



# Newsletter

Term 3, 2023

**Principal:** Marianne Mitchell

This term I seized the opportunity to travel and explore some incredible and wildly beautiful places in Alaska and Canada. I enjoyed every moment and experienced numerous once-in-a-lifetime moments such as sledding with Alaskan huskies. However, my family and the school community were never far away from my heart and mind throughout my time away. Thanks to technology, I remained in touch daily with all events and happenings back in Wagga.

Making connection, staying connected, being connected is so important, and we see this countless times at The Bidgee School. One young person at our school that epitomises the importance of connection and the positive impact is Riley Morey. Today he shared his last school day with us, and we couldn't be prouder of a young man who has made the most of every opportunity offered to him at the school.

I am thankful to the executive team for seamlessly continuing to lead the team in my absence and especially to Michelle who stepped in and led the school as acting principal in my absence. Enjoy reading the newsletter as I have done, with all the fabulous activities and moments of growth and learning this term.

Wishing all students and their families a safe and happy holiday. I look forward to seeing everyone in Term 4.

Marianne Mitchell



**Phone:** 6925 4403

**Email:** [thebidgee-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:thebidgee-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

**Website:** <https://thebidgee-s.schools.nsw.gov.au>

**The Bidgee School**

21 Mitchelmore Street

Turvey Park NSW 2650

## Phones

---



### **New Student Mobile Phone Management Plan coming in Term 4**

You may have heard about the changes regarding mobile phone use in NSW high schools beginning in Term 4, 2023.

The Bidgee School acknowledges the educational value of technology in supporting and enhancing educational outcomes and student wellbeing. We also recognise mobile phones may cause harm if used inappropriately. We are committed to supporting our students to use them in safe, responsible and respectful ways to enhance student learning and engagement.

After careful consideration we have decided to proceed by using the strategy of having **mobile phones stored in the office**, to reduce the distractions to students in the classroom.

#### **Important changes coming in Term 4**

The mobile phone ban will apply during all school hours, including break times such as during lunch and recess, as well as while students are on school-organised excursions.

Students will still be able to carry their phones while travelling to and from school.

School staff can allow students to use their mobile phones in specific circumstances, such as for an educational purpose, for their wellbeing or to support students with specific needs.

Individual student requests for exemption will be managed by the Principal and assessed by the school, for medical and learning needs.

The new strategy is being implemented to increase focus in classrooms, remove distractions and also promote positive social interaction, while reducing the potential for online bullying.

We look forward to working with you and the students, to make sure everyone is aware of the changes, and will continue to provide information updates directly to you via students, on our school website and through our social media channels.

We are excited to make our school a mobile phone-free space to improve learning and engagement, however, we will always make sure you can contact your child in an emergency. There will also be further information posted on the school website and via letters to parents and caregivers.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school directly on (02) 69254403

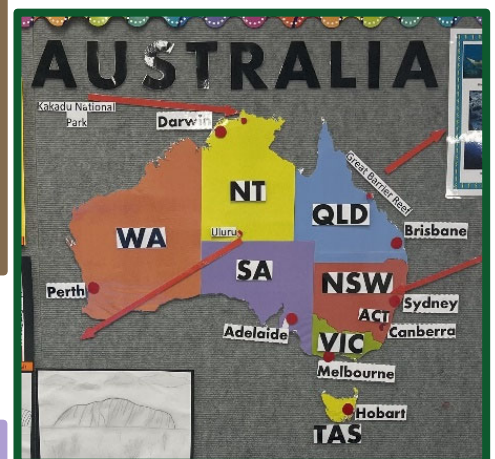
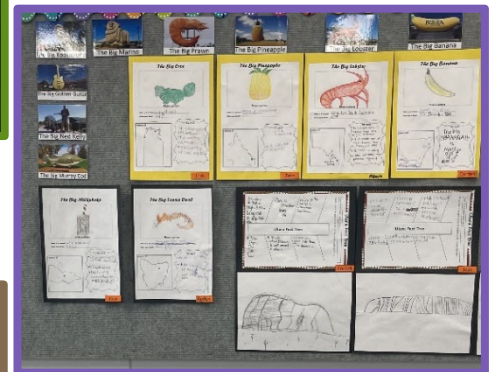
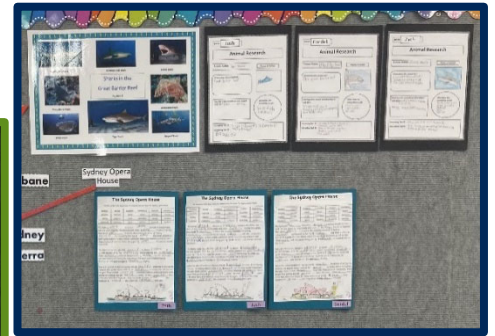
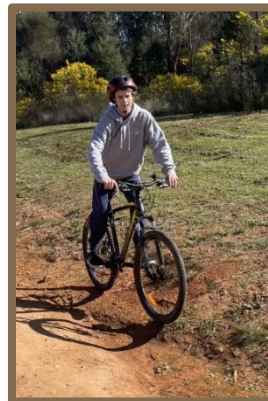
## Class 3

Term 3 has flown by for the boys in class 3. We started the term off in a new learning space due to our small class size. The boys have continued to embrace challenges in their learning and displayed growth in their literacy and numeracy skills. We welcomed Blair back into our class midway through the term. He settled in quickly and worked hard on completing his DE subjects. As a class we read the novel 'The Burnt Stick' and discussed the pain of separation and the strength of the human spirit in relation to the stolen generation of Aboriginal people.

In Geography the boys learnt how to distinguish between natural and man-made landmarks. The boys studied the different states and territories of Australia and their capital cities. With support they developed skills in using an Atlas to locate capital cities and landmarks such as Uluru and The Great Barrier Reef and mark these locations on a map of Australia. The boys completed research tasks on Australian animals, landmarks and Big Things across Australia.

They have continued to engage in the 8ways program three afternoons a week with AEO Jordan along with Josh and Latrell. The boys look forward to attending this program every week and have joined in a variety of activities including bike riding, fishing, exploring Wiradjuri country as well as learning about Aboriginal artifacts such as clap sticks, coolamons and spears. The boys have thoroughly enjoyed attending gymnastics on Monday's and Laser Tag on Fridays for sport.

We'd like to thank the boys for all their effort and resilience this term and wish them a restful break. Tammy, Latrell and Mikayla.







## Koorungal-Wagga Athletics Club Inc.



Registrations now  
open for the  
2023/2024  
Little A's Season

Register online at  
<https://lansw.com.au/koorungal-wagga/>



- Ages: Tiny Tots 3 & 4 years old to 17 years
- Date: Friday 13th October 2023
- Where: Bill Jacobs Athletics Centre, Jubilee Park, Wagga
- Time: 5pm (arrive by 4.30pm)
- Cost: \$110 Tiny Tots only & \$130 per child (use your \$50 Active Kids Voucher)
- Come and Try FREE dates are Friday 8th & 15th September 2023

### FAMILY, FUN & FITNESS

Visit [www.kwa.org.au](http://www.kwa.org.au) for more details  
Registrar contact: Kelly 0404126507



## SCHOOL HOLIDAY

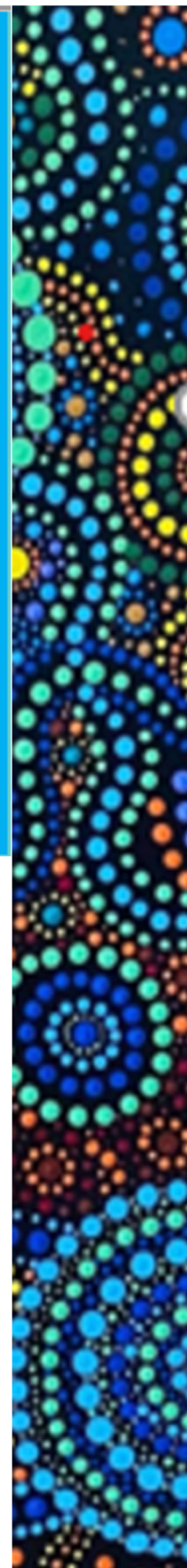
### SPRING FUN AT BIDGEE STRAWBERRIES & CREAM

WEDNESDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER	TUESDAY 3RD OCTOBER	WEDNESDAY 4TH OCTOBER	THURSDAY 5TH OCTOBER	FRIDAY 6TH OCTOBER
MORNING SESSION 9:30AM - 11:30AM KARI ART  KIDS ABORIGINAL ART WORKSHOP (12 & UNDER)	MORNING SESSION 9:30AM - 11:30AM KARI ART  KIDS ABORIGINAL ART WORKSHOP (12 & UNDER)	AFTERNOON SESSION 3PM - 5PM  PINOT & PICASSO  TEENS PAINTING	MORNING SESSION 10AM - 12:30PM AD ABORIGINAL ART  TEENS & ADULTS WEAVING WORKSHOP	AFTERNOON SESSION 1PM - 3PM AD ABORIGINAL ART  TEENS ABORIGINAL JEWELLERY MAKING (13-18 Y/O)
AFTERNOON SESSION 12:30PM - 2:30PM KURAKI ART  TEENS ABORIGINAL ART WORKSHOP (13 - 18 Y/O)	AFTERNOON SESSION 12:30PM - 2:30PM KURAKI ART  TEENS ABORIGINAL ART WORKSHOP (13-18 Y/O)	EVENING SESSION 6PM - 9PM PINOT & PICASSO  ADULT PAINTING		EVENING SESSION 6PM - 8PM AD ABORIGINAL ART  ADULTS ABORIGINAL JEWELLERY MAKING

TO BOOK IN -USE THE LINKS BELOW

AD ABORIGINAL ART WORKSHOP: <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/ad-aboriginal-art-69833928423>

PINOT & PICASSO: [https://www.pinotandpicasso.com.au/waggawagga/?start\\_date=now&sessiontype=](https://www.pinotandpicasso.com.au/waggawagga/?start_date=now&sessiontype=)





## Class 4

Class Four had a busy term of learning and building friendships.

We had two new class members join our Class, welcome to Jackson and Grayson.

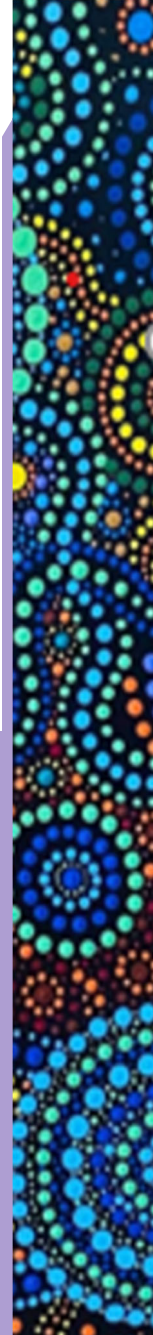
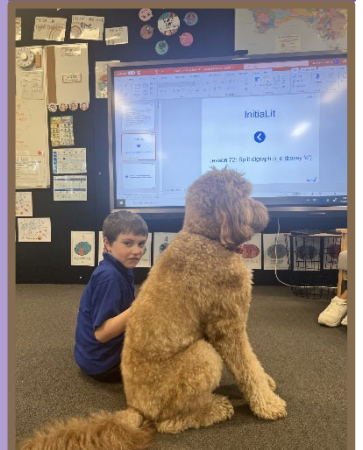
The students have been enjoying learning through the InitialLit program each morning and have made some great gains with their learning.

This term Class Four engaged in the school gymnastics program and enjoyed learning new gross motor skills each Wednesday.

The term was filled with many fun school celebrations such as the Book Week Parade, NAIDOC and Premier Sporting Challenge.

We look forward to another fun filled term in Term 4.

Ericka and Michelle







## Eating at School

Recently we have seen an increase in the number of students arriving at school with soft drinks, energy drinks, bags of lollies, family-sized bags of chips, large blocks of chocolate, lollypops and novelty liquid sugar toys. In the short term, these foods and drinks impact on the young person's behaviour and ability to focus and concentrate in class. In the long term, unhealthy choices have negative effects on the health and lifestyle of your young person. **These items are NOT to be brought to school.** If students bring in items such as those listed above, staff will place the items in a staff room until the end of the day.

### Tips to help your child

- Pack food that is easy to open, easy to eat, not messy and does not require heating.
- Write your child's name on their lunch box, water bottle and any other containers.
- Include a frozen drink bottle to keep food cold. Wrap it in a tea towel in case it leaks.
- Use insulated lunch boxes or cooler bags.
- Avoid using plastic wrap because children find it hard to pull apart. Paper bags are better for the environment too. Pack tissues or paper around fruit so it won't bruise.
- Pack a water bottle for your child each day and remind them that they can also get water from the taps or bubblers throughout the day.

### Recess and lunch ideas

- Cut fruit into pieces and put them in a small container.
- Cut up vegetables such as carrots, celery and cucumber. Put dips or yoghurt in a separate container.
- Try different breads, such as rolls, roti, pita, wholegrain or tortilla wraps.
- Cook a little extra dinner and save some for lunch the next day. You could make fried rice, noodles, curry, quiche, homemade pizza slices, salmon patties, roast vegetables, noodle salads or sausages.

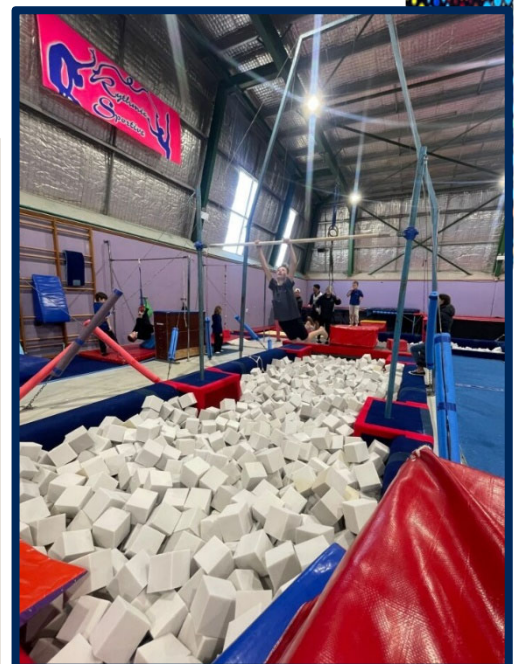
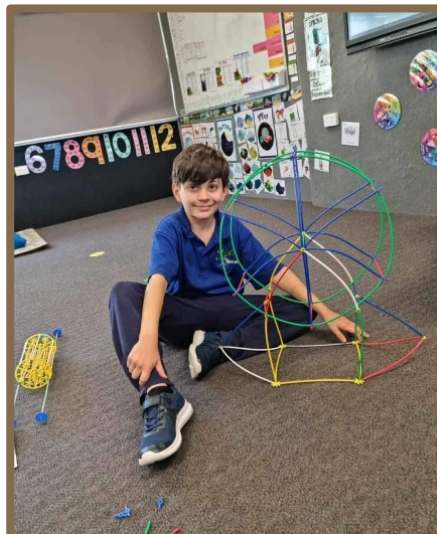
### If children do not have food....

- We provide toasties or toast for those who need it- at both breaks
- We generally have fruit available for students to eat
- Students can access the breakfast program each morning at school (cereal, fruit and toast)



## Class 5

At the beginning of Term 3 we celebrated NAIDOC week and learnt about the theme For Our Elders. In English students learnt about Narrative writing and language features. Do you know what adverbial and adjectival phrases are? Just ask Class 5 students. In mathematics, students learnt about 2D and 3D shapes, volume and mass using a variety of hands-on learning experiences. In PDHPE, students engaged in weekly gymnastics lessons and have learnt many new skills.



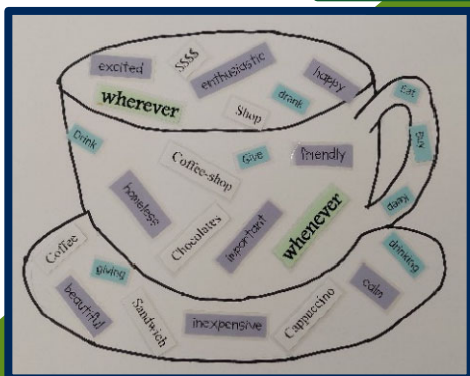
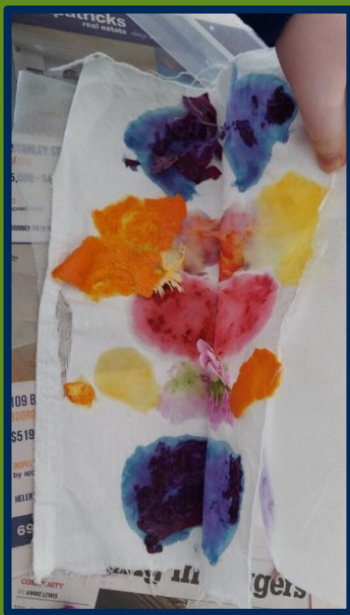
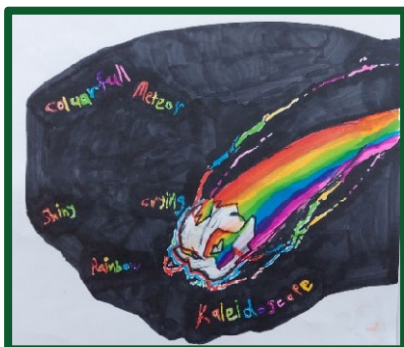
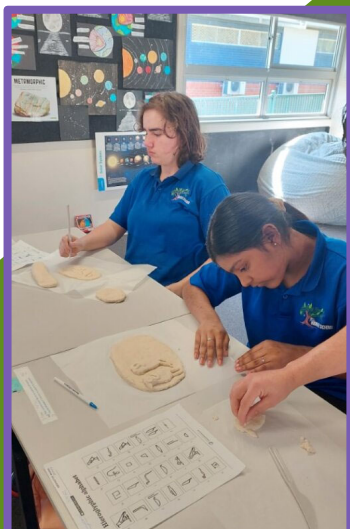


## Class 6

What a wonderful term of discovery and growth for Class 6! We listened to amazing Australian poetry and wrote some of our own poems. We explored the vast universe, studying our solar system and its incredible distances and properties. We constructed models of the planets and identified types of rocks. We went back in time and re-imagined the lives of the ancient Egyptians and their quest for life beyond the grave. As part of this process, we mummified apples using scientific principles, built marshmallow pyramids using our mathematical thinking and made salt dough cartouches with hieroglyphic writing.

Continuing the creative learning, in our Textiles unit of work, we were amazed at the colours we produced when dyeing cotton with fruit and vegetables. Students used wool and a wooden loom frame to build individual wall hangings. We encountered the intelligence and resilience of David Unaipon, the First Nations man who invented the mechanical handpieces still used by shearers today.

We are proud of the progress students are making in literacy with the new *Spelling with Morphographs* program and their developing understanding of multiplicative thinking and its connection to squared numbers. In music, we listened to the diverse sounds of the instruments of the orchestra and played keyboards, guitars, a violin, and recorders. A colourful and creative term! Maree, Jo, Luci, Josh and Dave are looking forward to working with the amazing Class 6 crew in Term 4!





25-27  
SEPTEMBER

# HEAPS DECENT FREE HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS

## ELECTRONIC MUSIC PRODUCTION & ANIMATION

Supported by

SESSIONS FOR AGES 12-17 YEARS

25th Sept 11-12:30pm, 1:30-3pm, 3pm- 4:30pm  
26th Sept 10-11:30am, 11:30-1pm, 2pm-3:30pm  
27th July 9-10:30am, 10:30-12pm, 1pm-2:30pm

Venue: Sturt Public School

To book into workshops text Rachael 0439 795 255  
with preferred times. Music and visual run in each time slot  
snacks provided



NSW Department of Education



### Every Day Matters

Attending school every day allows your child to get the most out of their learning and improve their career and life options.

Regular school attendance can help expand your child's learning and create positive relationships with their peers.

If you require support in getting your child to school for any reason, please reach out to us.

If you need interpreter assistance to contact the school, please call 131 450, tell the operator what language you need and ask them to phone the school. The operator will get an interpreter on the line to assist you with your conversation. You will not be charged for this service.



[education.nsw.gov.au](http://education.nsw.gov.au) - Every Day Matters

English

RUGBY LEAGUE TOUCH OZTAG



SCHOOL  
HOLIDAY  
CLINIC

# WAGGA WAGGA SPEED & SIDESTEP CLINIC

TUESDAY 3RD OCTOBER | \$66 | 8YRS UP

**SIDE STEP LIKE A PRO  
FAST FOOTWORK  
EXPLOSIVE SPEED**

THE RUGBY SPEED COACH

FB: TheRugbySpeedCoach PH: 0401 810 301 WWW.RUGBYSPEEDCOACH.COM

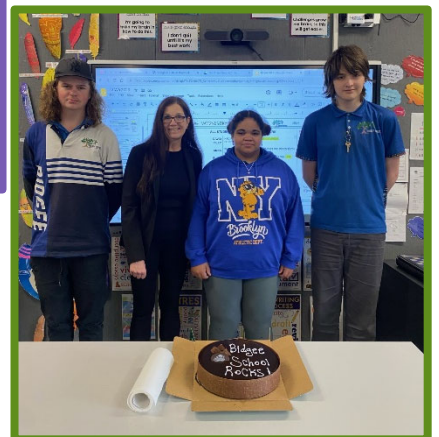


## Class 7

Term 3 has flown by! Students in Class 7 continue to amaze me with their resilience and determination to seek and take on challenges as they move through their senior studies. We farewell two of our Year 12 students next month as they complete their HSC and Vocational training studies. We wish David and Riley all the best for their future pathways. Riley will complete his Certificate II in Supply Chain Operations through his School Based Traineeship and will be starting full time work with Riverina Party Hire in November. Our Year 11 students have been busy completing their Year 11 Preliminary HSC studies and final exams for the year before they launch into their Year 12 studies in Term 4.

Students have been busy gaining valuable career ready skills with Work Experience placements, a trip to the TRY A TRADE EXPO and attending a number of sessions from SQUAD and Training Partnerships. This term, students have engaged in Work Experience placements with local electricians, Wagga Council Parks and a local aged care facility. Students are positively engaging with the components of the BRONZE and SILVER Duke of Edinburgh Award and regularly attending Conversation Club at Wagga TAFE to support conversational English with recently arrived migrants. Anna has successfully completed two interviews for a School Based Traineeship position with Murrumbidgee Health and we wish her all the best for a positive outcome with one of these positions.

Students have been fortunate to access a range of support programs this term. Blair and Maz have attended a local School Leaver Employment Support program that helps students move from school to work and Maz attends a weekly Art Factory class that provides her a safe and supportive space and the technical expertise to expand her unique creative and artistic language.





## Class 8

Class 8 has continued to show resilience throughout the term with the many changes that have come their way. Students were able to be built on friendships with their peers, including new students.

For History students have investigated the history of Indigenous Australians, looking the colonisation of Australia and the impact this had on Indigenous Australians.

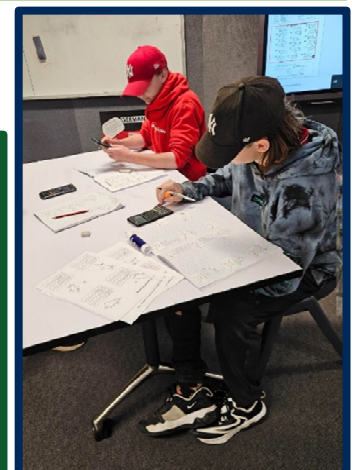
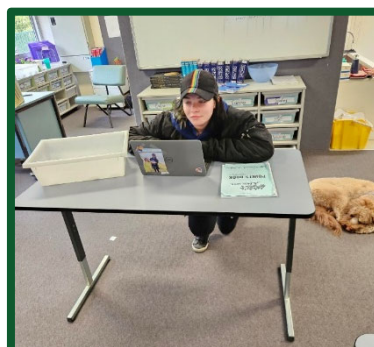
During Mathematics we examined Pythagoras Theorem, students built on their previous knowledge and applied it to learning a new Mathematical skill. At times students found this difficult, however, due to perseverance they were able to work through this and they have achieved a more comprehensive understanding of this concept.

In English students examined a unit of conflict, here they examined what conflict is, and where, when, and how it is represented in various text types within today's society. From here they then completed their own short story involving conflict.

During Science students commenced work on their research projects, this had students conducting experiments on a self-chosen topic. Students had to perform weekly updates as to what has happened with their projects, this was done through weekly write ups and documented pictures of their projects.

Afternoons were spent looking at Wellbeing and PHDPE. In Wellbeing, students examined the need for resilience and how it affects our everyday lives, looking at strategies that can be used to help us successfully navigate through the challenges that life can throw at us. For PDHPE students looked at personal strengths and areas of growth, here students examined what they can do in challenging situations and how they can conduct themselves in healthy ways.

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable break, I look forward to working with you all in Term 4. Stay safe and take care.



## Class 9

Term 3 has been another busy one for Class 9. Students have enjoyed our English unit this term 'Who Dunnit' studying detective fiction. We have studied several short texts and extracts from crime fiction writers including Agatha Christie and culminated with an in-depth study of 'Death on the Nile'.

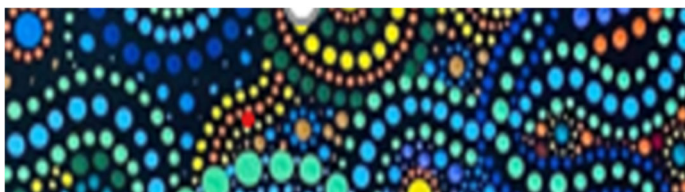
During our mindfulness breaks we discovered a shared love of jigsaw puzzles and the whole class (especially Dave) enjoyed using our break times to complete several challenging puzzles.

Week 4 was book week which was a highlight for class 9 we chose a theme of 'Alice in Wonderland' and the whole class loved dressing up and participating in the activities.

Students have been working on a research project for science on Energy in Different forms, they have each chosen an experiment which they have completed in class and are in the process of recording and reporting on their findings. This has been a great opportunity to work on resilience and critical thinking to complete their research.

Finally we have participated in the Premiers Spring Challenge this Term. Class 9 encouraged students and staff to join them in increasing their physical activity, we had lots of movement breaks and did a lot of walking including walking the Willans Hill Track.

Thankyou Class 9 for another wonderful term. Phillipa, Sue, Stephanie and Dave.





## Term 3 Pilot Program

The Pilot Program has been a big hit in Term 3 with the Program running at full capacity. Due to the popularity of it we will be informing parents of their children's positions as there are some children that have not had the opportunity to join in and will be given that chance in Term 4.

**Cultural Connections** - The students have enjoyed Ben on Monday afternoons running the cultural program where they have been making their very own clap sticks, boomerangs (creating and testing) as well as a collaborative journey of their lives which included their educational experience at The Bidgee School.

**PCYC** – Tuesday is our physical day where we go to the new PCYC venue and play several different sports or activities. The students have played basketball, table tennis, soccer, frisbee with nets, badminton and everyone's favourite pickle ball.

**Cooking and craft** - Wednesdays are as always, a very popular choice with the student's cooking cakes, biscuits, tacos, honey joys, weetbix slice and delicious pastry treats such as apple pies and ice cream. Then using their imaginative and creative ideas to produce teddy monsters (super cute), personalised name art mindful pieces, woven friendship bracelets, pom pom keyrings (hand sewn), coffee cups for Father's Day and making and baking clay beads.

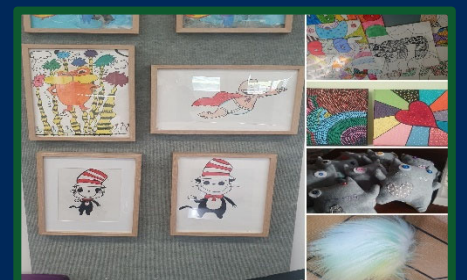
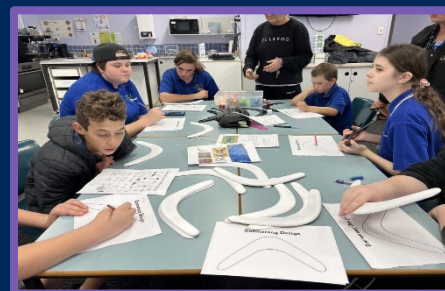
**Ten pin bowling /Riverside** – This has been hugely successful with the students enjoying the alternate weeks. The bowling alley have given us a trophy (a pin) that we of course have decorated and goes to the bowler of the week. The competition is real with students loving to beat staff. On the other weeks we go to Riverside where we have enjoyed sausage sizzles, pizzas, and hot chips. With walks on the river and plenty of room to roam the kids are enjoying this relaxing and fun afternoon.



Thank you to all parents who have been understanding and supportive of this program as it would not be able to run without you all and your wonderful children.

Have a great break and we look forward to another successful program in Term 4

Ralee and Jordan



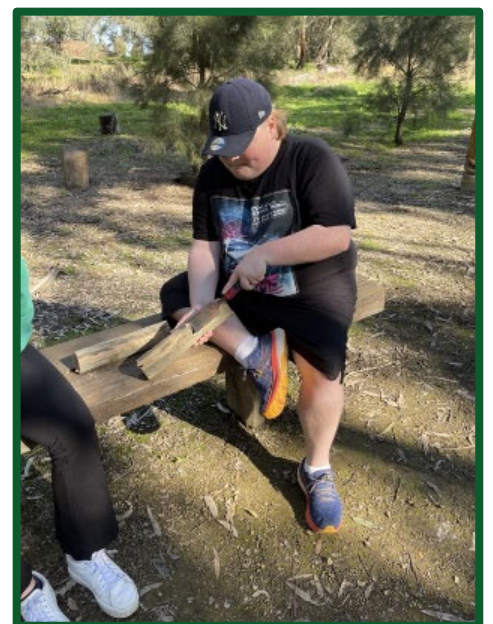
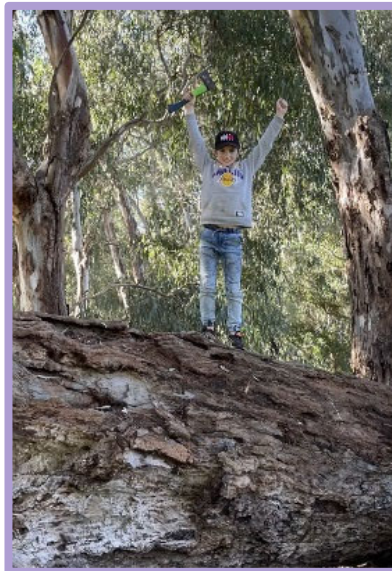


## AEO 8 Ways Program

This term during the AEO 8ways program students participated in lessons on Wiradjuri land visiting the wetlands and the river to collect natural resources. They explored Aboriginal artefacts creating coolamons and clap sticks with the natural resources they collected and learnt about their uses by First Nation people.

Once a week we visited Pomingalarna Reserve where students engaged in bike riding, bush walking and touch football. Students connected to country through sharing traditional stories of Wiradjuri people and places. For example, the story of Gobbagumbalin and Pomingalarna.

Jordan (AEO)





# Holidays!



**NSW public schools open these holidays!**

We're proudly sharing our space with the local community.



**BASKETBALL HOLIDAY CAMP**

**EVERYONE'S GAME**  
IT'S FUN & FREE  
WEDNESDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER  
1130AM - 130PM  
5-14 YEARS  
MOUNT AUSTIN PUBLIC SCHOOL

**SIGN UP NOW**  
[www.bnsw.com.au/indigenous](http://www.bnsw.com.au/indigenous)

Program Partner:  
NSW GOVERNMENT BASKETBALL NSW



**I AM A GIRL I CAN DO ANYTHING COME & TRY**

**GIRLS SKILLS SESSION**  
IT'S FUN & FREE  
WEDNESDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER  
10.00AM-1130AM : 5-12 YEARS  
MOUNT AUSTIN PUBLIC SCHOOL

**SIGN UP NOW**  
[www.bnsw.com.au/i-am-a-girl](http://www.bnsw.com.au/i-am-a-girl)

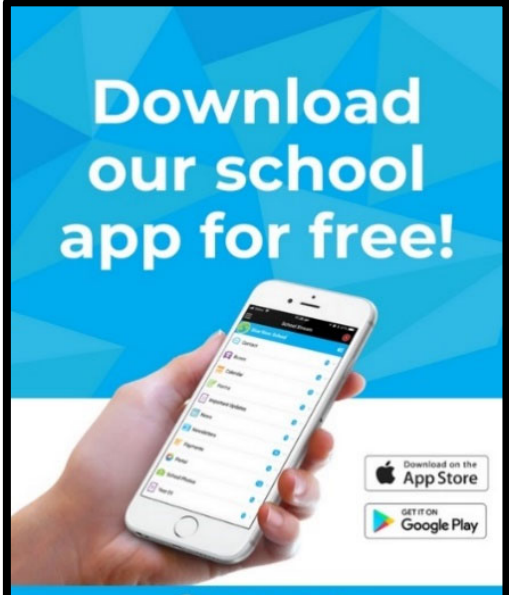
NSW GOVERNMENT BASKETBALL NSW



**HOLIDAY CLINICS**

**LEAGUE STARS**

**DATE:** 5/10/2023  
**TIME:** 10.00am - 12.00pm  
**AGE:** 5-12 years  
**COST:** FREE  
**WHERE:** South Wagga Public School



**Download our school app for free!**

Download on the App Store  
GET IT ON Google Play

schoolstream