



TERM 1 2026 IMPORTANT DATES

WEEK 1	JAN 26 – JAN 30 MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY	Australia Day Staff return 1:1 Getting to Know You Interviews (P-6) Pupil Free Day – Teacher Professional Learning 1:1 Getting to Know You Interviews (P-6)
WEEK 2	FEB 2 – FEB 6 MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY	All Year 1-6 students return (Half Prep Classes) (Half Prep classes) Prep Literacy 1:1 Interviews All students P-6 All students P-6
WEEK 3	FEB 9 – FEB 13 MONDAY WEDNESDAY FRIDAY	ASSEMBLY Prep Literacy Interviews BMPS SWIMMING TRIALS AT BACCHUS MARSH POOL
WEEK 4	FEB 16 – FEB 20 TUESDAY WEDNESDAY	SMILE SQUAD DENTAL CLINIC COMMENCES Prep Literacy 1:1 Interviews Year 3 Hockey Clinic
WEEK 5	FEB 23 – FEB 27 MONDAY-FRIDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY	ASSEMBLY BOOK FAIR & SMILE SQUAD DENTAL CLINIC CYBER SAFETY PARENT INFORMATION SESSION BMPSSA DISTRICT SWIMMING AT MELTON
WEEK 6	MAR 2 – MAR 6 WEDNESDAY FRIDAY	Prep Teddy Bears Picnic EVACUATION DRILL & Clean Up Australia Afternoon at BMPS
WEEK 7	MAR 9 – MAR 13 MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY - FRIDAY	LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY WESTERN RANGES SWIMMING AT MELTON WAVES NAPLAN – Year 3 and 5
WEEK 8	MAR 16 – MAR 20 THURSDAY	Prep Parent and Carer Information Session – 2.30 pm WORKING BEE
WEEK 9	MAR 23 – MAR 27 MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY FRIDAY	ASSEMBLY Year 6 Ecolinc Year 6 Ecolinc Senior Sports Day
WEEK 10	MAR 30 – APR 3 MONDAY TUESDAY THURSDAY	Year 6 Ecolinc Western Metropolitan Region Swimming Final Day of term – 2.30 pm dismissal Easter Hat Parade/Sausage Sizzle



Dear Parents and Carers,

In this week's Update, we look back on week 5 and forward to week 6.

BOOK FAIR

Our first Book Fair took place in the Year 6 Gallery last week, and we extend a very big thank you to all of the families that were able to come along and support our fair. With the benefits we receive in return, our Book Fair restocks classroom libraries and assists to keep variety on offer for our young readers. Thanks to Year 1 Team Leader Michelle Visser, along with the support of our Year 1 Teachers, Administration Staff, Literacy Leader Kirsty Younger, Belinda Horne and other staff supporters over \$10.000 was spent.

Thank you again to our families for your wonderful support of our fair.

This means that:

\$3300.00 worth of books will make their way back into our school, onto the shelves in our junior and senior library and into classroom libraries across our school.

**Prep F student
Everett Bell enjoyed
browsing what was
on offer**



BACCHUS MARSH DISTRICT SWIMMING CARNIVAL

On Friday, 30 of our fastest swimmers went to Melton Waves for the District Swimming Carnival. Despite the forecast stormy weather, fine, warm conditions allowed for a great day of swimming with all the Bacchus Marsh schools. Well done to our swimmers who swam confidently in different events throughout the day. Thanks to Cristy Havelberg, Dail Hilton and our parent supporters who came along to support our team.

Congratulations to the following swimmers who qualified for Division Swimming to take place on Tuesday, March 10, at Melton Waves.

James Murray – 11 years Freestyle, Breaststroke

Alice Duffy – 10 years Breaststroke

Vera Simson – 12 years Breaststroke

Hayden Tung – 10 years Butterfly





GRADE 3 HOCKEY CLINICS

We were fortunate recently to have Kylie and Carly from Hockey Victoria and Melton Hockey Club visit our school. The coaches took our Grade 3 students through some drills and fun activities to develop an understanding of what hockey is about. We know many of our students enjoyed the experience, and if they loved it enough to pursue it, there is a club just down the road!



Dave Champness
PE & Sports Coordinator

INFORM AND EMPOWER PARENT AND CARER INFORMATION SESSION

Last Thursday evening, thanks to **Community Bank Bacchus Marsh** and **Bacchus Marsh Blue Light**, Inform and Empower founder and educator Marty McGauren and psychologist and sister Carley McGauren were in town to present to parents and carers from across our local community schools.

Thankyou very much to the Bacchus Marsh Primary School parents and carers who were able to be there to hear first hand from Marty and Carley and have questions and queries answered face to face.

For those unable to be there, the 90-minute presentation available through the link below will support you to hear this information via a session for all partner schools across Australia.

Webinar Replay & Resources

informandempower.com.au/schools-webinars/2026



Bacchus Marsh

HEALTHY DIGITAL HABITS



Chat about
online experiences



Prioritise
sleep



No devices in bedrooms
or bathrooms



Take regular breaks
from screens



Trust your early
warning signs



Balance screen time
with green time

NAVIGATING UNCOMFORTABLE SITUATIONS

Do Not Respond

**Record/
Screenshot**

Take a Break

**Block/
Change Settings**

Report

Seek Help

MENTOR PARENTS...



...build own healthy habits.



...start curious conversations.



...set up parental controls



...supervise devices.

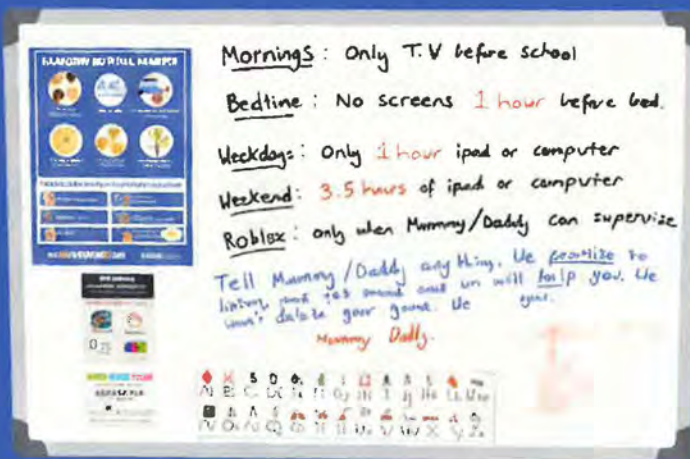


...create & display a family plan.



...connect with support.

CREATING A FAMILY PLAN



Carley steps you through practical ideas and considerations as you create your own family plan. Scan the QR code to access.



Access termly learning overviews, with simple conversation starters to help keep important chats going at home.



Please note, these are only relevant for schools that participate in our student programs.



2026 SPECIALIST LEADERS

Congratulations to all of the students below on their Specialist Leadership roles for 2026. We look forward to you all making the most of this opportunity and 'living' your pledges to make our school a great place for 'learning to be our best selves'.

Kitchen	Art	Design	Music	Science	Chinese	Student Voice Leaders	Student Voice Team
Polly Vines	Angad Saini	Leigh Oliver	Hadley Courtts	Aryaveer Thind	Paige Tuo	Sophie Morrow	Abby Warren
Raynie Broadbent	Lily Bronchinetti	Hazel Baselmans	Nate Holper	Hannah MacRaid	David Stephens	Aisha Acisu	Aylah Cavanagh
Ella Doan	Bethany Moyle	Eric Bloomfield	Chloe Vella	Emma Coombe	Mia Hendry	Perry Hamden	Jack Harber
Jaxon Hore	Keira Williams	Felix Clayton	Annika Kalichapara	Khushi Mutta	Summer Humphrey	Ella Davidson	Taniesha Andrews
Angus Geissmann	Tao Pike	Bridget Taylor		Jackson Briggs	Connor Graham	Raphael Ali	Annabelle Ludford
Ruby Smith	Willow Ryan Reid	River Heywood		Audrey Feetham	Emily Oates	Cody Solomon	Zack Lesko
Harmannat Kaur	Andie Morris	Amelia Watterson				Emma Rosado	Rhylee Court
Zoe Hayes	Shylah Welfare	Will Capovilla				Bethan Clark	Remi John
Elliott Wilcock Dom Connor	Arwa Mughal					Chloe Austin	Kaylem Clark
						Jasmine Gleeson Marks	Areen Kaur

CHINESE LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

A big thank you to Mrs Wu, our Chinese program leaders and all of our student volunteers who assisted in the cleaning and maintenance of our Chinese Dragon in preparation for our celebration at assembly last week. Thanks also to Janelle in our canteen for making the beautiful pork buns available to add another layer of cultural celebration to Chinese New Year.







MOORABOOL YOUNG WRITERS AWARDS 2026

Our 2026 Young Writers Competition is underway, and we anticipate some wonderful entries again in 2026. Chris Brown and Hayley Bonnici in partnership with our teachers and our families have supported some wonderful writing over many years and in 2026 Kirsty Younger will partner with our teachers to support writing enrichment opportunities on a Friday afternoon for all students wanting to seed an idea and work it through to a polished piece to be entered into the 2026 competition.

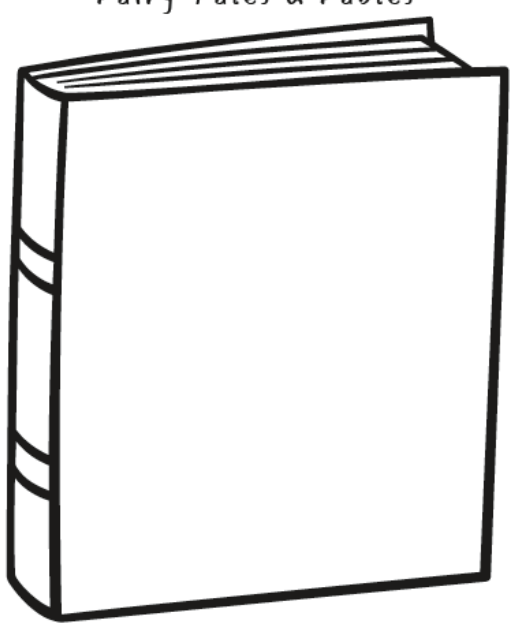
The theme this year invites young writers to take the timeless tales we all know, from Cinderella to The Three Little Pigs, from Little Red Riding Hood to Aesop's fables, and reimagine them in new, unexpected ways.

- What if the Big Bad Wolf was simply misunderstood?
- What if Rapunzel's tower stood in a modern city skyline?
- Did the tortoise really win the race, or did the hare let him?
- What if the boy who cried wolf was telling the truth all along?

The challenge is to breathe fresh life into classic fairy tales and fables by twisting, turning, and transforming them into something uniquely your own.



Moorabool Young Writers' Awards 2026
Prep to Grade 2 Picture Prompt
Fairy Tales & Fables



Draw a new book cover for your favourite fairy tale or story

Book Title _____

***Optional writing extension:** Write a recall of your favourite fairy tale or story.
(This can be attached as a separate page)



Moorabool Young Writers' Awards 2026

Fairy Tales & Fables

Moorabool Young Writers' Awards 2026

Short story writing competition for Moorabool students aged 5 to 18

Once upon a time... but not the way you remember it!

Entries Open: 8.30am Monday 9 March 2026

Entries Close: 5pm Monday 27 April 2026

Prep to Grade 2 - Complete the picture prompt

Grades 3 to 6 - Short Story up to 1000 words*

Years 7 to 12 - Short Story up to 3000 words*

* Take the timeless tales we all know and reimagine them in new, unexpected ways. Breathe fresh life into classic fairy tales and fables by twisting, turning, and transforming them into something uniquely yours.





Moorabool Young Writers' Awards 2026

Fairy Tales & Fables

Short story writing competition for Moorabool students aged 5 to 18

Once upon a time... but not the way you remember it!

Entries Open: 8.30am Monday 9 March 2026

Entries Close: 5pm Monday 27 April 2026

Prep to Grade 2 - Complete the picture prompt

Grades 3 to 6 - Short Story up to 1000 words*

Years 7 to 12 - Short Story up to 3000 words*

* Take the timeless tales we all know and reimagine them in new, unexpected ways. Breathe fresh life into classic fairy tales and fables by twisting, turning, and transforming them into something uniquely yours.

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian/Teacher Name:

Parent/Guardian/Teacher contact email:

Parent/Guardian Phone number:

School: _____

Year level: _____





PREP PARENT AND CARER INFORMATION SESSION

Now that our Preps are attending full-time and are settling into school, we invite our Parents and Carers along to discuss the next layer of important information to ensure all of our students are best prepared and supported to develop socially, emotionally and academically across term one and our first semester of school.

WHEN – WEEK 8

Thursday March 19

2.30 pm – 3.15 pm

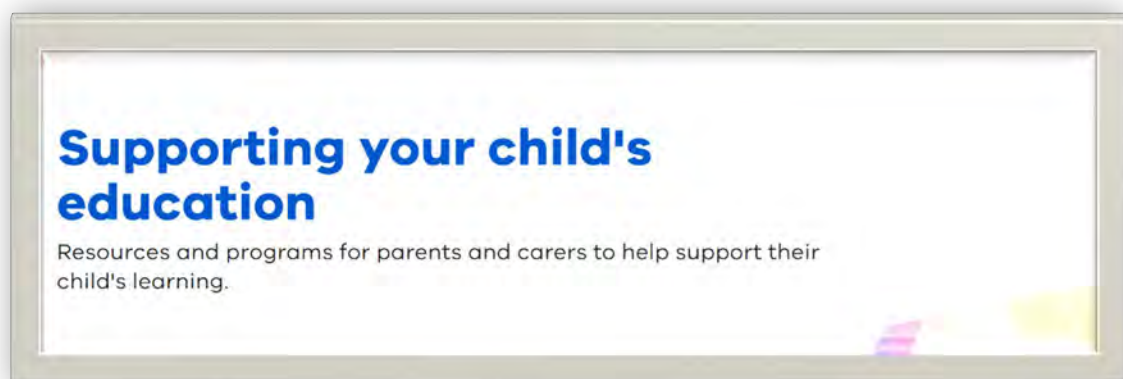
WHERE

In your child/ren's classroom with their classroom teacher.

Students will be attending their specialist classes at this time and will return to their classrooms for the usual pick up at 3.15 pm.

The link below will take you to some general support information from the Department of Education relevant to early learning, should you be interested.

<https://www.vic.gov.au/supporting-your-childs-education>





Our School Council Grounds Committee look forward to your support with our school gardens.

BMPS Working Bee & Sausage Sizzle

WHEN – WEEK 8

Thursday March 19

4.00 pm – 7.00 pm

WHERE

Lerderberg Street Gardens

Drop Off Zone Gardens

Kitchen and Science Gardens

Prep Outdoor Space



BYO gardening tools – rakes, wheelbarrows, secateurs,



BMPS Clubs

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School	Breakfast Club With: Belinda Where: House Kitchen Next to the Art Room		Breakfast Club With: Belinda Where: House Kitchen Next to the Art Room		Breakfast Club With: Mr Morris Where: House Kitchen Next to the Art Room
Recess	Crochet Club With: Emel & Belinda Where: History Room	Games Club With: Belinda Where: Grade 6 Gallery		Games Club With: Belinda Where: Grade 6 Gallery	Lego Club With: Belinda/Tiff Where: Grade 6 Gallery
Lunch	Performance Club With: Mr Hall Where: Music Room Science Club With: Mrs Clancy Where: Science Room	Recorder Assessment With: Mr Nelson Where: Music Room	Chess Club With: Scott & Belinda Where: Grade 6 Gallery Playground 28 With: Mrs Blokland Where: Behind the Gym	Lego Legends With: Mr Heywood Where: Maker Space Gallery Recorder Assessment With: Mr Nelson Where: Music Room	Band With: Mr Hall and Mr Nelson Where: Music Room
Recess and Lunch	Nurture Space Enter through the gate behind the Grade 6 building	Nurture Space Enter through the gate behind the Grade 6 building	Nurture Space Enter through the gate behind the Grade 6 building	Nurture Space Enter through the gate behind the Grade 6 building	Nurture Space Enter through the gate behind the Grade 6 building

SAFETY MESSAGES

SCHOOL CROSSINGS – Thankyou for ensuring school crossings on Gisborne Road, Young Street and Lerderderg Street are used at all times.

Adult modelling of the important use of our crossings is vital in support of safety.

8.35 AM – YARD SUPERVISION – All students will be receiving reminders that 8.35 am is the morning arrival time and when our yard will be supervised by staff.

Students arriving before 8.35 am will be directed to the undercover area near the staff room and are to remain there until they are dismissed by a staff member.

This is improving each day, and we thank our students and families very much.
Well Done!

Breakfast Club will be available from 8.00 am on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from our school house and can be accessed via the Lerderderg Street driveway. Students will be dismissed from Breakfast Club at 8.35 am.

SUNSMART HATS – Teachers are now very rigorous with hat routines to support our students to be responsible with their belongings. Students without hats will be directed to the undercover area for passive play, but we have had a great start with minimal students without hats.

Thankyou everyone! Again – Well Done!

HELMETS – See the message below reinforcing the importance of bike and scooter helmets

THANKYOU FOR SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD/REN WITH THE ROUTE TO SCHOOL THAT YOU WOULD LIKE THEM TO TAKE TO MINIMISE CHALLENGES AT VERY BUSY INTERSECTIONS AND ROUNDABOUTS AND ENSURING THEY ARE CROSSING ROADS WITH THE SUPPORT OF PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS.

- Thankyou for partnering with us to ensure these safety routines are respected.

THE SIMPLE HELMET FIT CHECK

Two finger widths above the eyebrows.

Helmet straps must be correctly adjusted with no twists. The straps should form a 'V' shape around the ears.

The buckle fastened and two fingers can fit under chin strap.

If the helmet moves out of position easily it is not correctly fitted – straps are loose or helmet is too big.

ROAD TO ZERO

HELMETS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

GUIDE FOR PARENTS
ROADTOZERO.VIC.GOV.AU

DID YOU KNOW?

- o Wearing a helmet when riding a bicycle reduces the risk of head injury by 74%.
- o Head injuries are very common for skateboarders not wearing helmets.
- o Every year in Victoria, about 250 children are hospitalised as a result of scooter accidents, with head injuries common.

TOWARDS ZERO TAC VICTORIA

CHILDREN AND ADULTS SHOULD WEAR A HELMET AT ALL TIMES WHILE RIDING A BICYCLE, SCOOTER OR SKATEBOARD.



Set a good example

Children's behaviour is shaped by what their parents/carers do. When it comes to wearing a helmet while riding a bicycle, scooter or skateboard, you need to be a good role model for your own and other children.

Make sure your helmet is safe

- Choose a helmet that carries the Australian Standard mark. This means it is safety approved, legal and meets the Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 2063.
- If possible, choose a helmet with Multi-Directional Impact Protection System (MIPS) technology. A MIPS helmet has a low friction layer between the helmet and the head, designed to reduce brain trauma in the event of a crash. For more information, visit www.mipsprotection.com
- The helmet needs to be the right size and correctly fitted. See the Helmet Fit Check in this guide.
- A helmet is designed to protect a head for one impact only. Replace it if it has been in an accident, dropped or has any damage, such as cracks in the foam or worn or frayed straps.
- Don't wear a cap under a helmet as this can affect how the helmet fits and protects the head in an accident.

The law on bicycle helmets

It's against the law to ride without a helmet. The fine for not wearing a helmet is \$201 (as at 1 January 2019).

Other safety gear for skateboarding

Falls can be common so wrist guards and knee and elbow pads are strongly advised to reduce injuries.



Find safer places to cycle, scoot and skate

- For younger children, the safest places to ride, scoot and skate are the backyard or a park, well away from traffic. Driveways are not safe places for play.
- Children under 12 years of age shouldn't ride on the road. They are allowed to ride on footpaths and adults can legally ride with them.
- Victoria has an extensive network of paths for safer cycling, scooting and skating. Many of these paths travel through parklands and are well away from roads.



Where to get more information

This guide provides broad road safety advice only. For more comprehensive information about Victorian laws regarding the use of bicycles, scooters and skateboards, visit vicroads.vic.gov.au.



ONGOING CONSISTENT MESSAGES:

DROP OFF ZONE – off Young Street

- CARS **MUST NOT PARK** IN THE DROP-OFF ZONE AS IT IS A KISS AND DROP AREA ONLY.
- VEHICLES ARE NOT TO BE LEFT UNATTENDED IN THIS SPACE
- PLEASE DO NOT ACCESS THE STAFF CARPARK AREA AT ANY TIME.

LERDERDERG STREET ENTRANCE

Thank you for your ongoing support with these changes:

- STUDENTS DO NOT USE THE FRONT ENTRANCE AS A THOROUGHFARE INTO OR OUT OF THE SCHOOL
- THE DRIVEWAY GATE ALONGSIDE THE ART ROOM WILL BE THE BREAKFAST CLUB AND MORNING ENTRANCE POINT
- PREP ENTRANCE WILL BE OPEN FROM 8.35 AM
- STUDENTS ARRIVING BEFORE 8.35 AM ARE ASKED TO WAIT IN THE UNDERCOVER AREA UNTIL DISMISSED.
- **FORMAL YARD SUPERVISION COMMENCES AT 8.35 AM**

BUS ZONES ON LERDERDERG STREET

All of the yellow line markings on the north and south sides of the street indicate **NO PARKING** before or after school to allow our buses to safely enter and exit the zone to collect our students.

Pulling up at the Prep entrance gate to collect students on Lerderderg Street is contravening the safety signage and impacting pedestrian and vehicle vision on our crossing. This blatantly ignores the safety rights of our school community.



**PLEASE DO NOT PARK
OVER DRIVEWAYS.**

**OUR NEIGHBOURS
HAVE ALWAYS
APPRECIATED THE
RESPECTFUL MANNER
IN WHICH OUR
COMMUNITY LIVE
OUR VALUES**



ALWAYS REACH OUT

- Thank you to parents and carers for reaching out to your child's classroom teacher or any of our staff below, if we can assist in any way.

Melinda Williams – Principal

Leanne Holt – Business Manager

Wellbeing:

Daniel Morris - Assistant Principal - Wellbeing & Engagement / Disability Inclusion

Bec Blokland - Disability Inclusion Co-ordinator

Liz Stonka – Assistant Principal – Daily Organisation /Student Medical Health & Wellbeing/Social Emotional Learning Curriculum

Tiff O'Brien – Leading Teacher – Mental Health in Primary Schools – Trauma Informed Practice - Art-Therapy

Belinda Horne - Wellbeing Educator

Literacy and Numeracy:

Catherine Moody – Assistant Principal - Curriculum / Teaching and Learning

Kirsty Younger - Leading Teacher – Literacy

Janaya Walker and Jayde Clayton – Leading Teachers – Numeracy

All the best for a wonderful week 6 from the BMPS team



Autism Connect

Autism Connect is an expansion of Amaze's Autism Advisor service delivered in Victoria for 12 years, helping over 20,000 people.

Autism Connect is available to anyone seeking support related to autism. The service was created for autistic people seeking guidance around diagnosis and services, their families or friends, and anyone supporting an autistic adult or child in education, health settings or workplaces.

"I got diagnosed at age 40 and I found that really enlightening and validating. You've got the ability to send a five-second message and then get a human response. They were friendly, patient and empathetic. They were really just nice to deal with on the phone and it felt like the easiest thing ever."

- Catherine, Autistic mother of 2 autistic boys.



**For more information, visit
amaze.org.au/autismconnect**



If you need an Interpreter, contact the TIS National Contact Centre on 131 450 and ask to speak to Autism Connect on 1300 308 699.

Autism Connect is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services



BACCHUS MARSH LITTLE ATHLETICS

ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL **RELAYTHON**

RELAYTHON IS LITTLE ATHLETICS VICTORIA'S MAJOR FUNDRAISER FOR THE ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL FOR WELL OVER 50 YEARS.

BMLAC athletes and members will take part in a continuous relay at Masons Lane Reserve, running for 5 hours to raise funds for the Good Friday Appeal.

**DONATE
VIA QR CODE**



SATURDAY 28TH FEBRUARY
7AM - 12NOON



MASONS LANE RESERVE
BACCHUS MARSH



NEW YEAR

NEW LOO

**Bring a toilet roll
to Peppertree Park
on Saturday 7 Feb
and join the
campaign for a
Parkrun Loo!**





GRAND OPENING

21 Osborne Street, Maddingley



Saturday 28th February 2026

5PM *til* 7:30PM

Our name reflects our commitment to developing athletes from A to Z, on & off court, at a space built entirely for them to train, grow, compete, and become the next generation of ballers - right here in Bacchus Marsh!

Follow us on



azbasketball.com.au



Scan QR Code for Season Schedule & Session Options





SHINDO KARATE

心道空手



BACCHUS MARSH, MELTON, WEIR VIEWS & GISBORNE

WHAT WE OFFER:
AGE SPECIFIC PROGRAMS
FAMILY FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT
GOVERNMENT ACCREDITED INSTRUCTORS



All from the beginning, a free spirit

CONTACT US TODAY!



0425 759 164



SHINDO KARATE ACADEMY
BACCHUS MARSH
MELTON & GISBORNE



GOOD CLEAN FUN

PLAY.AFL/AUSKICK

DARLEY ALL GIRLS AUSKICK GROUP

Darley Park Reserve, Darley

MONDAYS 5PM - 6PM

Starts 20th April 2026





AFL | **Superkick**

ANYBUDDY CAN PLAY

[PLAY.AFL/SUPERKICK](https://play.afl.com.au/superkick)

DARLEY SUPERKICK CENTRE

Darley Park, Darley

Mondays 5PM - 6PM

Starts 20th April 2026





ALL GIRLS
GROUPS
AVAILABLE



GOOD CLEAN FUN

[PLAY.AFL/AUSKICK](https://play.afl.com.au/auskick)

DARLEY AUSKICK CENTRE

Darley Park Reserve, Darley

MONDAYS 5PM - 6PM

Starts 20th April 2026

