



# Ovens Murray KESO Newsletter

Dates to remember for school Marrung Lead staff:  
Thursday 7th March – Marrung Lead Professional  
Development at Winton Wetlands

## SIGNIFICANT DATES IN MARCH AND APRIL

### 21st March

#### INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination is observed annually on 21 March. On that day, in 1960, police opened fire and killed 69 people at a peaceful demonstration in Sharpeville, South Africa, against the apartheid laws. Proclaiming the day in 1966, the United Nations General Assembly called on the international community to redouble its efforts to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination.

#### HARMONY DAY

Harmony Day also celebrated on the 21st March centres on the message that Everyone Belongs, reinforcing the importance of inclusiveness to all Australians. Since 1999, thousands of Harmony Day events have been held in childcare centres, schools, community groups, churches, businesses and federal, state and local government agencies across Australia.

### 25 April - ANZAC DAY

## RESOURCES AND BOOKS TO SUPPORT SIGNIFICANT DATES

**All significant dates:** The VAEAI Koorie Education Calendar includes detailed information about the significance of the dates listed, ideas for lessons, and links to full online resources.

<https://www.vaeai.org.au/wp-content/uploads/delightful-downloads/2023/02/VAEAI-Koorie-Education-Calendar-2023.pdf>

### Harmony Day and International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination:



By Adam Goodes. A story about the power of reconnecting to family, culture and Country.



By Adam Briggs. Adapted from the song 'The Children Came Back'. A celebration of past and present Indigenous legends, as well as emerging generations. Honours the oldest continuous culture on earth.



A website with teaching activities from Foundation through to Year 12.  
[www.racismnoway.com.au](http://www.racismnoway.com.au)



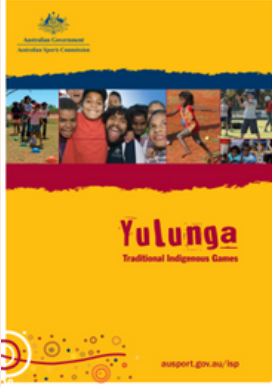
A website dedicated to Harmony Day with ideas for schools to celebrate.  
[harmony.gov.au](http://harmony.gov.au)

### ANZAC Day



By Rachel Bin Salleh. Unmasks the lack of recognition given to Australian Indigenous Servicemen who returned from war.

## ACTIVITY IDEA



Choose a game to play from the Yulunga Traditional Indigenous Games book. This book can be downloaded from [https://www.sportaus.gov.au/\\_\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0006/705462/Yulunga\\_Games.pdf](https://www.sportaus.gov.au/___data/assets/pdf_file/0006/705462/Yulunga_Games.pdf)

Some examples of games that promote harmony through teamwork:

Chuboochuboo (p.16-17). Suitable for kindergarten to Year 6.

Woggabaliri (p.36-37). Suitable for Year 7-12.

Kai (p.40-41) Suitable for Years 4-12.

Juluhya (p 69-69). Suitable for Kindergarten to Year 6

## FIRST NATIONS PERSPECTIVE TIP: DISPLAY THE FLAGS

Displaying the three flags - Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, and Australian flags supports all our families to feel welcome at kindergarten or school.

### **Display the flags:**

On 3 separate flag poles at the front of the school

On stands at assembly

In each classroom



Ensure that your flags are displayed the correct way up and in the correct order.

### How to fly the three flags together



#### From a stand with three flagpoles

When flying all three flags together, the Australian National Flag takes precedence over the other flags.

When using the stand provided, the Australian National Flag flies from the central pole as this is the highest pole. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags are equal in status and can be flown on either side of the national flag. There is no rule stating that the Aboriginal flag must be to the right of the Australian National Flag and the Torres Strait Islander flag on the left of the Australian National Flag or vice versa.



These rules also apply when displaying the desk set flags.

Taken From:

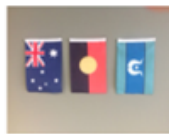
<https://www.racgp.org.au/FSDEDEV/media/documents/Faculties/ATSI/NFATSIH-flag-protocol.pdf>

Note - It is important to teach the meaning and history behind each flag  
This information can also be researched from this document.



#### Flown from three separate flagpoles

If all three flags are being flown from poles of the same height, the Australian National Flag is displayed on the flag pole to the far left with the other two flags to the right.



#### Hanging on a wall

When flags are displayed hanging on a wall, the Australian National Flag is displayed on the far left with the other two flags to the right.

## CULTURAL LEARNING TIP: SOME IMPORTANT TIPS WORKING WITH YOUR FIRST NATIONS STUDENTS

Direct eye contact may be avoided - it is considered rude in Aboriginal culture.

Students may be less likely to answer questions - traditionally culture is passed on through stories, not questions and answers

Students may feel shame - this means they could be less likely to let you know when something is difficult or they don't understand. They will keep quiet to avoid 'getting it wrong'.

<https://www.creativespirits.info/aboriginalculture/education/teaching-aboriginal-students>