



Thursday 30th July 2026

TERM 3 WEEK 3

KEY DATES 2026

July

Thurs 30th - 100 Days of School - Preps

Fri 31st - School Disco - PFA (See inside for details)

August

Mon 3rd - Cosmodome Incursion - Gr 1 & 2

Fri 7th - VSSS Mass Dance Rehearsal

Sat 8th - Trivia Night - PFA

Wed 12th - VSSS Mass Choir Rehearsal

Thur 13th - Flying Book Worm Incursion - Preps

Thurs 13th - Space Expo - Gr 5 & 6

Mon 17th - Hoop Time - Select Students

22nd-28th - Book Week Commences - see inside

Fri 21st - Book Fair Student Preview

Mon 24th-Tues 25th - Book Fair Sales - 3.15pm-4.15pm

Mon 24th - Book Character Dress Up Day

Mon 24th - Book Week Parade - 9.15am

Tues 25th - Author Visit - Whole School

Thurs 27th - VSSS Mass Choir & Dance Rehearsal

Thurs 27th - District Athletics - Gr 5 & 6

Fri 28th - VSSS Mass Choir & Dance Dress Rehearsal

29th - VSSS Mass Choir & Dance Show at Rod Laver

September

Tues 1st - Kids in Space Showcase - see inside

Thurs 3rd - Father's Day Stall & Breakfast

Fri 5th - CURRICULUM DAY - No Students Required

DATES AND TIMES TO REMEMBER:

TERM DATES 2026

Term 1 - Tues 27th Jan - Thur 2nd April

Term 2 - Mon 20th April - Fri 26th June

Term 3 - Mon 13th July - Fri 18th Sept

Term 4 - Mon 5th Oct - Fri 18th Dec

CURRICULUM DAYS 2026

Tuesday 27th January

Friday 5th June

Friday 4th September

Monday 2nd November

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE DAYS 2026

Tuesday 15th December (TBC)

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2026

Monday 9th March - Labour Day

Friday 3rd April - Good Friday

Sunday 5th April - Easter Sunday

Saturday 25th April - Anzac Day

Monday 8th June - King's Birthday

Friday 25th September - AFL Grand Final

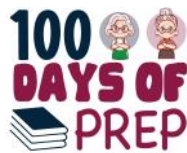
Tuesday 3rd November Melbourne Cup

TIMETABLE

Commence	8.58 Line-up Bell-Music 9am 2nd Bell - Roll Marked
Recess	11.00 - 11.30am
Lunch	1.40 - 2.30pm
School Finishes	3.30pm

Message From The Principal

As the winter chill sets in, may I remind all families that outer jackets or coats can be worn by students to and from school, and should it be required, at recess and lunch times. In class, teachers will ask that those outer layers be put on hooks or in bags. School uniform is still a basic expectation across the school, but we understand that sometimes a little more protection is required. If a child comes home and their clothes need a wash, we understand that it may not always be possible for those clothes to be ready for the next school day. If you do not have a back up and need to send your child in an alternative clothing item, please let your child's teacher know via note.



Yesterday our preps celebrated their first 100 days of school. Our newest cohort have settled beautifully as a whole and it is always a pleasure taking prospective families through on a tour and seeing just how far they have already come. Congratulations preps and I hope that in the years ahead, you enjoy every success.

School Rules

1. **RESPECT:** Always show respect for yourself and others, accepting everybody equally and remembering our manners.
2. **SAFETY:** Be aware of what is around you at all times and behave, learn and play in a safe manner.
3. **LISTEN:** Listen attentively to your teachers and peers at all times.
4. **RESPONSIBILITY:** Always take ownership of your behaviour, words and actions and realise that your choices impact on others.
5. **RESILIENCE:** being able to cope with challenging situations and make good choices.

The MPS school rules are there for the benefit of all members of the school community. At the start of each year, and again around the midway point, teachers will discuss these rules and our school values of motivation, persistence and success. As I have said many times over, much more often than not, our students and the community as a whole live up to these standards. Of course, from time to time, people make mistakes and that is part of learning. It is in taking responsibility that our resilience grows. At MPS, we choose to set high standards of behaviour and seek to promote a positive attitude to education as a whole, whilst respecting privacy. Within that, we have our School Wide Positive Behaviour Plan. Families who have been to assembly would note our Superstar Raffle Draw each fortnight. Students from all year levels are regular visitors to the office with green tickets highlighting their excellent work or choices. They get a very positive response from the leadership team, along with stickers, and are entered into the draw to win a prize as a reward for their behaviours. At MPS, we give out hundreds of green tickets for every red ticket, but of course if a student makes a poor choice, then consequences are an important part of growing up. The overarching goal is to ensure that students receive as much positive reinforcement as possible. We recognise that every child's needs are different, whilst at the same time we seek to help every student understand that in life, our choices matter. As a school, we try to balance these competing claims and we appreciate the trust and support we receive from the community. That said, if you have any concerns about an issue relating to your child, my door is always open.

Final Day for Prep 2027 Enrolment is Tomorrow

Enrolments for Foundation in 2027 close today, Friday July 31st. If you have not yet submitted an application, please do so before the end of school today. Enrolments are now online and families can enrol via:

<https://students.educationapps.vic.gov.au/s/>. All of our current families and plenty of new ones will receive their placement offer on Monday August 3rd. With enrolment restrictions finally lifted thanks in part to the new building and our increased capacity, we can confidently provide parents with the certainty that should they wish to enrol for 2027, they will have a place at MPS. This is the first time in 7 years that we have been able to do so after spending significant time and effort in being able to expand the school through the construction of the Stadium and then replacing the old hall with a purpose-built library, STEM classroom, presentation space and art room. These new spaces have enabled us to convert the old library into classrooms and reclaim the BER classroom from the STEM program.

Disco

Tonight is the night of nights, the annual student disco. The event will be held in the stadium, with the Preps to Year 2's getting the party started from 5:30 to 6:30pm, followed by our Year 3 to Year 6's from 6:30-8:00pm. There will be a dedicated space (the stage/music room) if students need some time out and there will be plenty of staff on site to supervise. My thanks to our PFA volunteers who are also assisting on the night.

Home Reading

Winter is a great time to curl up with a book in a cosy spot. At MPS, we want our students to love reading, which we acknowledge is not an easy thing to instil in this digital age, yet it is crucial to every child's development. Those that read at home are more likely to be successful at school and in life. Reading at home reinforces strategies learned in school and creates confident learners. Students who don't read at home are much more likely to fall behind, which leads to greater challenges later in life. In life, not everyone needs to go down the academic path and there are many ways to be successful. The one thing that successful people usually have in common is that they read at a good level.

Teachers are reporting a distinct rise in the number of students who are telling them that they don't read at home.

Here are some stats according to australiaread.org.au:

- Just under half of Australian parents with children aged 0-5 (47%) received the advice that children should be read aloud to from birth, most commonly from friends and family; however, only one-quarter of parents (26%) from the lowest-income households received this advice vs. 65% in the highest-income households.
- 74% of children agree that reading fiction and nonfiction is a way to help them understand the world.
- 86% of Australian children (age 6-17) love having books read aloud at home or like it a lot – the main reason being because it is a special time with parents.
- 89% of children (age 6-17) agree their favourite books are the ones that they have picked out themselves.
- Reading for pleasure most days at age 7 was significantly related to lower hyperactivity/inattention at age 11.
- Australian children aged 6-17 who are given time for independent reading at school are more likely to be reading currently and frequently, and are more likely to enjoy reading books for fun.
- Australian children whose principal encourages reading books for fun are more likely than those without encouragement from their principal to read frequently, to think reading is important and to love reading books for fun or like it a lot.

Anyone who has ever joined me on a school tour or read the newsletter will know that the last two dot points are lived and breathed at MPS. Reading for enjoyment is critical to a child's development and I encourage all families to have a conversation about the importance of reading. For what it's worth, my advice is to build bedtime stories into every child's routine. For some it could be reading for the last 15-30 minutes before bedtime followed by a quick story from mum or dad. For others it might be story time before reading independently in bed, which studies say helps all of us to sleep better.

With all of the above in mind, I would like to remind families that Children's Book Week 2026 takes place from **Saturday, 22 August to Friday, 28 August 2026**. The official theme is "Symphony of Stories", featuring artwork by illustrator Briony Stewart. This year's theme celebrates how different voices and characters come together like an orchestra. We will have lots of activities to celebrate book week, including the book fair, with a sneak peak on Friday August 21st.

Industrial Action

There has been some media speculation of another strike next week. At the time of writing, this has **not** been confirmed by either the AEU or the Department. Rest assured, should there be further action, we will communicate this with families as soon as we receive official communication from the Department. As mentioned previously, a significant part of the current industrial action is the funding of government schools. In Victoria, we are the lowest funded jurisdiction in the country. In 2023, the federal and state government began fully funding private schools under the Schooling Resource Standard. Victoria was to begin moving towards full funding for public schools this year, but in 2025, the state and federal governments agreed to push that back to 2031, with full funding not being delivered until 2034. 11 years after private schools commenced full funding.

Under the SRS, the Victorian government was required to fund 80% of public schools and the federal government the other 20%. The federal government has been fully funding their 20% for years. The shortfall continues to come from the Victorian government. They would argue that the federal government needed to pay a higher percentage and as such, held out for 25%. Last year, as part of the deal to push funding back, this was achieved and now by 2034, public schools will be funded 75% by the state and 25% by the federal government. This, in addition to the way the state accounts for depreciation of assets, means that Victorian public school students are significantly below the SRS and will continue to be until 2034. A fully funded school would allow us to employ more education support staff, more teachers and more allied health professionals such as occupational therapists or psychologists. It could reduce class sizes and provide more 1:1 teacher-student time. Despite the fact that school staff have fallen significantly behind inflation in terms of salaries, currently by approximately 17% including the inflation incurred this school year, the money is not the biggest issue. Teachers want to improve outcomes for students and whilst Victoria currently provides the best results in the country, imagine what we could do if we were funded at the full Schooling Resource Standard!

Kiss and Go Parking

A reminder that the Kiss and Go area is for quick drop offs or pick ups only before and after school. Parents are reminded that it is illegal to leave their car, even for a few minutes, and that they can be fined if they do so. Just one car being left unattended stops the flow of cars moving in and out of the space. Please, I ask all parents to be mindful of other families and should you wish to park and leave your car, please do so at the many parking areas around the school that cater for this.

Charles Spicer

Principal

High Ability Program

The Victorian High-Ability Program (VHAP) is an online learning program for selected Year 5 and Year 6 students who have been chosen all over Victoria to undertake weekly online extension lessons in either Maths or English. The tasks are designed to stimulate students' critical thinking, problem solving and creativity. It is a great honour to be chosen, and we are very proud that in Term Two we had ten students from Mulgrave Primary School who were selected to participate in the program.

Congratulation to the following students for successfully completing the VHAP course.

Elsie P - Year 6 for Mathematics, Michelle C - Year 6 for Mathematics, Zaad U - Year 6 for Mathematics, Jeswyn S - Year 6 for Mathematics, Yejun C - Year 6 for Mathematics, Max W - Year 6 for Mathematics, Moksh S - Year 5 for Mathematics, Jordan W - Year 5 for Mathematics, Shanmukha S - Year 6 for English and Eli C - Year 6 for English.

Lenore Matthews

Year 6 Teacher & High Ability Practice Leader

SUPER TALENT

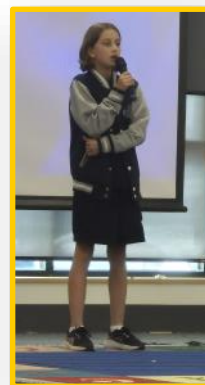
Congratulations to Moriah in grade 6 for her performance at assembly on Friday.

Moriah sang Lighter by Galantis and did a fantastic job!

Well done, Moriah!

Sally Bush

Performing Arts



TERM 3 WEEK 2 STUDENT AWARDS 2026

Class	Name	Category	Reason
6M	Fletcher H	Motivation	For going above and beyond in researching your Kids in Space project and making thoughtful improvements based on scientific evidence. Your commitment to excellence is outstanding. Great job Fletcher!
	Max W	Motivation	For your willingness to embrace change throughout the design process of your Kids in Space project and for demonstrating strong leadership by supporting and guiding your team during the changes. Well done Max!
6HD	Riley D	Motivation	For remaining focused and trying his best in the Kids in Space project and explanation writing sessions. We see your hard work Riley and think you are a champion. Keep up the great work Riley.
6G	Mila D	Numeracy	For working hard in Numeracy sessions and showing tremendous growth in her Automatic Response results. Keep up the hard work!
	Hazel G	Literacy	For making a wonderful start to Literature Circles and finding her voice to share her amazing work! Well done!
5CD	Aadhya P	Literacy	For working really hard on her Kids in Space project and helping the team develop their ideas for the prototype phase.
	Zaky L	Literacy	For working really hard on his Kids in space project and helping the team develop their ideas for the prototype phase.
	Evan M	Literacy	For working really hard on his Kids in space project and helping the team develop their ideas for the prototype phase.
5K	Aashi B	Wellbeing	For engaging sharing thoughtful responses in Wellbeing
	Brooklyn P	Literacy	For explaining the different stages of his group's invention in Writing.
3/4 JH	Olive M	Motivation	For being actively engaged in our class discussions. It has been great to see you sharing your knowledge, thoughts and ideas with the class. Keep it up!
	Leo Y	Numeracy	For showing great motivation during maths sessions. It's great to see you working through extension tasks with focus and determination. Well done!
3/4 W	Mary A	Literacy	For her interesting ideas when planning for her imaginary recount and her eagerness to seek feedback.
	Baxter M	Numeracy	For his motivation to improve his understanding of subtraction strategies by seeking feedback and applying his new knowledge.
3/4K	Jordan Z	Literacy	For consistently working to your best effort in reading and writing. Well done!
	Hridaan L	Literacy	For consistently taking on feedback and doing your best with your home reading task. Well done!
3/4 M	Luke P	Literacy	For writing an excellent alliteration poem about a cold climate place. Fantastic effort!
	Marvel M	Numeracy	For clearly explaining the mathematical strategies she used to solve different problems. Your contributions to our Maths lessons are so valuable!
3/4 G	Leo S	Literacy	For being determined and enthusiastic during reading lessons. It has been great to see you contribute ideas to the class and continue to improve your reading independently. Well done, Leo!
2TR	Elliott M	Persistence	For his focus and consideration when visualising the BFG during reading.
	Jane L	Wellbeing	For helping her classmate when they needed support with their learning.
2NP	Leila N	Motivation	For always being kind to others and trying her best in everything she does. Keep up the amazing effort Leila!
	Aiden R	Literacy	For participating with enthusiasm in our Phonics sessions. Keep it up Aiden!
2H	Evaan L	Literacy	For working hard in class to blend and segment words, keep up the impressive work!
	Ollie H	Numeracy	For doing a fantastic job of renaming 2 and 3-digit numbers into tens and ones. Great work!
1BL	Lena J	Motivation	For coming back to school with a growth mindset and being inquisitive. Well done Lena!
1K	Theo D	Literacy	For giving such detailed reasonings during our classroom debates for persuasive writing. Well done!
1E	Ellie K	Literacy	For her excellent accuracy when solving difficult words, well done Ellie
Prep L	Eve Z	Numeracy	For her hard work in Numeracy. She has shown great confidence when explaining her strategies to solve addition problems.
	Evan T	Literacy	For showing great effort in adding detail to his sentences. Great work Evan!
Prep B	Amelia R	Motivation	For always trying your best in your learning and using feedback to help you grow. Keep shining!
	Bom L	Motivation	For being a wonderful classroom helper by supporting her classmates with their tasks. Keep it up!

Kids in Space STEM Project

Parents Invited to Showcase!



Our school is excited to be one of **120 schools across Australia** selected to participate in the **Kids in Space Program**. After completing specialised training, our teachers have introduced this exciting STEM initiative to our Year 5 and 6 students.

Throughout the program, students have explored the **design thinking process**, learning how engineers identify problems, develop creative solutions, build prototypes and refine their ideas. Inspired by the challenges of living in space, students have designed their own inventions and brought them to life using **3D design and 3D printing**. They have discovered that great inventions often come from asking thoughtful questions, embracing challenges and learning from mistakes.

This project has encouraged students to think creatively, solve problems and develop the curiosity and resilience needed to become the innovators of tomorrow.

Parents and Families are Invited!

Join us to celebrate our students' incredible work at the **Kids in Space STEM Showcase**.



Thursday, 13 August



2:00 pm – 3:00 pm



School Stadium

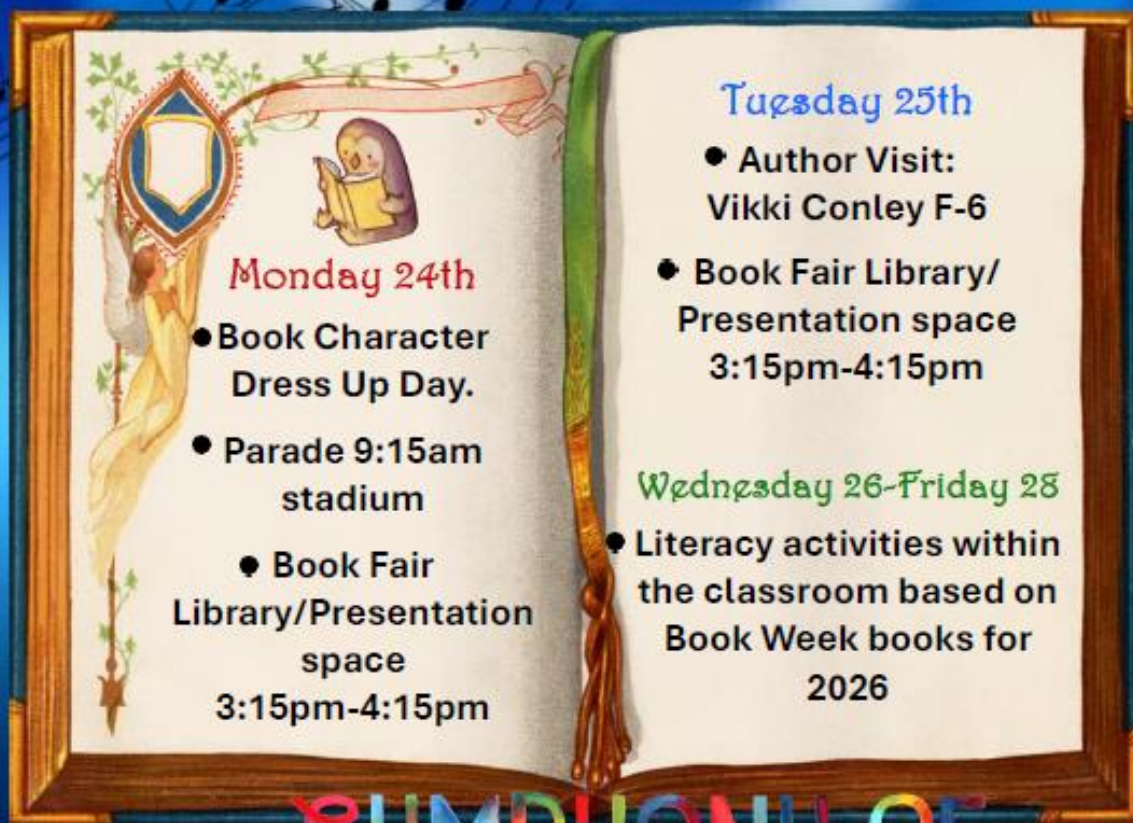
Come and explore our students' innovative 3D-printed inventions, hear about their design journey and celebrate their achievements in STEM. We look forward to seeing you there!



The winning team/s from our school will progress to a Victorian showcase event at **North Melbourne Primary School (Week 8)**, where they will compete against the best teams from schools across Victoria.

Book Week

24th–28th August 2026



SYMPHONY OF STORIES



MPS Art Show

Save the Date!

Dear MPS families,

We are thrilled to be hosting our MPS Art Show once again which will take place on **Wednesday, October 14, 2026, from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm.** We warmly invite all families and friends in the MPS community to join us in celebrating the incredible artwork our students have created throughout the year.

The Art Show is not only a wonderful opportunity to appreciate our students' creativity and talent, but it is also one of our major fundraising events for the year. In addition to the art exhibition, we have a variety of exciting stalls and activities planned for the evening.

One of the highlights of the evening will be our Class Canvas Silent Auction. Each grade has collaborated to create a unique piece of artwork and you'll have the opportunity to bid on 18 different class canvases during the event. This is a fantastic chance to own a one-of-a-kind artwork while supporting our school.

We can't wait to welcome you! Please SAVE THE DATE and join us for a memorable evening of art, creativity and community.

Warm regards,

**Daniela Pejic (Visual Art Teacher) & the
Staff Art Show Committee**



Outside School Hours Care Newsletter

30/07/2026

Mulgrave Primary School



Your
OSHC.



Magic Day in After School Care!



5 August

Book now

Dear Families

The children have settled into the OSHC program beautifully and are enjoying exploring new experiences while building friendships, confidence, and social skills.

Highlight of the program was finger knitting. The children showed incredible enthusiasm and the perseverance as they learned this new skill. Since the children have shown such a tremendous interest and enthusiasm for finger knitting, we have decided to extend this experience by creating scarves for those in need. This project will provide children with a meaningful opportunity to use their newly developed skills to give back to the community while fostering empathy, compassion, and an understanding of how small acts of kindness can make a positive difference in the lives of others. The children also enjoyed exploring Pokémon through Pokédex books, our recycled construction experiences encouraged creativity and problem-solving. Inspired by the artwork of Nicholas Hlobo, the children explored different art materials and techniques to create their own unique masterpieces. During Plus-Plus construction, the children worked together to design and build an impressive library, with unique books, showing excellent teamwork.

To help us provide the best possible experience for all children, we kindly ask families to make their bookings as early as possible. Early bookings allow us to maintain consistent staffing and ensure we can plan engaging experiences for everyone. We sincerely appreciate your ongoing support and cooperation.

The Big Art Competition is back! This is a fantastic opportunity for children to showcase their creativity and compete for a national award and a service medal. Join us every Friday to create your masterpiece and be part of the competition. We can't wait to see our young artist's shine! For more information, please check the attached flyer.

Activities coming up

- Magic Clay Monster
- Scrape paper collage
- Bluey roll craft

Make a booking

Join in the fun of Outside School Hours Care activities and experiences with Your OSHC and Rocketeers.

Book now

Register and book via the app

To attend our program, you must register your child. Once registered, it's easy to make bookings and manage your account.



- Easy booking features
- Simple booking calendar overview
- Track your spend
- Detailed account history

Find out more and book now

www.campaustralia.com.au

COLOUR OUTSIDE THE LINES



3-28
AUGUST

ENTER NOW



Pick a colour and
let your imagination
run wild! Draw, paint
or create your own
bold masterpiece
full of creativity
and fun.

WIN BIG

6 major prize
packs up
for grabs!

YOUR SPOTLIGHT

One child in each
service will score a
special reward!

BOOST YOUR CHANCES

Attend Big Art
Week (3-7 August)
for extra entries!

SHOWCASE YOUR ART

All entries will be
featured in our
online gallery!

campaustralia.com.au/big-art-comp

Terms & conditions apply. See the website for more details.

by  Camp
Australia

National Science Week

Your OSHC.

Seeds of Science 



17-21 August

in After School Care!

From small
ideas to big
discoveries



Book into After School Care

campastralia.com.au

by  Camp Australia

ADVERTISING

Protecting Your Child's Vision

Clear vision is essential for your child's learning and overall development. Modern lifestyles, especially increased screen time and less outdoor play, are driving a significant rise in childhood eye conditions like myopia (short-sightedness).

1. PROTECT YOUNG EYES

Preventative habits are the first line of defence against vision deterioration.

- **Enforce the 20-20-20 rule:** Every 20 minutes, look 20 feet (6 metres) away for 20 seconds.
- **Maximise outdoor playtime:** Aim for 1-2 hours daily outside, as natural light slows myopia progression.
- **Limit recreational screen time:** Keep daily digital device use outside of schoolwork to a minimum.
- **Maintain proper distance:** Ensure screens sit at least 50 cm away from your child's eyes.
- **Optimise room lighting:** Avoid using digital devices in dark or poorly lit rooms.

2. DETECT: SPOTTING THE WARNING SIGNS

Children rarely complain about their vision because they assume everyone sees the world the way they do. Watch for these subtle cues:

- **Physical rubbing:** Frequent eye rubbing or blinking during non-reading activities.
- **Squinting or tilting:** Squinting, closing one eye, or tilting the head to see distant objects.
- **Close viewing:** Sitting unusually close to the television or holding books right up to the face.
- **Schoolwork struggles:** A sudden drop in academic performance, low concentration, or avoidance of reading.
- **Physical complaints:** Frequent headaches, tracking issues, or sore, watery eyes after school.

3. TREAT: MODERN MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS

Early intervention can permanently alter your child's sight trajectory.

- **Myopia control spectacle and contact lenses:** designed to actively slow down eye growth.
- **Atropine eye drops:** Low-dose prescription night drops that significantly reduce the worsening of short-sightedness.
- **Orthokeratology:** Overnight hard contact lenses that temporarily reshape the cornea for clear daytime vision without glasses.

We recommend booking your child's comprehensive eye examination before they start school, and every two years thereafter.

Trusted family eye care since 1987, Eyecare Plus Optometrists Mulgrave specialises in children's vision and myopia management.

📍 431 Police Rd, Mulgrave VIC 3170

☎ (03) 9790 0833

🕒 Mon-Fri: 9:00am-6:00pm | Sat: 9:00am-12:00pm



Eyecare Plus®

MULGRAVE



ADVERTISING



SHUTTLE CONNECT

Badminton Program

Supported by:



CITY OF
MONASH



UNCLE NINE
NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE INC

SESSION 2026

SOCIAL & COACHING

For kids aged 4 to 14

Day	Time
Wednesday	4:30pm - 7:30pm
Saturday	5:00pm - 8:00pm

COACHING PERIOD:

- BEGINNER: 5:00pm to 6:30pm
- ADVANCE: 6:30pm to 7:30pm

SOCIAL GAMES ONLY

ALL AGES WELCOME

Day	Time
Wednesday	5:30pm - 7:30pm
Saturday	7:30pm - 9:30pm



 **Southern Community Centre**
27 Rupert Dr, Mulgrave VIC 3170

Email: info@hclw.org.au



ADVERTISING



MONASH YOUTH SERVICES

Build stronger family connections with Bringing Up Great Kids

Looking for practical ways to better understand your child and build a stronger relationship with them?

Parents and carers are invited to join **Bringing Up Great Kids**, a free 5-week program that explores children's behaviour, development and emotional needs.

Designed for families with children aged 2–10 years, the program provides a supportive space to learn alongside other parents and carers, share experiences and pick up practical strategies you can use at home.

Over 5 weekly sessions, you'll learn about:

- Children's brain development
- What children's behaviour might be communicating
- How to respond to your child's needs
- Different parenting approaches and styles
- Ways to strengthen positive family relationships

The program is open to families who live in or have a connection to the City of Monash.



Program details:

When: Mondays, 17 August to 14 September 2026

Time: 10am–12.30pm

Where: Level 1, 2 Euneva Ave, Glen Waverley (same building as Monash Youth Services)

Places are limited, and attendance is required for all 5 sessions.

Bookings close Wednesday 12 August. Register now.