COASTHILL NEWS

THE IKPS NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL- BEN SOUMILAS
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL - MEL MCRAE
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL - KATHY JONES

Contact Our Office: (03)5674 1253
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kongwak.ps@education.vic.gov.au

EVERYWHERE, ALL THE TIME

Active Learners, Safe and Respectful

Edition 3 - 3rd March 2025

Diary Dates

Date	Event
Monday 10th March	Labour Day Holiday - No School
Thursday 13th March	Regional Swimming Sports - Sale
Monday 24th March	IPS - Curriculum Day - No Students at school KPS - Curriculum day to be confirmed at school council
Tues 26th - Friday 28th March	Year 6 Camp - Wilsons Prom
Monday 31st March	Year 5 Art Excursion to National Gallery of Victoria
Friday 4th April	Last Day of School - 2.30pm Dismissal
Tuesday 22nd April	First Day Term 2
Friday 25th April	ANZAC Day Public Holiday - No School

Principals Message

WEEK 6/10 TERM 1, 2025

It's an even week so we even have a newsletter and we even have a whole school assembly that our community is welcome to attend on Friday afternoon at 2:30pm.

PARENT/STUDENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Evidence suggests that when teachers are sensitive and responsive toward student academic, social and emotional needs, and work with parents/caregivers/guardians in a supportive and approachable way, students are more successful. I hope our families enjoyed the opportunity to connect with classroom and specialist teachers last week. Thank you to all parents, carers and guardians who met with our teachers to discuss the progress their child is making and to share information.

Even though the feedback from parents last year indicated that we have made a huge improvement in Teacher Communication (from 36% positive in 2023 to 58% positive in 2024) we want to be better than the state average (72%). The two questions on the survey that determine this indicator are:

There is effective two-way communication between the teachers and parents/caregivers/guardians at this school

Teachers communicate with me often enough about my child's progress

Successful conferences and building relationships with home are an important step in the right direction.

BULLYING OR RUDE OR MEAN OR CONFLICT?

We're working hard on building some new shared vocabulary and understanding for children regarding how they respond to social challenges. Over the next few weeks will be focussing in class on distinguishing the differences between Rude Behaviour, Mutual Conflict, Mean actions or Bullying. These efforts are a response to the feedback we had from students and parents last year regarding bullying. The figures below indicate the percentage of positive responses.

Student - Attitudes to School Survey	2023	2024	State
Not experiencing bullying	80%	77%	85%
Not experiencing bullying in the past year	67%	54%	72%

Parent, Carers & Guardians Survey	2023	2024	State
Managing bullying	77%	82%	77%
Not experiencing bullying in the past year	68%	65%	65%

We'll keep working on how we manage bullying (our parents are more satisfied than the state average) and we're aiming to improve the experience for our students at our school.

Ask your children about what they're learning in regards to bullying and see if they can retrieve some of the new knowledge and look out for some more information that we'll share soon.

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KIDS CLUBS

I'm hoping you have heard some of the buzz around Kids Clubs from your children at Inverloch. Our Kids Clubs are run by kids for kids to get together during the play breaks to enjoy fun activities together. Our appointed grade 6 leaders are all running a club and other grade 3-6 students are invited to run a club if they would like to.

At this point in time the schedule includes a Music Club, Japanese, Cricket, Netball, AUSLAN, Soccer, Basketball, Book club, Gymnastics club, Rubik's cube, Art and Debate club.

The Kongwak setting has a range of options for the students and one particularly popular play time activity last year was Wheels Wednesday where children could ride anything with wheels around the car park during a break time.

Whilst our clubs are organised groups, most are not supervised by adults so they align more with unstructured play. Evidence suggests that unstructured play provides significant benefits for children, including fostering creativity, problem-solving skills, social development, and cognitive abilities. Further to this, having older children acting as role models during such play can further enhance these benefits by demonstrating positive behaviors and encouraging exploration within the play environment. We believe that these opportunities will be particularly impactful for younger children learning social cues and navigating complex situations.

FETE MEETING

If you're reading this after Monday and the Fete meeting is news to you….then you've missed the meeting but you haven't missed your chance to contribute. We're looking for as many people as possible to help make this fabulous event happen. Contact us and we'll connect you with the working group that is making it all happen.

LOOKING FORWARD TO...

NAPLAN for grade 3 & 5 students. The National Assessment Plan is just another opportunity that students have to stretch out of their comfort zone and get themselves into 'Performance Mode'. For the majority of their time at school our students are in 'Practise Mode'. They can get help, get feedback, make adjustments, try again and learn from our mistakes. But every so often we are required to switch into 'Performance Mode' and embrace the challenge. Many people are used to Practise and Performance Mode when it comes to sport, music, theatre or public speaking. NAPLAN shouldn't be an experience that puts children in a 'Panic Zone' but it can be a beneficial experience for children to stretch themselves. Our Gr 3 and 5 teachers have a NAPLAN readiness plan that aims to help students build a sense of self belief, develop test literacy skills and prepare them to be able to showcase what they are capable of.

Mirboo North Primary school will continue their connection with Kongwak with a visit in week 7. It's a wonderful opportunity for students to broaden their network of connections.

Preps are starting full weeks of attendance in week 7. We'll have some tired little people by the end of the weeks. They might need a little extra support to get them through until the end of term.

Kind regards

Soum
Ben.soumilas@education.vic.gov.au
Mobile 0427 118 609

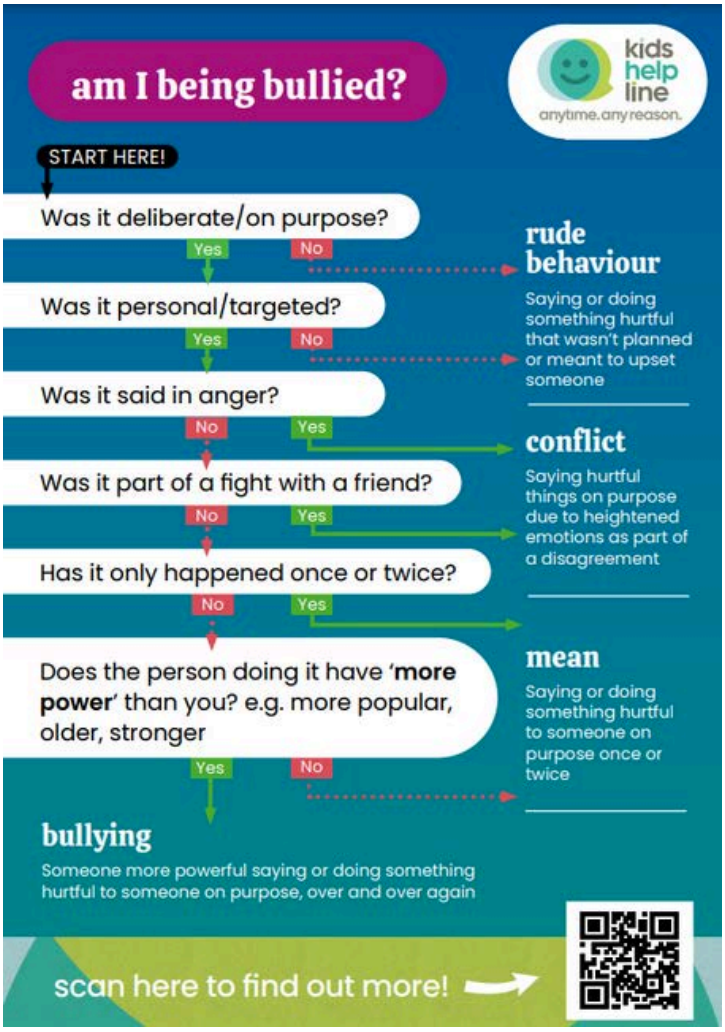
Inclusion News

Am I Being Bullied?

We all have problems from time to time with our classmates and friends. Sometimes this is bullying and sometimes it is not. Over the next few weeks, we will learn the meanings of the words rude behaviour, mean behaviour, conflict and bullying. We will also unpack some other words like targeted, deliberate and power. We are doing such in depth teaching of this so that we can be sure that we have shared language for how we talk about problems when they happen.

Once we have a clear understanding of the words, we will be able to use the flowchart below to help guide our conversations with kids about their experiences. What we do to manage rude behaviour, conflict, mean behaviour and bullying is different and we want to be more transparent about why we respond in particular ways.

You can help us to support your children at school by familiarising yourselves with the terminology that we use at school to talk about managing problems. We hope that using the flowchart will help us all to improve the way that we can help our kids to work through the problems that happen.



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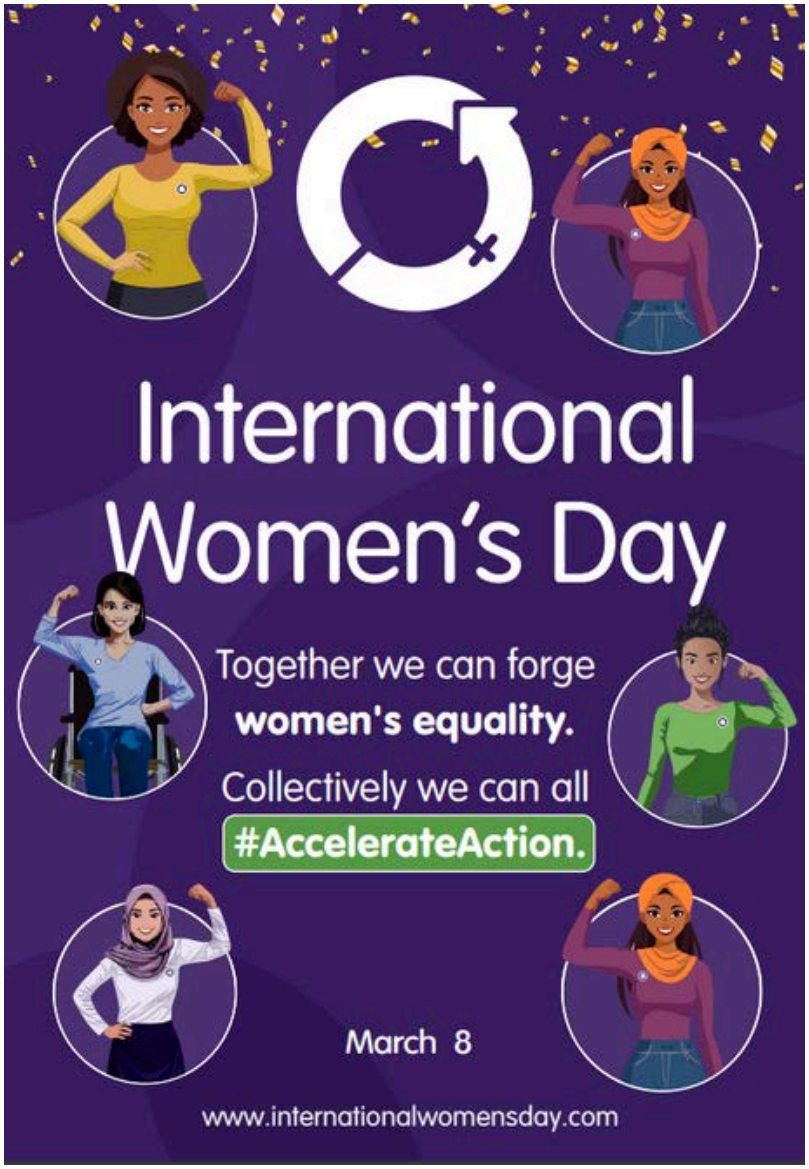
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

International Women's Day is on Saturday the 8th of March. This year, we will be celebrating International Women's Day on Tuesday the 11th of March. Children can wear a splash of purple with their uniform next Tuesday to celebrate the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating women's equality.

The theme for this year is to **Accelerate Action for gender equality**. At the current rate of progress, it will take until 2158, which is roughly five generations from now, to reach full gender parity, according to data from the World Economic Forum. Yet, collectively, we can all work to #AccelerateAction for women worldwide. And one of the best ways to forge gender equality is to understand what works and to do more of this, faster. We can all challenge gender stereotypes, call out discrimination, draw attention to bias, and seek out positive action.

Wear a splash of purple next Tuesday to show that you support gender equality.



Natasha Bird (she/her)
Learning Specialist (Inclusion)
Inverloch & Kongwak Primary Schools

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- $154 for primary school students
- $256 for secondary school students

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

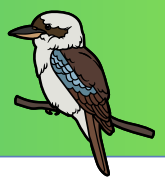
- **new student enrolments**: your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances:** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:
https://www.vic.gov.au/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund

Kongwak News



Welcome
Amaia (Gr 2), Macie (Gr 1) and their mum Brittney!

Donating to us: cans and bottles!
Over the past year, Kongwak PS has been fundraising with Can Collect. If you have any 10c cans and bottles that you would be happy to donate to us, please either let the staff member know when you take them to the Wonthaggi Depot, or bring them to school to put in the blue bin in the sports shed.

Welcome; Kon and Wak, new chickens
Thanks to the Ingamells family! Kon and Wak are very cute, and have settled in nicely with Brittany and Midnight.

Reminder around attendance and being on time
Students are welcome to arrive any time from 8:30am and get ready for the day by checking the schedule in their classroom, filling their water bottle, going to the toilet, setting up their table, reading a book, chatting with friends or asking questions. When the bell rings at 9am, we line up in the undercover area and then move straight into our classrooms for learning.

Students find it unsettling when they're late and miss the routine of lining up with the bell to hear the morning instructions, and they also miss review of previous learning and introduction of new learning. We really appreciate your assistance with getting students to school somewhere between 8:30am-9am when at all possible.

We finish our school day at 3:20pm every day.

Kongwak's Got Talent!
After being such a success in 2023, it's back for 2025!

We will be working on our acts in Performing Arts with Fiona this term. Singing, dancing, skits, dress ups, jokes, secret talents, magic tricks...lots of roles for kids on and off the stage! KPS' Got Talent will be on Wednesday 2nd April in the afternoon, watch this space for more details!

Kongwak News

Notes & Forms to return

Car Permission: Students have taken home a Personal Car Permission form this week- this will give us permission to carpool your students between Inverloch and Kongwak for events. Please return this ASAP so that we are able to start getting started for Senior House Athletics practice this term.

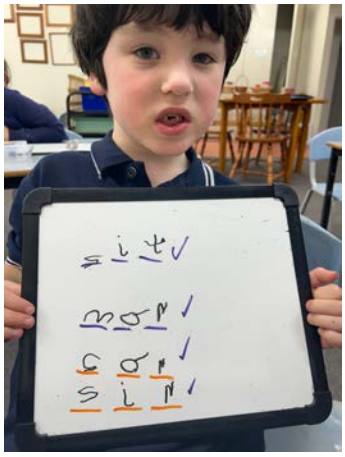
Local Permission: Please give permission on Compass for students to attend local excursions.

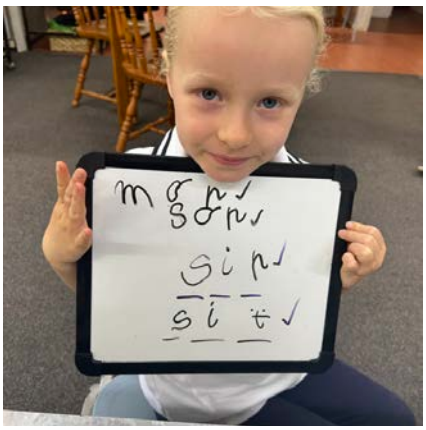
Compass: Gr 6 Camp deposit

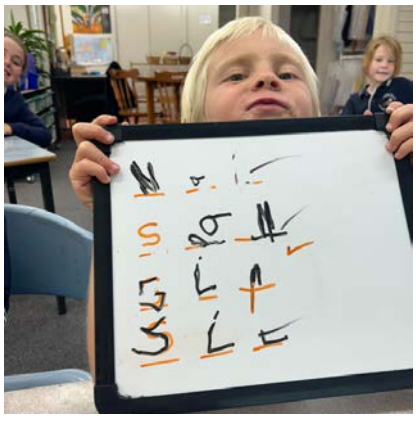
Compass: Gr 4 Camp deposit

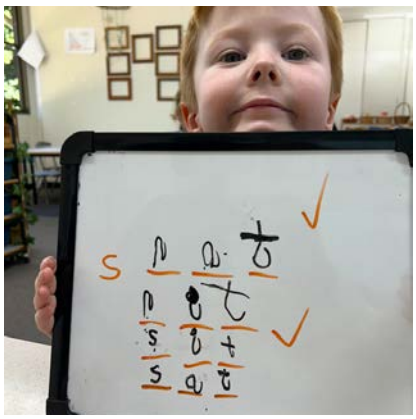
Look at our youngest learners writing!

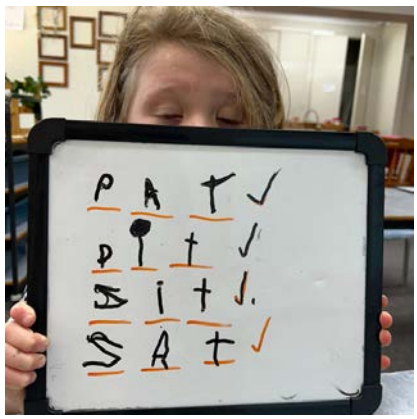
After four full weeks of school our preps are writing words with sounds they know independently. They listen for and say the sounds as they write them on their mini whiteboards.











Kongwak News

Kongwak Primary School Tesselaar Bulb Fundraiser

Colour your garden, support our school!

Purchase top quality flowering bulbs (they make great gifts!) and 40% of sales will come back to the school to contribute toward new play equipment. Yeay!

View the wonderful selection online:
http://www.bulbfundraiser.com.au/KONGWAK

How to order & receive:
DIRECT TO YOU
> Order online and receive your bulbs directly via AusPost - use above link.
OR
PICK UP FROM SCHOOL
> Save on postage and collect from school. Contact Coordinator Kate Davis on 0432521945 to place a pick up order.

Get in soon! Orders close Friday 21 March.

SWPBS

FORTNIGHTLY WINNERS

Congratulations to these students who had their SWBPS tickets drawn in todays raffle. It was wonderful to see the number of tickets and so many students being identified as Active Learners, Keeping Others Safe and Respectful.

Reef M 5/6H, Alana E 5/6H, Myla T 3/4B, Tarquin S 3/4R, Alex N 5/6H, Oak D 3/4K, James M 1/2B, Charley S 1/2S, Lilah E 1/2C, Joel R 1/2S

PARKING

Thank you to everyone who has adjusted their drop off and pick up routines to meet our guidelines for keeping everyone safe at Inverloch PS. Here's a few key reminders to be mindful of:

The strip of parking out the front of our school on Bayview Avenue is designated for **'Kiss and Drop' in the morning, not parking**. Please avoid parking out the front of the school in the morning.

The Recreation Reserve is designated for families that want to park their car and walk their children into school.

Murray St is for foot traffic and staff car parking. Parents accessing the Disabled Car park space can also use Murray St.

Staff car park is for staff only. Please avoid parking, dropping off or waiting in there. The exception is parents accessing the disabled car park space and parents accessing TheirCare from 6:30am - 8:30am and after 4 pm.

Artist of the Week

Our artists of the week are Georgia F in grade 2 at Kongwak and Meg M in grade 2 at Inverloch. Both artists have created tempera paintings in the style of the art movement Fauvism, by painting a natural scene with unnatural colours. Here is what the art captains had to say:

Gen says "Beautiful unique pieces of art, I love them! " and Isabelle says "What gorgeous pieces, so unusual, good job!"

Inverloch

Kongwak

TheirCare
where Kids love to be!

NEWSLETTER No. XX
3rd of March 2025

In the spirit of reconciliation, TheirCare acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

Riddle Of the Week

The more you take, the more you leave behind.
What am I?

Think you know the answer?
Tell us next time you're at OSHC!

What's on in the area

7th of March – Cowes Car Show
8th of March – Corinella Community Market
14th of March – Bass Coast Surf Film Festival
21st of March – Inverloch Equinox Festival
21st – 23rd of March – International Film Festival at Wonthaggi

This week at Theircare Inverloch

Before School Care (BSC) we focused on **"All About Me!"** The children had a blast sharing their favourite things, creating self-portraits, and celebrating what makes them unique. It was wonderful to see friendships grow as we learned more about each other!

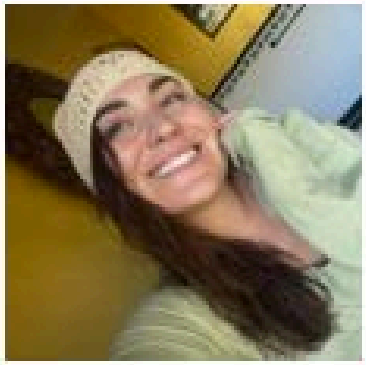
After School Care (ASC), creativity was in full swing with **DIY Week!** From designing their own crafts to building fun creations, the children showed off their amazing ideas and problem-solving skills. We loved seeing their excitement as they brought their projects to life!

It was a fantastic week of self-expression and creativity—bring on another week of fun!

What's news?!

- **Small housekeeping as always firstly**
  Please make sure parents are signing their children in and out at pick up and drop.
- **Please don't forget to book your child in as early as possible so we can make sure we are adequately staffed, same goes with if your child is not attending that day, please let us know!**
- **Behaviour Expectations at Theircare**
  At Theircare, we expect all children to follow the same behaviour expectations they have at school—treating educators and classmates with kindness and respect. Our goal is to create a safe, fun, and inclusive environment for everyone.
  If an issue arises, an educator will notify parents to keep them informed about what occurred and how we can work together to support positive behaviour.
  Thank you for your support in fostering a respectful and caring community at Theircare!
- Next fortnight we will be introducing a feedback form that allows parents to give suggests that they would love to see implemented into our service and any feedback regarding our current program.
  Please make sure you grab one to fill out as this helps us know what could be changed and gives us every changing ideas to implement

Meet your educators



We're excited to introduce Prayer! She is one of our amazing team members here at Theircare Inverloch (PS! Prayer has been working in the education sector for 9 years and is extremely passionate! Prayer absolutely loves doing art and craft with the children, and she enjoys soaking up the sunshine and playing outside with them while getting to know their bright, individual personalities. She is passionate about well-being and is currently studying her masters degree to become a youth counselor. In her spare time, Prayer loves to express her creativity, indulge in food, music, and the beauty of the ocean, and, of course, cherish life with her loved ones. She also has a secret passion for a good game of chess and has big plans to beat the OSHC club children during winter! Next time you see Prayer do a mini interpretive dance for her! It will make her day!

TIMES

Before school: 6:45 – 8:30 AM
After school: 3:20 – 6:00 PM

CONTACT SERVICE

0499 604 476
Inverloch@theircare.com.au

CONTACT HEAD OFFICE

1300 072 410
info@theircare.com.au

Community News

Summer Sizzle BBQ's

Friday 14th February

Friday 14th March

3:30 to 5:30pm on the Hub Lawn

A pay as you feel community event.

All welcome

INVERLOCH COMMUNITY HOUSE

yooralla choosequality

www.inverlochcommunityhouse.org.au
www.yooralla.com.au

Community News

UNDER 10s FOOTY

Come and join the Tarwin Sharks!

An inclusive and family oriented club, we encourage you to bring a friend and come and play!

Contact Tom Williamson
0438 083 588

TFNC

INVERLOCH RUNNING FESTIVAL

The Inverloch Running Festival, a new event taking place on March 15-16, 2025, in partnership with Bass Coast Shire and Destination Gippsland.
The festival offers a fantastic opportunity for students, families, and staff to get involved in an active, fun-filled community event, with distances suitable for all abilities. It's a great way to promote health and fitness while enjoying the beautiful coastal scenery of Inverloch and Cape Paterson.

For more information or to register please visit the website: www.inverloch.run

Community News

For information, please like our Inverloch Auskick Facebook page and or contact coordinator Big K on 0408 281953

Community News