



# Mallacoota P-12 College

## Newsletter

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2020

Week 3 of 11

### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



#### From the Office

##### School Photos

The most recent advice from DET is that school photos can now occur, so these are re-scheduled for Thursday 22 Oct.



Envelopes have been sent home with students this week.

Foons Photographics will be visiting on Thursday of this week to take individual and sibling photos of each student. Unfortunately, COVID has restricted the ability to complete group photos, but Foons have suggested that they will create a composite class photo for each home group.

We will catch up and complete photos for the Year 7 and 8 students who will be undertaking adventures at Snowy River Campus on Thursday.

##### Sharing the Love

We have a pack of sunflower seeds for every primary student, supplied through MADRA and the Genoa Public Hall committee and ready to be planted.

We will distribute them to each primary student on Thursday, so look out for them in school bags.



### WHAT'S ON?

#### OCTOBER

- 20 Parent, Student, Teacher Interviews
- 21-22 Year 7 and 8 Snowy River Camp
- 22 School Photos
- 23 Grand Final Public Holiday (No students required at school)
- 26 CBCA Book Week: Dress Up Day
- 27 CBCA Book Week: Book Fair
- 28 Parent, Student, Teacher Interviews  
Early finish 2.15 pm

#### NOVEMBER

- 3 Melbourne Cup Public Holiday (No students required at school)
- 9 VCE Exam period begins

#### DECEMBER

- 2 VCE Exam period ends
- 18 Term 4 ends

If you do not wish to receive any, please let the office know via phone or email at mallacoota.P12@education.vic.gov.au

What a beautiful sight it will be to see all these sunflowers in bloom.

##### Staying Hydrated

Students are required to bring a filled, re-useable water bottle to school each day, especially as we move towards the warmer weather.



We have water available at the office to re-fill bottles, but would like to avoid lots of plastic bottles going out into the yard.

We will be making contact with parents of those students who continually forget to bring a re-useable bottle, via text.

Please support us by sending your child to school with an appropriate bottle filled with water and preferably named.

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During Term 4 it is also essential that all students and staff wear a hat whilst out in the yard. Hats are available for sale at the office.



### Mobile Phones



It is timely to remind students and families that any mobile phones brought to school by students are to be handed into the Office upon arrival and collected upon departure.

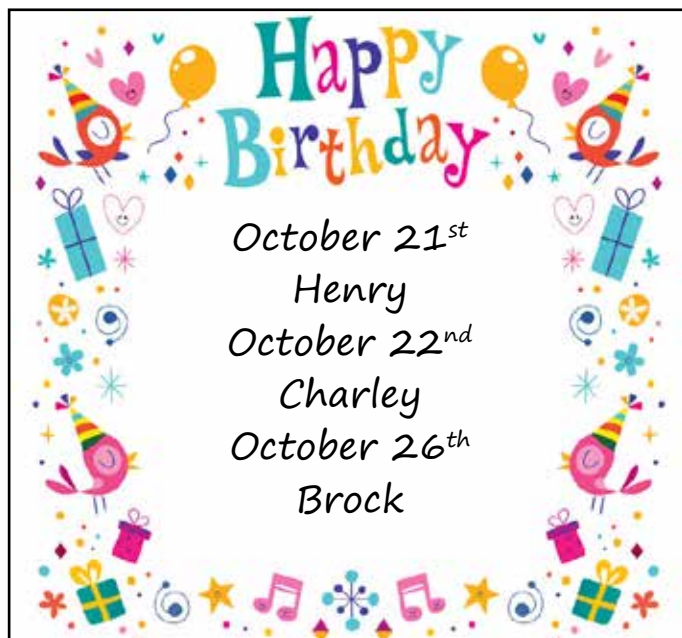
Since returning to onsite learning, the number of phones handed in regularly has dropped significantly.

### Parent, Student, Teacher Interviews

We are holding another opportunity for parents and carers, along with their students to have phone conversations with teachers about progress, engagement and wellbeing.

Interviews are scheduled for Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 28th October. uEducateUs is the platform for booking these interviews. The Office staff can assist with this process if needed.

Have a wonderful week!



## Mountain Pygmy Possum: Why should we save the species

by Jasmine Holt

Mountain pygmy possums are critically endangered and there are only 2000 left in the wild and decreasing. They are going extinct for multiple reasons. The main one reason is climate change. Climate change causes loss of habitat and then they have no choice but to live out in the open and they become easy prey for foxes and wild cats.

Pygmy possums hibernate under the snow in the alpine mountains for the winter and come out in spring. In spring they feed on bogong moths but climate change melts the snow before spring and the pygmy possums wake up before the Bogong moths are here. The mountain pygmy possums have nothing to feed their young.

The Mountain pygmy possum is the world's only hibernating marsupial. I think that's sort of cool, especially as they're native to Australia. If mountain pygmy possums die out then hibernating marsupials won't even be a thing!

When animals go extinct it disturbs the ecosystem. And we need a healthy ecosystem to survive. We need to keep our wilderness and national parks healthy. There will be no nature or anything to look at if animals go extinct. The other thing is the food chain. When an animal goes extinct then the food chain brakes and that may cause other animals that rely on that animal to survive might go extinct too. If that is happening a lot that will also affect us too.

If all humans deserve a life then how come mountain pygmy possums aren't? We have ruined their homes and turned them into ski fields. Imagine someone just ruined your house to turn it into something they want, then you're homeless. Please help the mountain pygmy possums they deserve to live as much as we do. We can all chip in to help there species by not letting your pets (dogs, cats) come into the ski fields, drive carefully and watch out for animals when at ski fields (or anywhere really), take extra care when you are at national parks DO NOT bring your dog to national parks and try not to damage vegetation under thin snow or any where. You can also protect mountain pygmy possums habitats.

In conclusion please help this amazing species and help the ecosystem to remain healthy. I know that you won't regret it.



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### Brush-Tailed Rock-Wallaby

by Kyra Witnish

Brush-Tailed Rock-Wallabies are medium size and are between 6-8kg. They live in rocky surroundings and outcrops, where they hide during the day and come out to feed at dawn and dusk. The Brush-Tailed Rock-Wallaby is critically endangered in Victoria, with population numbers believed to be as low as 40. The main population in Victoria is found in the Snowy River National Park in East Gippsland.

I believe that we should continue to support the wellbeing of the Brush-Tailed Rock-Wallaby and their habitat and continue to educate people of their existence so that this entire species is not wiped out.

Firstly if we don't save the species that are in danger of Extinction today then in the future there are going to be heaps more species becoming extinct, as they are all relying on one another to survive. By allowing one species to become extinct it then has a greater impact on other creatures by changing the food source or creating habitat loss, it's all connected and all help to create and balance out the ecosystem.

Secondly as a massive animal/nature lover, it is really important to me that we continue to protect and conserve our environment and the creatures within for our future generations to enjoy and appreciate as I have. I have always loved visiting zoos & wildlife sanctuaries but nothing is more rewarding than when you have the chance to see animals in their natural habitat, unthreatened and unharmed. I have had the privilege of helping Mallacoota's wildlife after our recent devastating bushfires. This has made me realize how easily Australia's wildlife can become threatened, endangered or even possibly extinct. Zoos & conservation groups already have programs in place to help save the Brush Tailed Rock Wallaby population. They have started a breeding program where they cross a captive bred with a wild Brush-Tailed Rock-Wallaby and release them back into their natural habitats. This increases the population numbers but it also improves the genetic diversity to reduce inbreeding which is caused from such small numbers in their population. These groups of Rock Wallabies are monitored by surveillance camera.

Thirdly some of the major reasons why the Brush-Tailed Rock-wallabies are critically endangered is because of climate change, impacts from humans and introduced creatures such as foxes, goats and feral cats. Back in the 1900s the Brush Tailed Rock Wallaby was hunted for their skin, this was the starting point of their numbers rapidly decreasing. It is our responsibility to fix the bad impacts we have made over the past generations on the endangered species which include the Brush-Tailed Rock-Wallabies.

In conclusion we need to act now to save this species from extinction due to bushfires (climate change), introduced creatures, habitat loss, inbreeding, loss of access to food and human doings. So join the act and donate to websites like Zoos Victoria so we can save these beautiful creatures.

CBCA Book Week  
CURIOUS CREATURES,  
WILD MINDS



Dress up Day:  
Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup>

Book Fair:  
Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>



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### TERM FOUR CALENDAR

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>WEEK 3</b>	October 19	October 20 Parent, Student, Teacher Interviews 3.45 – 5.30 pm	October 21  Year 7-8 Snowy River Camp	October 22 School Photos	October 23 Grand Final Public Holiday No students required at school
<b>WEEK 4</b>	October 26 Book Week: Dress up Day  YOUTH SAFETY WEEK	October 27 Book Week: Book Fair  YOUTH SAFETY WEEK	October 28 Parent, Student, Teacher Interviews 2.30 – 5.00 pm Early finish 2.15 pm  YOUTH SAFETY WEEK	October 29   YOUTH SAFETY WEEK	October 30 Day for Daniel (Wear red)  YOUTH SAFETY WEEK
<b>WEEK 5</b>	November 2	November 3 Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday No students required at school	November 4	November 5	November 6
<b>WEEK 6</b>	November 9 VCE Exam period begins	November 10	November 11	November 12	November 13
<b>WEEK 7</b>	November 16	November 17	November 18	November 19	November 20
<b>WEEK 8</b>	November 23	November 24	November 25	November 26	November 27 Year 11 last day
<b>WEEK 9</b>	November 30	December 1	December 2 VCE Exam period ends	December 3	December 4 Year 10 last day (with work)
<b>WEEK 10</b>	December 7 Activities Week	December 8	December 9	December 10	December 11
<b>WEEK 11</b>	December 14	December 15	December 16	December 17	December 18 Term 4 ends



**AFL GRAND FINAL PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23RD**

**NO STUDENTS REQUIRED AT SCHOOL ON THIS DAY!**

