



Outer East KEO Team Newsletter

Term 1 2025

"The Outer East KESO team acknowledges all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Traditional Custodians of Country and recognises their continuing connection to land, sea, culture, and community. We pay our respects to Elders past and present."

Aboriginal people whose traditional lands and waters exist within the boundaries that today frame the state of Victoria are often collectively called Koorie peoples or Koories. Koorie is a contemporary collective or group term. Throughout this Newsletter, the term 'Koorie' is used inclusively and refers to both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in Victoria."

Welcome to the 1ST Edition of the KESO Newsletter for 2025.

This edition showcases remarkable examples of the amazing initiatives happening in the Outer East. Immense gratitude goes to those who contributed articles and photographs and congratulations to everyone who participated in these endeavours. We want to seize this opportunity to extend our best wishes to you and your loved ones for a restful holiday break with family and friends.

The KESO's will be on leave from Monday 7th of April 2025, returning on Tuesday 22nd of April 2025. If you need to get in contact during this time, please feel free to email the team at nevr.koorie.outereast@education.vic.gov.au

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Campfire Conversation

Yarra Junction Primary School



On Tuesday 11th March Yarra Junction Primary School First Nation students, along with their parents, had their second campfire conversation. Tania Scott, Foundation Curriculum Leader, said the school's First Nations students meet every Thursday and have a yarn about what actions they would like to achieve for the term.



Original School Bell

Items that they have achieved already this term are: -:

- Organising a whole school vote for new names for our houses replacing colour names with Woi wurrung animal names.
- Organising an invitation and agenda for this term's campfire conversation.
- Cooking scones for the campfire conversation.
- Taking it in turns to read the Acknowledgment to country at assembly.
- Engaging in a session with Uncle Bill Nicholson and learning how to play Aboriginal traditional games.
- Facilitating monthly traditional games with anyone interested on Friday at recess



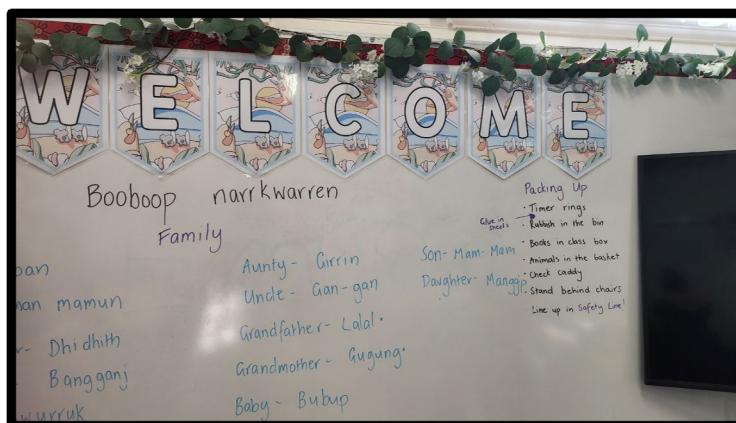
Families & students creating together.

Each leaf will become elements of a larger project. Along with the hands the students decorated at the last Campfire, they will be displayed in a picture frame with illustrations by an aspiring artist and First Nations student Alira Tweedy. The picture frame will be proudly displayed outside the Culture & Science Room.



Yarra Junction Primary School

Displays in the Culture & Science Room



Yarra Junction Primary School



Displays in the Culture & Science Room



Yarn It Up Yarra Junction PS

Eastern Ranges SDS



Eastern Ranges SDS invited Thomas Harrison and Lea Jones out to their Yarning Circle. Thomas shared his Possum Skin cloak and Clap Sticks, allowing student to interact with them. It was a fantastic afternoon with students and parents, we look forward to meeting again soon.



Music making with Clap Sticks



Thomas Harrison, Angela O'Kelly & Patrick Coombes enjoying activities

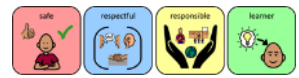


Thomas, Angela, Patrick & Lea



Fun for All

Eastern Ranges SDS



Eastern Ranges SDS

Culture Is Loud & Proud

LDYVEP – Koorie Student Program



Worawa Aboriginal College **Cultural Day**

On Tuesday 18th March, our students participating in the Koorie Student Program at Yarra Ranges Tech School had the pleasure of visiting Worawa College. Our students were representing Mooroolbark College, Upper Yarra Secondary College, Yarra Hills Secondary College, Lilydale Heights College, Lilydale High School, and Healesville High School.



Students participating in
Smoking Ceremony



Worawa Aboriginal College Cultural Day



The program is an incredible initiative that gives Koorie students the opportunity to design and produce STEM projects that incorporate their culture while using cutting-edge technology like laser cutters, VR, and 3D printing. It also connects students with career pathways through guest speakers and hands-on learning experiences.



Upper Yarra Secondary School Students with teacher Melissa Jones



Worawa Aboriginal College Cultural Day



During our visit, students were warmly welcomed by Worawa's Elder-in-Residence, Auntie Lois Peeler, who guided them through the Dreaming Trail, History Walk, and a Yarning Circle, sharing her wisdom and cultural knowledge.



Students joining Auntie Lois Peeler on History Walk on the Dreaming Trail



Worawa Aboriginal College Cultural Day



Yarning Circle facilitated by
Aunty Lois Peeler



Worawa Aboriginal College Cultural Day



The group then enjoyed a BBQ lunch with Worawa students—who were excited to reconnect with familiar faces from our Reconciliation Sports Carnival! The day wrapped up with a friendly kick of the footy, making for a wonderful exchange of learning, culture, and community.



Worawa Aboriginal College Cultural Day



L-R: Thomas Harrison, Kelsey Leatham, Aunty Lois Peeler & Lea Jones



Ngoon Godjin Worawa College

Yarning Circles

Kilsyth Primary School



On Thursday 27th March, Kilsyth Primary School hosted its Term 1 Yarning Circle, focusing on Creation and Dreamtime Stories. Students watched videos including The Story of Bunjil by Aunty Joy Murphy, The Story of the Emu and the Platypus, and Tiddalik's Story. These stories and discussions helped students deepen their understanding and appreciation of culture, traditions, and storytelling.



Deadly Kilsyth Primary School

Marrung Lead Professional Learning Day

The Department of Education and the Outer East Koorie Education Workforce (KEW) invited Marrung Leads from all Outer East schools to the Marrung Lead Collaboration and Capability Day at Karralyka Centre on Monday March 24th.



More than 60 attendees came together and were Welcomed to Wurundjeri lands by Aunty Joy Wandin Murphy via a recorded message.

Leading the Work in Schools

Trish Fahy facilitated the day, discussing the significance of Marrung Leads leading this work in schools. She emphasised its role in promoting self-determination in education and fostering systematic thinking and perspectives at the state, regional and Outer East area goals level.

Koorie Aspirations Program

Brooke Kogleman, Project Manager of the Lilydale District and Yarra Valley Education Plan, focussed on their Leadership in Schools program and sharing insights on student engagement at Worawa College as part of their Aspirations Program.

Attendees explored the Marrung Goals and the significance of School Attendance, highlighting the importance of **connection** and **belonging**.



Marrung Lead Professional Learning Day

Attendance – Turning Things Around in 2025

Shane Mitchell, Koorie Engagement Manager NEVR, was unable to attend in person but he shared valuable data on attendance and the plans for improvement in 2025. In his words “I can’t help but congratulate you all on the amazing work happening in the areas to support our Koorie kids and young people, our Koorie communities, our schools and the continued focus on the progression along the self-determination continuum.

Shane highlighted in his presentation that in 2025, there will be a strong focus on improving attendance across all Outer East ISS schools particularly for Koorie students.

Throughout the year the KEW will continue monitoring student attendance data to identify those at risk. Shane also shared students and schools flagged as at risk for low attendance by Outer East Leadership and KEW team, based on ongoing 2025v CAD data, will receive targeted support from the KEW through SSGs and will be included in the Area Attendance project led by the SEILS. Additionally, Koorie student attendance will be a key focus during Term 1 Marrung Lead PL day.

Shane re-iterated the [Education and Training Reform Act 2006 \(Vic\)](#), rules, regulations and exemptions for students to attend school.

When does absence from school become a concern?

- There is no set point at which absence becomes a concern; however, the following categories can help to identify patterns of absence:
- **Regular attendees: miss less than 10 days a year (less than 5% absence)**
- **Risk of chronic absence: miss between 10 and 19 days a year (5 – 10% absence)**
- **Chronically absent: miss 20 + days (10% absence; average 1 day per fortnight)**
- Early in the year, the percentages can indicate an emergent problem and signal where action is required before the chronic absence threshold is met.



Marrung Lead Professional Learning Day

Embedding Indigenous Perspectives at Tinternvale Primary School

They also learned about Tinternvale Primary School's Koorie Curriculum Cluster Project in collaboration with Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation.



Tinternvale Primary School
Learning Together



Two years ago, Tinternvale Primary School were in the same position as some of the new Marrung Leads at the training day – recently appointed to the role and new to the work in their school. Recognising the need for more to be done, they engaged in discussions with leadership and set short-term goals.

In their first year, they accomplished several key initiatives, including creating a school Acknowledgement of Country, developing a school-wide framework for incorporating Indigenous perspectives and securing a grant to build a dry riverbed and Yarning Circle. This work marked the beginning of their Koorie Curriculum Cluster Project, which deepened the school's knowledge and awareness.



Marrung Lead Professional Learning Day

They felt very fortunate to be chosen for the Cluster Project, a partnership involving three schools in the Outer East, their Registered Aboriginal Party (Wurundjeri) and the Education Department. The program aimed to collaboratively develop resources that incorporate local perspectives, providing practical tools for the teachers to embed Indigenous perspectives in their classroom.

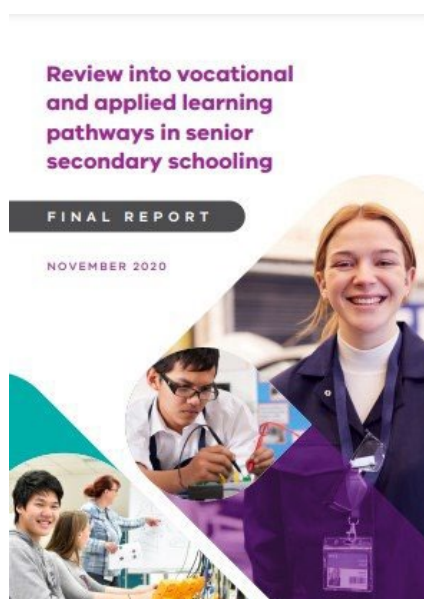
Where to next

Koorie Curriculum Cluster Project. Tinternvale Primary School said, and I quote, “In the near future we will be finalising the resources in collaboration with Uncle Bill, this has been a 2-year project, and we can’t wait to see how it will benefit staff and students moving forward, we look forward to continuing our growing partnership with Uncle Bill”

Tinternvale Primary School. “At TPS we are continually working towards embedding Indigenous perspectives, we want to educate and unlevel our staff capabilities to deliver lessons with these perspectives throughout. So far we have been doing this by facilitating share and review sessions to give the opportunity for staff to share examples for their classes. This builds a joint awareness for all staff members and help them to develop their own understanding.

Aspirations – Career & Pathways

Following the break, Greg Cowan led an insightful session on Careers and Pathways which was particularly valuable for secondary schools. The objectives were to give the staff a concise overview of the Senior Secondary Reforms, explain the role of the Job Skills and Pathways team in our area and outline the current progress of these reforms in 2025.



The commitment to secondary schooling has recently been reinforced in the State Government new plan – *The Education State*. One of the 5 key priority areas is *Lifting Secondary School Student Engagement and Achievement*.

This has been embedded in the department through the creation of the new *Strategy and Secondary School Reform Group* under Deputy Secretary, Scott Widmer. Centrally they are in the process of transition moving from the Senior Secondary Pathways Reform Taskforce to a group.

The Senior Secondary Pathways reforms align with and contribute to this priority by **ensuring all Victorian secondary school students have access to high quality and engaging vocational and applied learning pathways.**

Marrung Lead Professional Learning Day



Moondani Toombadool

(Embracing Teaching and Learning)

Greg also highlighted efforts to raise the aspirations for Koorie young people in the Outer East Area through collaboration with Swinburne University's Moondabi Toombadool Centre.

One example of this partnership is the joint work between the Koorie Education Workforce, the Lilydale District and Yarra Valley Education Project Manager and the Job Skills Pathway Team, all working with the Moondani Toombadool Centre to support future aspirations for our Koorie young people.

In January 2025, Swinburne University and Moondani Toombadool Centre hosted the First Nations Aspirations Camp. Additionally, career practitioners from the LDYVEP, along with staff from government secondary schools, visited MTC to explore the university and learn how best support Koorie students. Looking ahead, a proposed VET CMP IS SCHEDULED FOR September 2025 during Term 3 or 4.

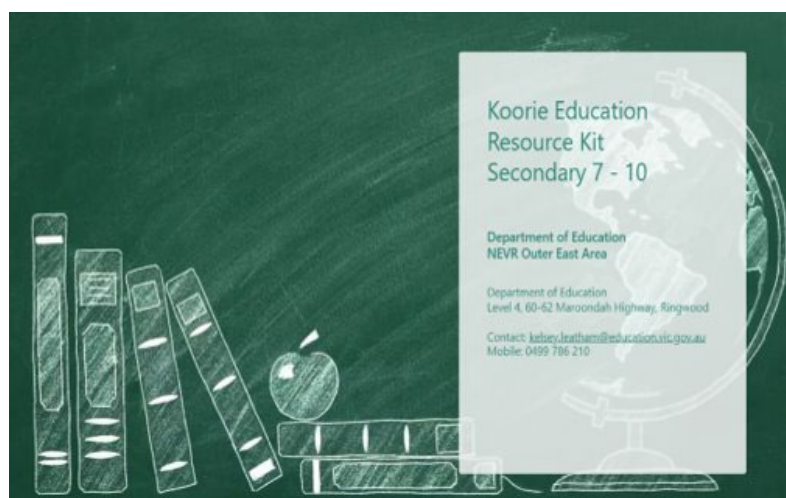
Koorie Education Resource Kits



Marrung Lead Professional Learning Day



Coming Soon!



<https://forms.office.com/r/nqDa2B7Z5N>

Koorie Education Resource Kits have been created for Early Years and Specialist education, with a Primary school kit now available for F-6. They are a Cultural Inclusion/Visual and tactile stimuli. The resource list includes information about where the item was sourced, and suggestions for how the resource can be used. We are encouraging schools who borrow this resource to share any lessons that they develop.

A secondary school kit for Years 7-10 is also in development and will be released soon!

Marrung Lead Professional Learning Day



Conditions of Use:

This Koorie Education Resource Kit has been developed by the Koorie Education Workforce in the Department of Education, Outer East Area, North Eastern Victoria region.

Kits are available **on loan for 3, 4 or 5 weeks** to Early Years Services, and Specialist, Primary and soon Secondary Schools in the Outer East Area.

We invite you to trial these resources with your students. Please use these resources with care so that they can continue to be shared. You are welcome to share any lessons plans that you have developed using these resources.

Contact: Kelsey Leatham, KESO

Pakana Palawa,
Department of Education, NEVR , Outer East
Level 4, 60-62 Maroondah Hwy, Ringwood 313
T: (03) 7505 4302 M: 0499 786 210
E: kelsey.leatham@education.vic.gov.au

Resources, Curriculum Links & Teaching Suggestions

Trish provided participants at our Marrung Lead PL with a wide range of numeracy resources, curriculum links and teaching suggestions. These included the *Bush Mob Counting Book*, *Bush Bingo* and *Going to the Footy* – a literacy resource with curriculum connections and instructional guidance.

Additionally, she shared Science resources with curriculum links as well materials focused on Wellbeing and Belonging. There were also resources for History, Civics and Citizenship, along with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, all accompanied by curriculum links and teaching strategies. Many more valuable resources were also available to support educators.

Marrung Lead Professional Learning Day



Kilsyth Primary School Mural

We had the privilege of hearing from Kilsyth Primary School Principal, Daniel Gooding, about their journey in creating an art mural and the storytelling behind its design by artist Merrilyn Duff.

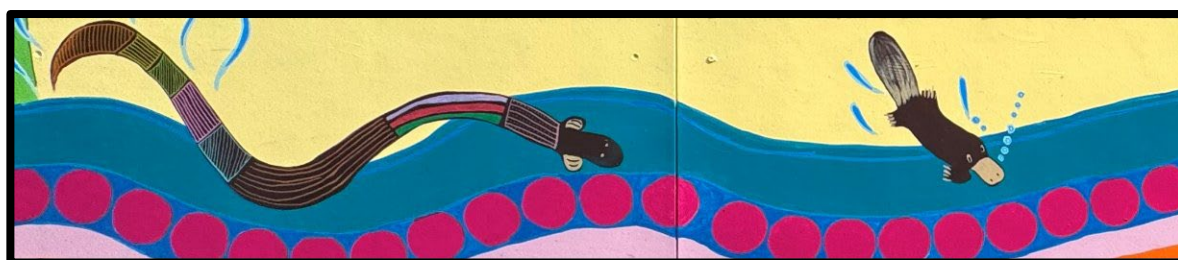


Artist: Merrilyn Duff

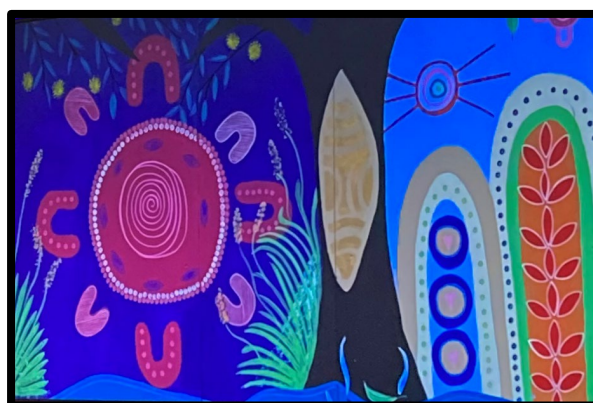
The artwork was a genuine collaboration involving the artist, students, school community and family members.

Marrung Lead Professional Learning Day

The mural begins with the 'Scar Tree' which for the artist symbolises resilience and strength. Beside it there is a vibrant lemon-coloured section featuring Bunjil the Eagle and the rising sun. Surrounding them are various symbols representing kith and kin acknowledging we all come from different family backgrounds.



The Birrarung (Yarra River) meanders along the bottom of the mural depicting the Platypus and Eel native to the rivers on Wurundjeri lands. The story continues to the symbols used in Aboriginal art representing community made up of many people. There are also smaller Yarning Circles under the blue skies telling us the sun has risen, and the day has begun,



Marrung Lead Professional Learning Day

Sitting proudly in the centre of the mural and visible from any angle in the school is the main Yarning Circle which is a reminder of the schools own Yarning Circle where the students share stories, learn together and pass on knowledge.

Lamandra (grass plant) is a strong and resistant weaving plant and an important element to include in the storytelling.



The mural then moves in to the night skies, the stars symbolised by circles with dots around them. The artist speaks about this representing 'reaching for the stars' and striving for excellence.



Nearing the end of the mural you see symbols representing leaving our mark as we head into the future – journeying together noticing human, emu, kangaroo and possum footprints, The students and staff wanted the Kilsyth bird included and each of the three elements of the bird program are included in the mural..

Marrung Lead Professional Learning Day

IEP Workshop

Adele Woolard, Manager and Christina Dowling, Allied Health Officer of HWSS (Health and Wellbeing Special Services) facilitated an IEP workshop introducing the learning intentions and overview of an IEP, how to use the IEP Quality Checklist Rubric and writing Quality Goals for an IEP.

An IEP is a written statement that describes the adjustments, goals and strategies to meet a student's individual educational needs so they can reach their full potential.

IEPs are required for students in statutory ([OoHC](#)), Koorie students ([Marrung – Victorian Aboriginal Education Plan](#)), students supported under individualised disability funding programs ([Program for Students with Disabilities](#) and [Disability Inclusion](#)), students in youth justice (custody and community), students in re-engagement programs under [contract arrangements](#) with another school or provider and students undertaking [Flexible Learning Options \(FLOs\)](#)

IEPs are *highly recommended* for [Students with additional learning needs](#), students not achieving to their potential (including high-ability students, where appropriate – see the [High-ability toolkit](#)), students at risk of disengagement, students who are [Young Carers](#) (where appropriate) and any other students determined as needing an IEP.

They shared the need for IEPs for Koorie students aligning with the Marrung Education Plan and listed the plans an IEP should not be developed for.



They dissected the building of a quality IEP into four stages – Assess, Plan, Teach and Evaluate incorporating SMART goals. They did exercises with case studies and demonstrated how each stage comes back to the checklist rubric.

Marrung Lead Professional Learning Day

Individual Education Planning eLearning 30 min	IEP Webinar 45 min	IEP SMART goal practice lab 1 hour 15 min	IEP Short Course self-paced
Link: (via LearnED in eDuPay)	Link: Arc Events Providers IEP Webinar (educationapps.vic.gov.au)	Link: Arc Events Channels NEVR Individual Education Planning (educationapps.vic.gov.au) or Request a facilitated session: Arc Events Providers NEVR - EOI for IEP Webinar or SMART goals practice lab (educationapps.vic.gov.au)	Link: Event Template (deafeducation.vic.edu.au)

What's New



Strong and Deadly Boorais (SBD)

An outreach tutoring program delivered by qualified teachers supporting students in statutory OoHC who are disengaged or at risk of disengaged.

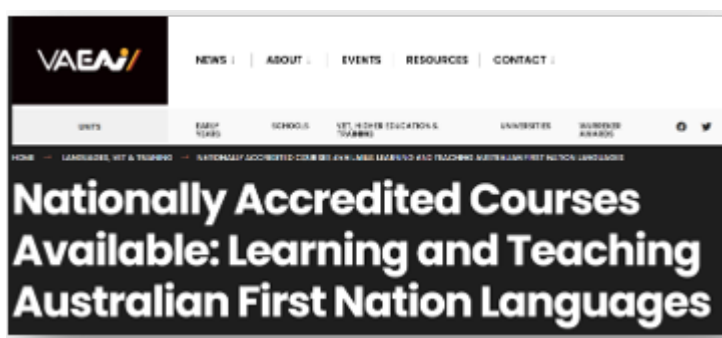
Marrung Lead Professional Learning Day



Toorong Marnong Koorie Big Day Out



First Nations Graduate Teachers' Online Gathering



VAEAI Language Course

Narragunnawali
Reconciliation in Education

**NAKRA
GUNNA
WALI**



**Narragunnawali Awards 2025:
Honouring reconciliation in education**

Reconciliation Australia is proud to launch the fifth Narragunnawali Awards recognising outstanding commitment to reconciliation in education.

Narragunnawali Awards 2025

Marrung Lead Professional Learning Day



Anti-racism eLearning Course

Community Gathering

NGWALA WILLUMBONG
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

DEADLIER TOGETHER

A SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL WELLBEING GATHERING

Join us to celebrate the spirit of culture and community!

- Welcome to Country & Smoking Ceremony
- Live Music & Traditional Dance
- Wayapa (Earth Mind Body Spirit Workshop)
- Arts & Crafts - Terrariums, Jewellery etc.,
- Community Art Experience
- Aboriginal Storytelling
- Balloon Twisting & Temporary Tattoos
- Yarning Circles
- Coffee Van, Morning Tea, & Hot Lunch
- Goodie Bags & a Free Raffle Contest!

Need transport on the day?
Contact Alicia at 0439369113 or
alicia.wheatleyedffh.vic.gov.au to
arrange.

DATE & TIME
Friday 11th April 2025
10:00am - 3:30pm

LOCATION
Box Hill Town Hall
1022 Whitehorse Rd,
Box Hill VIC 3128

RSVP
Please register using the
QR code by 4th April

CONTACT
Beena
0493 683 720

NGWALA WILLUMBONG
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

VICTORIA
State Government

OONAH
ABORIGINAL HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

VACCA

Boorndawan Willam
ABORIGINAL HEALING SERVICE

Mullum Mullum
Indigenous Gathering Place
strengthening our
community together

Koori Strong
Koori Justice
Regional Aboriginal Justice Advisory Committee
Department of Justice & Community Safety
Eastern Metropolitan Region
Victorian Aboriginal
Justice Agreement

East Dheik Dja Action Group

Early Years

Koorie Kids Shine at Kindergarten

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children can access 15 hours of free kindergarten each week for the two years prior to school. To be eligible, a child must turn three or four by 30 April in the year they start a kindergarten program.

At kindergarten, children will make new friends, enjoy fun activities, and get ready for school in a safe and supportive environment.

Children will:

- learn through play, art, music and dance
- learn to express themselves in a safe, inclusive and caring environment
- build the skills and confidence to prepare them for school.

Kindergarten programs have a qualified teacher and work hard to create culturally safe places for Aboriginal children and families, such as including Aboriginal perspectives in the learning curriculum and environment.

Learn more, visit [Kindergarten for Aboriginal children: Koorie Kids Shine](#)



Easter is Egg-citing

A reminder the KEW team and our Koorie students will be enjoying school holidays during the Easter break and returning on 22nd April.

We wish our Department of Education colleagues, families and community a wonderful and safe eggtravaganza for Easter!



Keeping Culture - Events | Activities | Stories



17Mar25 - Keeping
Culture - WEEKLY RE

Please Share...

PDF version embedded. Links embedded in the headings. Please send through any flyers or links to culturally safe events/activities for young people.

- [24 HOUR Telephone Support Services](#)
- [Foster Caring? Learn More](#)
- [13YARN - Downloadable Fact Sheet](#)
-

Stories

Kids - [Play School: Yarning and Dreaming \(27 min\)](#)

Yarning and Dreaming celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children.

Doco - [Kindred \(90 mins\)](#)

Two Aboriginal friends, who were both adopted by white families, take a journey into the complexities of family, isolation, self-love and belonging, exploring the importance of discovering your place in the world.

Video - [Four Corners - Truth Yoorrook Story \(46 min\)](#)

Australia's first ever truth-telling commission uncovers our hidden history. Bridget Brennan examines how we as a nation reckon with our colonial past and take critical steps towards truth, healing and justice.

Awareness - [Recording a country's painful past \(article\)](#)

This truth-telling inquiry has spent years collecting testimony from hundreds of First Nations and non-Indigenous people, revealing the scale of atrocities and the failure of governments to reckon with the past.

Arts - [Joel Bray's Monolith to premiere at RISING 2025](#)

A powerful new dance work by Wiradjuri artist Joel Bray will premiere as part of RISING 2025, with performances running from 3 to 15 June at Arts House, North Melbourne Town Hall.

Cultural Planning - [Your Cultural Identity \(Resources\)](#)

The first section of the cultural plan template explores 'Cultural Identity'. The resource above provides articles and tools to help complete this section of the cultural plan.

Keeping Culture - Events | Activities | Stories

Indig X - **Pitch an Article**

Do you have an idea for a story or article? Pitch it directly to Indigenous X via this online form.

Culture - **The Black Nan (Short Video)** A short digital story by Dixon Patten.

Sport - **Molly Ward to represent at Victorian Indigenous cricket team**

Molly Ward, who joined GEGAC earlier this year as a Koorie Kare Field Worker, has been selected to represent Victoria in the 2025 National Indigenous Cricket Championships.

Country - **New season murnong for sale**

Get your orders in today. Willum Warrain is starting up its annual online sale of murnong seeds just in time for autumn planting. Selling *Microseris walteri* – the yam daisy mob ate for millennia. It is the sweet one - when slow-cooked it tastes like coconut.

Community - **Reko Rennie unveils "proud declaration of identity"**

Rennie presented the collaboration with McLaren F1 driver and fellow hometown product Oscar Piastri behind the wheel ahead of this weekend's Australian Grand Prix on Wednesday.

Society - **Commonwealth vs Yunupingu**

The court ultimately found the Gumatj Clan was eligible for compensation, holding the Commonwealth liable.

Business - **Victorian Aboriginal Business Investment Program**

Closing 31 October. Grants from \$5,000 to \$10,000 (excluding GST) are available for business support to improve daily operations and help the financial sustainability of the business.

Youth Events & Notices

Term 1 Weekly Activities (28 Jan – 4 April)

YSAS Drop-In Day Program - ABBOTSFORD

Tuesdays and Thursdays. This Day Program is a place where young people who use drugs and alcohol can drop in to rest and recover.

Keeping Culture - Events | Activities | Stories

[Yeng Gali Music Group - EAST RINGWOOD](#)

Yeng Gali Singers gather every Monday afternoon at EACH Hall and new members are welcome to come along!

[EOi - Interested in hosting a Djirra Young-Luv workshop?](#)

Djirra's Young Luv program focuses on promoting healthy relationships for Aboriginal young women between 13 and 18 years old. All costs are covered. Reach out to Casey at cwilliams@djirra.org.au

[EOi - Receiving the School Saving Bonus - VIC](#)

A one-off \$400 to help families cover the costs of their kids' school uniforms, textbooks, excursions and activities. (Ending 30 Jun 2025)

[EOi - Casting Call - First Nations Girls Aged 8 - 11 years - AUS](#)

To play lead roles in Warwick Thornton's new feature film, 'Wolfram'. Shooting in Alice Springs April/May/June 2025 No acting experience necessary but willing to have a go. All PAID roles.

[EOi - VACSAL Debutant Ball 2025 - VIC](#)

VACSAL will be hosting a Debutant Ball for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ladies school aged from 16+ and older women who have not previously done their ball. Numbers limited to 18 participants with first preference to those aged 16-20 years old.

[NOW OPEN - Kids Active Voucher Program - VIC](#)

Eligible children may receive up to \$200 to cover the costs for membership and registration fees. Applications will open in Spring 2024.

[30 Mar - Tiddas Basketball Clinic - WANTIRNA SOUTH](#)

We are excited to announce the first of our Tiddas Basketball and Cultural clinics for Play Our Way 2025. This clinic is a FREE event and is for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander girls aged 6-17. Places limited, so register soon!

[30 Mar - Basketball Boys Deadly Skills and Drills - WANTIRNA SOUTH](#)

Sunday 30th March 2025 * State Basketball centre 291 George St, Wantirna South for Boys aged 6-17.

[Apr - Clay workshop, biik nganak: Listening to Country - HEALESVILLE](#)

Get creative these school holidays in this hands-on clay workshop inspired by the indigenous plants of the Eva and Marc Besen Centre. The workshop is suitable for ages 6–15 and all materials are supplied.

Keeping Culture - Events | Activities | Stories

29 Apr - Heritage Story Time with Aunty N'arwee't Carolyn Briggs - MELBOURNE

Suitable for ages 3-5. For this special Heritage Festival story time with Aunty N'arweet Carolyn Briggs, enjoy a reading of The Time of Chaos, a story of the Boon Wurrung language group, illustrated by Balnarring Preschool.

Community Events & Notices

Ongoing Weekly Activities

Support - [Stolen Generations Reparations Package - VIC](#)

The package addresses the trauma and suffering caused by the forced removal of Aboriginal children from their families, culture, and Country. It applies to children removed in Victoria before 31 December 1976.

Support - [Redress for Historical Institutional Abuse - VIC](#)

Redress for Historical Institutional Abuse is for people who experienced physical, emotional or psychological abuse and neglect as children in institutional settings in Victoria before 1990.

EOi - [Casting Call for new Warwick Thornton Film - AUS](#)

Seeking Indigenous Men 25 - 38. No experience needed. Two lead roles in a feature film with Director, Warwick Thornton.

4 - 6 Apr - [Men's Healing Camp - EAST METRO](#)

Inviting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men (18+) living in the Eastern Metro Region to join us for a Men's Healing Retreat Camp at Camp Jungai.

11 & 12 Apr - [wawa dharrang cultural tour - YEA](#)

wawa dharrang meaning 'hello tree', is an immersive 5-hour cultural experience on Taungurung Country. The dharrang (tree) has provided resources, resilience and life to Taungurung Ancestors for millennia.

13 Apr - [Ngarra Jarra Noun Healing Ceremony - COLLINGWOOD](#)

Music performances by Briggs, Crooked TP, MPathSoul, Jayden Lillyst, Aaron Morgan and Cultural Dance Groups. Traditional games, art and dance workshop for children on the day. Mindful mob healing markets and food stalls will be setup and a community BBQ.

Closing 14 Apr - [Citipower First Peoples pre-apprenticeship scholarship - VIC](#)

CitiPower and Powercor are committed to creating opportunities for First Peoples in the energy industry, through trade and professional career pathways. The scholarship is valued at up to \$2,000 and aims to assist First Peoples with costs associated with stud

Keeping Culture - Events | Activities | Stories

Closing 31 Oct - [Victorian Aboriginal Business Investment Program - VIC](#)

Grants from \$5,000 to \$10,000 (excluding GST) are available for business support to improve daily operations and help the financial sustainability of the business.

Local Community Organisations

Regardless of where we live, or who our mob is, we can all go through tough times. You and your loved ones can find support through your local Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations.

Oonah Aboriginal Health & Community Services <http://hicsa.org.au/>

Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place - Ringwood <https://www.mmigp.org.au/>

VACCA – Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency <https://www.vacca.org/>

Boorndawan Willam Aboriginal Healing Service <https://www.bwahs.com.au/>

Eastern Health Aboriginal Health Service <https://www.easternhealth.org.au/site/item/127-aboriginal-health>

VAEAI [VAEAI – Victorian Aboriginal Education Association Inc.](http://www.vaeai.org.au/)

Orange Door – Croydon, Box Hill, Heidelberg <https://www.orangedoor.vic.gov.au/>
oema@orangedoor.vic.gov.au
 1800 271 150
[Walk in](#) 4-16 Devon Street Croydon

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