OT/11/2024 BELLBRAE BULLETIN

Acknowledgement of Country Bellbrae PS



Our school sits in beautiful forest and coastal country, and is the traditional home of the Wadawurrung people. Today we acknowledge the care they have given to this land for thousands of years, and the care they continue to give. We always remember that our community learns and grows on Wadawurrung land and we acknowledge and pay our respects to Wadawurrung Elders past, present and emerging.



THIS WEEK FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Flooding – Thank you to all staff, parents and students for the flexibility and understanding you have shown while we have been dealing with the aftermath of the flooding in our Admin and Foundation block. We still are waiting on time frames for completion of the reinstatement works, and as we are part of a larger bureaucracy, we are at the mercy of complex decision-making processes that are largely determined by economics and available resources. As soon as we have more information we will send out an update via Compass.

Planning for 2025 – We have received a number of requests from parents relating to student placements for next year. We certainly take the wellbeing, social and academic needs of all students into consideration when planning classes, but obviously cannot accommodate every request. Please respect the judgement of our staff who spend a significant time on this process, and please understand the constraints within which we operate when planning classes. Based on our allocated funding and projected enrolments, in 2025 we will be running 4 Foundation classes, 4 Grade One classes, 3 Grade Two

in 2025 we will be running classes. based on our dulocated random projected entointerns, in 2025 we will be running 4 Foundation classes, 4 Grade One classes, 3 Grade Two classes, 3 Grade Three classes, 4 Grade Four classes, 2 Grade Five classes, and 3 Grade Six classes. The number of classes we run, and the number of students in each class is not solely the decision of the school. Schools are funded on models determined by their enrolments, social economic status, parent occupations and level of education, location, disability and inclusion profiles, and other aspects determined by the DET. As our students generally come from advantaged, well-resourced and educated households, we are one of the lowest funded schools in the state. This impacts on the number of staff we can employ, and the number of learning spaces available. As such we have to self-fund some programs through fundraising, and also have to self-fund some of our staffing models. Although we manage to maintain class sizes within the DET suggested guidelines, we unfortunately do not have the luxury of having low class sizes in every year level. On a positive note, we are fortunate to have great facilities, really strong teaching and support staff, passionate and committed educators, all of which contributes to us being able to

provide strong and diverse learning and extra-curricula programs.

Grade Four Camp - A big thanks to staff and parents who gave our Grade Four students the opportunity to attend a fantastic camp last week. From all reports it was a lot of fun with a good balance between the educational and social aspects. A lot of preparation and time goes into the organisation of camps, and we really appreciate staff giving up their own time and being away from their families in order to provide a program like this for our students.

iPad Program - Over the coming weeks information packs will be provided to parents of 2025 Grade Four students, which will be followed by a 'face to face' information session where questions can be raised. (This session is scheduled to take place on a Thursday afternoon between 4 and 5pm.) The School Council has been doing a lot of research in this space, and we will continue review our learning technologies as we move forward. Whilst we have to ensure we address all the requirements of the curriculum, which includes digital and design technologies, as well as remain abreast of emerging technologies; we also need to closely monitor screen time, cyber safety, hardware management, and appropriate use of devices.

Traffic and safety concerns - Due to our location, many students are driven or bussed into school. Inevitably this leads to traffic congestion, which in turn generates safety issues. Unfortunately some parents aren't following basic traffic rules on School Road, which is putting pedestrians at risk. Some of the behaviours we have recently observed include vehicles being driven on the sidewalk, talking/texting on mobile phones, and parking restrictions being ignored. Whilst we understand that parking is limited and that there is a lot of traffic on a daily basis, this is not an excuse to do the wrong thing. Please exercise patience and be exceptionally vigilant in order to keep our students safe.

Adrian Waters

5261 2660

IMPORTANT DATES & INFO ASSEMBLY DATES

8th November 22nd November 5th December

Tuesday 5th November PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Wed 6th - Fri 15th November Grade 6 Bike Ed Program (Mon 11th -15th Practical Lessons)

Mon 18th - Fri 22nd November Grade 5 Bike Ed Program

Monday 18th November Grade 3 Scienceworks Excursion

Fri 29th November - Wed 4th December Grade 5 - 6 Aquatic Survivor

> Wed 16th December Grade 6 Graduation

20th December End of Term 1:30pm End of Day

Future Curriculum Days Monday 4 November 2024

BELLBRAE COMMUNITY TRAFFIC SAFETY



Bellbrae Community Traffic Safety Management Report

Last night members of the local community, school and Surf Coast Shire representatives met to discuss the recent parking trials along School Road. We all agreed that the increased 'Kiss & Go' 2-minute parking areas (pink highlight), no standing zones (yellow lines) and bollards around the 'loop/island' (blue highlight) have improved traffic flow and safety.

However, to the north of the 'loop/island' vehicles have been driving down the footpath to park in the RED AREA. Driving on footpaths is a driving offence, not a parking offence, so the shire has reported this activity to the police. On Tuesday afternoon, we had a near miss as a vehicle backed onto the footpath narrowly missing pedestrians. In light of the events at Auburn South Primary School this week, we are all taking this very seriously. If vehicles continue to park in the RED AREA, the shire has warned that the whole section (including green area) will be deemed a nature strip and hence a no standing zone.

"But we have nowhere else to park?!"

There are approximately 80 car parks (light blue areas) surrounding the CFA and Bellbrae Hall, along with additional parking at the Bellbrae Reserve and along Cemetery Road. Please role model road safety with your children and be respectful to our community by abiding by the parking restrictions. We still have two or three parents that continue to park in the 'Kiss & Go' areas and walk their students into the school on a daily basis. What message are you sending to your children and the community? Please help us to look after everyone's safety at drop-off and pick-up times in particular.



BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



IST NOVEMBER REMI GADD OLLIE BIRD

2ND NOVEMBER WILLOW TABAK

3RD NOVEMBER FINN MARTIN

4TH NOVEMBER FLORENCE FULLER

5TH NOVEMBER JACK COLLET LEXI INGRAM

6TH NOVEMBER WILLOW MORRISH THEO IRVINE

8TH NOVEMBER VASCO BONES

9TH NOVEMBER TYLER CORMACK

10TH NOVEMBER HUTCH FOSTER

11TH NOVEMBER AVA GIDDINS

VALUES AWARDS

| ASPIRE | RESPECT | RESILIENCE | RESPONSIBILITY |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | | - Di | |
| JACK HISSEY FB | SUNNY CAMPBELL FC | FLORENCE FULLER FC | RORY DUNCAN FD |
| HARLOWE HARVEY FB | MAYA FIESS FE | FINN HOPE 1A | NINA IRWIN 3A |
| INDRAH D'AGOSTINO FD | HANNA MANDERFELD FE | OLLIE KARFUT 4B | BOHDI GLENNIE 3B |
| LAYLA THOMPSON 1B | DUSTY COLE 2A | | MILLA LYNCH 3C |
| HARRY STEWART 1D | LAKEN KNITE 4B | | TEDDY COLE 3C |
| BONNIE SCHOKMAN 1C | | | FELIX MARTIN 3A |
| INDIA OSBORNE 1C | | | JACK WEBBER 4A |
| REUBEN MACDONALD 2A | | | RUBY MEE 5B |
| CHRISTOPHER CULLEN 3B | | | LOTTIE WILSON 6A |
| WILLOW NUTT 3C | | | |
| ISLA O'CONNOR 4A | | | |
| RYDER EDWARDS 4B | | | |
| JAKE TAKLE 5B | | | |
| MURPHY WINKLER 5B | | | |
| WALT BIRCHALL 6A | | | |
| WOODY GRIGG 6B | | | |
| | | done! | |

School Wide Positive Behaviour Weekly Update

Our whole school focus in Week 5 & 6 is showing our school value of Respect – we are friendly. All classes will engage in teaching and learning activities that explore:

- how being friendly helps others feel included and safe within the school community
- how our body language shows friendliness to others
- different ways of being friendly in our classrooms, yard and in the wider community.



WELLBEING NEWS



WHOLEHeasted

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS





Congratulations to Violet who represented Bellbrae at the Geelong Show last weekend. Well done!





Congratulations to Addis who won a huge skateboarding competition and will now go on to compete in the World Championships!





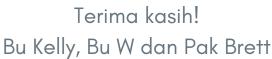
Congratulations to Estella Carbonelli who recently competed in the Rip Curl National GromSearch final at Urban Surf in Sydney. The top 12 under 12's in the country were in the comp and she made the final coming close 4th. She will finish this year ranked 2nd under 12 girl in Australia!

INDONESIA AND CULTURE DAY AT BELLBRAE PS

On Wednesday 11 December we will be celebrating Indonesia and Culture Day at Bellbrae. We are excited to have the team from BagusKan! come to our school to present a series of authentic Indonesian cultural dance, craft, movement and music workshops and performances including gamelan, pencak silat, angklung and tari topeng throughout the day.

To align with our Indonesian language learning and celebrate the end of a great year, all students will participate in one music-based workshop and one movement-based workshop, as well as two different craft activities. All students will get to watch an authentic wayang kulit performance at the conclusion of the day.

Students are invited to dress up in Indonesian colours (red and white) for the day, or to wear their uniform with a touch of red or white. The cost of this whole school incursion day will be \$10 per student payable through Compass. Further details to come!





<u>e Smart Update 12 – (2024)</u>

Cyber Balance – Family Assessment (part B)



The first general assessment level is taking stock of your technology use. Is it balanced in relation to your whole life? Does cyber balance exist? Or do the quantity and quality of its use interfere with healthy functioning in life? The following chart provides some guidelines for assessing your use of technology and whether or not you are out of balance.

| Cyber Balance Signs | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Signs we are out of balance | Signs we are in balance | | |
| Portable DVD players and iPads showing movies to | Only using travel DVD players and iPads for long | | |
| children on the way to the supermarket. | trips. Engaging kids in car games, music or | | |
| | conversation during long trips. | | |
| Spending free family time working on e-mails, | Waiting until the kids are in bed to do computer | | |
| texting, Facebook etc. | work or perhaps while they are finishing their | | |
| | homework. Be open however to interruptions for | | |
| | help. | | |
| Customers who cannot stop talking on the mobile | Setting guidelines on when it is rude to talk and | | |
| phone long enough to complete their transaction | when the location is acceptable. Remember, we as | | |
| face-to-face with the sales assistant. | adults are setting examples of acceptable social | | |
| | standards! | | |
| Children in the car on the way to school not | Establishing healthy time limits on usage of | | |
| interacting because they are plugged into their | technology. Engage in conversation about the day | | |
| iPads. | ahead. | | |
| Children playing games on the computer or iPad | Encouraging the kids to play outside, even for a | | |
| after school when the weather outside is fine and | short period of time. Australia has recently | | |
| clear. | registered one of the lowest levels of Vitamin D in | | |
| | the Western World. | | |

Signs that your child's online activity may be having a negative impact on them or on your family include:

- less interest in social activities like meeting friends or playing sport
- not doing so well at school
- tiredness, sleep disturbance, headaches, eye strain
- changes in eating patterns
- reduced personal hygiene
- obsession with particular websites or games
- extreme anger when being asked to take a break from online activity
- appearing anxious or irritable when away from the computer
- becoming withdrawn from friends and family

What to do if you are concerned

Ask questions and listen

Some of the behavioural changes described above are a normal part of growing up but, if you are concerned your child is struggling, try to find out why — there may be underlying issues such as cyberbullying, friendship difficulties or mental health issues.

As part of your conversation, ask your child about how much time they spend online and explain why it is worrying and what they could be missing out on.

Try not to show that you disapprove or they might shut down communication altogether.

Talking to your child's school may also reveal academic or social issues, and the school may also be able to provide support

For more information, please visit;

https://www.esafety.gov.au/esafety-information/esafety-issues/balancing-online-time Mr O'Donnell

e Smart & ICT Coordinator



REWILDING HERIDGEUUF

RESTORING NATURAL HABITAT AND BIODIVERSITY with your family and community





Make a positive environmental impact:

Help restore local ecosystems and learn about native flora, fauna and fungi.

Held in Friday "Community hour":

- Community hour is Friday's when assembly isn't on (dates to be confirmed).
- Sign out your kids* at the office at 2:30pm.
- Head down to the bike path beside the Great Ocean Road.
- Parents and kids both participate it will be fun.
- Rewilding finishes at 4pm.

Get involved:

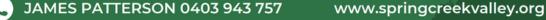
Sign up to **Rewilding the Ridgeline WhatsApp group** by contacting James (Patto) Patterson on **0403 943 757**. More details to come.

*Please note that your child might miss out on other Curriculumbased learning during Community Hour

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SPRING





Bellbrae Business Directory

Showcasing local businesses who support Bellbrae Primary

www.bellbraebusinessdirectory.com.au

Do you need a window cleaner, trades, financial advice, or a real estate agent? Visit the Bellbrae Business Directory to view a list of local Surf Coast businesses that can help you.

Please join us in supporting the businesses who support us.

Business Categories

- Health
- Trades & Services
- Retail & Hospitality
- Sport, Recreation & Fitness
- Finance & Legal
- Business Services
- Tourism
- Education & Training

- Pets & Animals
- Property & Construction
- Event Services
- Beauty & Massage
- Marketing & Advertising
- Activities & Hobbies

www.bellbraebusinessdirectory.com.au

List your business NOW

via the website



Lunch orders

Canteen

Wednesday, Thursday ONLINE ORDERS By 9.30AM DAILY

* Reminder to complete your order. You must get to the payment section to complete. If you do not receive a payment confirmation and canteen order number via email, your order will not have been processed. (See below) ***

Compass Canteen order - 20225224000641

CompassPay Payment Confirmation

Canteen - Specials

Please see canteen menu on the Compass App

Sushi Tuesdays

Online Only by 8pm Monday Nights healthysuushi.square.site



COMMUNITY NEWS



"Where Clutter Ends, Calm Begins"

Are you a busy person, do you run a busy household? We are here to help you.

If you don't have time, we do!

- Refresh & de-clutter your living spaces 촳
- * Help with downsiging/relocating
- * Personalized service
- 쁥 Eco-friendly practices

Whether its one cupboard, one room or the whole house. We can help you regain functional flow & order.

We are reliable, super efficient & friendly

Contact us today. Let's get started!



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ALL JUNIORS WELCOME BOYS & GIRLS - U11, U13 & U15s BRING YOUR FRIENDS

Senior coaches and players will be attending Information on the 24/25 season will be available

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: PETER BUTCHER 0448 811 038

SAUSAGE SIZZLE GIVE AWAYS FAMILY FUN



FAMILY HUB

urf Coast Family Hub offers specialist care that vidually-tailored and enables continuity of ort for families from the Surf Coast and beyond, nutidisciplinary team offers perinatal support, essing the wellbeing needs of people from through to par enthood, along with gene upport for individuals and families facing challen imes. We work with infants, children, adolescents individuals, couples and families. ever you are in your journey, let us support you

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TODAY:

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0491 184 788 www.surfcoastfamilyhub.com.au

WINKS

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care to support perinatal, child & family wellbeing.

OUR SERVICES

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 - **Qualified Coach**

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WHR ALLIED HEA Proud Gold Sponsors of the

2024 Bellbrae Mayfair

Our Torquay clinic has **IMMEDIATE CAPACITY** to provide occupational therapy services to clients aged 3+

We are currently receiving referrals for:

Private, Medicare, NDIS, My Aged Care funded clients

OUR SERVICES

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

- · Experienced & skilled in supporting people with ASD, ADHD, Intellectual Disability
- Paediatric OT
- Feeding Specialist
 Mental Health OT
- Home Modification SDA & SIL Assessment & Reports
- Therapeutic Listening Interventions
- Assistive Technology Assessment & Recommendations

THERAPY ASSISTANTS

0

 Implementation of WHR OT Skill Development Plans

40 Baines Cres. Torquay, VIC Clinic, home, school, kinder, or community visits available!



GROUP PROGRAMS Sex Education

- School Readiness Programs
- Mental Health Support & Education

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Contact us directly to provide

- services for:
- School OT
- Kinder Screening School Readiness
 - WholeMind
 - Teacher Webinar Series
 - Sensory Regulation Strategie Classroom Environmental Audits

We have immediate capacity! Visit our website or contact our admin team to refer!



PlayConnec

Supporting Families With Children With a Disability or Developmental Concern

Torquay Children's Hub 27 Grossmans Road, Torquay Tuesdays 9:30am - 11:30am

PlayConnect+ playgroups are open to all children with disability and/or developmental concerns aged 0-6 years. Our playgroups are for children, their families, carers and siblings. No diagnosis is required. All sessions will be facilitated by qualified professionals. PlayConnect+ playgroups are a great way for families to connect, share knowledge, ideas, and have fun!

Register your interest with our local faciltator Helen Punton hpunton@playgroup.org.au Ph: 0472 722 587

- O playgroup.org.au 🔘 @playgroupvicofficial
- S 1800 171 882 () /playgroupvic



the QR Co



TORQUAY AFTER SCHOOL



CHECK OUT OUR RANGE OF TERM 4 AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS AT TORQUAY LIBRARY



Chess Club Test your wits and challenge yourself with chess! Learn the basics, develop strategy and practise with others in a friendly environment. Suitable for beginners and advance players.

Every Monday 4pm-5pm Ages 8-15 Facilitated Drop-In



 Youth Mix
 Every Wednesday

 Mix it up each week with a bit of art, craft, games, tech, and apm-Spm good company. Range of activity options available based on Ages 12+ what YOU want to do.
 Ages 12+ Facilitated Drop-In Facilitated Drop-I

Every Thursday

3:30pm-4:30pm Ages 5+ Unfacilitated Drop-In



Join other LEGO fans, explore your creativity and see where your imagination can take you. Take up the weekly challenges or freestyle your own brick creations

MEGA Lego Club



Horrid Histories Write like an Egyptian, invent like Da Vinci and learn how the Romans used the toilet! Come along to this four-week program based on the Terry Deary books and TV series, Horrible Histories. Friday for 4 weeks Starting 18th Oct 4pm-5pm Ages 8+ Bookings Required

grlc.vic.gov.au

All events are FREE unless otherwise specified. Bookings recommended to save your place! Online grlc.vic.gov.au In person at any branch, or phone 03 4201 0600

BAKING BUDDIES

MONDAY 4:00-5:30pm

A therapeutic baking program focusing on:

- learning to follow instructions and use kitchen tools
- exploring new foods and texturespractising teamwork and problem-
- solvingbuilding social connections and mealtime skills
- tuning into hunger and fullness cues for mindful eating

Designed to engage children in a fun, hands-on baking experience while working on essential life skills. And get creative in the kitchen!

enquiries@fsct.com.au OR 5264 7430 for more info





Does your Child need someone to talk to?

> Child Therapist Meaghan Cook

MPP, GradDip Psy (Adv), Grad Dip Psy, Grad Dip Ed, BA

Book online

barwonheadsfamilypractice.com.au P: 03 42441030

Surf Coast GUITAR LESSONS

Beginner - Advanced

LEARN GUITAR WITH LOCAL MUSICIAN TOMMY CASTLES.

PAST STUDENTS HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED INTO VCA, VCASS & MONASH UNIVERSITY FOR FURTHER MUSICAL STUDY.

TOMMY CATERS HIS LESSONS FOR STUDENTS INDIVIDUALLY AS WE ALL HAVE DIFFERENT MINDS, AND THINK / LEARN DIFFERENTLY!

LESSON COSTS: 30 MINUTES - \$50 60 MINUTES - \$70

> TOMMY - 0405 128 108 TOMMYCASTLESMUSIC@PROTONMAIL.COM

COME AND JOIN THE FUN

OCTOBER 2024 TO MARCH 2025

GIVING KIDS AGED 5 – 17 THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMPETE IN A RANGE OF ATHLETIC EVENTS EACH WEEK.





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Or

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OUR JUNIOR

Are you looking for an enriching and enjoyable activity for your child that promotes fitness, skill development, and teamwork?



At JV Tennis Academy, we prioritize enjoyment alongside improvement, ensuring every child feels welcomed and motivated to succeed.



Our expert coaches bring a v of experience and infectious energy to every session, ens your child learns, grows, and thrives on and off the court.



Life's busy – we get it! That's why we offer classes Monday through Friday, right after school. With three convenient locations in



JV Tennis Academy is more than just a tennis school – it's a vibrant community where young athletes thrive and friendships flourish. Our mission? To inspire, educate, and empower the next generation of tennis champions!

Our Junior Hot Shot programs cater to kids aged 4 to 12, offering a dynamic blend of skill-building, strategy, and pure tennis fun! Whether your child dreams of mastering the perfect serve or simply want to rally with friends, our expert coaches are here to make it happen.

Join us for a free trial session!

Don't miss out on the opportunity and book in a free trial session today! For more information, visit our website at www.jytennis.com.au or contact us directly at admin@jytennis.com.au

Looking forward to seeing you on court!





CATERING FOR ALL SQUAD LEVELS, BEGINNER TO HIGH PERFORMANCE

-1

MULTIPLE VENUES IN GEELONG

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WOMEN'S HEALTH

1a Fischer Street Torquay PH: 03 9828 7550 womenshealthtorquay.com.au Women's Health Torquay – Created by women for women.





Kayaking4Kids

TERM 4 PADDLE PROGRAM

Geelong Canoe Club's Kayaking4Kids program is back for Term 4 with an eight-week paddle course. Participants will be introduced to the sport of paddling in a fun and safe environment, using the Paddle Australia Paddle Power program.

The Kayaking4Kids Term 4 Program is suitable for children aged 8 -15 years. Participants do not require previous experience paddling, however, they need to be able to swim short distances. Return participants or those from a holiday program will be further challenged in their paddling and leadership skills.

All instructors are qualified with Paddle Australia, have current Working With Children Checks, and are trained in First Aid.

WHEN The program will run on Mondays between 4:30pm to 6:00pm over eight weeks, from Monday 7 October to Monday 25 November.

WHAT TO WEAR

Clothing suitable for paddling in the cooler weather, such as a wetsuit, leggings and/or thermals - no cotton clothing. Participants should also bring a towel and change of clothes. Life vests will be provided and will be worn at all times on the water.

COST

The cost for the Term 4 Program is **\$120** per child. This covers insurance with Paddle Australia, instruction by our qualified and experienced instructors, and use of crafts, paddles, life vests and helmets.

WHERE

Geelong Canoe Club Balyang Sanctuary 1/11 Marnock Road, Newtown

If you have any questions about the program, please email kayaking4kids.geelong@gmail.com

۲

GEELONG CANOE CLUB 1/11 Marnock Road Newtown VIC 3220

Priet @

Girls 8-1241 @ Bellbrac Heartspy Term 4:

Weds +Thurs

4pm



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Children's OT supporting everyday Independence.

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NDIS, Medicare & Private Clients

0491 030 282

info@creativeconnectionsot.com.au www.creativeconnectionsot.com.au

Consulting Suite: 4/136 Geelong Rd, Torquay Servicing the Surf Coast Shire

The School Holiday Juggle is Real!

Need an extra set of hands these holidays?

Book a nanny now and enjoy peace of mind knowing your kids are in safe, caring hands.

We have a wonderful team of experienced nannies to care for your children.



2024 19-27 OCTOBER 2024

Children's

Week

"Children have the right to a Clean and safe environment".

TUESDAY 22 OCTOBER 10AM-12PM - TORQUAY

Elephant Walk Park, The Esplanade, Torquay

Come along and celebrate Children's Week with a Welcome to Country, fun popup activity stalls and enjoy some great entertainment.

THURSDAY 24 OCTOBER 1PM-3PM - WINCHELSEA

HMK Kindergarten – 30 Hesse Street, Winchelsea

Come along and enjoy a fun afternoon of activities including nature play, healthy snacks, sensory experiences and much more.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Please bring your own water bottle, hat and sunscreen.



Events may be cancelled due to extreme weather.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT CHILDREN'S WEEK VISIT:

P. 5264 9250

E.kmcc@surfcoast.vic.gov.au

surfcoast.vic.gov.au/Community/ Families-and-children



Surf Coast Shire Early Years



#CHILDRENSWEEKVIC

This Children's Week event is presented by Surf Coast Shire in partnership with the Victorian Government

VICTORIA







WORLD SINGING DAY 2024 SHINES LIGHT ON MENTAL HEALTH

A global singing celebration of well-being on Saturday, Oct 19, 2024

Nearly one billion people worldwide suffer from some form of mental health condition, according to the United Nations. An estimated one in four people globally will experience a mental health issue in their lifetime. Almost one million people die due to suicide every year. We are experiencing a pandemic of loneliness and isolation.

This year's World Singing Day (WSD) will highlight the importance of mental health as people around the world enjoy and connect by singing together in their communities on Saturday, October 19, 2024. This year's WSD Song-of-the-Year that everyone is invited to sing, is a mash up of "We Are The World & Imagine", fitting for this year's focus.

Studies have shown that feelings of depression and loneliness lessen when singing with others. Endorphins, a hormone that is released by sinaina, is associated with feelings of pleasure. Oxytocin is also released while singing, which can alleviate anxiety and stress. Oxytocin also enhances feelings of trust and bonding.

"Every day from the media, we see stories of what's wrong with the world," says WSD Geelong host Shayne Lowe. "It's stressful and depressing. Yes, there are problems but there are a lot more things going right. Our focus on the worst of humanity often disconnects us from one another and blinds us to the fact that we're all part of a global family sharing the same planet, doing the best we can."

Founded in 2012, World Singing Day invites people around the world to share a positive human experience by singing together. "Unlike politics and religion," says founder, Scott Johnson, "music has the unique power to bring people together of all ages and backgrounds. And it just feels good."

"Singing makes you feel good," says Shayne. "And singing with others makes you feel less lonely and more part of the community."

WSD 2024, Geelong ... Saturday October 19th 11:30am-1:00pm ... Elephant Walk, Torquay

Contact: Shayne Lowe 0429 08 4343

Saturday, 19 October 2024

Torquay, Elephant Walk, 11:30am - 1:00pm



Sing together. Unite the world. WorldSingingDay.org

Contact: Shayne Lowe 0429 08 4343 sing@singitnowgeelong.com.au

