

24th April 2025

From the Acting Assistant Principal - Rebecca Matlock



Dear KGPS Families,

We hope everyone had a wonderful break and enjoyed the many special celebrations that took place over the holidays. A very warm welcome to the new students and families who have joined our school community this term - we are so glad to have you with us!

It has been lovely to walk through the school this week and see our students returning with big smiles and settling so smoothly back into their routines. We are looking forward to another great term of learning and growth together!

2026 Prep Enrolments Are Now Open!

Are you considering enrolling your child in the Foundation/Prep class for 2026 at Keysborough Gardens Primary School?

Sibling enrolment forms were sent out at the end of Term 1. Please ensure you submit your application by Friday 25th July, 2025, following the statewide timeline. Priority placement is given to siblings of current students, so don't miss out. Contact the school office for enrolment forms and further information.

Mother's Day Events - Save the Date!

Join us for a special Mother's (or special friend's) Day Afternoon on Wednesday 7th May, 2:00pm-3:00pm. We would love you to join us for some fun activities.

Additionally, our Mother's Day stall will be open on Tuesday 6th May for our Prep and Year 1 students and Wednesday 7th May for our Year 2 - Year 6 students. Classes will be allocated a time to buy for their mum or special friend. The stall will also be open during our Mother's Day Afternoon from 2:00pm - 3:30pm.

ANZAC Day - Lest We Forget

Throughout the week, students have been learning about the significance of ANZAC Day. Through stories, poems, and classroom discussions, they reflected on the courage and sacrifice of those who have served our country. Students also completed a range of activities to help them understand the importance of remembrance and what ANZAC Day represents.

We will formally acknowledge ANZAC Day as a school community during next week's assembly.

Lest we forget.



Buildings and Grounds Update

Building works have officially begun, and it is wonderful to see some progress! These works have brought about a few minor changes to how we access the school (as mentioned in our last newsletter):

All usual entry points will be open and accessible from tomorrow, except for the gate near the sandpits. This gate is now part of the construction zone and will remain closed.

We are also thrilled to share that we are getting a new bike shed! The old shed has been removed, and the new one will be built near the staff car park.

In the meantime, temporary bike and scooter storage will be located in the fenced area at the front of the school on Homeleigh Road.

Please note: while the temporary storage area will be locked during the day, we kindly ask that all bikes and scooters are collected promptly at the end of the day. Any items left after hours will not be supervised, and the school is unable to take responsibility for them.



School start times- Student safety

We have observed an increasing number of students arriving at school early, prompting us to address the importance of student safety during these times.

Please be aware that students arriving before 8:30am will be directed to Team Kids for Before-school care. For those arriving before 8:45am, it is crucial that they have supervision from a parent or carer.



These measures are in place to prioritise the safety of all our students. Classroom doors will be open at 8:45am on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, and at 8:30am on Wednesdays.

Term 2 Values Focus - Empathy

This term, our school value focus is Empathy. Empathy is all about understanding how others are feeling and demonstrating kindness and care in our words and actions.

It helps us build stronger friendships, solve problems calmly, and make sure everyone feels seen, heard, and included.

Throughout the term, students will explore what empathy looks like in the classroom, in the playground, and in the wider community. They will be encouraged to listen to others, consider different perspectives, and show compassion in everyday moments.



Cross Country Carnival - Wednesday 30th April

We are looking forward to our Year 3-6 Cross Country Carnival taking place next Wednesday 30th April at Tatterson Park! All students will participate and earn points for their house towards an overall House Cross Country winner.



Here are some friendly reminders:

We are walking to the park and will be leaving school at 9am sharp! Please be on time! We will return to school by 12:30pm.

Students are encouraged to wear their House colours and should wear clothing/footwear appropriate to run in. They should pack a small bag with a healthy snack, water bottle and light rain jacket (if needed). Students will also need to wear their hats.

We welcome family members to attend and cheer on the students! The easiest access is parking at Springers Leisure Centre and then head to the Tatterson Park Ants playground.

The approximate running time for the events are:

9:40am - 12/13 Boys & Girls (3km)

10am - 11 Boys & Girls (3km)

10:20am - 10 Boys & Girls (2km)

10:40 - 8/9 Boys & Girls (2km)

Good luck to all students!

STEM Collection

Ms Kancachian is in need of milk bottle lids in the STEM centre. They make great wheels and would help with engineering products with a wheel and axle. If you are able to help out, place your collection in a bag and send them with your child to the STEM centre. Any support would be greatly appreciated.

2025 Terms

Term 1
30th January
to
4th April

Term 2
22nd April
to
4th July

Term 3
21st July
to
19th September

Term 4
6th October
to
18th December

Student Free Days & Public Holidays:

Semester 1

- Monday 21st April (Easter Monday)
- Friday 25th April (ANZAC Day)
- Monday 12th May (Curriculum Day)
- Monday 9th June (Kings Birthday)

Semester 2

- Wednesday 30th July (Student Led Conferences- 1pm Dismissal)
- Friday 8th August (Curriculum Day)
- Monday 3rd November (Prof. Practice Day- Curriculum Day)
- Tuesday 4th November (Cup Day)

DON'T FORGET YOUR HAT!



September - April

Warm regards,

Rebecca

Rebecca Matlock | Acting Assistant Principal

Keysborough Gardens Primary School

PROJECT UPDATE

Builder appointed, designs released, construction under way

April 2025

Dear school community,

I am thrilled to announce we officially have a builder appointed to our upgrade project that received \$5.34 million in the 2023–24 State Budget.

After a thorough evaluation process, **Constructive Group Pty Ltd** will bring the project to life. Early works have commenced on site, including installation of site amenities and fencing, demolition works, construction, landscaping and use of heavy machinery at times.

It has now been confirmed that the project scope will allow the school to enrol up to 150 additional local students and include an Indigenous Friendship Garden, along with upgrades to the playground, sports facilities, canteen and car park.

As you can see, it is full steam ahead as we begin our construction journey in bringing the project to life. Construction is forecast for completion by Quarter 2, 2026.

Clearly there's much to look forward to! While we navigate the upcoming period of transition at our school, I trust that you can also recognise the remarkable benefits this project holds for our community in the long run.

Sherri Jenkins
Principal

More information

If you have any questions about the Keysborough Gardens Primary School works, you can contact the VSBA by phone at 1800 896 950, email vsba@education.vic.gov.au or visit their website: <https://www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au>

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE STUDENTS OF THE WEEK!

Keep it UP!



- | | | |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| • Phillip D | • Sienna C | • Jacob L |
| • Shenal F | • Portia D | • Chenuk D |
| • Bella H | • Ryan B | • Jamie T |
| • Sasha L | • Umair Z | • Andy R |
| • Ryna J | • Elissa S | • Quincy G |
| • Adhiraj S | • Jolie N | • Jayden T |
| • Sereyboth | • Ayberk K | • Anton B |
| • Apostolos N | • Arlo S | • James K |
| • Vanessa Y | • Shain A | • Raymond Z |
| • Manraj A | • Kulyodh D | • Julian K |

E-Scooter Safety Reminder

With the growing popularity of E-Scooters, it is important our community understands the rules around their use. In Victoria, riders must be aged 16 years or older to legally use an E-Scooter. They are only permitted on shared paths and roads with a speed limit of 60km/h or less.

Please help keep our community safe by following the rules and having age-appropriate conversations with your children about E-Scooter safety and responsibility.

E-Scooter riders MUST

- Be aged 16 years and over
- Not exceed the maximum speed of 20kph
- Ride only on shared paths and roads that have a speed limit up to 60kph
- Wear a helmet at all times
- Follow all traffic rules
- Be visible at all times

E-Scooter riders cannot

- Ride on the footpath
- Use a mobile phone while riding
- Ride while under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Carry passengers or animals or ride in tandem
- Ride a high-speed e-scooter, one capable of more than 20kph
- Ride on roads that have a speed limit over 60kph



VICTORIA POLICE



Keysie Kids are Global Kids

Matrix of Expectations

At Keysborough Gardens Primary School, we encourage all community members (students, staff and families), to use our core values of Kindness, Empathy, Gratitude, Respect and Excellence to guide their daily interactions.

	All Spaces	Classroom	Yard	Digital Citizenship
 Respect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I look after learning spaces, materials and equipment • I follow instructions and directions • I keep my hands, feet and body to myself • I wait and take my turn • I walk around the school quietly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I use Whole Body Listening and follow The Group Plan • I use a positive tone and body language • I value the opinions of others • I let others learn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am inclusive of others • I keep our school clean • I use toilets in the right way and at the right time • I think about other people's games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I get permission before filming/taking photos of others • I use my own login details • I post in a positive way • I value others' privacy and work • I follow the ICT User Agreement
 Kindness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I use positive language • I am inclusive of all people and their differences • I am a good role model and represent my school well 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I offer help to others who may be struggling with a task 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am a good sport • I can pick up litter and help keep our community clean 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can ensure that my language online is positive and appropriate at all times • I can be an active upstander by reporting inappropriate sites, unsafe use and bullying comments
 Empathy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I help when someone is sad or upset • I listen carefully when someone is talking • I try to make others feel happy and safe • I consider the feelings of others • I am kind and friendly to people I meet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I try to cheer up others when they feel down • I celebrate others' accomplishments and feel happy for them 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I play fair and share with everyone • I can be an upstander • I work together and play nicely with others • I give positive feedback to others in an activity • I reflect on the impact of my actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I tell an adult if someone is being mean or hurtful online • I am careful of how my behaviour online may impact others
 Gratitude	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I say thank you when someone helps me or gives me something • I am happy for the things I have • I like myself and am proud of what I can do 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I thank my teacher and my friends for helping me learn • I enjoy learning new things and ask questions • I use my time and things carefully and do not waste them 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have fun and respect the plants, animals, and things around me • I help others who are hurt or need a friend 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I say where I got the information and ideas from when I use them in my work • I keep my personal information private and do not share it with strangers online
 Excellence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I always give my best effort • I keep trying, even when things are challenging • I learn from my mistakes and try again • I help others do their best by encouraging them 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I ask for help when I need it to do my best • I complete my work to the best of my ability • I respect myself, my teacher and classmates by doing my personal best 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I play with enthusiasm and energy • I help my friends when they need it during games • I have fun and do my best when playing sports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I do my best to learn and explore when using the computer or iPad • I strive to use technology to learn and create positive things

Parking and Drop-Off Feedback Survey

We would like to take a moment to acknowledge the feedback many of you have shared regarding the changes to parking at the front of the school. We understand that drop-off and pick-up routines can be one of the most challenging parts of the school day, especially with busy schedules, young children, and traffic considerations.

As you know, the area at the front of the school previously operated as a Kiss and Go. While this system worked well when our school was smaller, the growth of our community to over 430 students by the end of 2024 meant that it quickly became unsustainable. Some of the key challenges included:

- **Traffic congestion:** Long queues blocked surrounding streets, preventing neighbours from accessing their driveways and limiting access for emergency vehicles. Parking on Homeleigh Road runs directly into a set of traffic lights, which meant that as a Kiss and Go, cars could not flow through quickly. This created significant gridlock and flow-on issues for the local area.
- **Staffing:** The system required up to 10 staff daily to supervise safely, which impacted other essential supervision and operational duties.
- **Safety concerns:** We observed unsafe behaviours, such as children crossing between cars and parents not following procedures, putting students at risk.
- **Extended clear times:** The Kiss and Go often took 25-30 minutes to clear each afternoon, causing ongoing delays and frustration.

After careful consideration, an independent review (funded by the City of Greater Dandenong council) in consultation with the City of Greater Dandenong council and input from our own school council, the area was changed to 2-hour parking. While this has reduced congestion significantly in the afternoon and now clears in around 10 minutes, we are aware it has introduced new challenges - particularly in the mornings, where quick drop-offs are more difficult. We have also received reports of unsafe practices such as double parking and children exiting cars mid-road, which is a serious concern for everyone's safety.



We know these changes have been a big adjustment, and we genuinely appreciate the constructive feedback and ideas many of you have shared. We want to work with our families to find the best possible solutions to share with the City of Greater Dandenong and keep communication open. At the same time, we do want to be upfront - returning to the old Kiss and Go system in the afternoons is not something we can go back to. It simply was not sustainable or safe as our school grew.

What's next?

We are currently:

- Exploring possible short-term and long-term improvements in collaboration with the council and traffic engineers.
- Reviewing any additional measures we can introduce to make mornings safer and more manageable.

How you can help:

- Consider parking a short walk away and walking your child to the gate.
- Avoid double parking or calling children across the road - this poses serious risks.
- **Share your ideas for morning drop offs with us in a constructive way** via this [Google Form](#) for us to share with the City of Greater Dandenong.

Thank you for your patience, your care, and for working with us to ensure every child arrives at school safely and calmly.

Warm regards,

Sherri

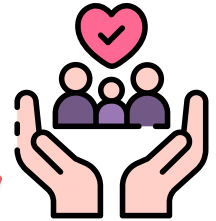
Sherri Jenkins | Principal





WELLBEING AT KGPS

Striving for Excellence - in Learning & Life!



Term 2, Week 1



Buddy's BowWows

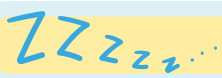
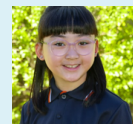
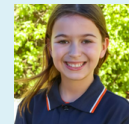
Embark on an adventure as we explore the wonders of Earth. From towering mountains to vast oceans, there's so much to discover and appreciate about our planet.



A Word from the Wellbeing Leaders

Hello from your wellbeing leaders: Evie, Charlie, Gracie and Harley!

Let's honour Earth Day and its significance in raising awareness about environmental issues. Together, we can make a difference by taking action to protect our planet!



The Importance of Sleep for Wellbeing and Academic Success

As parents and carers, ensuring your primary school-aged child gets enough quality sleep is one of the most powerful ways to support their learning, behaviour, and overall wellbeing. Sleep isn't just about rest—it's essential for healthy brain development, emotional regulation, and academic performance.

Why Sleep Matters for Children

According to ReachOut, good-quality sleep helps children:

- Improve attention, memory, and motivation
- Enhance creative and analytical thinking
- Support emotional wellbeing and reduce stress
- Promote physical growth and development
- Make better decisions and reduce risk-taking behaviours

The Sleep Health Foundation recommends that children aged 6–13 years get 9–11 hours of sleep each night.

Tips for Establishing Healthy Sleep Habits

Here are some practical strategies to help your child develop better sleep routines:

- Set a consistent bedtime and wake-up time, even on weekends.
- Create a calming bedtime routine: This could include reading a book, taking a warm bath, or listening to soft music/meditation.
- Limit screen time: Avoid screens at least one hour before bedtime to reduce exposure to blue light, which can disrupt melatonin production.
- Ensure the bedroom is conducive to sleep: Keep the room dark, quiet, and cool.
- Encourage the bed to be used only for sleep: This helps the brain associate the bed with rest.
- Avoid caffeine and sugary drinks after lunch.



Enrichment Clubs in Term 2...

We are excited to introduce a fantastic lineup of Enrichment Clubs for Term 2!

- Running Club with Mr. Blundell (P-6)
- Lego Club (Prep)
- Dance Club (Prep, Yr 3-4)
- Soccer Club (Yr 5/6)
- Chess Club (P-6)
- Mindfulness Club (P-6)

Plus, our weekly Choir and Library Clubs continue to offer great opportunities for students to get involved. Keep an eye out for our fortnightly timetables displayed around the school for more details—we can't wait to see lots of students participating!

NEWSLETTER



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

Welcome to Term 2!

We had a blast over Autumn holidays engaging the children in a range of excursions and incursions. Highlights from school holidays included heading to Rush HQ where the children explored an indoor inflatable centre, and having the slime incursion where children had the opportunity to make two different types of slime!

This week at TeamKids the children finalised our Children's Rights display, which will be put up by the end of Week 2. The children have participated in learning these rights and our display includes pictures and words completed by the children to reflect their understanding. We have also been focused on continuing to include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders perspectives in the program through a range of craft, cooking and active experiences.

As it is a new term, we have a new menu brainstormed with the children! We are now serving egg and toast cups for breakfast and waffles, and for afternoon tea we are having pita pizza, Asian noodle soup and San Choy Bow. We are spending the first week of Term 2 signing up for clubs and will begin brainstorming in Week 2.

IMPORTANT DATES



Wednesday 23rd April | Term Challenge Begins: Spend 100 Hours Outdoors



Friday 25th April | Anzac Day - Public Holiday



Friday 2nd May | Harry Potter Day

TEAMKIDS CLUBS

MONDAY

BSC:

ASC:

TUESDAY

BSC:

ASC:

WEDNESDAY

BSC:

ASC:

THURSDAY

BSC:

ASC:

FRIDAY

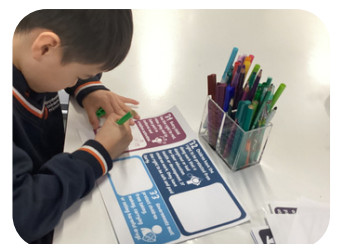
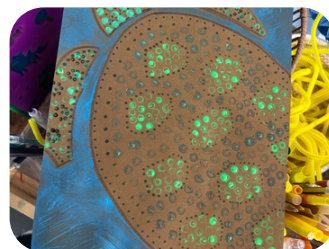
BSC:

ASC:

BSC: BEFORE SCHOOL CARE | ASC: AFTER SCHOOL CARE



We are in the process of club sign up and will commence brainstorming in Week 2, with clubs scheduled to start from Week 3.



Service Mobile: 0432 096 335

Office Phone: 1300 035 000

Service Email: KeysboroughGardensPS@teamkids.com.au

Head Office Email: info@teamkids.com.au

Diary Dates - 2025

April 2025

- Friday 25th - **ANZAC Day (no school)**
- Monday 28th - Year 6 Positivity, Leadership & Activated Youth incursion
- Wednesday 30th - Year 3-6 Cross Country

May 2025

- Thursday 1st - Year 4 Gould League Excursion
- Tuesday 6th - Mother's Day Stall Prep- Year 1
- Wednesday 7th - Mother's Day Stall Year 2- Year 6
Mother's Day Afternoon
- Thursday 8th - Year 3 Scienceworks Excursion
Year 5/6 Winter Interschool Sports
- Friday 9th - Prep - Year 2 Cross Country
- Monday 12th - **Curriculum Day (no school)**
- Thursday 15th - Year 5/6 Interschool Sport 9:15am-11am
District Cross Country
Year 2 Billycarts Incursion
- Thursday 22nd - Year 5/6 Winter Interschool Sports
- Thursday 28th - Prep Parkdale Library Excursion
- Thursday 29th - Year 5/6 Winter Interschool Sports
- Monday 30th - Year 5/6 Queen Victorian Market Excursion

June 2025

- Thursday 5th - Year 5/6 Winter Interschool Sports
- Monday 9th - **King's Birthday (no school)**
- Thursday 10th - Year 4 Team Building Incursion
- Thursday 12th - Year 5/6 Winter Interschool Sports
- Wednesday 18th-20th - Year 5/6 Camp Woorabinda
- Thursday 19th - Year 5/6 Winter Interschool Sports

Whole School Event

No School

Our School Assembly is held every Friday morning at 9:10am

Communication with school staff

Our staff now have the right to enjoy their evenings and weekends without being expected to respond to messages or emails.

Teachers and Education Support staff are not required to reply to phone calls, emails, or Compass messages from parents or students after 5pm or on weekends.

We ask that families understand and respect these boundaries.

Any non-urgent communication will be answered within 2 working days, and urgent matters will be addressed within 24 hours or the next working day.

For urgent matters please call the school between 8:30am and 4:00pm

Thank you for your understanding and support!

Mobile Devices

All phones bought to school must be switched off and given to teachers for safe keeping.

This includes any device that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone such as a smart watch.

Smart watches must have their internet connectivity switched off during school times.

When a student is not complying with this mobile phone policy, we will be required to follow a process in line with our existing student engagement policies.

Mobile phone Policy.



Facebook

Please like our Facebook page. This page is used by the school to share events and updates at the school.

KGPS Facebook and Instagram.

Any other Facebook pages are not officially authorised by representatives at the school.

Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club is open on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 am at the Canteen.

Come along!



Lost Property

Please name all clothing so we can return it to you if it ends up in Lost Property.



Early Arrival at school

There is NO supervision for students before 8:40am

For your child's safety

- Stay with your child until 8:40am
- Or, book them into TeamKids



Student Safety

Medication

If your child requires medication during the school day, a Medication Authority form must be signed by the parent/carer. Please contact the office.

Students cannot administer medication themselves (except older students requiring Ventolin).



Contact Details

It is important the school has your most current phone, home and email details.

If you change any details please tell us as soon as possible.



KGPS Community Pantry

Our KGPS Community Pantry is located next to the Lost Property cupboard in the front office. The pantry operates with a simple message: *take what you need, give what you can.*

The pantry is stocked with essential non-perishable items. Families are welcome to take items when needed.

We kindly invite donations of non-perishable items to help keep the pantry running.

If you have items at home you won't use, your contributions would be greatly appreciated.

We would like to express our gratitude to Foodbank and families who have already donated.



Uniform Reminders

The wearing of uniform is compulsory at Keysborough Gardens Primary school.

All our uniform can be purchased at PSW, Unit 1, 9-11 South Link, Dandenong South, 3157 or online [click here](#)



polo shirt



long sleeve shirt



jumper



zip up jacket



bag



shorts



pants



skort



summer dress



broad brim hat



school beanie



winter tunic



white skivvy



navy or white socks



navy tights



black shoes or runners

These items are not permitted as part of our uniform

