Welcome to the fifth issue of our quarterly newsletter. Our newsletters aim to keep you up-to-date with the activities and achievements of local children in our government schools. In this issue we read about the wonderful learning that has taken place recently at Brauer College, Cudgee Primary School, Port Fairy Consolidated School, Grasmere Primary School and Allansford & District Primary School.

We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank Darrian Office and Art Supplies, MSP Photography and Jim’s Test and Tag for continuing to support the Warrnambool and District Network of Schools. With their help we can work to ensure that every student attending a government school in our Network thrives, learns and grows. Please take a moment to look over their advertisements at the end of this newsletter and consider how their goods and services might be of benefit to you.

If you are interested in learning more about the Warrnambool and District Network of Schools or becoming a business sponsor, please visit our website (www.warrnamboolnetwork.com). Alternatively you can contact Rachael Choppin on (03) 5565 4253 or at grasmere.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au.
PRIMARY SCHOOL NETBALL COMPETITION

On Friday 29th July Brauer College hosted five primary school netball teams - Port Fairy 1, Port Fairy 2, Merrivale, Grasmere and St Johns. It was the first major hit out on the gym’s new floor, which looks fantastic. The goal of the day was for every student to have fun, participate, show sportsmanship, learn and to have a go. Each team was rated on this in every game they played. The overall winner, displaying these qualities the most as scored by the umpires, was Port Fairy 2. It was a very close contest as every team displayed amazing sportsmanship, rotated their positions, had a go at new positions, shot their first goal, played for the first time, encouraged each other and had lots of fun throughout the day.

Brauer College Year 7 Netball Academy students were terrific ambassadors for Brauer College, helping out each team, taking warm ups, scoring, encouraging each player and generally being friendly and helpful. Gemma Rentsch and Delaney Waller umpired each game. Ebony Taylor from Year 9, was the stats keeper and the behind the scenes support for me (thank you!!).

Our senior umpires on the day were Mariah Carlin, Peta VanBruggen and Mrs Roberts, all of whom were fantastic with the players, encouraging and supporting each student and learner umpire in a very friendly manner. Louise Brown talked to all the students, parents and staff about her sports background just before the final round and it was a great message of 'giving all sports/activities your best shot'. Thanks to Jane Martin who scored every game and took photos, Sharon Boswell for the coffees and to Mrs Nevill for her help, encouragement and support to the players, Brauer College students and staff, and myself.

Overall it was a great day and the primary school students had an awesome time playing netball in a friendly and non-competitive environment.

Jodie Keast | Business Manager

VCAL Structured Work Placements
All Brauer College VCAL students attend structured work placements or school based apprenticeships on Wednesday each week as part of their studies. This is a unique part of Brauer’s VCAL program and gives students opportunities to experience ‘hands-on’ learning in real workplaces with local employers. Brauer College wants to acknowledge the employers that add invaluable worth to our VCAL program. We also invite you to consider supporting the businesses that support our students.
This term at Cudgee Primary School

Auslan
Students have been learning Australian Sign Language (Auslan) with Mark Gravolin. Students have learnt about how we hear, how to say ‘hello’ and say their name, fingerspelling (alphabet) and how to sign numbers. They have learnt about deaf people and their culture and achievements and have increased their vocabulary with more signs about colours, food and animals.

Mike Jackson Visit
Students were lucky enough to enjoy a concert, bush dance and ukulele workshop with children’s entertainer - Mike Jackson.

Camps and State School Spectacular
Alongside our grade 3-4 camp to Sovereign Hill and our grade 5-6 camp to Roses Gap the highlight for the senior students was their participation at the State School Spectacular held recently at Hisense Arena in Melbourne.

Book Week Celebrations.
Australia: Story Country
Students celebrated Book Week. It is incredible to hear the many and varied stories that our country has to tell.
‘A long lunch in the sun’
School grown produce from our kitchen garden program

At Port Fairy Consolidated we have a long tradition of growing our own produce and cooking together. This year the program extends down to Year 3. Our new garden furniture enables us to sit together at a long table and enjoy healthy eating in the sun.

We can even see the sea from our kitchen courtyard!
At Grasmere Primary School we have begun our journey to implement authentic learning experiences through STEM education (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths). The focus is on problem solving and investigating a variety of solutions to a problem. This involves the development of a ‘Growth Mindset’ to challenge your thinking and persevere with a task using a positive attitude. Some of the careers in the future have not even been invented yet, so we need to prepare our children by giving them real-life problem solving experiences.

**Family Science Night**

We had a school Science Night on July 10th. Our families were invited and joined in on the fun. We experimented with balloon rockets, and floating and sinking challenges. We designed and constructed robots using Make-Do construction. We explored Makey-Makey electronics, Go Pi Go, and forensic science techniques. Our teachers dressed as famous scientists and we had to guess who they were. It was great to see everyone getting fully involved.

**GTAC (Gene Technology Access Centre)**

During this incursion students investigated dominant and recessive genes to create a unique person. They worked in small groups with specialist scientists to identify DNA on different samples.

**Biolab**

On Wednesday 3rd August, our Year 5 and Year 6 students visited *The Victorian BioScience Education Centre (Biolab)* in Geelong. Our first activity was ‘Come Clean’. We looked at the concept of sporting performance and the way in which an athlete can improve. Our second activity was ‘Skin Deep’. We investigated the structure and function of skin, including variations in thickness, skin mass and body temperature. It was a fantastic learning experience!

**EARTH ED**

In August Year 1/2 travelled to Earth Ed in Ballarat to investigate the concept of force. Whilst participating in engaging hands-on experiences, they learnt about push/pull forces and gravity. Year 3/4 will also visit Earth Ed in October to learn about geology and erosion.

Above: Examining thick versus thin skin under the microscope

Above: Investigating chromosomes that determine a person’s gender.
Our school has been taken on a journey through the Polynesian cultures including Native American Indian, New Zealand Maori, Hawaiian and Samoan. Our Artist in Residence, Bernard Mangakahia, worked with our students to explore within each culture the idea of family, challenges and pride. Bernard shared the importance of learning about heritage and the power of self-belief and respect through song and dance and living in the ‘NOW’. All students performed a cultural dance at our school concert on Friday 2nd September. As a school community we highly recommend Bernard for any school looking to have an Artist in Residence in 2017.

**SCHOOL AEROBICS**

Two students from ADPS competed in the FISAF National Aerobic Championship in Brisbane. Maddison Drake (Year 5) and Emily Janssen (Year 5) represented EKB at the championships. Maddison qualified for the World Aerobic Championships in Vienna, Austria later this year. Maddison also competed in the School Aerobics Championship on the Gold Coast and achieved a 1st Place in her Trio event, a 3rd Place in her Fitness event and a 3rd Place in her Audition. This was Emily’s first appearance at a National Championship and she achieved a 6th Place in her Team event. Outstanding effort!

**MOVIE NIGHT / PIZZA NIGHT & PARENT WORKSHOP**

We had a very successful night at school with families strongly supporting our movie night and parent workshop. The Parents Club catered on the night, the staff helped with movie supervision and with presenting a Big Write workshop. We had over 100 students attend the movie ‘RID’ and had 25 parents attend the Big Write workshop conducted by Lindy Bellman and Rose White. The workshop highlighted the importance of talking with their children about their writing and gave parents an insight into the Big Write process.
Kinder kids learning how to hokey-pokey in a whole new way

Children are learning to immerse themselves in culture by throwing their whole ‘koong’ into the hokey-pokey. Youngsters at South Warrnambool Kindergarten had the opportunity to learn some indigenous words, including ‘koong’, which means ‘body’, in August when visiting language worker Joel Wright used music to spread the word. After an hour they could sing the hokey-pokey in indigenous language.

The Victorian Aboriginal Corporation for Languages representative visited 15 kindergartens in Warrnambool recently hoping to teach a new appreciation of an old language. The language is ‘peek wurrung’, the common indigenous language from the area. Mr Wright hopes introducing the language to young people will make our next generation a little more accepting. ‘It’s fun and it teaches the children a great appreciation of aboriginal culture,’ Mr Wright said.

Thank you to Koorie Education, South Western Victoria Region, for permission to publish this article. This article was first published in Karratpeeteen (Message Stick) Indigenous Newsletter, September 2016, p. 7.
Ruby McKenna and Caitlin Walsh celebrate the Australian Book Week theme at Koroit & District Primary School by dressing up as lamingtons.

Budding gardener Sam Robinson from Woolsthorpe Primary School writes on seed sticks.

The Year 2 students at Allansford Primary School successfully hatched 13 little chicks using a special incubator that was able to remain in the classroom throughout the term.

Amelia Vandermark from Koroit & District Primary School enjoyed dressing up for Book Week.

Locky Egan and Michael Emeny from Grasmere Primary School plant trees on ‘National Tree Day for Schools’ in July.

Dads were in for a treat at Woolsthorpe Primary School’s Father’s Day Breakfast.

Congratulations to Tania Billington and Meredith Anderson from Warrnambool East Primary School. Tania and Meredith are finalists for the Outstanding Education Support Team of the Year in the forthcoming Victorian Education Excellence Awards.

Left: Tania and Meredith present at a recent Warrnambool Integration Network Group meeting.
Upcoming Events and Our Sponsors

**Cudgee Night Market**

*Friday 25 November 5-8pm*

Fresh local produce, plants, handmade goods, jewellery, food, Timboon ice-cream, a raffle, baby & children’s wear, pony rides, entertainment and much more!

*Get all your Christmas shopping done early!*

Stall Holder Enquiries to Suellen 0439 523 401 senderson@ausiebb.com.au

**Gold Coin Donation Entry**

Cudgee Primary School
Cnr Dwarroon & Hallowells Road, Cudgee

Brought to you by the Cudgee Primary School Community
www.cudgee.ps.vic.edu.au

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Spring is here..

Come & enjoy one of the most beautiful gardens in our district

**Belleview Open Garden**

11 Roger Place Bushfield
A Grasmere Primary School event
Sunday 20th November
11 am – 2 pm
$5 entry

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For all your artistic and educational needs. Consider it sorted.

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The Warrnambool and District Network of Schools newsletter is published in December, March, June and September.

Wishing you a happy spring break.