



*We learn. We show respect.
We are safe.*

Thursday 8th February 2024 Week 2

"Golden Past, Bright Futures"

Canterbury Street, Vic. 3370

Telephone (03) 5345 3182

Email: clunes.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Clunes Primary School Newsletter

NO BREAKFAST CLUB ON THURSDAYS until further notice



UPCOMING EVENTS

Please see **Term 1 Calendar draft #2**- each fortnightly Newsletter will have new events added so please check regularly. Thank you! 😊

Students with Asthma. Please bring your clearly labelled, up to date 2024 Asthma Management Plans and medication to school asap.

Our 2024 Prep/ Foundation D students have a Rest/ Assessment Day- each Wednesday for the first 7 Weeks (TBC) of Term 1, 2024. Year 1D students will learn with Miss Dargaville until Recess and then 1D and Ms Jardine will join 1 /2MJ for the remainder of the day. Miss Dargaville will confirm the exact end date at the end of Feb. An Assessment schedule has already been forwarded to parents.

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Our Kitchen Garden & Cooking Program has commenced for 2024. I was delighted to be the teacher helper in the 4 /5S session on Tuesday morning. We used our own school plums to prepare, cook and then eat Ricotta and Plum Tarts. Hmmm. Delicious, especially with a dollop of cream and a drizzle of honey. Thank you Mrs Mitchell, Miss Surkitt and 4 /5S!



Please see the photo collage in the Newsletter (and more at school). Mrs Mitchell is very keen to seek the support of a parent helper/s to assist with our Kitchen Garden and Cooking Program weekly on a Tuesday morning 9-10am. You might also like to assist with our Garden Club on a Tuesday at Lunchtime, 1.10pm- 1.45pm.



There is a Department of Education policy (included in the Newsletter again) linked to CODE RED days which directly impacts our school. **Please read.**

Best wishes to you all for a positive fortnight ahead!
Kind regards, Sonia & the staff of CPS. 😊

NO BREAKFAST CLUB ON THURSDAYS until further notice.

We wish Mr Lewis every success with his new Thursday job away from Clunes PS.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS FOR TERM 1

Our School Values Awards focus on:

We Learn

We Show Respect

We are Safe

Our Term 1 You Can Do It focus is:

Getting Along

Prep /1D - Orianna	1/2MJ – James
2 /3P – Diesel	4 /5S – whole class
5/6B – James	Principal's Award – Prep/ 1D students
Performing Arts- Visual Arts- Junior's Award -	*In 2024 we have a student who is anaphylactic to NUTS! We will need to be a NO NUTS school , as our students mix with and play with each other across the school day. Our junior school Buddies will meet for learning activities with our senior school Buddies. Thank you sincerely for considering the safety of our students as you choose what food is placed in your child's daily snack and lunch box.
Bus Travel- Elle, Patrick, Duncan, Brax, Archie, Duke T, Oscar, Evie D	LOTE- Japanese- Arlo, Xavier

Introducing our wonderful School Captains of 2024



Brock Booth

School Captains Brock and Chloe V



Chloe Velden



Dyllan Smith

Vice-Captains Dyllan and Xavier



Xavier Featherston

Prep in 2024

By Brock Booth and Xavier Featherston

The preps have been settling in over the last week. They've been loving their teacher Ms Dargaville. She has been teaching them all of the basics to being a prep. Most of the preps have been enjoying the playground and they have made multiple friends so far this term. We hope they start to make even more friends.

Most of the kids love playing on the playground, especially the flying fox. Most boys are entertained by playing on the computer and most of the girls like playing with the dolls and dress ups. All of the prep students have been enjoying Ms Dargaville's choice of books like "Possums Big Surprise" and a wide variety of other books as well.

When we were in the prep room we could see that Ms Dargaville was extremely nice to all of the students and giving them confidence which will help them up in the higher grades.





Prep-D 2024



Year 1D 2024



Year 4 FS Kitchen & Cooking Program 2024 Ricotta & Plum Tarts



Welcome to The Resilience Project

PARENTS & CARERS

This year, we are excited to bring The Resilience Project (TRP) into our school community!

WHY?

Current research tells us...

Why mental health matters

RESILIENCE PROJECT



One in four Australian adolescents will experience mental health problems this year

Nearly two thirds of them will not seek help.



One in seven primary school students are also likely to experience mental health problems this year.

Source: National Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Australia's Youth: Mental Illness

EVIDENCE-BASED

The Resilience Project's School Partnership Program has been independently evaluated by both The [University of Adelaide](#) and [The University of Melbourne](#). Click the links or scan the QR code to find out more about the impact the program has on emotional wellbeing and behavioral changes.



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Resilience Project is committed to teaching positive mental health strategies to prevent mental ill-health and build young people's capacity to deal with adversity.

We will be implementing their evidence-based **Teaching and Learning Program** throughout our classrooms, staffroom and school community.

Teachers and students will engage in weekly lessons and activities around the key principles of **Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness (GEM)** and **Emotional Literacy** to build resilience.

WHAT CAN BE DONE AT HOME?



To learn more about The Resilience Project and get involved from home, you can start exploring the ideas, activities and resources which bring **Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness (GEM)** to life on [TRP@HOME](#).

The Imperfects podcast, led by Hugh van Cuylenburg, Ryan Shelton and Josh van Cuylenburg, is all about how perfectly imperfect we all are. Hugh, Josh and Ryan chat to a variety of interesting people who bravely share their struggles and imperfections, and we all learn some valuable take-aways we can apply to our own imperfect lives.



TIME LINE FOR 2024 SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

All government schools in Victoria have a School Council.
The new school year brings with it the school council election process.

Please find below the timeline for the Clunes School Council Elections 2024.

Notice of election and call for nominations	Thursday 8 th February 2024
Closing date for nominations	Thursday 15 th February 2024
The date by which the list of candidates, nominator and seconder will be displayed	Tuesday 20 th February 2024
The date by which the ballot papers will be prepared and distributed	Wednesday 21 st February 2024
Close of ballot	Thursday 29 th February 2024
Vote count	Friday 1 st March 2024
Declaration of ballot	Tuesday 5 th March 2024
Tentative first School Council meeting	Wednesday 13 th March 2024
Tentative School Council meeting to elect office bearers	Wednesday 13 th March 2024

Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Clunes Primary School.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school **from Thursday 8th February 2024 and must be lodged by 4.00 pm on Thursday 15th February 2024.**

The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on Thursday 29th February 2024.

Following the closing of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows –

Membership category	Term of office	Number of positions
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2024 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2026	3
DET member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2024 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2026	1

OUR SINCERE THANKS...

Our School Council directly influences the quality of education that our school provides our students.

We sincerely thank our existing School Council committee: President – Jo Henderson-Drife, Vice-President- Deb Bright, Secretary – Jesse Parker, Treasurer – Andy Campbell, Zoe Handley, Jaqui Featherston, Rob Anderson, Jesse Clowes, Ash Burke, Val McNeight, Gill Jedwab and Malcolm Hull.

We also take this opportunity to thank our outgoing parent committee members Jo, Jesse and Zoe & our Department of Education member, Val.

We also thank our co-opted community members Malcolm and Gill. All School Council representatives have made a significant contribution to the success of the Council and the greater school community. Thank you sincerely for your time, interest and commitment to our wonderful school.



Personal student mobile phone use

In accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#) issued by the Minister for Education, personal student mobile phones must not be used at Clunes Primary School during school hours, including school bus travel, lunchtime and recess, unless an exception has been granted.

A **mobile phone** is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network. For the purpose of the Clunes Primary School policy, "mobile phone" refers to mobile phones and any device that may connect to or have similar functionality to a mobile phone such as smart watches.

Clunes Primary School understands that students may bring a personal mobile phone to school or wear a smart watch, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school.

At Clunes Primary School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours at the Office.
- Smart watches worn must have network functionality disabled during school hours
- School Bus travel is considered 'school hours' – network functionality turned off.
- Exceptions to this policy may be applied if certain conditions are met (see the full CPS Policy)
- When emergencies occur, parents or guardians should reach their child by calling the school's office.

Links to information for parents on DET website:

- [Mobile Phones in Schools](#)
- [FAQs for Parents - Mobile Phones in Schools](#)

LIBRARY 2024

Welcome to borrowing books from the School Library in 2024. All students are required to bring their reader bag or some type of bag to be able to borrow and take books home.

The Timetable for 2024 will be:

Prep/1D	Tuesday
1/2MJ	Tuesday
2/3P	Monday
4/5S	Monday
5/6B	Wednesday

Jan and Liz will be running Library sessions on these days.

Happy Reading,

Jan

Clunes Anglican Church are Inviting everyone for their Shrove Tuesday

Also Known As Pancake Day

February 13th @ 12pm

To be held at All Nations Lodge

23 Service Street Clunes

Fully Air-conditioned

Sweet & Savoury pancakes

Tea Coffee & Water Available

Cost \$10



Trade Table Available Includes

Jams, relish Biscuits

RSVP 8th February

Pam Habib Mob. 0417160857

pj_habib@hotmail.com

Anastasia Jones anabhm1@gmail.com

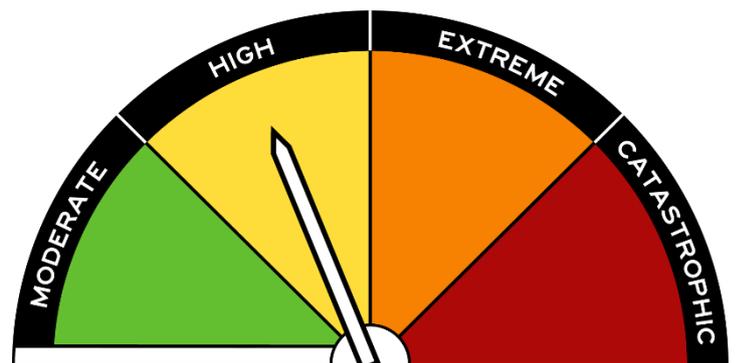
0411840210

Clunes Primary School is a rated as a School at Risk of Grassfire (Category 4) school by the Department of Education.

School procedures for the bushfire season

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children's services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) and those at risk of grassfire (Category 4) will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire or grassfire risk.



Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days' notice of a potential Code Red day closure by letter and SMS message/phone tree. A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00pm on the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.
- All bus routes that travel through the Code Red area will be cancelled.
- Depending on which Bureau of Meteorology district is impacted bus route cancellations may affect our school.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – **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 Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our annual Emergency Management Plan, prioritising any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire.

What can parents do?

- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your current mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our fortnightly newsletters, by checking our website- www.clunesps.vic.edu.au and by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- Most importantly at this time of year, if you're planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.
- If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan.
- You can access more information about children's services closures on the Department of Education and Training website – see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>

Multiple sources that offer information on emergencies are listed below:

- 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

Clunes Primary School will be closed on Code Red Days.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$150 for primary school students
- \$250 for secondary school students

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>



**Thursday February 8th
Meal Deal \$6**



**Clunes Bakery Pie, Sausage Roll or Veggie Pastie
Salad Roll with choice of toppings
(Gluten/Dairy Free Option Available)**

Dessert: Water, Juice, Jelly Cup or Fruit Cup

Orders Must be Placed by 9am the Tuesday before delivery.

No Late Orders will be accepted.

Order online at www.clunesnh.org/meals

or Scan the QR Code.

Don't feel like cooking dinner Tuesday night?

Order a community dinner delivered Tuesday afternoon to your home.

check our facebook page for what's on each week.

Orders to be placed Fridays for Tuesday Delivery.



Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund APPLICATION Form

Clunes Primary School

1552

School Name

School REF ID

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname _____

First name _____

Address _____

Town/suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Contact number _____

Centrelink pensioner concession OR Health care card number (CRN)

 - - - OR

 Foster parent* OR Veterans affairs pensioner (Gold Card)**

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH).

**Applicants must provide a copy of the Veteran Affairs Gold card.

Student details

Child's surname	Child's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

I authorise the Victorian Department of Education (DE) to use Centrelink Confirmation of Services to perform an enquiry about my Centrelink customer details and concession card status to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) to provide the results of any enquiry to DE regarding temporary care orders.

I understand that:

- DFFH or Centrelink will use information I have provided to DE to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DE personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- This consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DFFH and provide it to my child's school so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- If I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DE.
- Information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to DFFH and/or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You can request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____

Camps, Sports and Excursions fund eligibility

Below are the criteria used to determine a student's eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

Criteria 1 – Eligibility

To be eligible* for the fund, a mature minor of sixteen years of age or over, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one, or;
 - on the first day of Term two.
- a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR
 - b) Be a temporary foster parent, and;
 - c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

* A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see: [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Eligibility | education.vic.gov.au](#)

Mature minors or parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and seventeen years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and eighteen years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooling, or TAFE.

Eligibility Date

For concession card holders, CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on **29 January 2024 and/or 15 April 2024**.

Payment amounts

CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

- Primary school student rate: \$150.00 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: \$250.00 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to the school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student's date of birth. For more information, see: [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Payment amounts | education.vic.gov.au](#)

Foundation and Year 7 government school students who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents, so please register your interest at the school.

How to complete the application form

NOTE: ALL SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

1. Complete the PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN DETAILS section.
Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.
If you are claiming as a Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.
2. Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.
3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible. The CSEF program for 2024 closes at the end of term two 2024.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.

Term 1 Calendar – Draft #2 Thursday 8th February 2024

WEEK 1	Mon	29-Jan	Staff Professional Learning Day Statewide Student Free Day Clunes PS
	Tue	30-Jan	Staff Professional Learning Day Student Free Day Clunes PS Day 2
	Wed	31-Jan	Students first day of Term 1 2024 short whole school Assembly in the Multi-Purpose Hall Prep/ 1 & new parents to Clunes PS- welcome gathering, information & morning tea in the Staff Room Department of Education (DE) Attendance data collection
	Thurs	1-Feb	Mini Newsletter home to families. (Hard copy & electronically)
	Fri	2-Feb	Prep/ Foundation students Rest Day/ Assessment Day- From today, each Wednesday for first 7 weeks of Term 1. Final Wednesday date TBC. Draft Assessment schedule has been forwarded to parents
WEEK 2	Mon	6-Feb	Assembly- School Captains Welcome- Induction of School Captains & Vice-Captains (badges presented)
	Tue	7-Feb	Every Tuesday is Walk to school Tuesday. Meet Mr. James & Jan at the Queen's Park playground at 8.30am
	Wed	7-Feb	Prep/ Foundation students Rest Day/ Assessment Day
	Thu	8-Feb	First FULL Newsletter home. (Newsletters home each fortnight, sent via email & placed on the school's website) Notice of School Council election NO BREAKFAST CLUB ON THURSDAYS until further notice.
	Fri	9-Feb	The Ballarat Courier- Prep D photo 11am
WEEK 3	Mon	12-Feb	Assembly- Induction of House Captains & House Vice-Captains (badges presented)
	Tues	13-Feb	Student Support Group meetings begin today
	Wed	14-Feb	Prep/ Foundation students Rest Day/ Assessment Day (Clunes PS School Performance Review Term 3 2024-DE overview & structure process session) School Council Meeting 7pm (School Finance Meeting 6.30pm)
	Thu	15-Feb	Junior School Council Meeting 1.10pm Closing Date for School Council elections
	Fri	16-Feb	
WEEK 4	Mon	19-Feb	Assembly- Induction of Junior School Council (JSC) representatives (badges presented)
	Tues	20-Feb	Emergency Management- fire drill Confirmed Clunes PS – Senior school Swimming Sports- Clunes Pool – approx. 11.30am start 2024 Clunes PS Welcome BBQ & Parent Education activity session
	Wed	21-Feb	Prep/ Foundation students Rest Day/ Assessment Day (Clunes PS School Performance Review Term 3 2024-DE induction / information/ planning session)
	Thu	22-Feb	Junior School Council Meeting 1.10pm
	Fri	23-Feb	
WEEK 5	Mon	26-Feb	
	Tue	27-Feb	
	Wed	28-Feb	Prep/ Foundation students Rest Day/ Assessment Day
	Thurs	29-Feb	School Council elections - Close of Ballot
	Fri	1-Mar	
WEEK 6	Mon	4-Mar	
	Tue	5-Mar	School Council elections- Declaration of School Council Ballot
	Wed	6-Mar	Prep/ Foundation students Rest Day/ Assessment Day
	Thu	7-Mar	
WEEK 7	SUN	10-Mar	12 th Vintage Truck Show - 1 st Clunes school FUNDRAISER- many helpers required PLEASE see Sonia
	Mon	11-Mar	Labour Day – Public Holiday
	Tues	12-Mar	
	Wed	13-Mar	TBC final Prep/ Foundation students Rest Day/ Assessment Day NAPLAN School Council Meeting AGM
	Thu	14-Mar	NAPLAN Junior School Council Meeting 1.10pm
	Fri	15-Mar	NAPLAN
WEEK 8	Mon	18-Mar	
	Tues	19-Mar	
	Wed	20-Mar	
	Thurs	21-Mar	Proposed Term 1 DISCO – theme decided by our Junior School Council
	Fri	22-Mar	Harmony Day/ Focus Day-mixed groupings across the school & optional dress up theme day
	SAT	23-Mar	BOOK TOWN 2 ND Clunes school FUNDRAISER- many helpers required PLEASE see Office or Sonia
	SUN	24-Mar	BOOK TOWN
WEEK 9	Mon	25-Mar	
	Tue	26-Mar	
	Wed	27-Mar	
	Thu	28-Mar	Last day of Term 1 - 2.30pm finish (casual dress day-no gold coin donation. Each last day of Term is casual dress)
	Fri	29-Mar	Good Friday- Friday 29 th March



To be confirmed: Fire Safety lessons 2024 Inter- school Swimming events Other Meetings & events
TERM 2 begins Monday 15th April