



**THE LINK
CENTRE
COMMUNITY
HUB PROVIDES
FAMILIES WITH
OPPORTUNITIES
TO LINK WITH
THE
COMMUNITY,
BEYOND THE
SCHOOL GATE,
ENHANCING
EDUCATIONAL
ENGAGEMENT
AND
OUTCOMES.**

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LINK NEWS

FROM BUNURONG LAND

We gather here in this special place to continue our learning journey together. We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the traditional custodians of the land upon which our school meets- Bunurong Land. We pay our respects to the Elders past and present, and acknowledge the stories, traditions and living cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We commit to building a brighter future together.

CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING FOR ALL STAFF

Community Understanding and Safety Training (CUST) empowers school staff to foster culturally inclusive environments that enhance First Nations students' well-being.

Aunty Judy Dalton- Walsh is a proud Wathaurong Elder and our schools Koori Education Support Officer and she delivered a powerful session for all our staff.



GANBU GULIN CELEBRATIONS

Young Mob wrapped up the Ganbu Gulin program with trying Kangaroo sausages and burgers and cooking Bush Damper with Aunty Fay! We would like to thank Essendon Football Clubs Long Walk Program for hosting such a powerful program.

MELBOURNE MUSEUM VISIT

The Community Hub team took a huge group of parents and children to the Melbourne Museum! As part of their preparation for their citizenship test and to lean into using English, our adult learners wanted to learn more about Aboriginal people, so the museum organised this free excursion - a VIP visit to the First Nations section and exploring other elements of the museum.

Some have never travelled on the train or been in Melbourne before- so wonderful! Thank you to Melbourne Museum for having us!



WEAR IT PURPLE DAY

Wear It Purple Day is about demonstrating to rainbow young people that they are celebrated and respected and acknowledging they all have the right to be proud of who they are and who they are becoming. It is about creating safe spaces to show LGBTQIA+ young people that they are seen and supported.

We hosted a fundraiser, all the amazing work was completely by our Rainbow Group students and Community Members.

Why do we celebrate this day?

Wear It Purple Day is a great opportunity to think about how you perceive other people, and how you can improve on being inclusive and respectful. Although many gender diverse (LGBTQIA+) people live healthy and happy lives, research has demonstrated that a disproportionate number experience poorer mental health outcomes and have higher risk of suicidal behaviours than their peers. These health outcomes are directly related to experiences of stigma, prejudice, discrimination, and abuse on the basis of being LGBTQIA+. Please read more about these statistics in the Writing Themselves In 4: National Report (latrobe.edu.au) which highlights the need for education and inclusion days.





YOUNG MOB EXCURSION

We had an incredible opportunity to take our Young Mob students to meet with Elders and Community members at Youth Services thanks to the First Nations Youth Worker Daniel Ward Youth Resource Centre - Wyndham. They held a yarning circle where young people could ask any questions they wanted. Followed by a huge feed and some painting. Students from local secondary school connected with each other and formed new friendships.



YOGA

Our families have been enjoying free yoga lessons thanks to our community partner Nang Tin Nilar Win. Yoga is good for strength, balance and flexibility and we are wanting our families to live their best lives! More lessons will be provided in Term 4- stay tuned for details.



INTERACT FUNDRAISER STORY DOGS

In partnership with Rotary Club of Werribee - VIC Australia and Story Dogs, we hosted a successful fundraiser to have a Story Dog in one of our feeder Primary Schools. Thank you to everyone who donated and supported us.

Daisy and Elle were the highlight with many students coming for a pat or cuddle. Thanks to the efforts of our Interact students for making the dog and human treats that were on sale.

Photos by Abby Gray Photography



JUNUBI YOUTH GROUP



Since our Family Community Worker, Malaan started, she has been working hard at developing relationships with our families and students of African background. Malaan and English teacher Mrs Millard had the pleasure of taking our Year 7 and 8 students to Baai Alkebulan House as part of the 10-week Junubi Youth Group program.



Baai Alkebulan is Australia's first African Library, Arts and History Museum. They are a dedicated home for learning about the history and culture of people of African and First Nations descent. From rare and important books to art, antiques, professional services and businesses, they want to educate people about the rich cultures and history to empower each other to navigate the future. Baai Alkebulan House inspires the youth to use the teachings of our ancestors to reach greater heights, unbound by the preconceived ideas placed upon us. They seek to create a new narrative for the future of African communities by learning about their past to better understand current challenges and prepare for the future.

It was amazing to see our students learn new things about themselves, and their community and we look forward to hearing how we can bring this information back into our classrooms.

