

# NEWSLETTER



Melbourne Archdiocese  
Catholic Schools



St Margaret's  
Primary School

*Term Three, Week 6*  
*August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025*  
**#26**

## *From Susan's Desk*

Dear Families,

We have had a wonderful week celebrating Book Week across our school. The week began on Monday afternoon with a special "Cozy Book Read." A hush fell across the school (at times!) as students curled up with their favourite books, creating a beautiful sense of calm and connection. Our Prep students were joined by their older buddies, who read alongside them, making it a memorable afternoon to launch our Book Week celebrations.

On Tuesday, the much-anticipated Book Week Parade took place. We were blessed with perfect weather and it was heartening to see so many families come along to share the fun. Students proudly showcased their creative costumes, celebrating characters and stories they love. A special highlight was the visit from Dash and Bri from *Story Dogs*, who added to the joy of the morning. Book Week was a wonderful celebration across our school, with different activities held in various locations throughout the week. These activities provided students with the chance to immerse themselves in reading, explore new stories, and continue developing a love of literature. A particular highlight was the Book Week Quiz, which brought families together for plenty of fun and friendly competition. Thank you to Miss Marg for her incredible organisation of the week's events and for the many extra hours she put into ensuring everything ran so smoothly.



Our Year 3/4 students have also just completed their swimming program. This was a fantastic success, with students enjoying themselves while learning important skills around water safety, swimming techniques, and confidence in the pool. We are proud of the effort and persistence shown by all students during the program.

Looking ahead, Parent Teacher Interviews will take place next week on Monday, August 25<sup>th</sup> from 2:00–6:00pm and Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> from 4:00–6:00pm. These are a great opportunity to meet with your child's classroom teacher and discuss their learning progress. Please note that there will be **no early finish on Monday**. Instead, students will be offered an alternate program led by our specialist and leadership staff.

*...continued over*

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land that St Margaret's is located on, the Wathaurong people. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and acknowledge the importance of Aboriginal culture in all the work we do.



All students attending St Margaret's Primary School have the right to feel safe. The care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people is a fundamental responsibility of all within our school. St Margaret's is a culturally safe environment in which the diverse and unique identities and experiences of all children and young people are respected and valued.

## Leadership and Management News

Following interviews on **Monday evening**, we warmly invite all parents to attend the **Digital Tattoo Information Session**, offered by BatForce, from 6:30–8:00pm. This is an important opportunity for us to come together as a community to hear the same message about cybersafety and the realities of the ever-changing digital world. The online landscape continues to evolve at a rapid pace, and as parents and educators it is vital that we partner together to guide and support our children in navigating it safely and responsibly.

At St Margaret's, the safety and wellbeing of every child is our highest priority. We recognise that true child safety is a shared responsibility between school and families, and that by working together we can provide stronger protection and guidance for our students. Sessions such as this one allow us to be united in our approach, ensuring children receive consistent messages at both school and home. **For this reason, we strongly encourage all families to attend this important session. Please note this session is designed for parents only.**



We also take this opportunity to farewell **Tori Monaghan**, who has been a valued Learning Support Officer at our school over the past few years. Tori has shown great care and dedication in supporting our students and has made a positive impact within our community. She now moves into a new role in the mental health sector while continuing her studies in psychology. We sincerely thank Tori for her contribution to our school and wish her every success in her future endeavours.

Have a great week!

*Susan Perks*

**Monday: 6.30 – 8.00pm**  
**25 Aug 2025**

**St Margaret's  
Primary School**

[www.batforce.org.au](http://www.batforce.org.au)

## Book Week Quiz Results

Thank you to the 42 families who entered the book quiz. Here are the answers! >>>

We're sending home 29 bookmark assortment prizes and 13 consolation prizes. Hope you enjoyed! Congratulations to these families with all correct answers:

**Ballard, Bell, Brauer, Cholinski, Deocampo, Drever, Drew, Ferguson, Ferrier, Haberfield, Hanan, Holland, Lacorte, Mactier, McGennissen, McGuane, Newbold, Nolan, O'Kane, Porter, Reid, Reiffel, Robinson (Archer), Robinson (Maliah), Salkeld, Smith, Timmins, Withington, Zahra**

## Bookclub

There is a new issue of Bookclub coming home this week. Just be aware that most of its contents are items that were available in the book fair.

1. What's Dr Seuss' real name? **Theodor Seuss Geisel**
2. Name the 7 Australian cities visited by Grandma Poss and Hush in 'Possum Magic': **Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Darwin, Perth, Hobart**
3. Name the four Pevensie children who ended up in Narnia in 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'. **Peter, Susan, Edmund, Lucy**
4. Match these destinations with their famous books:
 

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>The Shire</b><br><b>The Emerald City</b><br><b>Whoville</b><br><b>Fantastica (Fantasia)</b><br><b>Neverland</b> | <b>Peter Pan</b><br><b>The Grinch</b><br><b>The Neverending Story</b><br><b>The Lord of the Rings</b><br><b>The Wizard of Oz</b> |
|--|--|
5. Australia's Children's Book Week is celebrating a special anniversary. How old is it? **80**
6. Which 2 characters **did not** live in the Magic Faraway Tree?  
 Moon-Face   Mr Watziname   The Angry Pixie   **The Grinch**  
 The Saucepan Man   **Clifford**   Silky   Dame Washalot
7. Finish these book titles  
 Diary of a Wimpy **Kid**  
 Guess How Much I Love **You**  
 Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the **Bus**  
 Charlie and the Chocolate **Factory**  
 Harry Potter and the Philosopher's **Stone**  
 Green Eggs and **Ham**  
 Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's **Dairy**





## Calendar of Events

*New items in bold*

### Term Three

#### August

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Monday, August 25 <sup>th</sup>    | Parent Teacher interviews 2pm-5.40pm<br>Digital Tattoo Parent Info session by BatForce 6.30-8.00pm |
| Wednesday, August 27 <sup>th</sup> | Parent Teacher interviews 3:30pm-6:00pm<br>Parents & Friend Meeting Staff Room 7pm                 |
| Friday, August 29 <sup>th</sup>    | Assembly – Year 1/2 presenting<br>St Margaret's Cultural Day                                       |
| Sunday, August 31 <sup>st</sup>    | Sacrament of First Eucharist 2.30pm  |

#### September

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Monday, September 1 <sup>st</sup>          | Swimming week for Year 1/2<br>Ready to Launch Parent Session by BatForce 6.30-8.00pm  |
| <b>Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup></b> | <b>Year 3 /4 Bowling excursion</b><br>Mental Health & Wellbeing Session with Miss Margie 9-10am<br>Donuts with Dad from 8am. Father's Day Raffle Draw<br>Father's Day Stall |
| Friday, September 5 <sup>th</sup>          | Father's Day Bake Sale 8am-1pm  |
| Saturday, September 6 <sup>th</sup>        | <b>Division Athletics</b> (selected students)<br>School Board 7pm   |
| <b>Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup></b>   | Assembly – Prep presenting<br>Footy Colours Casual Dress Day & Pie Special Lunch (P&F)  |
| Friday, September 12 <sup>th</sup>         | Term Three ends. 1.30pm dismissal   |
| Thursday, September 18 <sup>th</sup>       |   |
| Friday, September 19 <sup>th</sup>         |   |

### Fundraising Stars!

Congratulations to Ivy & Piper for their fundraising efforts. Selling bracelets, they raised \$55 for GAWS, and donated the money this weekend.



### St Margaret's Primary School



83 St Albans Road  
East Geelong 3219

**Ph 5229 7453**



Website: [www.smgeelongeast.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smgeelongeast.catholic.edu.au)

Principal: Susan Perks [sperks@smgeelongeast.com.au](mailto:sperks@smgeelongeast.com.au)

Office Managers: Anne Miller [amiller@smgeelongeast.com.au](mailto:amiller@smgeelongeast.com.au)  
Georgia Kavenagh [gkavenagh@smgeelongeast.com.au](mailto:gkavenagh@smgeelongeast.com.au)

Business Manager: Libby Fitzgerald [lfitzgerald@smgeelongeast.com.au](mailto:lfitzgerald@smgeelongeast.com.au)

Parish Priest: Father Jim Clarke [frj@stmarysgeelong.com.au](mailto:frj@stmarysgeelong.com.au)

## Calendar of Events cont.

### Term Four

#### October

**Monday, October 6<sup>th</sup>**

Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>

Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup>

Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>

Wednesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>

Thursday, October 30<sup>th</sup>

**School Closure Day - Staff PL**

Students begin Term Four

Grandparents & Special People Lunch - Cheer Truck (P&F)

Swimming week for Prep

School Board 7pm

2026 Prep Orientation Sessions: 9.15-10.30 or 11.45-1.00

Specialist Spectacular from 3.30pm with P&F Sausage Sizzle

#### November

**Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>**

Wed-Fri, Nov 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>

Monday, November 10<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday, Nov 12<sup>th</sup>

Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup>

Monday, November 17<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>

Monday, November 24<sup>th</sup>

**School Closure Day**

**Melbourne Cup Public holiday**

Year 5/6 students at Camp Kangarooobie

Year 5/6 only, student free day (TIL staff day)

Remembrance Day

2026 Prep Orientation Sessions: 9.15-10.30 or 11.45-1.00

Penance Preparation Family Evening 5.30pm

St Margaret's Feast Day

Swimming week for 5/6

Sacrament of Penance 12 noon

Yr 6 AFL Max camp; rescheduled

#### December

**Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>**

Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>

Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>

**School Closure Day - Staff PL**

Step Up Day

2026 Prep Orientation Session: 9.30-11.00am

School Board 7pm

Year 6 Graduation

End of Term Four 1.30pm dismissal

## Mental Health & Wellbeing Session

with Miss Margie –

Wednesday 3 September 2025

9:00 – 10:00am

Join St Margaret's Primary School for a warm and engaging session with Miss Margie as she shares the importance of mental health and wellbeing education and gives you a glimpse into what your child has been exploring throughout this year.

With over 25 years in education and a passion for creating safe, dynamic spaces for learning, Miss Margie brings both heart and skill to her work. This session is a great opportunity to connect, ask questions, and discover how we're helping students build confidence, resilience, and emotional literacy.

RSVP: By Wed 27 Aug 2025 to [sperks@smgeelongeast.com.au](mailto:sperks@smgeelongeast.com.au)

Note: **Parents of students from Grade 3-6**



## School Community News

### Division Athletics

Congratulations to these students for making it through to Division Athletics. We wish them all the best of luck at Landy Field on Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>.

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| • Harry Higgins      | 1500m, Long Jump   |
| • Niah Mirmilstein   | 1500m  |
| • Toby Broad         | 1500m, Shot Put  |
| • Frankie Payne      | 1500m  |
| • Eden Tran          | 1500m  |
| • Kartia Mirmilstein | 1500m  |
| • Jack Geoghagan     | 1500m, Hurdles   |
| • Elizabeth Mendiola | 1500m, Hurdles   |
| • Harriet Salkeld    | 1500m  |
| • Zac Winterton      | 100m, Hurdles  |
| • Quinnie Westwood   | 100m   |
| • Thomas O'Toole     | 100m, 200m   |
| • Asha Clapinski     | 100m   |
| • Charlie Richardson | 200m, 800m   |
| • Bella Cioch        | Hurdles  |
| • Frankie Pease      | 800m, Shot Put   |
| • Summer Ryan        | 800m, High Jump  |
| • Ish Tobayiwa       | 800m   |
| • Hazel Bennett      | 800m   |
| • Pearl Foley        | Discus   |
| • Aidan Coumans      | Discus, Long Jump  |
| • Sophie Butcher     | Discus   |
| • Harrison Spark     | Discus, Shot Put   |
| • Mac Salkeld        | High Jump, Triple Jump   |
| • Aidan Cardigan     | High Jump  |
| • Friday Foley       | Long Jump, Triple Jump   |
| • Archer McIntosh    | Long Jump  |
| • Molly Herwynen     | Triple Jump  |
| • 9/10 Boys Relay    | Franki Pease, Harry Higgins, Aiden Coumans, Mac Salkeld            |
| • 12/13 Boys Relay   | Zac Winterton, Isaak Flannagan, Thomas O'Toole, Charlie Richardson |



If the person who named Walkie Talkies  
named everything

Stamps = Lickie Stickie  
Defibrillators = Hearty Starty  
Bumble bees = Fuzzy Buzzy  
Pregnancy test = Maybe Baby  
Fork = Stabby Grabby  
Socks = Feetie Heatie  
Hippo = Floatie Bloatie  
Nightmare = Screamy Dreamy

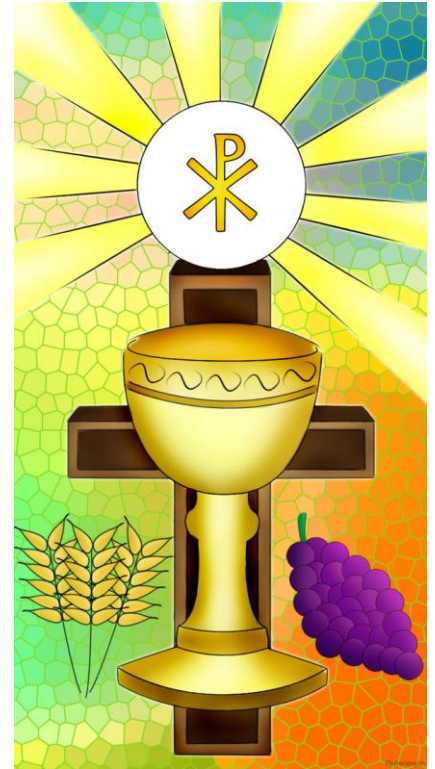


## *School Community News*

### *Eucharist*

These are the students receiving their First Eucharist on Sunday. Keep them in your prayers and we wish them a wonderful day, celebrating their faith journey growth.

*Addison Launer, Aiden Coumans,  
Allegra Spitale, Charlotte Lagana,  
Charlotte Nolan, Colton Blackwell,  
Friday Foley, George Vapp,  
Giuliano Bucedì, Harry Higgins,  
Hazel Bennett, Ivy Mason,  
Jack Geoghegan, Jake O'Toole-Ludena,  
Kenny Golding, Lacey Chapman,  
Liam McGuane, Mateo Horvatic,  
Myles Drever, Nicolas Pinheiro-Martins,  
Olive Spencer-Harmer, Oscar Poole,  
Sophie Butcher, Summer Ryan,  
Tommy Hearsch, Winnie Timmins,  
Sarah Smith and Eden Tran*



### *Children Are...*

AMAZING, acknowledge them  
BELIEVABLE, trust them  
CHILDLIKE, allow them  
DIVINE, honor them  
ENERGETIC, nourish them  
FALLIBLE, embrace them  
GIFTS, treasure them  
HERE NOW, be with them  
INNOCENT, delight with them  
JOYFUL, appreciate them  
KINDHEARTED, learn from them  
LOVABLE, cherish them  
MAGICAL, fly with them

NOBLE, esteem them  
OPEN MINDED, respect them  
PRECIOUS, value them  
QUESTIONERS, encourage them  
RESOURCEFUL, support them  
SPONTANEOUS, enjoy them  
TALENTED, believe in them  
UNIQUE, affirm them  
VULNERABLE, protect them  
WHOLE, recognize them  
XTRASPECIAL, celebrate them  
YEARNING, notice them  
ZANY, laugh with them



**ST MARGARETS P&F  
FATHERS DAY**

# Bake Sale

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6**

**8AM - 12.30PM**

**GARDEN ST SHOPS  
EAST GEELONG**

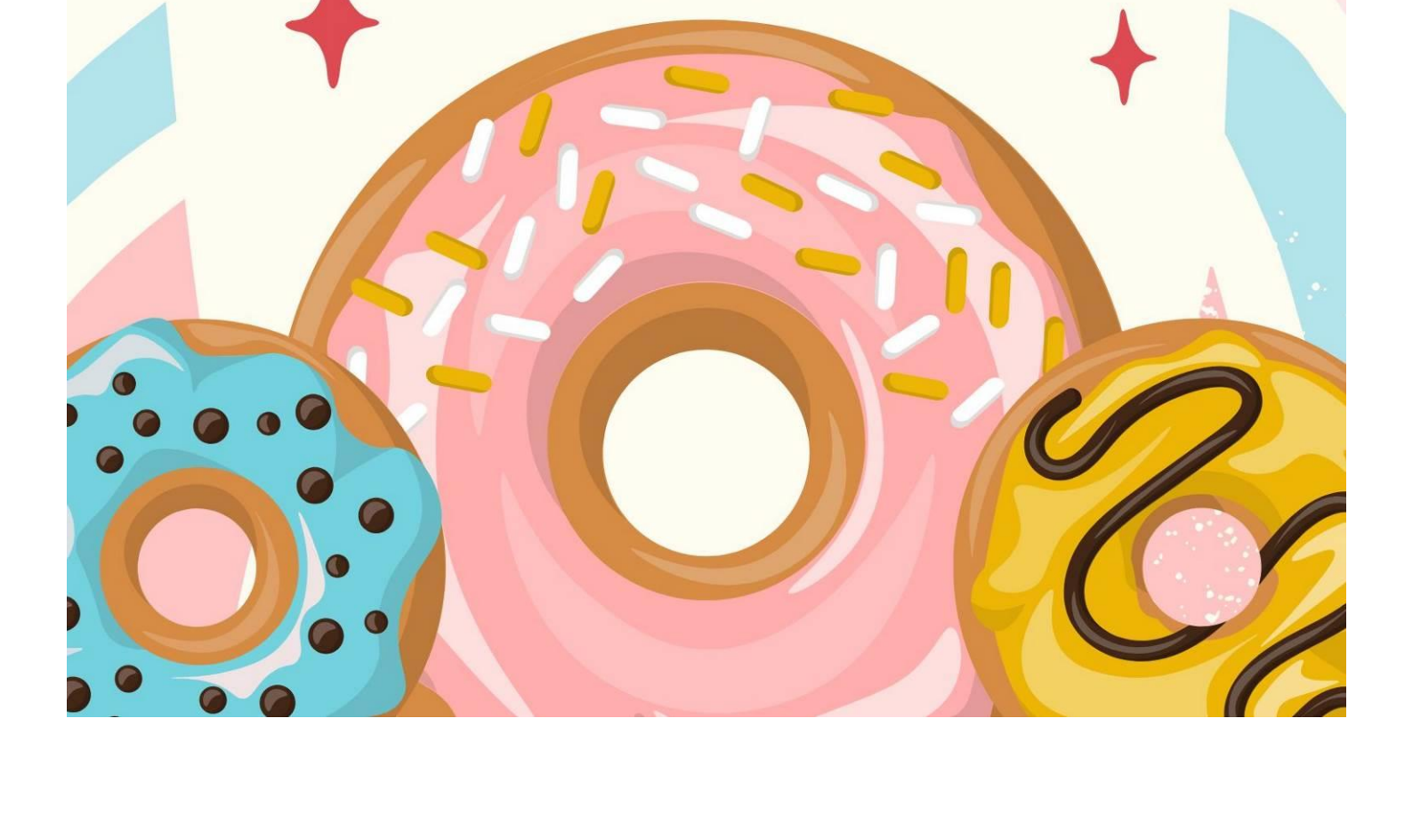
**POP BY AND  
GRAB MORNING  
TEA TO SHARE  
WITH DAD!**



# DONUTS WITH DAD!

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 5TH  
FROM 8AM**

FATHER'S DAY RAFFLE WILL BE  
DRAWN







ST MARGARETS P&F

# FATHER'S DAY

## Raffle



**A FISHING CHARTER FOR 2 THANKS TO OCEAN GROVE FISHING CHARTERS!**

**Win 5 hours on the water for Dad and a mate, valued at \$360**



**WIN DAD A FAMILY PORTRAIT SESSION WITH MAN'S BEST FRIEND!**

**A family and pet portrait session including photo print thanks to Best in Show Pet Photography**



**\$200 BUNNINGS VOUCHER**

**+**

**\$100 X GOLF VOUCHER**







# GEELONG GALLERY'S **WHO'S WHO?** PORTRAIT

**30TH AUG-9H NOVEMBER**

**FREE  
ENTRY**

**STUDENT ARTWORK  
SHOWCASE**

**2025 ARCHIBALD PRIZE**



**GEELONG GALLERY: LITTLE MALOP STREET GEELONG 3220**





# READY TO LAUNCH: PARENT/CARER WORKSHOP

St Margaret's PS values the relationship they have with parents and carers and have taken the opportunity to invite you to a parent carer workshop. Young people will go through many transitions between 0-25 years, a number of them occurring at school. The last few years has reminded us how important it is to have Families & Schools on the same page when it comes to supporting their Young Person.

As Grown ups our job is not to build a future for our children but to equip them with the tools they require to build a future of their own. This presentation is interactive, focuses on strengths, looks at strategies & practices language that may be helpful in your family.

## Topics:

- Building healthy & respectful relationships
- Supporting kids to ride the bumps
- Opportunities for rolemodelling
- Boundary setting & conflict resolution
- Importance of community connection
- Social media & secondary school
- Where to go when worry happens
- 'What's your plan?' tool

 6.30-8.00pm  Monday 1st Sept

 St Margaret's Primary School



**batforce**  
BARROW AND ADJACENT TASK FORCE



## With:

### LEIGH BARTLETT

This is a BATForce/Parkbench presentation delivered by Leigh who has a background in education, wellbeing, sports coaching & has practiced the content on a few kids of her own. Leigh has presented many community workshops with Students, Families and Professionals.

**REGISTER NOW WITH  
YOUR SCHOOL**



## When your children go online – they have left the house

### If the Young People in your world are:

- Using online platforms
- Gaming with friends
- Using chat /messenger functions
- Keen to have their own youtube channels
- Asking for personal devices & eager to access more online platforms



This session is for you!

# DIGITAL TATTOO

Supporting Children as we introduce them to the world via the internet, social media/chat platforms and gaming is very much a conversation about relationships not the tech itself.

### This workshop is for:

- parents and carers of primary aged students
- aims to complement information delivered by Vic Police and e-safety

### Digital Tattoo focuses on how:

- Young People interact with each other
- parents and carers can create ongoing conversations that mirror their own family values
- we can support Young People as they grow in their online worlds
- families can create meaningful conversations about their families online footprints

**Monday: 6.30 – 8.00pm**  
**25 Aug 2025**



**St Margaret's  
Primary School**

# READY TO LAUNCH STUDENT WORKSHOPS

LEIGH BARTLETT



Hi there,

I am excited to be reconnecting with the St Margaret's PS students and running some of our most popular workshops. I am a trained teacher who has worked with Young People for over 35 years. In 2025 I will be running student workshops in:

## **Tools to Launch (Year 3/4): 1 Sept**

Content will include:

- being your authentic self
- looking out for your mates
- emotions and regulation
- healthy and respectful relationships
- leadership and communication
- repair vs conflict
- how we make choices
- respecting differences
- consent and ethics
- where to go when worry happens
- having a plan

and most importantly having great expectations of ourselves, those who are supporting us and each other.

## **Digital Tattoo (Year 5/6): 25 Aug**

This workshop has been developed to complement the messages students receive in school everyday.

Content will include:

- ways to stay safe
- when and where to ask for help
- respect for self and others online
- recognising strange behaviour online
- impact of sharing information
- consent
- risks of sharing nude pics
- when someone shares content about you without your permission

and most importantly creating a digital footprint that your adult self would be proud of.

These interactive workshops have been developed to complement the information provided through 'Respectful Relationships' programs and are delivered through a healthy relationships framework.

A big thank you to the school for offering two parent/carers workshops to be held on the same nights as the student workshops (see flyers for more information). I hope to see you there. If you have any queries regarding these workshops, you can email me at [leigh@batforce.org.au](mailto:leigh@batforce.org.au)

Teacher testimonies:

"Was well pitched for our age group, students were engaged, gave us follow up activities".

"Leigh engaged our students perfectly and the content reflected an understanding of our school's needs."

"Wish we could have more regular sessions".

"Leigh was very flexible in moving the content based on student need".

*Leigh Bartlett*