at home. The following resources provide current information from both the Department of Education & Training and The Children's eSafety Commission:
 - [Bullystoppers Parent Interactive Learning Modules](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/bullystoppers/Pages/parentmodules.aspx)
(www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/bullystoppers/Pages/parentmodules.aspx)
 - [eSafetyParent | Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner](https://www.esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent)
(<https://www.esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent>)

Student declaration

When I use digital technologies, I **communicate respectfully** by:

- always thinking and checking that what I write, or post is polite and respectful
- being kind to my friends and classmates and thinking about how the things I do or say online might make them feel (*ask students to reflect on how they would feel.*)
- not sending mean or bullying messages or forwarding them to other people.
- creating and presenting my own work, and if I copy something from online, letting my audience know by sharing the website link to acknowledge the creator.

When I use digital technologies, I **protect personal information** by being aware that my full name, photo, birthday, address and phone number is personal information and is not to be shared online. This means I:

- protect my friends' information in the same way
- protect my passwords and don't share them with anyone except my parent
- only ever join spaces with my parents or teacher's guidance and permission
- never answer questions online that ask for my personal information
- know not to post three or more pieces of identifiable information about myself.

When I use digital technologies, I **respect myself and others** by thinking about what I share online. This means I:

- stop to think about what I post or share online
- will not share or post the link (or password) to video conferencing meetings, with others offline in public communications or online on public websites or social media forums
- use spaces or sites that are appropriate, and if I am not sure I ask a trusted adult for help
- protect my friends' full names, birthdays, school names, addresses and phone numbers because this is their personal information
- speak to a trusted adult if I see something that makes me feel upset or if I need help
- speak to a trusted adult if someone is unkind to me or if I know someone else is upset or scared
- don't deliberately search for something rude or violent
- turn off or close the screen if I see something I don't like and tell a trusted adult
- am careful with the equipment I use.

At school we/I have:

- discussed ways to be a safe, responsible and ethical user of digital technologies.
- presented my ideas around the ways that I can be a smart, safe, responsible and ethical user of digital technologies.

I will use this knowledge at school and everywhere I use digital technologies

Signature:

I understand and agree to comply with the terms of acceptable use and expected standards of behaviour set out within this agreement.

This AUA applies when digital devices and technologies are being used at school, for school-directed learning, during school excursions, at camps and extra-curricular activities, and at home.

I understand that there are actions and consequences established within the school's Student Engagement Policy if I do not behave appropriately.

Student name: _____

Student signature: _____

Parent/Carer Name: _____

Parent/Carer Signature: _____

Date: _____

Student name: _____

Student signature: _____

Parent/Carer Name: _____

Parent/Carer Signature: _____

Date: _____

Student name: _____

Student signature: _____

Parent/Carer Name: _____

Parent/Carer Signature: _____

Date: _____

KATUNGA PRIMARY SCHOOL ABSENCE NOTE

Dear

As the Parent/Guardian of

Grade, I wish to advise that his / her
absence on was due to
.....

.....
Parent/Guardian signature Date

KATUNGA PRIMARY SCHOOL ABSENCE NOTE

Dear

As the Parent/Guardian of

Grade, I wish to advise that his / her
absence on was due to
.....

.....
Parent/Guardian signature Date

KATUNGA PRIMARY SCHOOL ABSENCE NOTE

Dear

As the Parent/Guardian of

Grade, I wish to advise that his / her
absence on was due to
.....

.....
Parent/Guardian signature Date

KATUNGA PRIMARY SCHOOL ABSENCE NOTE

Dear

As the Parent/Guardian of

Grade, I wish to advise that his / her
absence on was due to
.....

.....
Parent/Guardian signature Date

KATUNGA PRIMARY SCHOOL ABSENCE NOTE

Dear

As the Parent/Guardian of

Grade, I wish to advise that his / her
absence on was due to
.....

.....
Parent/Guardian signature Date

KATUNGA PRIMARY SCHOOL ABSENCE NOTE

Dear

As the Parent/Guardian of

Grade, I wish to advise that his / her
absence on was due to
.....

.....
Parent/Guardian signature Date