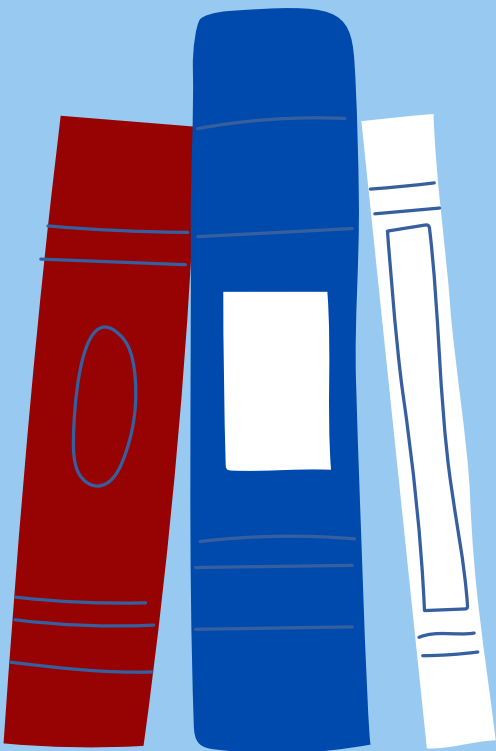




# Manor Lakes P-12 COLLEGE PRIMARY NEWSLETTER

TERM 8, WEEK 4, 2025



## SAVE THE DATE

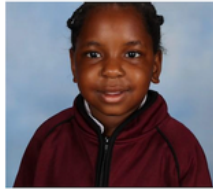
- **Tues Dec 2:** 2026 Prep transition session #3 (12pm-1pm)
- **Thur Dec 4 & 11:** Gr. 2 sleepovers
- **Tues Dec 9:**
  - Statewide Transition Day
  - 2026 Prep transition & parent information session (10.30am-12.30pm)
- **Thur Dec 11:** Gr. 6 Graduation
- **Tues Dec 16:** Gr. 6 Adventure Park excursion
- **Fri Dec 19:** Last day of the school year (1.05pm finish)
- **Fri Jan 30:** First day back for Grades 1-6
- **Mon Feb 2:** First day for Prep

PUBLISHED FORTNIGHTLY

# P.E. STARS

## Term 4, Week 6

Prep F  
Blessing Kasongo  
Red House



Grade 1A  
Jeremy Mckenzie  
Blue House

Grade 2A  
Thea Stocker-Grace  
Yellow House



Grade 3E  
Lily Western  
Red House

Grade 4B  
Nayte McLaren  
Green House



Grade 5D  
Prashasti Laddha  
Blue House

Grade 6D  
Atheil Mahmed  
Red House



Red House = 530 points  
Blue House = 540 points  
Green House = 470 points  
Yellow House = 560 points



## Term 4, Week 7

Prep A  
Advaith Bhatlapenumarthy  
Green House



Grade 1B  
Riyaan Chhetri  
Green House

Grade 2D  
Oliver Muscara  
Blue House



Grade 3B  
Lily Manahi  
Red House

Grade 4D  
Wafique Aswad  
Blue House

Grade 5A  
Noah Condon  
Red House

Grade 6E  
Arshaan Singh  
Green House



Red House = 550 points  
Blue House = 560 points  
Green House = 500 points  
Yellow House = 560 points



# NEW KINDERGARTEN – INFORMATION SESSION

Families who have a child attending kindergarten in 2026 are invited to attend a parent information session regarding the new kinder being built on the corner of Minindee Road and Scholar Drive. (See the flyer below for more information.)

**Please note:** The kinder will be run by Gowrie Victoria (not Manor Lakes P-12 College).



## Kindergarten Information Session for Families at the new Manor Lakes College Kindergarten for 3- & 4-years-olds

Join us for a family information session where we will share important details with you about:

- Gowrie Victoria and who we are
- enrolments update
- the kindergarten program
- answer your questions

This is a great opportunity to ask questions, meet members of our Gowrie team, and learn more about our work with children, families, and communities.

Light refreshments will be provided, and children are more than welcome to attend.

### Details

**Date:**

Thursday 4th December 2025

**Time:**

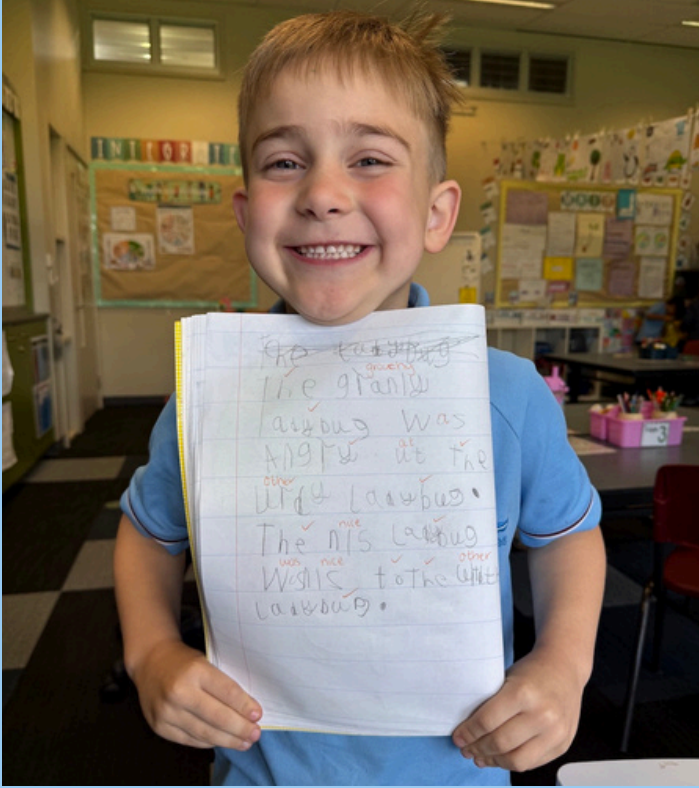
3.15pm to 4.15pm

**Venue:**

Manor Lakes College  
Enter **via** Gate 11 – Front Foyer  
2/50 Minindee Rd, Wyndham  
Vale 3024

To register your interest in the information session, please email us at [kinder.enquiries@gowrievictoria.org.au](mailto:kinder.enquiries@gowrievictoria.org.au)

# PREP



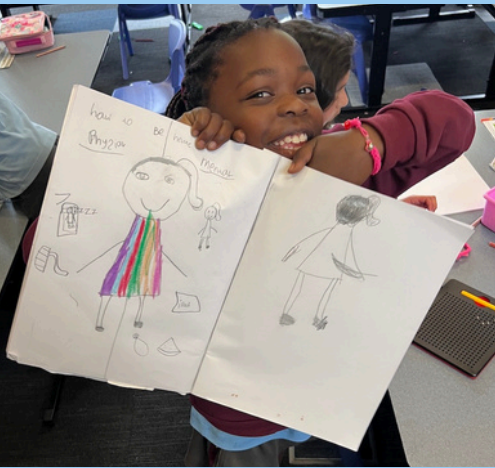
In **Core Literacy**, students have been learning some new digraphs and phonemes such as ‘ai’ and ‘ay’, as in ‘rain’ and ‘play’. Students have been working hard on memorising and spelling new speed words such as ‘doctor’, ‘seen’ and ‘silly’, as well as using their sound knowledge to read sentences.

In **English**, we have started our new unit on narratives! Using their knowledge of narrative structure (beginning, middle and end), students are writing sentences retelling Eric Carle stories like *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, making sure they are using adjectives and nouns to make their sentences more interesting.

In **Mathematics**, students have been revising and refreshing their understanding of two-part and three-part patterns by making them using hands-on materials, drawing them in their maths books and even challenging each other to ‘finish the pattern’.

In **Integrated** and **Social Skills**, we have started our new health unit. Students have been learning about the human life-cycle, healthy and unhealthy foods, as well as mental health. We have loved learning about and sharing the different strategies that help us keep a happy and healthy mind and body.

# GRADE 1



As always, it's been a busy few weeks in Grade 1!

In **Core Literacy**, students have been learning their final graphs, digraphs and trigraphs for the year – u\_e, ue, ew, ui – as well as synonyms such as 'cold' and 'chilly', and antonyms such as 'cold' and 'hot'. They have been engaging in literacy fluency activities, practising their word reading and handwriting skills, with a focus on writing words that include our focus sounds.

In **English**, we've been learning how to construct interesting sentences by using pronouns such as 'he', 'she' and 'we' to replace nouns in our writing. We've practised these skills while exploring narrative structure. Students have focused on planning, writing and editing their own fiction stories, including characters, settings, problems and solutions.

In **Maths**, we've been exploring the concept of additive thinking. Students have used their knowledge of addition and subtraction strategies, such as counting on, counting back and partitioning, to solve a range of open-ended problems.

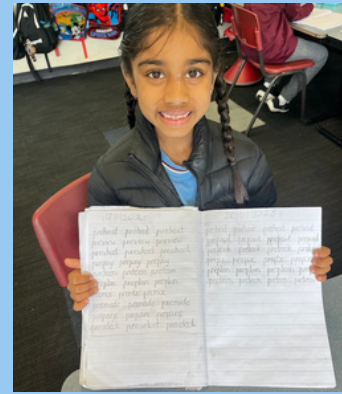
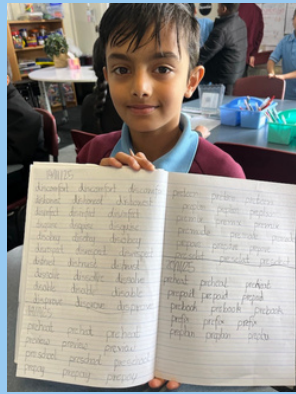
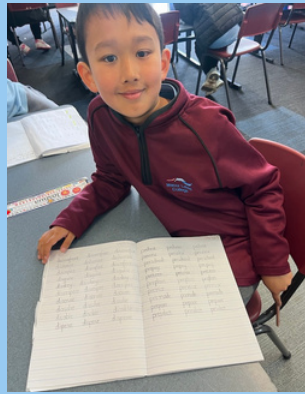
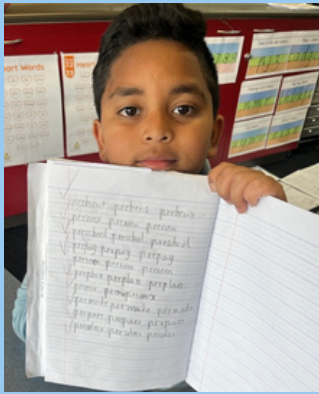
In **Social Skills**, we've been focusing on our school values – particularly the value of 'values community'. We explored how this can be demonstrated through the idea: "we care for our school environment".

We also had some of our fantastic music students perform at the **Secondary Arts Exhibition** last week. We would love to congratulate all students and parents involved for their fantastic work.

The Grade 1 Team



# GRADE 2



## Core Literacy

In Core Literacy, students have been learning about the prefix 'pre' and exploring how it changes the meaning of a base word. They have investigated words such as prepack, preseason, prepay, preplan, preprint, and preselect, identifying the base word and discussing how adding the prefix changes its meaning. Students have practised their segmenting and blending skills to spell these words and have been focusing on correct letter formation using the sky, grass, and dirt lines. They have also been building their digital skills by using the Animal Typing program on iPads to practise accurate and efficient typing.

## English

During English, students have been reading a range of Nick Bland stories, including *The Very Sleepy Bear*, *The Very Noisy Bear* and *The Very Cranky Bear*. They have been exploring the key features of a narrative and planning their own stories using characters, settings, problems and solutions. Students have also been learning to enhance their writing by applying a variety of conventions, such as using complex sentences and incorporating adverbs.

## Integrated

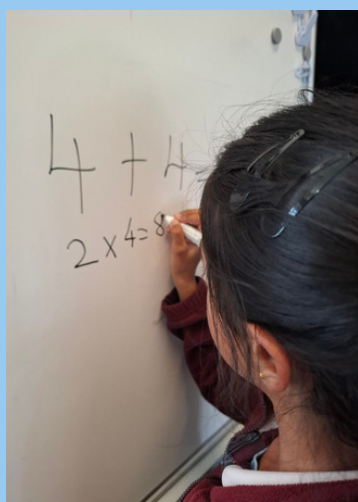
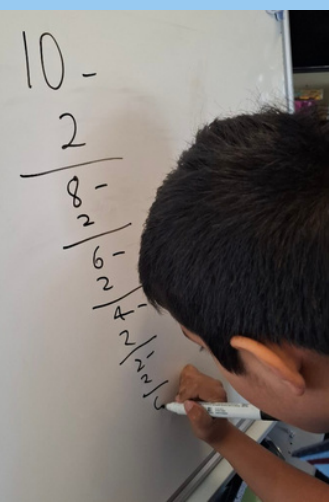
Students have begun exploring our new health unit. We have been learning about the four areas of health: physical, mental, social and emotional, and discussing how each one contributes to our overall wellbeing. Students have also been identifying personal milestones and achievements, and reflecting on why these are important.

## Maths

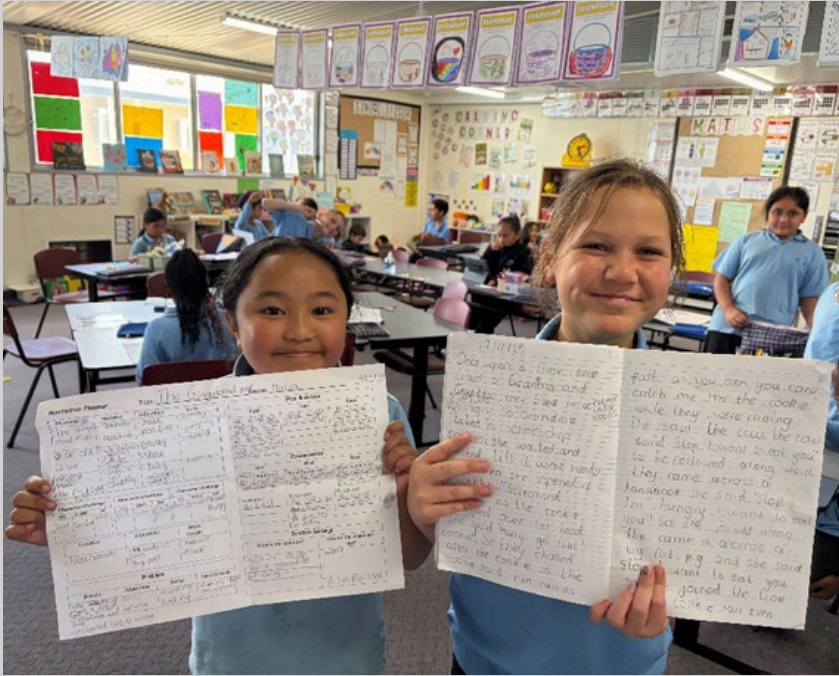
During Maths, students have been learning how to solve a range of equations involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. They have been exploring how doubling connects to multiplication, and how halving links to division, using these strategies to help them work efficiently and confidently with different problems.

## Social Skills

In Social Skills, students have been learning about the trusted adults in their lives and why it's important to ask for help when they need it. We've talked about being both a help seeker and a help giver. Students have also been revisiting our college behaviour expectations, especially how we represent our school with pride in the community and what that looks like in everyday situations.



# Grade 3!



## Writing:

We have been focusing on narrative writing, something the students really enjoy doing. Who doesn't like writing fairytales with happy endings? Students are focusing on beginning, middle and end, and adding in their own characters, problem and solution.

## Reading:

In Reading we have started our new topic of 'Author Study' and in Grade 3 we are learning about Anthony Browne, a well-known British writer who likes to include gorillas in his books. We have started reading *Willy The Wimp* and will be looking at *Changes* next week! The students are loving the books and focusing on their reading comprehension skills such as predicting, summarising and inferring.

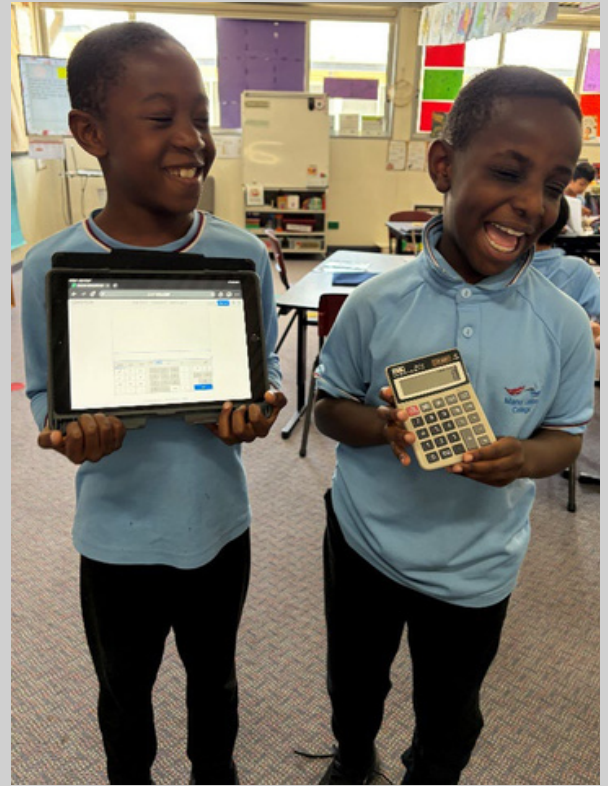


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## GRADE 3 CONTINUED

### Maths:

We have been teaching the Grade 3s how to complete maths equations on a calculator. (It seems to be a lot harder for them than they thought!) The students have been focusing on their timetables and incorporating that with their skip counting patterns. Next week we will go on to place value and doing revision on work with MAB blocks, dice and playing cards in the PV table.



### Social Skills:

In social skills, our focus has been showing respect to friends, teachers and other people we may come across. 3B and 3E have been lucky enough to have Ms Tara in the classroom with us to do Social Stencil, where we have been learning about friendship and making friendship soup and anger with scenarios.

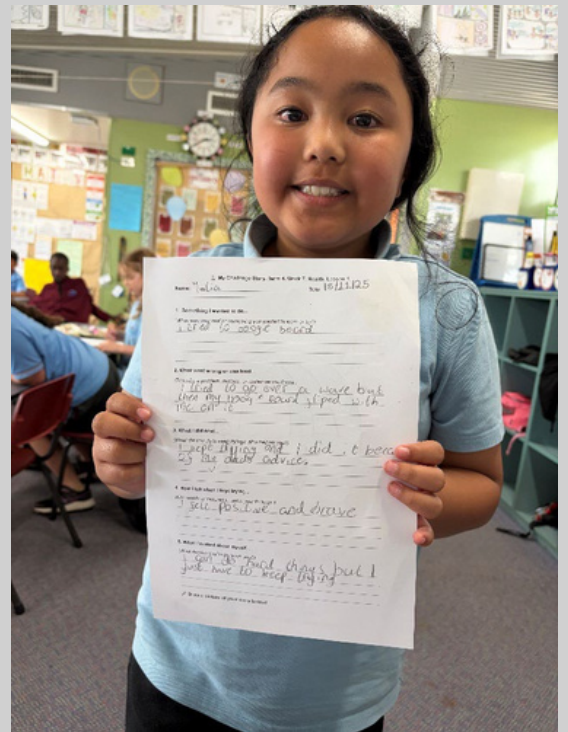


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## GRADE 3 CONTINUED

### Integrated Studies:

We have started our next and final unit for Integrated, being Health. We are going to be learning about healthy eating and exercising. We have been showing and sharing many resources for students to refer to that could help them. Students have been learning about this also in PE, where they have been learning different sports and how to catch and throw.



### Key Dates:

Transition Day: Tuesday December 9

End of Term 4: Friday December 19

Start of Term 1, 2026: Friday January 30

\*Term 4 & Term 1 are SunSmart hat terms – students must have a wide brim hat, a bucket hat or a legionnaires hat.

### Caps don't keep the sun off!



SunSmart hats protect the neck, ears, temples and sides of the face. Broad brimmed, bucket and legionnaire hats all offer very good protection to these vulnerable areas. Baseball caps and sun visors do not provide adequate protection to these areas which are common sites for skin cancer.

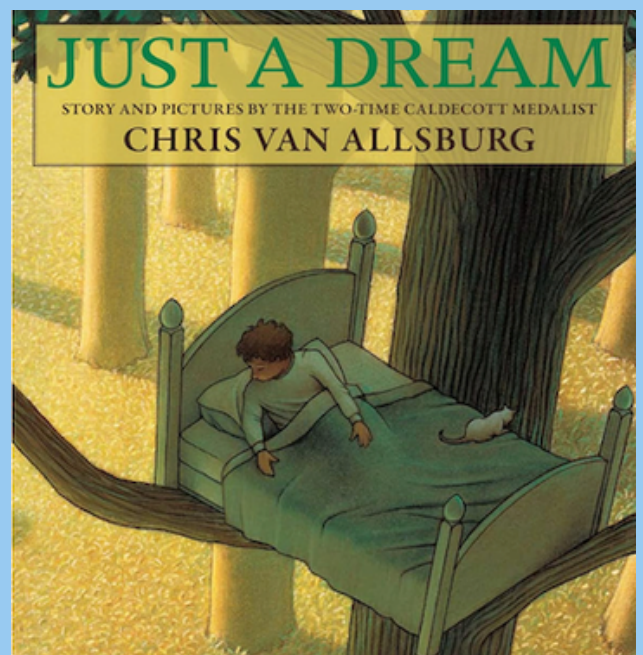
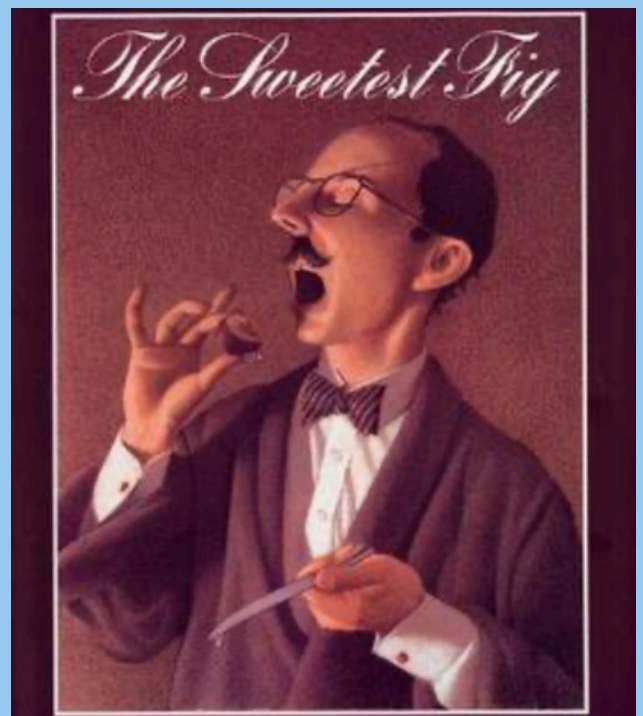
# GRADE 4

The last couple of weeks have been busy for our Grade 4s! There's been a buzz of enthusiasm since our recent Colour Run and Werribee Zoo Excursion.

In **Reading**, we have started our author study unit. The author we have been investigating is Chris Van Allsburg. We have been analysing the author's choices and identifying the narrative elements in each of his texts. We have read *The Stranger*, *Just a Dream* and *The Sweetest Fig* in our classes.

In **Writing**, we have been focusing on fiction writing and planning narratives. Students have been learning how to explain the narrative elements of a text, such as characters, setting and plot. They have been learning to use a planning template to help organise their ideas before writing. Students have also been learning how to innovate one of Chris Van Allsburg's texts by creating their own stories using narrative elements in new and creative ways.

In **Mathematics**, the Grade 4s have been working on their multiplicative thinking, including how to use arrays to understand multiplication. They have been working on recalling different multiplicative strategies to solve problems. Students have been learning to explain how their chosen strategy helps them find the answer. They have also been showing their understanding by clearly showing their working out.



# STEM



This Term in STEM, students have been focusing on design technology.

Prep students explored different types of puppets and how they move. They used their understanding of puppets and followed a design process to make simple toy puppets in class.

In design and technologies, our Grade 1 students learnt about how to reuse things to care for and protect the environment. They planned a house for their pet rock after having class discussion about the availability of materials. Afterwards, they created the projects using cardboard boxes.

Grade 2 students explored wind energy and how it can be used by wind turbines to generate electricity. In this context, they learnt about wind anemometers and their importance. They made a design plan for the anemometers and later created them using the materials provided. The students evaluated the success of their hand-made anemometers by following the criteria.

Grade 3 students have been designing, building and testing their own cam toys, applying creativity and problem-solving to bring their ideas to life. They are also learning how to design and construct a working wind turbine. Throughout the process, students review each other's designs and provide constructive feedback to their team members, strengthening both their collaboration and design-thinking skills.

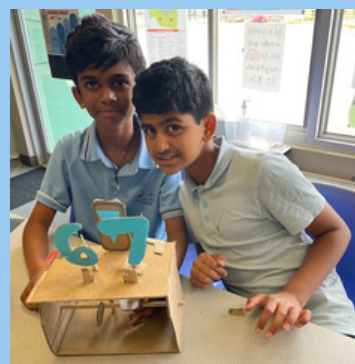
Students from Grade 4 took inspiration from the First Nations Australians' watercraft to design and create a canoe/boat. They worked collaboratively to design the boats, brainstorming the material that could make the boats waterproof. Later, they evaluated the success of their boats in water.

Year 5 students have designed and made cam toys. Through hands-on construction, they learned how movement and mechanisms work, experimenting with different types of cams and followers to bring their toy designs to life.

Grade 6 students have been challenged to design and build flood-proof houses as part of a STEM project. They explored real-world environmental issues, tested different materials and structures, and worked collaboratively to create models that could withstand simulated floods.

**MORE PHOTOS NEXT PAGE**

# STEM CONTINUED



**Boats - Reflection**

Draw the final design of your Boat

Did your boat float/sink? my boat floated

What did you use to make it waterproof? I used foil to make it waterproof

What things are you going to change to make it look/work better next time?

Make it straight  
stand up straight  
more details