



Message from Maria

Welcome back to all our families to term 4.

I am delighted to be the new principal of Christmas Hills Primary School, and I am truly looking forward to working with the students and school community.

We have had an incredibly smooth start to the term and it has been wonderful seeing the smiling faces on the children as they walk through the door. My primary goal as principal is to create a safe, nurturing and inspiring environment where every child can thrive. I believe that a strong partnership between home and school is essential in achieving this goal and together with our amazing teaching staff we will be working to provide the best possible educational experience for your children.

Term 4 is always a very busy term with lots of activities and festivities planned as we head towards the end of the school year and the school calendar is quickly filling up.

First week back our students in Grades 3-6 will be attending the Sovereign Hill Camp at Ballarat. Students will be departing on Wednesday 4th October and returning Friday 6th October. We will be attending with students from Yering PS providing a wonderful opportunity for our students to get to know other students and make some new friends as well as have some fun.

Term Four
6th October, 2023

Important Dates for Term 4

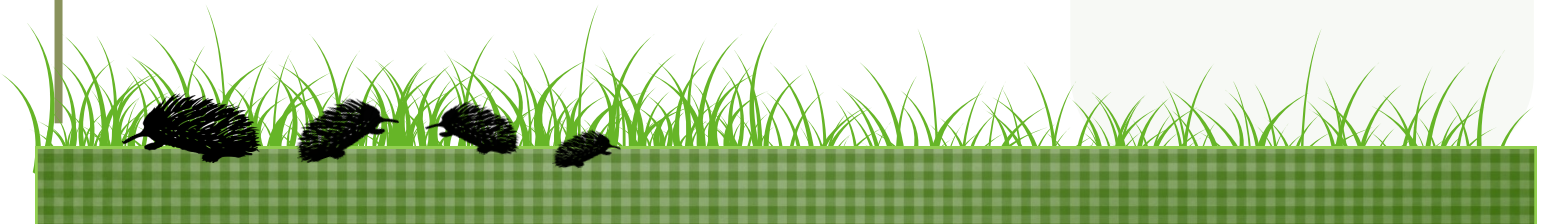
2nd October - Curriculum Day
4th - 6th October - Bunjil Camp
28th October - Swimming
2nd November - Swimming
7th November - Melbourne cup
public holiday
9th November - Swimming
13th December - Graduation &
School Production

Dates to Remember

Term 3 - Monday 10 July 2023 -
Friday 15 September 2023

Term 4 - Monday 2 October
2023 - Wednesday

20 December 2023



Our swimming program will be commencing in week 4 with students taking part in four (45 minute) sessions. This is being held at Eltham Swim Centre and students will be transported by car to the centre for an 11.30 start. The sessions will run on Thursday 26th October, Thursday 2nd November, Monday 6th November and Thursday 9th November.

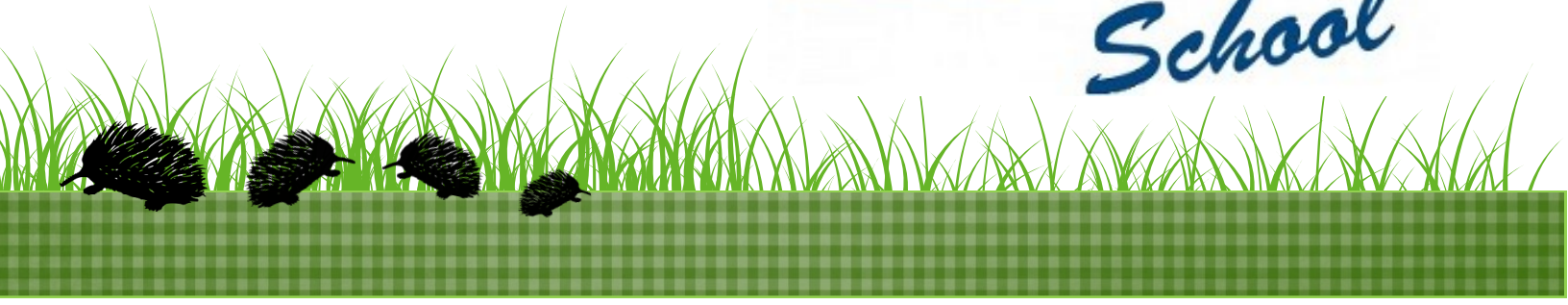
Over the holidays, I did meet with one of the companies who are tendering for our sensory garden project. The tender period is closing this week so I am confident that we should get some news shortly. The design plans for the garden are amazing and it would be wonderful for the students to have this completed as early as possible.

Also, we are in the process of confirming an Art Therapist/Teacher to complete an art project with the students this term. The focus for this project will be on personal strengths and the strength of our community. This will be displayed in the bench circle seats near the historic building and will provide a place where we can all come together to reflect.

Whilst it is a busy start to the term I am very excited about the journey ahead and I look forward to getting to know each of you and your children better over the coming weeks.

Maria Parks

Principal





This Week



Being SunSmart in Victoria



When UV is 3+



Slip on covering clothing



Slop on SPF50, broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen



Slap on a broad-brimmed hat



Seek shade



Slide on sunglasses (AS:1067)

Think UV, not heat! UV rays can't be seen or felt and can damage your skin on cool or cloudy days.

When UV is below 3

Sun protection isn't required unless you are outdoors for extended periods or near reflective surfaces, such as snow.



Download the SunSmart Global UV app to find sun protection times for your location.

March 2023



Scan the QR code or visit sunsmart.com.au/app to download.



Cancer Council
Victoria



Newsletter article: Schools in Category 0, 1 and 2 on the Bushfire At-Risk Register

This information has been developed to answer frequently asked questions regarding the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) and your school's pre-emptive actions on elevated fire danger days.

School preparations for the bushfire season

Each year, to prepare for bushfires and grassfires, schools and early childhood services complete a range of activities.

The Department of Education runs an annual fire risk assessment of schools and early childhood services. They are allocated a category of risk (categories 0 to 4) and are published on the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR).



On elevated fire danger days schools in the highest levels of risk (categories 0, 1 and 2) take pre-emptive actions to minimise the risk of being caught in a fire in these conditions.

These actions are based on the Local Government Area they are in and their fire risk category.

In addition, all schools and services listed on the BARR and Category 4 list will close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district.

When the Bureau of Meteorology provides public fire danger rating forecasts, they use fire weather district areas. In Victoria, there are 9 fire weather districts, which include numerous Local Government Areas. Our school is in the **Central fire weather district**.

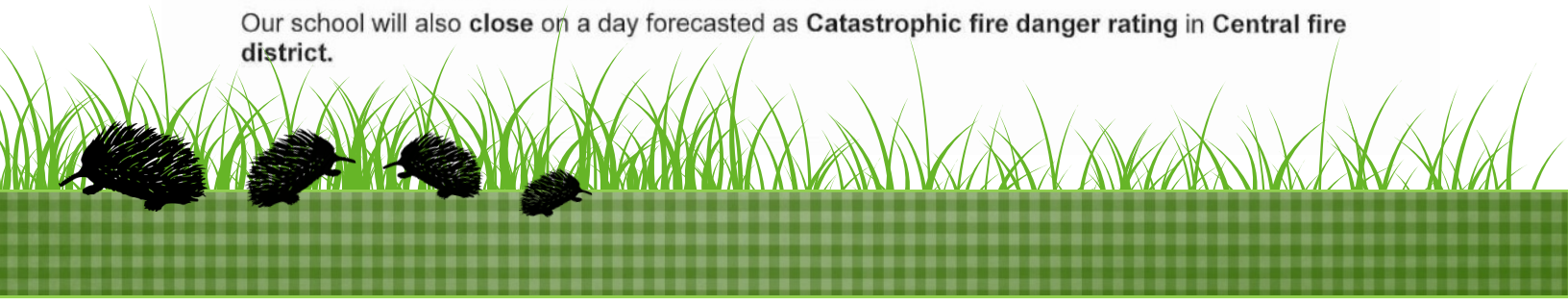
As part of preparing our school for the fire season, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan and such as reprioritised any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire and cleared our facility's grounds and gutters.

What does this mean for our school?

Our school has been identified as being in one of the highest fire risk categories - BARR 1

Our school will action its pre-emptive plan for **relocation** on a day forecasted as **Extreme fire danger rating** in our **local government area (LGA), Nillumbik**.

Our school will also **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating** in **Central fire district**.



What is the department's policy?

The department's [Bushfire and Grassfire Preparedness Policy](#) requires schools at high risk of bushfire to enact pre-emptive action plans based on LGA level fire danger forecasts. Conditions can vary significantly across the wider weather district, so using local forecasts helps us to respond appropriately to risks in our local area and maintain stability and educational continuity for our students and school community. This policy is consistent for all schools at high levels of risk and this approach is supported by emergency services.

The policy also requires that all schools and early childhood services on the BARR and the Category 4 list close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district. All school bus routes which travel in or through a district with Catastrophic fire danger must also be cancelled.

When will our school enact our pre-emptive action plan?

Our school will action our pre-emptive plan to **Kangaroo Ground Primary School** on days when the fire danger forecast for our local government area, Nillumbik is **Extreme**.

Our school will use the LGA forecast confirmed by emergency services the day before an Extreme fire danger day in our LGA to trigger our plan. We will let you know when we are enacting our pre-emptive action plan. Please be aware that no one will be on site on days where the school has enacted this plan.

What do we do when our LGA has a different fire danger rating to the wider fire weather district?

As we respond to local conditions, there may be days during the fire season when our fire weather district, Central is forecast as an Extreme fire danger rating, but our LGA is at a lower level of fire danger. On these days our school operations will continue as normal, however we will be taking action in line with fire services advice by:

- checking our Emergency Management Plan and taking any necessary preparedness actions
- actively monitor our local conditions and warnings
- having plans and procedures in place for if a fire starts to support us to take immediate action.

While our school will continue to operate, we encourage our school community to consider their own [bushfire survival plan](#) and reassess any travel through bushfire risk areas. We encourage you to follow your family bushfire survival plan and the advice of emergency services.

There may also be days where our LGA is forecast as Extreme fire danger, but Central is not. On these days we **will** enact our pre-emptive action plan.

When will our school be closed due to Catastrophic fire danger?

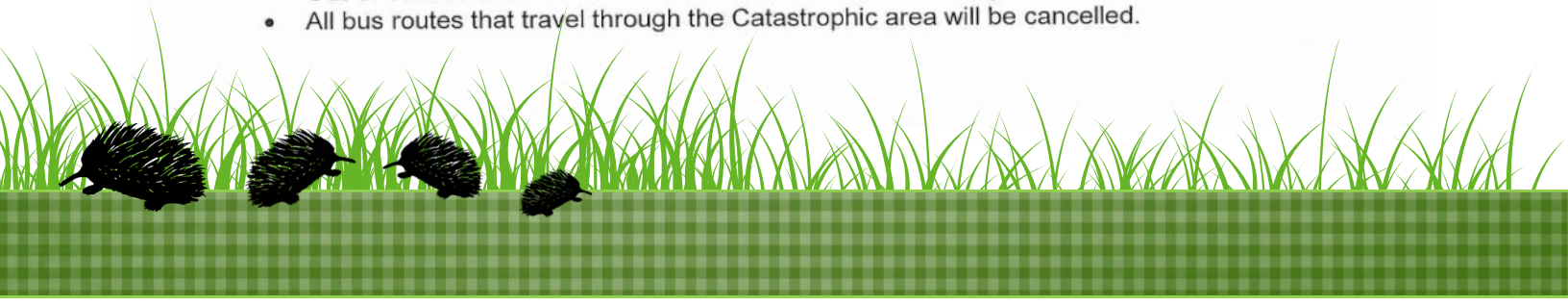
Our school will also **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating in Central fire district**.

Closure of the school due to a forecast Catastrophic day will be confirmed on the day prior and we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day. Any information regarding potential or confirmed Catastrophic fire danger days will be communicated to you by Sentral

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, even if the weather forecast changes.

This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to be aware that:

- No one will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Catastrophic day.
- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days.
- All bus routes that travel through the Catastrophic area will be cancelled.



- School camps will be cancelled if a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast for fire weather district in which the camp is located, or if the travel involves passing through areas that have Catastrophic fire danger.

Families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan on Catastrophic fire danger rating days. **On such days, children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Catastrophic days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Catastrophic day.

What can families and the school community do to help us prepare?

- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers.
- Keep in touch with us by - reading our newsletters, checking our website <https://www.christmashillsp.vic.edu.au/>, by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is relocated or closed due to fire danger. Further information can be found on the [CFA's website](#).
- Enact your family's bushfire survival plan if your own triggers are met. Our school community may be spread out across many areas and some families may be at higher risk than others. Your family's safety is critical, so please let us know if you are enacting your bushfire survival plan and if your children will be absent on these days.
- If your child is old enough, talk to [them about bushfires](#) and your family's bushfire survival plan.

You can find more information on emergencies, and preparedness actions here:

- VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices
- VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)
- Website <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>
- Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency>)
- Twitter (<https://twitter.com/vicemergency>)
- ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters

COMMUNITY BUSHFIRE SAFETY EXPO

St. Andrews Market place ■ 10am to 5pm ■ Sunday 8th October

Vendor stalls with goods and services for preparing your house and property



Free Event

Get details & advice on:

- Fuel reduction
- Preparing fire plans
- Assessing your risk
- Reducing your risk
- Protecting your family
- Protecting your house
- House modifications
- Products available
- Expert advice
- Insurance and recovery planning

- Pumps & hoses
- Sprinklers
- Chainsaws & mowers
- Mulchers
- Bunkers
- BAL-BMA consultants
- Landscaping

- Children activities
- Show Bags
- Sausage sizzles
- Food stalls



You are INVITED!

Free Coffee at CFA Tent

Presentations

"Official Opening"	10.00am	
"Fire Safety Essentials"	10.15am	CFA
"What Climate Change means for fires in Nillumbik"	11.30am	Dr. Kevin Tolhurst AM
"Phoenix Simulation and Fuel Management"	1.00pm	FFMVic
"Fuels versus Vegetation - What is the difference?"	2.15pm	Dr. Kevin Tolhurst AM
"Preparing your property for fire"	3.30pm	CFA

\$100 Gift Vouchers to be won.

Information and EXPO discounts available

Proudly supported by



FREE hearing and vision screenings for children!

One day only - Saturday, 7th October 2023

Diamond Valley Lions Club and the Departments of Audiology and Speech Pathology, Optometry and Vision Sciences of Melbourne University are pleased to offer free hearing and vision screenings for children aged from 3.5 to 6 years of age.

Bookings are essential and we request only one adult accompany each child to their appointment. If you have more than one child to test, and only one guardian, choose following appointment times with the same tester (eg 10am & 10:30am with Amy)

On the day, audiology and optometry students will screen your child's hearing and vision. Results and advice will be provided. Students are supervised by qualified health professionals.

Please allow up to 40 minutes to complete all activities.

Screenings will be held at:

Wattle Glen Primary School

16 Reynolds Rd

Wattle Glen 3096

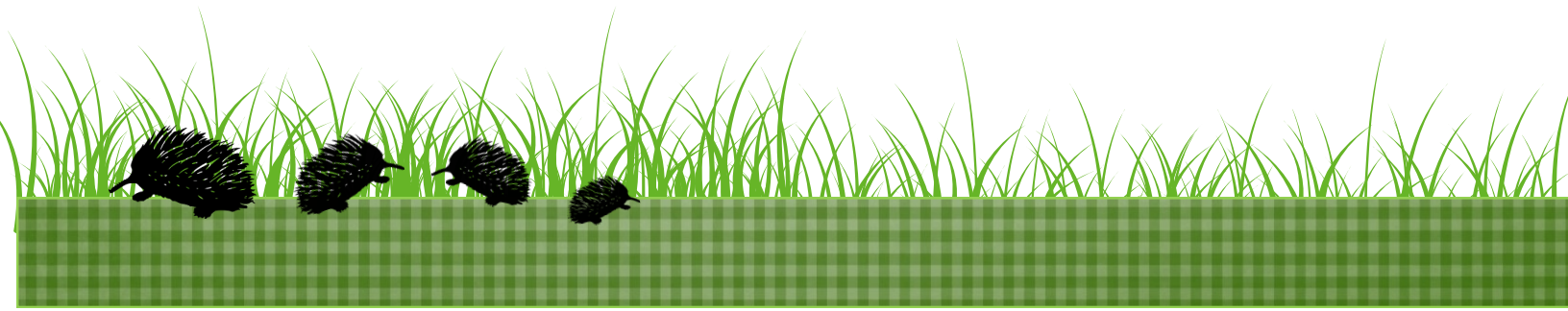
To book - please follow the link

<https://diamondvalleylionsclub.setmore.com>

Book Your Appointment with Diamond Valley Lions Club

Book an appointment with Diamond Valley Lions Club using Setmore diamondvalleylionsclub.setmore.com

Contact Lions member Fiona Kates 0404 180 772 / kateschiro@icloud.com if you require further information or assistance with booking an appointment



THE

DARK HORSE



CHPS LUNCH ORDER MENU

Salad Roll \$6.00

Ham and Cheese Toastie \$5.00

Fresh Sandwich \$5.00

Ham and Cheese \$5.00

Vegemite \$5.00

Jam \$5.00

Nuggets and Chips \$6.00

Cheese Burger and Chips \$6.00

Chips \$3.00

Party Pies and Sausage rolls \$1.50 each

Hot Dog with Cheese \$3.50

Hot Dog no Cheese \$3.00

Chocolate or Strawberry Milk \$2.80

Prima Apple juice \$2.50

Water \$2.00

LUNCH ORDERS EVERY WEDNESDAY

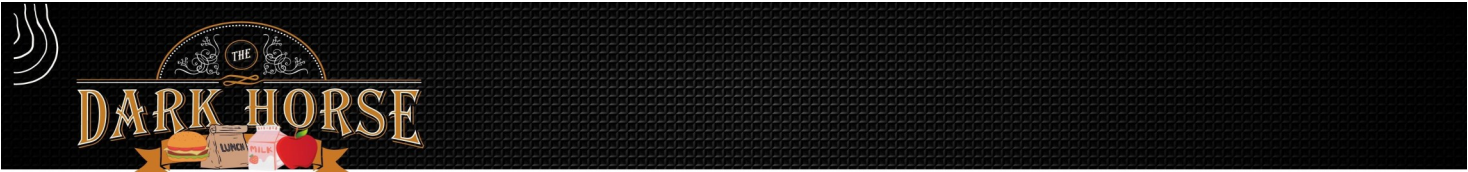
**PLEASE WRITE YOUR ORDER AND CHILD'S NAME ON A BROWN PAPER BAG AND
ENCLOSE CORRECT MONEY.**

LUNCH ORDERS ARE DUE TO THE OFFICE NO LATER THAN 3PM TUESDAYS



Call us to arrange a tour
9730 1238
0499 205 083

1409 Eltham-Yarra Glen Rd,
Christmas Hills, Vic 3775
Christmas.hills.ps@education.vic.gov.au



Child Name _____

Menu

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Salad Roll | \$6.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Ham and Cheese Toastie | \$5.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Fresh Sandwich | \$5.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Ham and Cheese | \$5.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Vegemite | \$5.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Jam | \$5.00 |
| | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Nuggets and Chips | \$6.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Cheese Burger and Chips | \$6.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Chips | \$3.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Party Pies | \$1.50 each |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Sausage rolls | \$1.50 each |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Hot Dog with Cheese | \$3.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Hot Dog no Cheese | \$3.00 |
| | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Chocolate Milk | \$2.80 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Strawberry Milk | \$2.80 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Prima Apple juice | \$2.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Water | \$2.00 |

Please Enclosed Correct Money

Total \$ _____

Caring Honesty Inquisitiveness



Christmas Hills Primary School

At CHPS we show our CHIRPS by...

Respect Persistence Sharing

Yard	Transitions	Classes	Toilets	Excursions
Hear calm, polite and friendly voices	Calm, organised	Be mindful of personal space	Good hygiene	Be good role models
See inclusive play with a variety of activities	Enter learning spaces in an orderly manner	Take responsibility for your own learning	Respect others' privacy	Hear calm, polite and friendly voices
See people caring for each other		Respectful listening		Be mindful of the general public
Respect nature				Move in an orderly, calm manner

SCHOOL UNIFORM



UNIFORM PRICES

- Polo shirt size 6,8,12,14- \$15
- Polo shirt - Adult S,M, L - \$21.50
- Wide brim hat - \$15
- Communication satchel - \$15
- Child vest - \$17.90 Adult 21.20
- Blue gingham dress- \$18
- Grade six top - \$46

**YARRA
PLENTY
WAVES**

ENCOURAGEMENT SWIM MEET

**ALL ABILITIES
SWIM MEET**

Able-bodied &
MC mixed heats



Sunday

22

October 2023

Herb Norman Pool

25m Indoor Pool
Liat Way Greensborough

Warm Up at 12:30pm

From our **Youngest Juniors** to our
Marvelous Masters

COME ON GIVE IT A GO!

*Encouragement meet for both
registered and unregistered swimmers*

*The meet is not a qualifying meet and correct
swimming technique will not be strictly
critiqued; it is meant to be fun and give
swimmers a taste of competitive swimming.*

ENTRY FEES

\$9.00

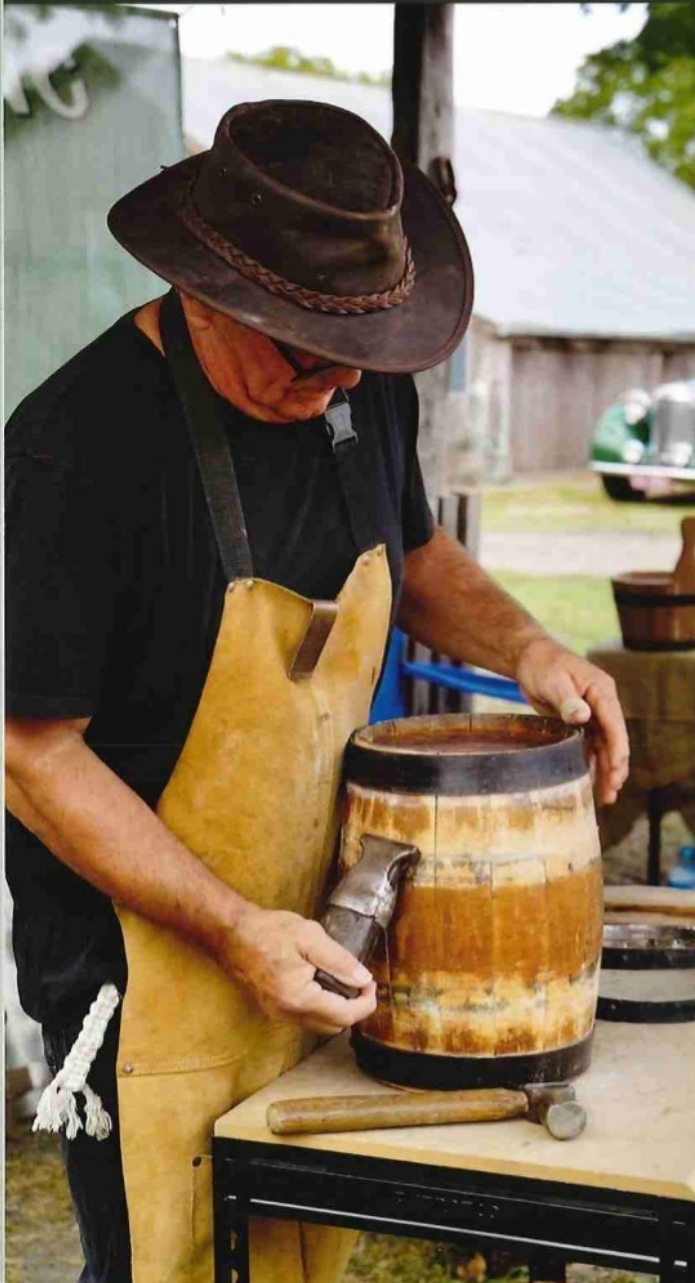
**FREE RELAY
RACES**

REGISTRATION

yarraplentywaves.com.au/swimmeet

Gulf Station Heritage Festival

Sunday 29 October



Gulf Station

A spring celebration
of traditional trades,
local stories and fun
for the whole family.

10:00am – 3:00pm
1029 Melba Hwy
Yarra Glen



◀ Purchase tickets on
the day or online

nationaltrust.org.au/vic
info@nattrust.com.au

Children under 5 **FREE**

**EXHIBITION
2023**

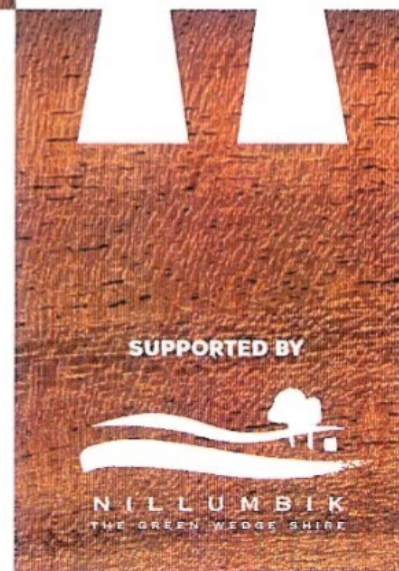
**ELTHAM
& DISTRICT
WOODWORKERS**

**11TH & 12TH NOVEMBER 2023 9AM - 5PM
ELTHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE
CNR PITT STREET & MAIN ROAD**

**FREE ENTRY
DEMONSTRATIONS & SALES**

**FREE HANDS-ON WORKSHOP FOR CHILDREN
RAFFLE DRAWN SUNDAY 12TH AT 4:30PM**

kindly printed by the office of Vicki Ward MP



SCHOOL CHICKEN EGGS \$6 A DOZEN

We are after more volunteers to help out with checking on the chickens water, food and hay on the weekend.

If you are interested in helping put, please contact the office





WARRANDYTE
FRIDAYS Fortnightly
9.30 am -11.30 am

Why MyTime?

MyTime is for parents and carers of a child with a disability, chronic medical condition or other additional needs including developmental delay.

FIND US AT:

Warrandyte Community Church
57 Yarra St, Warrandyte 3113
Park & Enter at rear via Playground

CONTACT:

Facilitator: Sue Batcheler

Phone: 0413 655 659

Email: suzanneb@mytimevic.com.au

Unwind and
share experiences
with others who
understand



Views expressed by MyTime staff, members and guests do not necessarily express the views held by the Warrandyte Community Church

mytime.net.au

CONTACT:

Facilitator: Sue Batcheler

Phone: 0413 655 659

Email: suzanneb@mytimevic.com.au



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mytime.net.au

MyTime term plan

mytime.net.au

DATES	GROUP ACTIVITY	CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY
Friday - Fortnightly 13/10/23	Discussion: Resources - sharing ideas about sensory/educational toys, social stories, books, equipment etc & where to source these	Child/ren under school age are welcome at MyTime Garden Treasure Hunt & Make a Treasure Map
27/10/23	Make: Macrame Coasters - all materials provided	Plant a Seed & Learn about Worms
10/11/23	Relaxation: learn relaxation skills for yourself & your child/ren	Make an Insect Hotel
24/11/23	Make: Bliss Balls - take home a treat for yourself or to give away as a present. All ingredients provided	Let's be Wombats Make your own Wombat Mask & Wombat Stories
Final Session 8/12/23	Discussion: Surviving the Holidays - sharing ideas about school holiday activities and taking care of yourself Each session morning tea is provided along with an opportunity for general discussion	Make a Nature Crown We will be making good use of our wonderful outdoor space, so please bring a sunhat & sunscreen for your little ones

NO SESSION ON EXTREME OR CATASTROPHIC FIRE RATING DAYS

