

APRIL 2021

# SUPPORTED LEARNING NEWS

## PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Hello Parents/Carers,

Wow- what a fantastic first term it has been in Supported Learning, we have certainly hit the ground running for 2021! Lots of work experience opportunities, hands on learning and new skills being developed. Of particular note has been the Teddy Bears Picnic and Harmony Day celebrations in Supported Primary and the launch of 'The Lakes Café' (and a nice little profit) for Supported Secondary. The Alliance students have been working hard to educate the Manor Lakes College community on recycling and upcycling, PreCAL have been eagerly planning their kitchen garden program and Supported VCAL have launched 'High Class Café' on Mondays at the Manor Lakes Community Centre. A massive congratulations to all students on their fantastic achievements in these programs and a thank-you to the staff working tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure our students have these opportunities.

In Term Two we are looking forward to two Supported Learning camps- Blackwood Outdoor Education Camp for a small group of PreCAL students and PGL Adventure Camps in Campaspe Downs for grades 3-12 Supported Learning students. We also have two consultants returning to Supported Learning in Term Two to work directly with our students and provide ongoing staff development. Haylee Parfett is a Speech Therapy consultant and assisting us in ensuring that all students have a voice and access to visuals in their learning. Andrea Hillbrick is also spending multiple days with us to assist in further developing our Literacy Program and Project Based Learning.

We are on the hunt for a new Speech Therapist to join our Allied Health team in Supported Learning. If you know anyone who may be interested, please feel free to pass my contact details on to them.

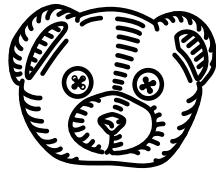
Happy Easter! Enjoy your holidays and stay safe!

Francesca Ahearn  
Principal  
Supported Learning





# SUPPORTED PRIMARY



## *'Around the World'*

This term in Integrated Studies we completed a 'Teddy Bear Exchange' program between Primary classes to learn about the world around us. Each class focused on a different country and exchanged information that they learned with other classes through letter writing. We learnt about the location of our country on a map, the national anthem, the flag, music and dances that originated from our country, holidays they celebrate, inventions and national dress.



Students got the opportunity to celebrate the completion of this topic by hosting a 'Teddy Bear Picnic' on Friday the 26th of March. Each class made a dish that originates from their class country and shared it at the picnic. This coincided with our Harmony Day celebrations on the same day.







## ***Supported Secondary***

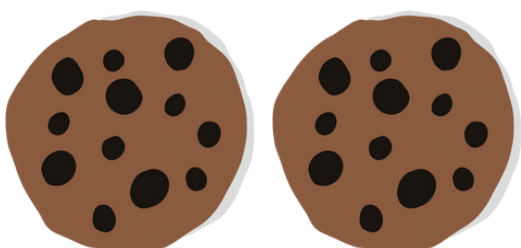
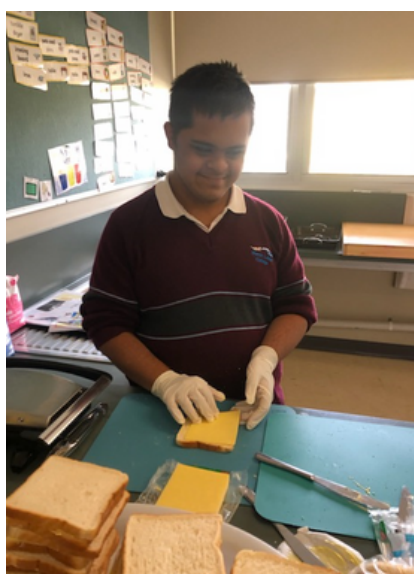
During Term One the Supported Secondary students have been preparing "The Lakes" Café to open for a trial run. They have been focusing on meal and food preparation and discussing the importance of health and hygiene in the kitchen. The students took part in deciding what items to put on the menu, shopping for the ingredients, preparing and cooking the food and have been practicing serving, taking orders and money handling. Our first trial run was on Thursday the 25th of March and we were very excited!!!!

It went really well and we sold out of almost everything. We will be open again next term!

Next term we are super excited to begin work experience with Manor Lakes Community Centre and FoodBank- stay tuned!

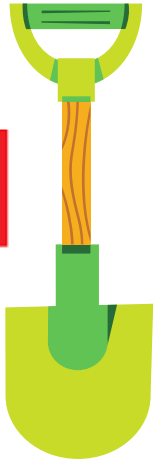
Secondary Supported Team

Welcome to  
"The Lakes"  
Café

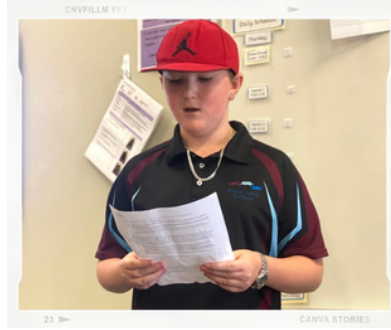


# Pre-CAL

STEPHANIE ALEXANDER KITCHEN  
GARDEN



In PreCAL we are excited to share that we are the lucky recipients of a \$5000 Coles Grant from Manor Lakes Coles to start a kitchen garden program. A few weeks ago, students presented a proposal to members of leadership to get money to create garden beds for our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen-Garden Program. We have planned out where these garden beds will go and moved the materials to the right spot. Leadership were so impressed with our presentation and communication skills that we were given additional money to use in our program outside of our grant money. THANKYOU to Manor Lakes Coles for their generosity, we are so excited to get started.



Students have also been using their problem solving and collaboration skills at Blackwood Outdoor Camp to pull apart pallets and remove the nails. This wood will be recycled to create storage boxes in the music hut students have been working to restore.





# SUPPORTED VCAL

On our classroom days this term with our new teacher Rob, we have been working hard on our Seesaw activities, building independence, and learning how to receive and respond to feedback. We have started planning our City Experience, an excursion we'll plan ourselves. This involves developing a checklist of required equipment as well as discussing the behaviours and skills needed to successfully implement our outing.

Externally this term we launched our café operations at the Manor Lakes Community Centre (High Class Café), and are averaging 25+ coffee orders and 15+ banana bread orders every Monday, and finances are already in the black. We are rising to new challenges at our Structured Workplace Learning days, such as beginning on a park-wide restoration of timber tables and benches at the You Yangs Regional Park. These facilities are used by up to 60,000 visitors to the park each year.

At Vinnies Altona Nth Distribution Centre (largest charity warehouse in Victoria), we sorted, picked and arranged nearly one tonne of garments on our first day. On brief calculation, our warehouse supervisor estimated those items to return approx. \$2500 to Vinnies related charity programs.

At Serendip Sanctuary we cleared the wallaby enclosure of noxious weeds and non-native flora, providing a vital component of the landscape project underway for our bouncy friends to come back to their new home.

At Salvos Stores Hoppers, we play a crucial role in both the warehouse and the retail store maintaining Covid safe cleaning operations, sorting, packing, and merchandising. The Salvos Hoppers Store generates over \$1 million of charity revenue each year for the organisation.

We're also really excited about Manor Lakes P-12 College's new initiative to include a supported student candidate application for Vice Captain of the School as of 2022. A couple of us have already put our hand up to participate in a preparation program toward that goal.







# Alliance

The Alliance Team have made exceptional progress with the Argyle Courtyard, bringing life and colour to our new space. The benches where the students will be socialising and eating have been sanded down and painted in colours chosen by the students. Each Alliance and Pre-Cal class have designed their own wall - space, inspirational message, Aboriginal Art and a garden wall to make the area more welcoming and exciting for all. It has been amazing to see the dedication and commitment the Alliance students have had in improving the Argyle Courtyard.



We kicked off our 'Don't Waste-Create' project with a fantastic trip to CERES in Brunswick, they showed us how they manage to be almost completely waste free on their environmental park from veggie patches and composting to creating your own reusable bag from an old T-shirt. This really made us think, how can we minimise our waste at Manor Lakes?

Students identified a number of problems including food waste, soft plastics, coffee cups (perhaps due to Joe turning up with a huge cup every morning!) and set about researching and putting a plan into action. A soft plastics recycling system, 7-eleven cup recycling system and even a worm farm are just some of what has been going on.



# ALLIED Health

In Supported Learning, we are so lucky to have an amazing Allied Health team! Kate, Brooke and Deanne run a variety of programs such as: gross motor, fine motor, self-regulation, social skills, fussy eating & food play.



**Kate**

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST



**Brooke**

ALLIED HEALTH ASSISTANT



**Deanne**

GROSS MOTOR PROGRAM  
OFFICER

This term, Deanne and Brooke have started running scheduled 'movement breaks' and 'gross motor skills' groups in classes. These programs are designed specifically to prepare students for learning and regulate their bodies. They have been a great success so far and the students have a great time!

