

National Sorry Day and Reconciliation Week

Today we observe National Sorry Day. This is a day to remember and acknowledge the mistreatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who were forcibly removed from their families and communities, which we now know as 'The Stolen Generations'.

National Sorry Day is a day to acknowledge the strength of Stolen Generations Survivors and reflect on how we can all play a part in the healing process for our people and nation. While this date carries great significance for the Stolen Generations and other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, it is also commemorated by Australians right around the country.

The five-petal Native Cotton, Desert Rose, or Native Hibiscus as we know it, was chosen as the official symbol for Sorry Day, to symbolise the scattering of the Stolen Generations and their resilience to the eugenic policies of Australia. This flower was adopted because it is found widely across Australia and it is a survivor. Its colour denotes compassion and spiritual healing.



NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2023

27 MAY — 3 JUNE

BE A VOICE FOR GENERATIONS

NRW.RECONCILIATION.ORG.AU

#NRW2023



Tomorrow marks the beginning of National Reconciliation Week (NRW). National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

The dates for Reconciliation Week are the same each year; **27 May to 3 June**. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey— the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision respectively.

On the 27 May 1967, Australia's most successful **referendum** saw more than 90 per cent of Australians vote to give the Australian Government power to make laws for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and recognise them in the Census.

On 3 June 1992, the Australian High Court delivered the Mabo decision, leading to the legal recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of lands. This decision paved the way for Native Title.

In 2001, Reconciliation Australia was established to continue to provide national leadership on reconciliation. In the same year, approximately 300,000 people walked across Sydney Harbour Bridge as part of National Reconciliation Week-and subsequently across bridges in cities and towns-to show their support for reconciliation.

The theme for National Reconciliation Week 2023 is *Be a Voice for Generations*.

The theme encourages all Australians to be a **voice for reconciliation** in tangible ways in our everyday lives – where we **live, work and socialise**. For the work of **generations past**, and the benefit of **generations future**, act today for a more **just, equitable and reconciled country for all**.

Sometimes **being a Voice means Not Talking** - but listening.

First Nations peoples have a long legacy of speaking up for their communities, but their voices have been excluded or buried under the voices of non-Indigenous people. Turn down the noise: listen before you speak.

Be a Voice and Speak up about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander successes, cultures and people. First Nations cultures, stories and solutions have thrived for over 65,000 years and make Australia a richer, more whole place for everybody. Recognise sovereignty by Acknowledging Country and by respectfully prioritising Traditional Owners voices.

Be a Voice to end Racism - Racism damages lives and livelihoods, and it hurts the whole community. Whether in the city, regions, online or in public spaces – being abused, ignored, refused service or getting followed by security, has long-lasting effects. Notice the bias in personal conversations. Speak up when you hear something ignorant, hurtful or not right. Say it out loud: 'Racism: It Stops With Me.'

Belinda Frost

Community and Cultural Coordinator

Cultural Careers Excursion



Yesterday, 3 of our First Nations students took part in a Cultural Careers excursion to explore some pathways for the future. We visited Dalki Garringa, Goolum Goolum and met with staff from Barengi Gadjin Land Council and the Wimmera CMA. Students go to experience a taste of some of the duties in different jobs and learnt about the pathways that workers have taken to get there.

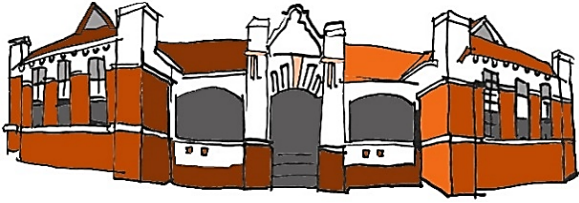
“There are so many jobs out there that can suit your life and interests”.

“You can get any job to get experience and then you can go into further training to learn on the job”.

“Some of the places, you just need to ask them for a job, to get started”.

A big thank you to David and Rudy from the LLEN for arranging the day and to the organisations who gave up their time to speak with the students. -Ms Frost





Hilltop News

DIMBOOLA MEMORIAL SECONDARY COLLEGE

Term 1, Week 9, 31st March 2023



“Deeds not Words”

Dimboola Memorial Secondary College would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the Wimmera Mallee area: The Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagalk peoples, and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Phone: 53891460 www.dmsc.vic.edu.au dimboola.memorial.sc@education.vic.gov.au Fax: 53891981

Unveiling of the new flagpoles



Upcoming Events and Dates

- 5th April - Parent-Teacher Meetings
- 6th April - Term 1 Ends
- 24th April - Term 2 Starts
- 25th April - ANZAC Day
- 1st May - Year 7 2024 (Parent Information Night)

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|-----------------------|---|
| Principal | Sally Klinge |
| President | Rhianna Paech |
| Vice President | Lynley Robinson |
| Secretary | Charlotte Pyers (DET) |
| Treasurer | |
| DET Rep | Jess Fell |
| Parent Reps | Yolande Hutson, Alastair Griffiths, Kylie Barry |
| Student Reps | Rian Pyers, Ethan Angel-Hands |

A message from our Principal

Today we celebrated the unveiling of our three new flagpoles and flags near the entry to the Administration Building. Our two College Captains – Maryam Yahiat and Tilli Menzel, together with School Council student representative and Koorie student Ethan Angel-Hands, led the short ceremony to officially raise the Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Australian flags together.



Students, staff, parents and visitors assembled around the new flagpoles prior to the start of the House Athletics sports to mark this special occasion. Thank you to our maintenance staff member Peter Hayes for his work in ensuring that the flag poles were erected correctly, and to Lachlan Dixon, who worked with Peter to get the job completed.



House Athletic Sports

Our house Athletic Sports were held today. Thanks to Ms Marra for her planning and organization of the event and to the staff and students who assisted with the setting up on the day. Thank you also to our valued parent helpers. A full report containing all results and pictures will be published in next Thursday's newsletter.

Parent-Teacher Meetings

Student reports are available today using the XUNO portal. These will form the basis for important discussions at Parent-Teacher meetings that are scheduled for next Wednesday. Please take the time to discuss these reports

with your child and refer to the information later in the newsletter regarding how to book your time to meet or speak with your child's teacher.

ANZAC Day plans

The town's ANZAC Day services will once again take place at the front of the Memorial Building at DMSC, which houses the Honour Roll of those who have served in past wars. There will be both a 6am dawn service and an 8.30am service, which starts with students of all three Dimboola schools, local community groups and ex-servicemen and women marching from the front gates of the school to the front of the Memorial Building where wreaths are then laid. I encourage families and students of our school to plan ahead for this day, when we ask students to wear their school uniforms to join the march. We are asking students to assemble at the front gates at 8.20am on Tuesday 25th April, which will be the second day of Term 2 and a public holiday.

Easter Holidays

Our Term 1 school holidays begin next Thursday 6th April, with school finishing at 2.30pm.

Sally Klinge
Principal

Koorie Careers Day

Yesterday, a group of our First Nations students attended the Goolum Goolum / Skillinvest Pathways and Try a Trade Expo. Students got to ask questions of the exhibitors and have a go at many different career pathway options. There was a wide variety of activities including building and bricklaying, hair and beauty, and re-potting plants. Students could explore career pathways on country with the local Land Council, Catchment Management Authority and Forest Fire Management, as well as exploring Digital and Creative Industries, Health and Education careers. TAFE and uni providers were on site to share about support services and scholarships for First Nations students and talk about available courses and the different pathways into further study. Keynote speaker for the day was former student, Kynan Clarke, who spoke about moving from Dimboola to Melbourne and his pathway to university and into employment.



-Ms Frost



Djarem (on work placement with BGLC) showing the boys how to transplant native seedlings.



Lachlan trying out his bricklaying skills.



Nathan in a Forest Fire Management Fire Fighting unit.



Keisha and Damo trying out the CFA hoses to move the mini fire truck.

Bangarra Cultural Performance

Last night, 3 of our students performed a Community Showcase at the Horsham Town Hall as part of the Bangarra Dance Theatre's Rekindling Youth Program.

Jandamarra Lauricella, Seamus Clarke and Nathan Rayes performed with almost 20 other First Nations youth from across the Wimmera. Bangarra is an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisation and of Australia's leading performing arts companies. They are widely acclaimed nationally and around the world for their powerful dancing, and utterly unique soundscapes, music and design.

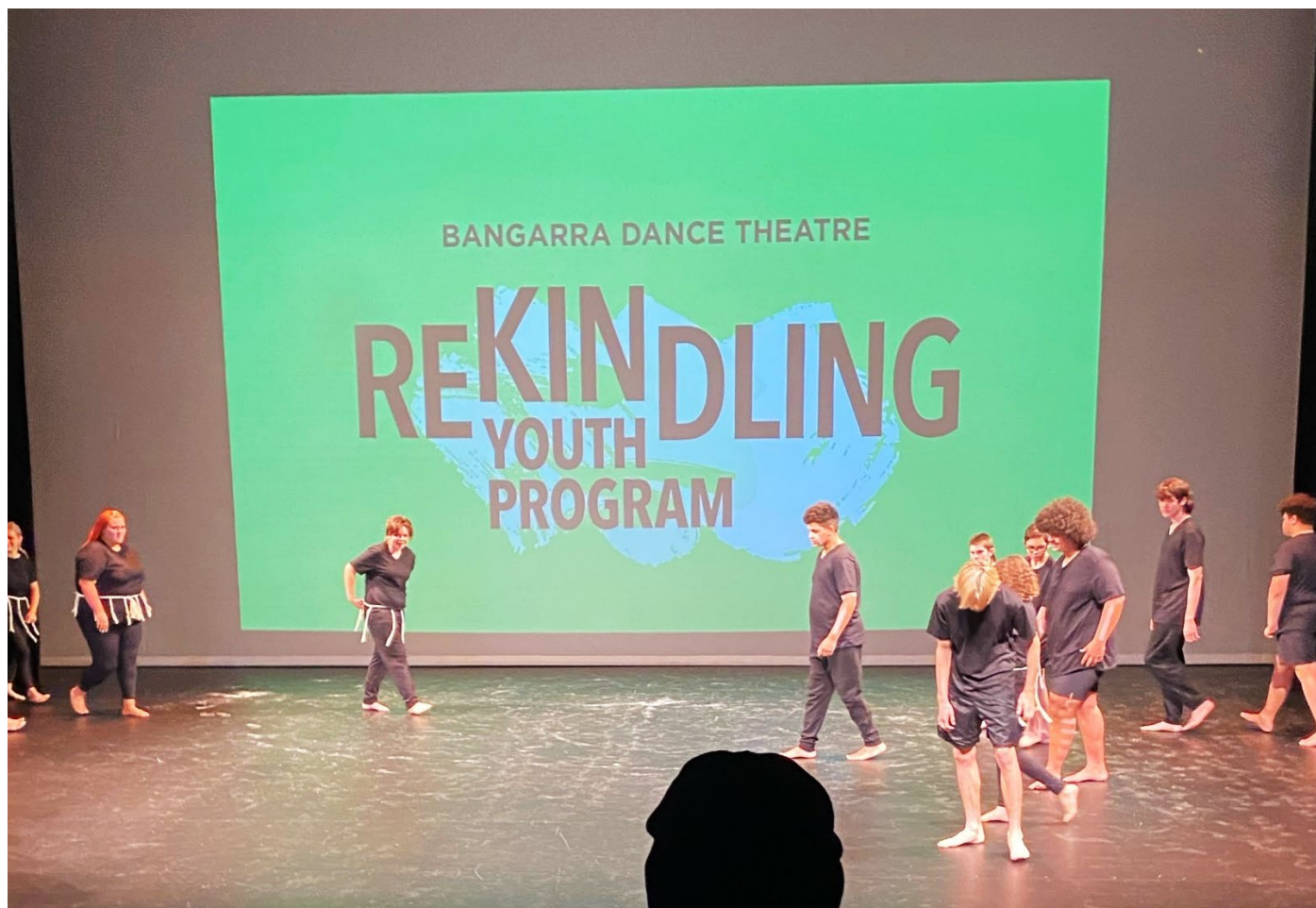
The boys have spent many hours, over 3 weeks of workshops, understanding how to tell stories through performance and learning to choreograph their own stories, as passed on by local elders. Participants presented 3 performances – "Dog Eye", "Stolen Generation" and "Bunjil". They were also lucky enough to be taught and perform 2 dances from Bangarra's own repertoire – "Elements" and "Artifacts".

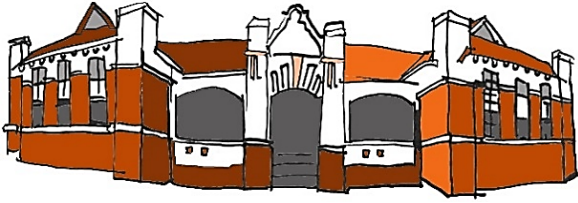


Congratulations Jandy, Seamus and Nathan for taking part in this wonderful opportunity and for having the confidence to perform on stage!

Belinda Frost

Community and Cultural Coordinator





Hilltop News

DIMBOOLA MEMORIAL SECONDARY COLLEGE

Term 2, Week 9, 23rd June 2023



“Facta non Verba”

Dimboola Memorial Secondary College would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the Wimmera Mallee area: The Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagalk peoples, and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

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A message from our Principal

Careers Expo

Students in Years 10 to 12 travelled to Longerenong College on Tuesday to participate in the Careers Expo. Reports from students who made use of the seminars that were offered during the day were very positive. Thank you to the staff who accompanied the students on the day. Photos from the day can be found later in the newsletter.

Parent-Teacher Meetings for senior students

These were held via phone conversations on Wednesday evening. Numbers were down somewhat on previous sessions, so I encourage anyone who was unable to speak with their child’s teacher to contact the school at the start of next term to discuss their child’s progress.

Student reports

A reminder that these are available on XUNO. Parents can download the XUNO app to their phones, which many parents have found to be an easy way to access XUNO.

Holiday and proposed works around the school

During the holidays, the solar panels on the roof of the Science and Language Centre, and Health and Fitness Centre will be replaced. School Council met on Monday night and were pleased to learn that the Victorian Schools Building Authority are working with the school to repair the badly damaged bitumen and cement curbing along School Street. The timing of this work is yet to be advised.

Possum cloak explanation

Yesterday, we were fortunate to have local elder Aunty Hazel McDonald visit the school to show students and staff her possum cloak. This was made for her to wear at the 2006 Commonwealth Games held in Melbourne. Everyone present was interested to see the images on the reverse side of the cloak and learn the story behind these.

Green Day

In recognition of World Environment Day, students and staff came to school today dressed in green. It has become a tradition for the Student Voice and Leadership team to nominate a cause, or significant occasion, that they like to dress up for on the final day of each term.

Best wishes to Kaye Webb

Our Business Manager Kaye is taking Long Service Leave next term. We hope that she enjoys the break and can pursue some of her hobbies during this time.

Enjoy the holidays and be sure to stay warm!

Sally Klinge

Principal

Happy Holidays!

Upcoming Events and Dates

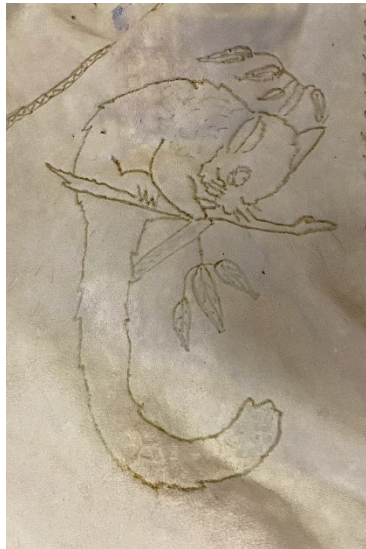
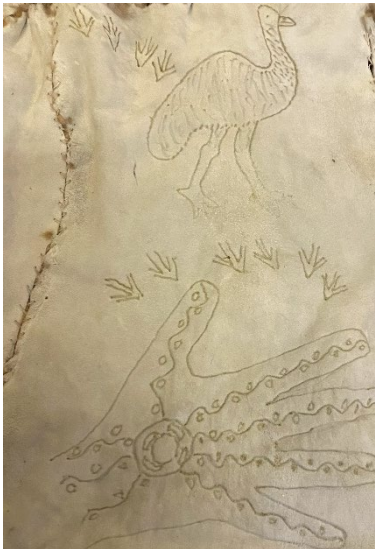
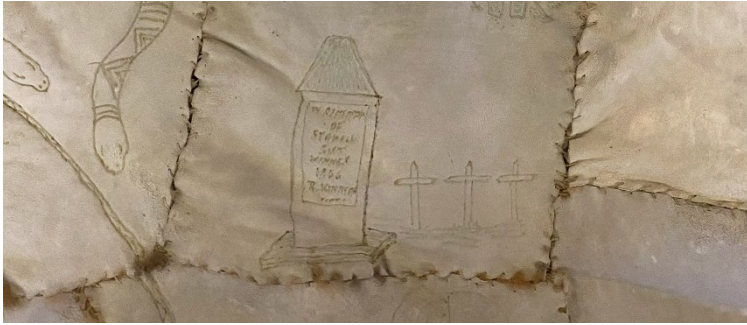
- 24th Jun – 9th Jul - School Holidays
- 10th Jul - Term 3 Starts
- 12th Jul - Rubicon Incursion
- Year 10 Parent Information Night
- 17th – 21st Jul - Year 9 Rubicon Camp
- 20th Jul - Great Western Hockey
- 24th – 28th Jul - Year 11-12 Subject Selection meetings
- School Council

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|----------------|--|
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| Student Reps | Rian Pyers, Ethan Angel-Hands |
| Community Reps | Charles Rees (RSL), Neil Zippel |

RESPECT HONESTY EXCELLENCE CARE FREEDOM

DMSC IS A CHILD SAFE SCHOOL

Possum Cloak



Celebrating NAIDOC Week

2-9 July 2023



NAIDOC week celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. It is celebrated by all Australians and is a great opportunity to recognise and learn more about the history and culture of indigenous communities.

NAIDOC stands for National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee. Its origins can be traced back to the Aboriginal rights movement, when on Australia Day 1938, protestors marched through the streets of Sydney to highlight the status and treatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. Today, it is a week-long celebration held in July that consists of range of traditional and contemporary activities.

NAIDOC Week is an important event that helps build positive relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people. It enables a deeper understanding of our differences and similarities. NAIDOC week is an opportunity for all Australians to eliminate bias and discrimination by reflecting and reconciling the wrongs of the past to facilitate hope and build a fairer future. Families are encouraged to join in and support young people in learning the significance of NAIDOC Week.

This Special Report offers suggestions on how families can celebrate NAIDOC Week together. We hope you take a moment to reflect on the information offered, and as always, we welcome your feedback. If this raises any concerns for you, a loved one or the wellbeing of your child, please seek medical or professional help.

