



SCHOOL NEWS



13TH MARCH 2026

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Every Day Counts – The Importance of School Attendance

At MVPS, we know that every day at school matters. Attending school regularly gives students the opportunity to experience everything that makes school such an important part of their lives – the learning, friendships, fun, and opportunities that help shape their future.

Did you know that missing even small amounts of school can add up over time? The Department of Education identifies different attendance patterns that help schools and families understand when absences may become a concern:

- Regular attendees: Miss fewer than 10 days per year (less than 5% absence).
- Risk of chronic absence: Miss between 10–19 days per year (5–10% absence).
- Chronically absent: Miss 20 or more days per year (10% or more absence – around one day per fortnight).

We understand that sometimes absences are unavoidable due to illness or family circumstances. However, making attendance a priority whenever possible helps ensure students don't miss important learning and opportunities to connect with their classmates.

If your child is experiencing challenges with attending school regularly, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher or the school office. We are here to work together with families to support students and ensure every child can benefit from being at school.

At MVPS, we truly believe that every day counts.

Regulation Sessions at MVPS

At MVPS, we are continuing to support our students' wellbeing and readiness to learn through daily regulation sessions. Each morning, and again after each break, classes take a few minutes to participate in activities that help students reset, refocus, and prepare for learning.

Regulation sessions can include a range of activities such as breathing exercises, stretching, mindfulness, short movement breaks, and quiet reflection. We also incorporate sensory activities like playdough, crochet, puzzles, colouring, and other hands-on tasks that help students calm their minds and regulate their bodies.

These short sessions provide an opportunity for students to pause and reset, allowing them to return to the classroom feeling calm, focused, and ready to engage in their learning.

There are many benefits to building regular regulation into the school day. These sessions help students manage their emotions, improve concentration, reduce stress, and build positive habits for self-regulation. Over time, students learn strategies that support their emotional wellbeing, resilience, and ability to navigate challenges both at school and beyond.

Families can also support regulation at home by incorporating small, simple routines into daily life. This might include taking a few deep breaths together before starting homework, having a short movement or stretch break, completing a puzzle, playing with playdough, or taking a quiet moment to pause and reset after busy parts of the day. Even just a few minutes can make a big difference in helping children feel calm and ready to focus.

By working together, both at school and at home, we can help our students develop the skills they need to manage their emotions, stay focused, and feel confident in their learning.

Assembly

Our next Assembly will be held on Friday, 20th March at 2:45 pm in The Sherwood Centre.

Cake Raffle – \$1 per ticket

Our next cake raffle will be held during assembly! This week, our brave bakers are the Connard Family—thank you for contributing a delicious cake for our school community.

Tickets are just \$1 each, and the lucky winner will be drawn during assembly. Don't miss out on your chance to win a scrumptious treat!

Amy Tinetti
Principal



OPEN MORNING FRIDAY 27TH MARCH

We are excited to announce our first Open Morning for 2026, which will be held on **Friday 27 March from 9:00–9:30am.**

Families are warmly invited to come along and spend some time in their child/ren's classroom to see learning in action. Our focus this term is on Writing, and during the session all students across the school will be working from the same writing prompt.

Families will have the opportunity to join in and take part alongside their child/ren, giving you a glimpse into how writing is taught and practiced in our classrooms.

We look forward to welcoming families into our learning spaces and sharing this special experience together. More information will be shared closer to the date.



CAKE RAFFLE WINNER



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Reading with your Child at Home

Helping your child work out difficult words

When your child begins to read to you, they will often have difficulty with long or tricky words. The following strategies will help them develop self-correcting skills and assist with their understanding of the text.

It is important to give your child time to work out difficult words themselves because children can often self-correct if given the time. They read more slowly than we do and need the time to work it out.

Let the child persist a little, prompt by giving them a hint such as 'can you sound out the letters in the word?'

Prompts that may help include:

- Let's look at the word. Try to sound the word out. I'll help you with any tricky sounds.
- Can we put those sounds together to work out a word?

If the above prompts are not working, you can show your child how to sound out the word or simply say: 'The word is...'.

An important aspect of learning to read is praising children's repeated attempts. Praise can be specific, for example, 'Well done on sounding out that word, you worked out that word by yourself' or general praise such as 'You are trying really hard, well done.'

Another good strategy is to ask your child how they worked out the word. This helps reinforce reading strategies they learn from you and from school.

Helping your child to read

Here are some tips to encourage reading:

- Take your child to the local library often so they can choose, borrow and renew books. Taking children to the library at the beginning of school holidays encourages weeks of independent reading.
- Look for non-fiction books on craft or activity topics that your child enjoys. Most libraries have well-stocked sections (e.g. under the Dewey decimal number 745).
- Encourage your child to borrow from their school library as well.
- If your child likes an author, find another book or a series of books by the same author.
- Encourage your child to read about their favourite author or illustrator on their website.
- Introduce your child to reading different genres such as fantasy, science-fiction, action and adventure. Introduce your child to reading different types of texts, such as poems, music lyrics, and short plays.
- Encourage your child to read non-fiction. The newspaper or an online encyclopaedia might be a good start, but your child might also be interested in history books or autobiographies of their favourite sportsperson or celebrity.
- Encourage your child to use a dictionary to look up words they might not understand.

SPECIALIST SUBJECTS UPDATE



Term 1 Overview: Greek (LOTE)

Prep

Preps' introduction to Greek language and culture will include learning terms of address, responding to the roll and using greetings. They will be learning our 'Hello' and 'Good morning' action songs. Cultural celebrations this term include making kites for Clean Monday and masks for the Apokries Festival.

Year 1/2

Year 1 students will begin the term with a focus on the Greek alphabet, having had a brief introduction at the end of last year. Year 2 students will begin by revising their knowledge of the alphabet. Students will explore vocabulary to label and share information about things found in our classroom. They will also explore Greek cultural celebrations and traditions leading up to Easter.

Year 3/4

After a brief recap of the Greek alphabet, students will use role plays and create labels and posters to expand their vocabulary for classroom routines, asking permission and seeking help. Cultural celebrations and traditions this term include flying kites for Clean Monday and Greek Independence Day.

Year 5/6

Year 5/6 students will begin with a brief recap of the Greek alphabet. They will then explore vocabulary to help them have discussions with others and express information in greater detail. Students will also be making kites for Clean Monday and learning about Greek Independence Day.

Mariana Surenian



Term 1 Overview: Visual Arts

Prep

In term 1, Preps will experiment with range of drawing materials such as pencils, crayons and oil pastels. They will explore the art elements of line, shape and colour, looking at how these elements are used in artworks by a range of artists, and using them to draw an animal of their choice.

Year 1 and 2

Years 1 and 2 students will be using mirrors to help them observe and draw their faces. They will look at portraits by different artists and will use collage and mixed media to make their own portrait artworks.

Year 3/4

This term, year 3/4 students will learn about the work of Indigenous artist Betty Muffler. They will focus on using line and pattern to create an artwork of a place that is special to them, inspired by her work.

Year 5/6

Students will explore drawing and watercolour painting techniques to create an artwork inspired by the work of Melbourne artist Dawn Tan. They will consider how best to use line, space and colour to produce an artwork of a packaged food.

Marisa Mowszowski



@MALVERNVALLEYPS

Term 1 Overview: PE



Prep

This term, Preps will focus on developing their fundamental motor skills. Students will explore a range of movements including jumping, skipping, running, balancing, throwing and catching. They will also learn how to participate safely and confidently in physical activities, with a particular emphasis on using the junior playground responsibly.

Year 1/2

Year 1/2 students will be practising their throwing and catching skills and applying them in a variety of games such as kickball and racquetball. Later in the term, they will shift their focus to ball control and rallying as they develop foundational skills in tennis and pickleball.

Year 3/4

The Year 3/4 cohort will continue to develop their throwing, catching and hitting skills. These will be applied across sports including kickball, racquetball, softball and teeball. Students will also build their game sense by working collaboratively to create strategies during team-based activities. They will also prepare for the upcoming MVPS Cross Country.

Year 5/6

This term, Year 5/6 students will be developing the skills and tactical understanding required for their upcoming Lightning Premiership. Their focus areas include batting and bowling in cricket, digging, setting and spiking in volleyball, and dribbling, passing and shooting in basketball. Students will also be preparing for the MVPS Cross Country.

Andrew Brown



Term 1 Overview: Performing Arts

Prep

In Prep this term we are focusing on emotions and how they can change our faces and bodies. We will be using this knowledge when creating dramatic scenes and reactions to situations. We will also be using puppets to act out short scenes from simple fairytales and acting out the Three Little Pigs.

Year 1/2

For this Term in Year 1/2 we are looking at how we can change our voices and body language to act out different scenes. We will try to embody different animals and focus on how those characteristics change the sounds we make and the ways we move. We will also be using animal puppets to create short scenes to act out to the class. We will also be performing The Gingerbread Man.

Year 3/4

In Year 3/4 this term we are focusing on accents and mime in Drama. We will look at ways to change our voices and try a variety of different voices. For mime we will try acting out different activities or holding different objects and how this can be done with our hands and bodies.

Year 5/6

Our focus this term for 5/6s is how can we create tension in a dramatic piece. We will look at a variety of character tropes and how to show a character is evil/good etc. We will try different kinds of storytelling to make it clear to an audience how the story has a beginning, middle and end.

Terissa Fidock



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UPCOMING EVENTS

- 16th Dr.Cranky's Bike Repairs
8:15-8:55, 3:15-4:00
- 17th School Photos
- 18th Student Leaders Excursion
- 19th Prep-Year 2 Incursion
- 20th Harmony Day
- 23rd Active2School Day
Dr.Cranky's Bike Repairs
8:15-8:55, 3:15-4:00
- 26th Year 2 Incursion
- 27th Open Morning 9am-9:30am
Prep Incursion
Year 3-6 Cross Country
- 30th Parent Teacher Interviews
- 31st 3:30pm-5:30pm
- 31st Year 3/4 Incursion
- 2nd April Last Day of Term 1
Finish at 2:30pm

STUDENTS OF THE FORTNIGHT

PREP T	Harvey		RESPECT
1 C	Evan		
1 V	Charlie		
2 G	Nate		
2 M	Rylee		RESILIENCE
3/4 D	Anabelle		
3/4 M	Estelle		CONFIDENCE
3/4 P	Luca		
5/6 C	Leo		
5/6 K	Phillip		COOPERATION
5/6 P	Jacob		



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THEIRCARE NEWS



Malvern Valley Ps TheirCare

TERM 1

NEWSLETTER

March 2026

Hello March!

With Autumn quickly setting in, we have been making the most out of the warm weather and falling leaves by engaging in nature-based activities. This theme was voted on by the children and all corresponding activities were ideas come up by Grade 5 students. The children have loved making stick wands, turning leaves into animals and insects, and creating egg carton planters. Last week we also celebrated the start of the footy season by engaging in a range of AFL drills and games. We're very excited to continue the fun with our Pancake Party and Harmony Day coming up next week.



We're excited to introduce TC BookWorms, a fun and engaging reading initiative at TheirCare!

At participating services, families can borrow and donate children's books at our Community Book Nook, making it easy to enjoy reading at home and at OSHC. With individual Reading Trackers and special awards, the program encourages children to develop literacy skills, and foster a love of reading — all while bringing our school community together. Pop in and see if your service needs some pre-loved books!



When: After-school care. **Where:** At your TheirCare service!

Book in your child on the 17th March for our Flippin' Fun Pancake Party! Let's celebrate our service's WeCare efforts from Term 1! Book at theircare.com.au



The School Holidays are fast approaching!!

Don't forget to book in and secure your spot! With lots of amazing in-house activities, excursions and in-service fun you want to lock in your spot!!! Book via theircare.com.au

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22 MARCH 2026

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SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS



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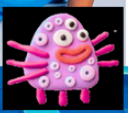
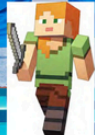
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