



Mount Pleasant PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

A great school in the heart of Ballarat

mount.pleasant.ps@education.vic.gov.au

03 5332 3646

www.mtpleas.vic.edu.au



*We would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the lands on which we all live and learn, and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community. We acknowledge the Wadawurrung people of the Kulin Nation, where we share a place of belonging. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and thank them for taking care of this country over countless generations.
Koling wada-ngal (Let us walk together)*

**Term 1, Week 6
6th March, 2025**

From the Principal

Hello everyone

I'm pleased to share that learning is happening *with gusto* in all classrooms as we hit mid-term in Term 1. Our Junior students have done an amazing job either transitioning to school from kindergarten, or acting as positive role models for our new students. All Senior students (and staff!) have stepped it up a notch with learning or mentoring others across the school. As I visit classrooms, I notice a real sense of determination across the school in teaching, learning and wellbeing, but as with all things, I see an opportunity to continually improve. Most students are calm, engaged in their work and striving to be their best in everything that they do. Results from benchmarking (and now mid-term) assessments show positive and very pleasing trends school-wide in student achievement results. Thanks must go to our students for working hard to learn; staff for their high-standard teaching and care; and families for proactive and positive partnerships with us at school. Together, we can all make a difference.

Our Year 3 and 5 students will be undertaking their NAPLAN assessments over the next two weeks. The assessments cover Writing, Reading, Conventions of Language and Numeracy. We wish them all the very best in these milestone assessments in their learning journey. I'd like to acknowledge the work of Mrs Dean as NAPLAN Coordinator, in ensuring our school practices meet our regulatory requirements in this space.

We had a big day on Thursday of last week with Canadian Lead Primary School enacting their Emergency Management Plan and relocating to our school site. It was a very late night and early morning for me on the Department of Education's Incident Management Team, thus ensuring a seamless integration to Mount Pleasant with students and staff (from both schools) safe, happy and well. I'm so very proud of

everyone's response on the day—students, staff and families, as we supported our friends from Canadian Lead. A big thank you to two of our teachers who also teach at Canadian Lead, Mr Steinman and Ms Tian, for their leadership on the day; and Mrs Schulze and Ms Johnson for some early morning preparation. I have checked in with our Mount Pleasant students and staff, who all noted it was 'learning as usual' for us; and have since checked in with Canadian Lead staff who were very grateful for our care and support.

A reminder to all students and families—hats are compulsory for all students for outside play and learning this term. Students who are not wearing a hat will be required to stay in the Quiet Area. Can you please support our staff and ensure that your child/ren have their hat in their bag (and reinforce wearing it) every day.

School families, look out for your Hot Cross Bun Drive order form—a School Council supported fundraiser. All proceeds from the Hot Cross Bun Drive this year will go towards purchasing new resources for Passive Play, so I encourage you to support this valued fundraiser for our school. Please see Kylie if you need another form if you've sold up a storm!

I hope that everyone enjoys a super long weekend with the Labour Day holiday this weekend. I have heard of some planned family getaways and I'm sure we'll hear many stories from students when we return on Tuesday.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for snippets and updates in between newsletters, and school families, remember to always view Sentral notifications as they pop up. As always, keep safe and look after yourself, your family, friends and neighbours. Stay grateful, kind and mindful, as we say and do in school.

Miss Catherine Barnes, **Acting Principal**

Respect | Responsibility | Resilience

Term 1 Calendar

Term 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1 27th-31st January	January 27th Australia Day holiday— SCHOOL CLOSED	28th Staff commence— STUDENT FREE DAY	29th Year 1-6 students commence Term 1	30th Foundation students commence Term 1 Say It Sister Program (selected students)	31st
Week 2 3rd-7th February	February 3rd	4th	5th Foundation Free Day	6th Newsletter Say It Sister Program (selected students)	7th Assembly 9:00am
Week 3 10th-14th February	10th	11th	12th Foundation Free Day Bulldogs Read “Family Information Evening” 6:00-7:00pm (selected students)	13th Say It Sister Program (selected students)	14th Assembly 9:00am
Week 4 17th-21st February	17th Bulldogs Read “Welcome Event” 12:30 -3:00pm (selected students)	18th School Welcome Picnic, 5:00-6:30pm	19th Foundation Free Day	20th Newsletter Say It Sister Program (selected students)	21st Assembly 9:00am
Week 5 24th-28th February	24th	25th	26th Foundation Free Day School Council meeting 4:30pm	27th Say It Sister Program (selected students)	28th Assembly 9:00am
Week 6 3rd-7th March	March 3rd Foundation Students full time	4th	5th	6th Newsletter Say It Sister Program (selected students)	7th Assembly 9:00am
Week 7 10th-14th March	10th Labour Day holiday— SCHOOL CLOSED	11th	12th NAPLAN window starts for Years 3 & 5	13th Say It Sister Program (selected students)	14th Assembly 9:00am
Week 8 17th-21st March	17th Teeth on Wheels	18th Teeth on Wheels	19th Teeth on Wheels	20th Newsletter Say It Sister Program (selected students)	21st Assembly 9:00am Harmony Week celebration
Week 9 24th-28th March	24th NAPLAN window ends for Years 3 & 5	25th	26th School Council meeting 4:30pm	27th Newsletter Say It Sister Program (selected students)	28th Assembly 9:00am
Week 10 31st March-4th April	31st	April 1st	2nd	3rd Student Support Group meetings TBC	4th Assembly 9:00am Student Support Group meetings TBC Last day of Term 1, 2:15pm dismissal (Term 2 resumes on Tuesday 22nd April)

Students of the Week



Congratulations to the following students for being recognised for their achievements in our school with our Student of the Week which commenced in Week 3:

Week 4 (above)

Archer (F), Faith (F/1), Esme (1/2), Ava (2/3), Aarav (3/4), Duke (4/5) and Lylah (6).

Week 5 (below)

Cora (F), Mirha (F/1), Par (1/2), Charlie (2/3), Autumn (3/4), Niamh (4/5) and Zaidan (6) and in specialist classes, Spencer (Chinese), Lylah (Chinese), Wyatt D (Art) and Ava (Music).

Continue being your best!



Mount Pleasant
PS is online



Values Tokens

Showing our school values of Respect, Responsibility and Resilience is so important in every classroom, every play space, every day. Well done to our students who were 'caught out being great' and demonstrating our values across the school.

	Week 4	Week 5
Foundation (Room 3)	Levi, Makayla, Caylee	Addalyn, Amara, Whitley
Foundation/Year 1 (Room 1)	Molly, Jackson	Aahana, Faith
Year 1/2 (Room 2)	Minha, Kiaan, Dante	Ryleigh, Damascus, Jaxon A
Year 2/3 (Room 9)	Melanie, Nancy, Ivy Herbert	Aysha, Amelie, Isabelle
Year 3/4 (Room 7)	Tilley, Elliot, Hamish	Asia, Carter, Summer
Year 4/5 (Room 5)	Duke, Pepper, Abbey-May	Millie, Zahra, Ivy
Year 6 (Room 4)		Spencer, Lylah, Zaidan

Sun Smart in Term 1

We have reminded students that during Term 1 all schools follow the principles of being Sun Smart. Everyone, students and staff alike, are required to wear a broad rim hat during outside play or learning activities. Children who do not have a hat will be required to play in the shady Quiet Area. If you need to purchase a new hat, please contact the office for details.



Prospective Family School Tours

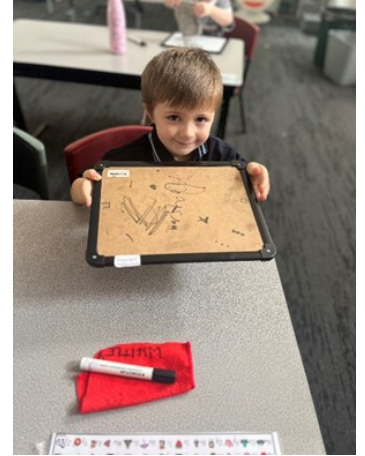
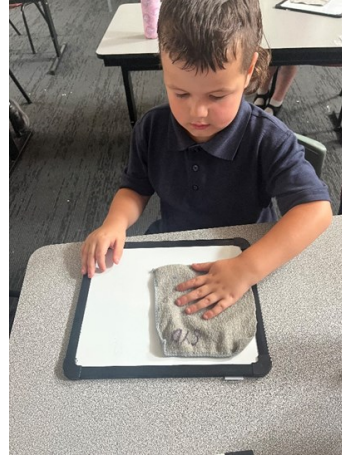
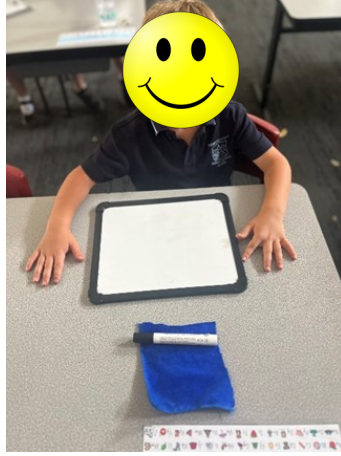
I encourage our local families—new to the area or new to primary education, to come along and see our beautiful school. Personal tours for prospective families are available by appointment, and can be made by calling the school on 5332 3646.

Miss Barnes

Foundation

In Foundation, we have been superstars at starting the school year by learning routines! One routine we have mastered is our mini whiteboard routine. We use this every day in Literacy and Numeracy. The structure of our routine follows these steps: Park it, Write it, Hover it, Chin it, and Wipe it. When we 'Chin it,' we proudly show our teacher the great work we have completed! Here are some photos practicing our Mini White Board routine.

Miss Taylor



18 MARCH 2025

MOUNT CLEAR COLLEGE

OPEN EVENING

STEP INTO YOUR FUTURE

BOOK TICKETS

Our Open Evening will showcase our specialty areas and provide an insight into the quality education students are provided at our College. An information session in our Theatre will be followed by guided tours to experience the exceptional and unique opportunities our College offers for Years 7-12. Each tour will have limited numbers, providing a friendly, personal and interactive experience. Starting times: 5:30 pm or 6:30 pm

mountclearcollege.vic.edu.au/openevening

2026 Open Night

Sebastopol Campus
11 March, 2025
4:30pm - 6:30pm

Parents and prospective students for 2026 are warmly invited to attend our **Open Night** at Phoenix P-12 Community College.

Discover how your child can benefit from an engaging and enriching secondary education.

The College will be open from **4:30pm – 6:30pm**, allowing visitors to explore at their own pace. Take a **self-guided tour**, engage with **interactive displays** showcasing student work and activities, and speak with our dedicated staff about learning opportunities.

We offer a wide range of **scholarship and academy programs**. Visit our website for more details:
phoenix.vic.edu.au

Please enter the school via the Herford Street gate to collect your showbag and tour booklet.

'In Knowledge there is Opportunity'

About Us

phoenix.vic.edu.au/about-us

Register Now

phoenix.vic.edu.au/opennight



DON'T MISS OUT

COMPLETE YOUR FORM TODAY!



The Importance of Early Dental Visits

Did you know that introducing your child to regular dental check-ups at an early age helps build lifelong habits for healthy teeth and gums?

Early dental visits not only promote positive oral health but also familiarise children with the dental environment, reducing anxiety in the future. By starting young, we can catch any potential issues early, provide personalised care, and educate children on maintaining strong, healthy smiles. Let's work together to give your child the best start to their oral health journey!

Don't miss out, Sign up today!



SCAN THE QR CODE TO COMPLETE YOUR FORM



TeethOnWheels
a positive dental experience



TeethOnWheelsAustralia



#teethonwheels

Phone: (03) 9338 1191

Email: info@teethonwheels.com.au

Scholastic Book Club

Issue 2 of Book Club order forms went home today and are due back on Thursday 13th March. Orders can be placed and paid for online via the LOOP or by completing the form on the catalogue and return to the school with cash. This is the last one for the year.

Mrs Eames



EXTEND UPDATE FROM TALIAH Mount Pleasant Primary School

Upcoming Activities:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Shadow drawings	Super tictactoe	The colour step game	Slime kit making	'All About Me' bingo

The Extend Superstar is Aahana

For settling in so quickly as a member of our OSHC team and having the confidence to try new things, even if they seem tricky.

What's Been Happening?

It is hard to believe we are halfway through Term 1. We hit the ground running in 2025 with many new learning experiences. Some highlights include a pasta tower competition, creating wind chimes and a nature walk to collect natural resources for our mobiles. We have also enjoyed participating in a community project with Ballarat Clarendon College OSHC. We had this opportunity to create Valentine's cards for Aged Care Ballarat which were displayed within the home and enjoyed by residents. We have taken delight in being able to spread love and happiness and look forward to more collaborative projects with the Ballarat community this year.



WOODMANS HILL
SECONDARY COLLEGE

Parents of students in
Grades 5 & 6 are warmly
encouraged to attend our

INFORMATION EVENING

Wednesday 19th March, 2025

Information Sessions

will be held at 5.00pm and 6.00pm
in the Theatre, followed by school tours.

Bookings essential.



www.woodmanshill.net.au

Woodmans Hill - Fussell Street Ballarat, Ph: 5336 7264

Reach out to Taliah by emailing mtpleasant@extend.com.au to find out more about our service.
Join the OSHC family and book now at extend.com.au

Unlock your parenting genius in minutes with five high-impact questions

A positive parenting article by Michael Grose

Want kids' Independence? Responsibility? Good behaviour? These questions have them and more covered.

The right questions can reveal solutions to your most worrisome parenting issues, but asking the right question requires wisdom.

- If you're a parent, you are **constantly asking questions**. "Is she safe?" "Is that behaviour normal?" "How do I teach them to be more respectful?"
- Sometimes, the questions are **directed inward**. "Am I too strict?" "Are we doing a good job?" "Can I accept that they have different interests?"

Not all questions are equal. Some questions are flaky and inconsequential. Others are potent and strategic.

These five questions are deep, enduring, and uncover the parenting wisdom you never realised you possessed.

1. "What does this situation require?"

The discipline question.

This is my go-to question for children's behaviour. It's the shortened version of:

What does this situation reasonably require of my child at their age, stage of development and state of mind?

It's your job to socialise your child to fit into the different social situations they enter.

- To do this, they must learn the **rules of social living** and develop **an awareness of others' needs**.
- Your expectations of their ability to do this are influenced by their age, specific needs, and the situation the child is in.

For instance, it's reasonable to expect a six-year-old to keep themselves occupied for five minutes while you are talking to a friend while out for a walk. That may be stretching it for a two-year-old. But expecting a ten-year-old to wait patiently for twice that long is reasonable.

When using the question, account for their state of mind. Are they Stressed? Hungry? Tired? Adjust your expectations when necessary, but don't let their state of mind excuse their poor behaviour.

So when you're unsure whether your child is acting up or you're expecting too much, ask yourself, "*What does this situation require?*"

If they act outside what you think is reasonable, respond appropriately and let them know how they can do better next time.



Parenting Toolbox.

2. "Whose problem is it?"

The resourcefulness question.

Kids are adept at bringing their problems to their parents. And we're good at solving them.

"I'm hungry." "Here's some food."

"He hit me." "Christian, don't hit your sister."

"I left my lunch at home." "I'll bring it to school."

Sound familiar?

Sometimes, it's easier to resolve a child's problem ourselves. But in doing so, our children's problems become our problems.

- A child who doesn't eat enough at mealtime becomes our problem because his hunger at bedtime is also our problem.
- A lunch left at home becomes our responsibility if we allow it.

This makes kids dependent on us, reducing their capabilities, resourcefulness and resilience.

Asking this question will help us assess whether to solve a child's problems or give them the tools to do so.

3. "What does my child do that someone else relies on?"

The leadership question.

Toddlers love to help, but we often push them away because...let's be honest...we can do most things quicker and better than they can.

However, early childhood is the perfect time to accept their efforts to help, as this is the beginning of independence and responsibility. **The results in terms of real help come later.**

Give your child a real responsibility from an early age. Whether emptying the dishwasher, feeding a pet, or hearing a sibling read, giving kids real responsibilities is empowering, super helpful, and character-building.

Ask this question regularly, **especially if you have more than one child**. It will take you into leadership development mode.

... continued over.

Unlock your parent genius ... continued

... from previous.

4. “What type of parent does my child need me to be now?”

The flexibility question.

Most of us default to a particular parenting style, with permissive (non-intrusive), authoritarian (controlling) or authoritative (democratic) among the most popular.

I’m a natural teacher, so I reverted to this mode far too often with my kids, even when they didn’t need this mode.

But I was always at my best when I asked myself this flexibility question.

- *If students are experiencing friendship problems at school, they may need someone to listen to their stories. Less teaching, more listening.*
- *They need a forgiving parent if they’re struggling to transition into adolescence. Rules are meant to be bent.*
- *They need an understanding but strong parent if they’re anxious about returning to school after the holidays. Confidence is contagious.*

This question will take you out of your default parenting mode and into your child’s space. It will enable you to respond appropriately to your child's needs.

Your flexibility is a gift.

5. “What is my child built for?”

The strengths question.

Parents naturally have hopes and dreams for children.

These often reflect our aspirations rather than children’s interests and abilities. This aspirational push is most substantial for firstborns and diluted if more children come along.

It’s better to base your expectations and aspirations on your children’s strengths, abilities and preferences.

These questions will help:

- *What is my child good at and can do without struggle?*
- *What does my child enjoy doing the most?*
- *When is my child at their best?*

This will help you reveal their strengths both academically, physically and psychologically.

We all have in-built preferences, but often, it takes a lifetime to understand them.

I spent 30 years as a speaker, but I wasn't psychologically cut out for it. I had to work hard to develop the skills I needed for success. It took a considerable toll on my mental health and, to a lesser extent, on my relationships. Writing comes naturally to me as a thoughtful introvert. That's what I'm built for.

Pose the strengths question early and often and help your child play to their strengths and interests. It’s the shortcut to happiness and success.

Finally.....

A gifted speaker colleague poses multiple questions during a presentation rather than giving information. He maintains that good questions can be challenging, but ultimately, they bring out the best in his audiences.

Similarly, asking ourselves good questions helps us look beyond the obvious and find those little gems of wisdom that set our children on positive paths.

And that is pure parenting genius.

Michael Grose, Parenting Educator @ Parenting Toolbox

Learning times

The times for learning in class remain the same for 2025.

9:00am	School starts; formal class learning
11:00am	First recess
11:30am	Formal class learning
12:30pm/12:50pm	Lunch eating time (Thurs/Fri depending on Specialist timetable)
1:45pm	Second recess
2:15pm	Formal class learning
3:15pm	Dismissal

If you require to collect a child early or drop off a little later due to (for example) a medical appointment, please visit the Office and sign him/her in the Sign In/Out booklet.

Drop Off & Pick Up Times

Families are reminded that formal school supervision begins each day at 8:40am and concludes at 3:30pm. Before and after these times, teachers plan and prepare learning programs and meet together to discuss school matters.

Please respect this as important time for teachers in their professional practice; and ensure that you drop off your child/children between 8:40-9:00am each morning and collect them before 3:30pm.



Lunch Orders – Thursdays only

New Price List 2025

Off the Grill		Cold Food	
Chicken Parma Roll	\$6.00	BLT Roll	\$6.00
Chicken Schnitzel Burger	\$6.00	Cheese Roll	\$6.00
Vegetarian Burger	\$6.00	Chicken & Salad Roll	\$6.00
		Ham & Salad Roll	\$6.00
Hot Food		Salad Roll	\$6.00
Chicken Nuggets(3)	\$2.50	BLT Sandwich	\$6.00
Chicken Nuggets(6)	\$4.50	Cheese Sandwich	\$6.00
Dim Sim	\$1.50	Chicken & Salad Sandwich	\$6.00
Pie	\$4.50	Ham & Salad Sandwich	\$6.00
Party Pie	\$1.50	Salad Sandwich	\$6.00
Party Sausage Roll	\$1.50	BLT Wrap	\$6.00
Veggie Pastie	\$4.50	Cheese Wrap	\$6.00
		Chicken & Salad Wrap	\$6.00
Drinks		Ham & Salad Wrap	\$6.00
Orange Juice	\$2.50	Salad Wrap	\$6.00
Apple & Blackcurrant Juice	\$2.50		
Strawberry Milk	\$3.00	Snacks	
Chocolate Milk	\$3.00	Fruit Salad	\$3.50
		Yoghurt & Muesli	\$3.50



HOT CROSS BUN ORDER FORM

EASTER 2025

Bakers Delight Ballarat City would like to offer you the opportunity to purchase delicious Hot Cross Buns and make a profit for Mt Pleasant Primary School

For every 6 pack of Hot Cross Buns you order, Bakers Delight Ballarat City will give \$2.00 to Mt Pleasant P.S.

Simply fill in the details below and select how many and which Hot Cross Buns you would like to order, bring your order form together with full payment back to the school office by the **COB Thursday 27th March** and your buns baked fresh that morning will be delivered to the school on the **Thursday 3rd April**. Remember to ask family and friends if they would like to order some too.

Full Name: _____ Class: _____

Contact No: _____

Name	Traditional Hot Cross Buns Qty (per 6 pack) \$9.50 per 6 pack	Choc Chip Hot Cross Buns Qty (per 6 pack) \$9.50 per 6 pack	Apple & Cinnamon Hot Cross Buns Qty (per 6 pack) \$9.50 per 6 pack	Mocha Hot Cross Buns Qty (per 6 pack) \$9.50 per 6 pack	Fruitless Hot Cross Buns Qty (per 6 pack) \$9.50 per 6 pack	Total \$	Paid