



**POOWONG**  
CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL

# POOWONG CS NEWS

INTEGRITY | GROWTH MINDSET | RELATIONSHIPS

OPENNESS | WELCOMING & INCLUSIVE

## Welcome Mr Smethurst



This fortnight we welcomed Michael Smethurst to the PCS family as our newly appointed Principal. Michael has made an effort to get around to all of our students and slowly get to know them as individuals and the dynamics that make up PCS. On the following page, Mr Smethurst has introduced himself a little bit further!

A reminder to parents, that we have a lot going on in Term 4. We are currently sorting out booklists for 2023, transitioning our 2023 preps into primary school life, preparing our Grade 6 students for high school, all while organising events behind the scenes. These include the 'Big Day Out' for the Grade 6's (date to be confirmed), our annual bush dance, swimming sports, Grade 6 Graduation... the list goes on.

Thankyou for your patience and understanding as we continue to adapt to our administration changes and learn the ropes. We are building a team that PCS is proud of, and endeavour to be as helpful as we can. If you have any questions, as always, you can follow these up with your child's classroom teacher or the office.

Have a beautiful weekend!

PCS admin





# Introducing Mr Smethurst!!

Dear Poowong CS Families,

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Michael Smethurst and I am excited to be the Principal of Poowong CS. Firstly, I would like to thank the school community for the warm welcome and enthusiasm on my appointment. After meeting the students, staff and many parents in my first week, the culture and learning environment has been a delight to be part of. Unfortunately, I haven't been able to meet everyone yet, but look forward to the opportunity soon. I would like to thank those students and families that I have met and made me feel so welcome.

## Educational background

I am an enthusiastic and dedicated educator who thrives on the opportunity to work as part of a team. Previous to Poowong CS, I was the Acting Principal at Narracan PS. Prior to that, I was on secondment as the Leading Teacher (Intervention) for the South East Victorian Region – Bayside Region (SEVR), working across three schools (Mahogany Rise PS, Aldercourt PS and Monterey SC) as part of the Frankston North Education Plan. Before that, I was the Acting Assistant Principal at Kingston Heath Primary School. At all schools I have supported students, staff and parents through a transitional leadership phase with a focus on curriculum and wellbeing.

I bring a commitment to the role of Principal and strongly believe that this involves supporting the school through this time of change, maintaining Department of Education initiatives, leading the school towards a progressive vision, developing positive relationships and effective communication between parents, students, teachers and the wider school community. In addition, ensuring strong curriculum and student management processes operate to produce a high quality relevant education for all.

Outside of school, I enjoy spending time with family, travelling and watching my beloved Bombers (AFL) play in the winter. I am a sports mad person who also enjoys the beach and country. I am looking forward to meeting all of the community, so please drop in and say hello.

## This Week's Events

Well what a week to start. The *Night of Notables*, the *Dash for Diversity* and the *Year 1 dinner and Year 2 dinner and sleepover*. Thank you to the staff who went above and beyond making these events possible.

## Leadership Roles in 2023

On Tuesday, I dropped into the Year 5 classroom to discuss the leadership roles for 2023. We had a conversation about the current number of leadership positions and the current Year 5 population. If we were to maintain the same number of positions, it would mean a few students would miss out and that wouldn't be very nice to be in that position.

From the discussion, the options presented were either everyone gets a leadership position or we reduce the number of positions. The students voted (student voice) and the results of the discussion were to reduce the number of leadership positions overall. We also discussed the fact that you don't need a badge to be a leader.

In 2023, PCS will have the following student leadership positions:

### Year 6

- School Captains x2
- House Captains x4
- Environment Captain x1
- Student Voice Captain x1

### Years F-5

Student Voice Leader x1 (per class)

Just a reminder that hats are compulsory in term 4 to ensure that we are sun smart.

Regards  
Michael Smethurst  
(Principal)



# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TERM 4 AT PCS?



## OCTOBER 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 X	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 X					

### Prep Transition Dates

Mon 24th Oct

Mon 31st Oct  
(still running!)

### Melbourne Cup Public

Holiday  
1st November

### Remembrance Day

11th November

## NOVEMBER 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 X	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 X	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

### KSC Orientation Day

Tue 6th Dec

### Swim Sports

9th December

### State-wide Transition

13th December

### Grade 6 Graduation

13th December

## DECEMBER 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6 X	7	8	9 X	10
11	12 X	13 X	14 X	15 X	16 X	17
18	19	20 X	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Grade 6 Big Day Out  
14th December (TBC)

### Dental Van

Mon 12th—Fri 16th Dec

### Bush Dance

Fri 16th December

Last Day of School  
Tues 20th December



# Night of the Notables

On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October, many weeks of hard work by our Grade 6 students culminated in a fabulous Night of the Notables. For this project, each child selects someone that they believe is 'notable' – not just famous, but someone who contributes or contributed to the world in a positive way. All of their research on this person is presented in their beautiful table display, a written biography and their speech for the night. All of the grades were able to come and see some of the practise speeches during the day and on the night students dress up as their Notable person and present their speech as if they are the notable themselves.

Once again, we would like to thank the Strzelecki Lions for their ongoing support of this event and special thanks to Russell, Phillip and Frank for having the difficult job of judging the best public speaker.

Congratulations to Nya Kill, whose speech as Greta Thunberg, took out the prize for the evening, and well done to all of the Grade 6s for all of their hard work, bravery and confidence.

- Mrs Brew & Ms Maykan





# Grade 1 Dinner & Grade 2 Sleepover

Last night our Grade 1/2's had dinner at school (how cool) followed by the Grade 2's sleeping over. The students enjoyed an afternoon of fun in the playground, followed by a delicious pasta made by Mr Wilson. Once the Grade 1's had returned to their homes, the Grade 2 students got themselves tucked into their sleeping bags and ready for a movie! Thankyou to Mrs Wilson and Mr Hill for taking care of our students overnight! I'm sure it will be a night to remember for our junior students!



## Interview with Grade 2 students— Grade 2 Sleepover Review

“Last night we had a sleepover at school. We liked playing in the gaga pit with Mr Hill, and the fact that we got to sleep at school was cool. We watched bad guys and would give it a 10/10 because it was really good. I, (Joel) slept in between Nate and Jack and I'm pretty sure I heard Elijah snoring! I, (Laney) slept in the middle of the room. Our highlights of the night were dinner, dessert, and sleeping in the Grade 1 and 2 rooms. The girls slept in the Grade 2 room with Mrs Wilson, and the boys slept in the Grade 1 room with Mr Hill. We didn't miss our parents, but we are feeling tired today because we went to bed at like 9 o'clock. This morning we got up at 6am and had breakfast. We could have toast or cereal. If we could change anything it would be to have toppings on the ice-cream, but it was still good.”

Laney and Joel



## Grade 1 Recount: Laylah and Lily

My favourite thing was: 'the dinner'

My other favourite thing was: "dessert"

If I could change one thing it would be:  
"We could stay longer next time"

We thought it was really fun when we were: "playing playground tiggy and in the gaga pit"





# Crazy Hair Day & Diversity Dash 2022

On Wednesday the 19th of October, PCS held a very busy, bright and crazy day! To raise money for ADHD Australia, we held both a 'Crazy Hair Day' and our first ever 'Diversity Dash,' in which we celebrated diversity in multiple respects.

Students were encouraged to pull out the wigs, hairspray, wacky things they had hanging around the house, chuck on some whites and get ready to be coloured!! A big thankyou to all students and families who donated to our selected cause 'ADHD Australia!' In total we raised \$138, which is an astounding effort from our small community.

We recognise the differences in the ways in which our students/people in our community, learn, approach difficulties, deal with conflict, physically differ, understand others—as well as encouraging our students to be inclusive, open and people with 'integrity' who support others and their possible challenges.

A special thankyou to Mrs Mandemaker for organising the 'Diversity Dash' event. Our students were able to integrate with other year levels, members of the community, parents, siblings and teachers—a moment that was beautiful for our PCS community to have on such a nice day.



**LISA, MRS TURNER & ABBEY**



**TYSON AFTER RUNNING INTO THE CLOTHES LINE**



**OSKAR SLIDING THROUGH THE RAINBOW**



**ZOEY AND THE BIRDS NEST**



**ELECTRICUTED GREEN LOCKIE**



**BUDDIES ALYSHA AND EVIE**



**NET CRAWLERS**



**OSCARS CRAZY HAIR**



**GRADE 2 AND THEIR CRAZY HAIR!!!**



**GRADE 5 BOYS POST DASH!!**

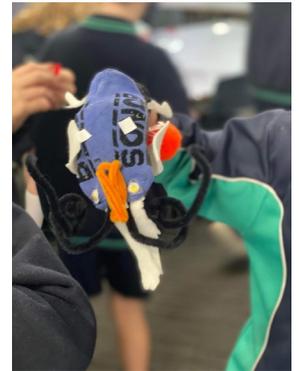




# Electives are back!!

On Thursday, I did puppet making with Mrs Wilson in the Grade 2 Classroom. We made sock puppets. We had to use pipe cleaners, pom-poms, little googly eyes and I used double sided tape to stick it altogether. My sock puppets hair colours were blue, purple, and hot pink. The body of my sock puppet was grey, and the pom-poms were used to hold my puppets blue eyes. Next time we will be making hand puppets. It was amazing and fun!

Madi, Grade 3



# Prep's Amazing Work



Module 11 A Week in the Life of ...

Choose your own character.  
Write their name here. Forest Fern

Make a story in words or pictures.

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday

Measurement and data Time

Module 11 A Week in the Life of ...

Choose your own character.  
Write their name here. Kylie Nungate

Make a story in words or pictures.

Monday Kylie was so tired for her concert with ariade granit was so low to sleep

Tuesday nit she was so tired about the kensee she kodnt go to sleep

Wednesday she was so tired about the kensee with ariade gran it is on saturday

Thursday she got so tired she even Prats singing

Friday she was so tired she evn pickr here goun evn no she was men too

Saturday she got on the taxi and redy to go on meet ariade gran

Sunday it was the day she was befooin with an ariade gran

Module 11 A Week in the Life of ...

Choose your own character.  
Write their name here. Red A R

Make a story in words or pictures.

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday

Measurement and data Time





# Grants, grants, grants!

Mrs Mandemaker, our Grade 5's, along with Lizzie from Kaleidoscope have been busy outside painting this week! Thankyou to our students for being respectful listeners at playtime and lunch and following the instructions not to touch the paint!



“The new program, called Kaleidoscope, was launched with support from the Victorian Department of Education and Training through the Positive Start in 2022 initiative. Approximately 100 Victorian primary and specialist schools have the opportunity to take part in the program for free this year. This new program is designed to positively impact students’ social, emotional and cognitive development at a critical time as schools respond to, and recover from, COVID-19. With a strong focus on student wellbeing and sequential, curriculum-aligned arts learning, the program will be delivered in schools during terms 2 to 4.”

Our Shade Sails have officially gone up over the playground just in time for summer!



Watch this space....



This event was funded through a grant in which Mrs Mandemaker sought from the 'Sporting Schools Program.' The 'Diversity Dash' sought to involve every child and stray from the traditional 'sporting being for certain people' mentality, and instead a fun 'active play' approach to sport.



## COVID-19 UPDATE

Latest Covid Advice from DET

You may be aware that the Victorian Government has announced changes to the COVID-19 isolation requirements.

This means that from 11.59pm on Wednesday 12 October, the mandatory orders around isolation for people with COVID-19 have ended and instead we move to health advice and recommendations for people with COVID-19 or COVID-19-like symptoms.

Our school will continue to adhere to the Department of Health's recommendations to ensure that our school remains a safe environment for our staff and students.

The Department of Health **strongly recommends** that students and school staff:

- who test positive to COVID-19 stay home and isolate for 5 days and do not attend school after 5 days if they are still symptomatic
- who are symptomatic but have not tested positive not attend school. This does not include students with pre-existing conditions such as hay fever.

Parents and carers are recommended to continue to report their child having COVID-19 to both the school and the Department of Health.

We will, however, no longer report occurrences of positive cases to the school community.

We ask parents and carers to continue to remain vigilant in preventing COVID-19 transmission. Any student who is unwell should continue to remain at home. This is about keeping students healthy and well in our school and reducing the spread of both COVID-19 and other respiratory diseases.

Free rapid antigen tests are available at the school for those who need them.

Parents and carers will be contacted if their child shows symptoms while at school.

Students who wish to wear a mask should continue to do so.

To keep our school as safe as possible, we will also continue to use air purifiers and other COVID-19 prevention measures.

Thanks for your continued efforts to keep our school community safe and well.

# Poowong's Little Market



Facepainting for the kids!

November 20th

10am-2pm

Poowong Football Oval



Chrome Bumper Cars!



Gold Coin Entry



Our country market is starting to shape up with over 90 stalls attending, live entertainment and much more fun suited to the whole family!



Ambulance Victoria

+



Ambulance Victoria and Poowong's CFA will have heaps of fun attractions for the kids!



Poowong Football Netball Club will have a BBQ for all!!



Support from Poowong Consolidated School selling SHOWBAGS!

As part of supporting our local community, Poowong Consolidated School will be holding a stall at 'Poowong's Little Market' on November 20th. PCS will be selling delicious showbags (yum!) to raise funds for the school. Make sure you head down, visit some of our staff, and support all of the local stall holders.

