

THOMAS MORE CHRISTIAN MONTESSORI SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



31 July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,



What a dynamic start to our Term 3! As you know we kicked off with the highly successful Christmas in July event followed immediately the next morning with our Open Day! We had several interested families and are all set now for our next Open Day! Watch our calendar for the date and prepare to share with your friends!

Our students have come back ready to engage in their studies again and have had a productive fortnight.

Sad News Possibly your children have come home with the news that Ms. Wagner has not been in since Wednesday as her youngest daughter, Shelby, burned herself badly on Tuesday night when her hot water bottle burst, causing 2nd degree burns on 25% of her body from her abdomen to her knees. She is being looked after by a burn specialist who just happened to be at the Bega hospital this week. Please keep her in your prayers asking for a rapid recovery and please pray for Ms. Wagner and family for stamina to see this through. Thank you so very much.

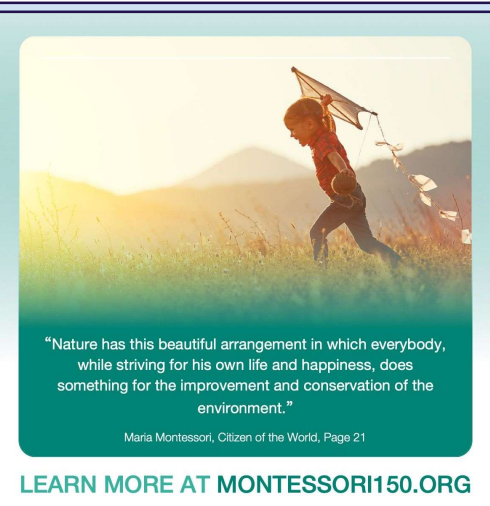
P&C gardening day has been set for Saturday 15 August, 2026. Please mark your calendar and plan to join in. The more the merrier.

Bush Dance The date for our Annual Bush Dance has been changed to 28 August and the venue this year will be the "home" to our Bush Band which is Kameruka Hall. More specifics coming soon.

May you have a Blessed Weekend of RNR!

Warm Regards,

Donna McCulloch



UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 15 August
P&C Gardening Day

Friday 28 August
Annual Bush Dance

Parent Child Program News

Welcome back to all our returning families, and a warm welcome to those joining us for the first time this term. It is truly a joy to see you all again after our break.

This term, as we embrace winter, we're exploring the beauty of this quieter season. While nature may seem still above the ground, so much is happening beneath the surface. This term we'll be discovering what lies below through activities like our Layers of the Earth digging tray and exploring dinosaurs - the incredible creatures who came before us.



We're also beginning a new cultural journey. Each term we'll explore a different country, starting with Denmark. Children can discover photographs and objects unique to Denmark and enjoy listening to music in the Danish language, providing a gentle introduction to another culture through their senses.

Pizza making has been such a wonderful success that it will become part of our daily rhythm, inspired by Charlie's enthusiasm! To support the flow of our mornings, we've introduced a gentle transition bell that provides a calm and consistent cue to invite the children to move from child-led exploration to pizza making, then to sharing our meal together, before finishing with circle time.



One of my favourite moments each week is gathering around the table to prepare and enjoy food together. There is something deeply connecting about sharing a meal. These simple rituals help cultivate a sense of belonging, community and care for one another - values that sit at the heart of our playgroup.

I'm so looking forward to a wonderful term of discovery, connection and joyful learning together.

With Love

Ms Boulter



Cycle One News

What's been happening...

- Learning about London including traditions, landmarks and currency
- Baking English style scones
- Lots and lots of reading!
- Creating winter tree artwork
- Instructing robot Miss Guest to make a marmalade sandwich



Harvey used the Sensorial materials to recreate Big Ben.



Nia using the Moveable Alphabet to write a story.



Ethan and Hunter are both very proud of their books about Land and Water Forms.



Rosie making a Marmalade Sandwich like Paddington Bear..



Having fun practicing yoga.

This week we have 3 stars to celebrate.

Valerie, Selena and Lilly have all been working really hard on their reading skills. Valerie celebrated getting her first readers and is keen to practice everyday.

Lilly and Selena both started their reading drawers this week and have been super focused on working with them.

Well Done Girls!

Message from Miss Guest

It has been a great start back to Term 3. The children all settled back into routine seamlessly. The children have come back with a real enthusiasm and passion for their work, choosing lots of tricky work for their work diaries.

Well Done Cycle One - it's going to be a great term!

Cycle One News



It was Aaliyah's VIP to kick off the new term! She made a beautiful poster with lots of photos which she explained to the class confidently. We were also lucky enough to have a visit from her mum and dad who brought in their sausage dog! The children loved learning about Aaliyah's cheeky doggo and of course having a pet.



VIP week has been a family affair recently. This week it was Valerie's turn to become the VIP. Valerie made a poster jam packed with photos and was very brave presenting it to the class for the first time! This week, Valerie's mum came to school and shared her passion for fitness with the children. Valerie and Mrs Moon made a exercise circuit for the children to take part in. We had some pretty tired Cycle One students after Mrs Moon's lesson!





Cycle 2 News

Welcome back everyone, and by the stories told by the Cycle 2 children, everyone seems to have had an action packed holiday break. It was great to see all the children settle back into our class routines straight away...which makes me believe we are going to have a fantastic term!

The children have embraced a significant change in our cooking days. An important part of our Montessori curriculum is our 'Practical Life' component which starts in our Parent-Child program, builds in Cycle 1, and continues in Cycle 2&3. This term children from Cycle 2&3 will combine each week to; produce an Asian inspired meal (to align with our Cultural Geography lessons), organise and set a table for everyone (including making place-cards); individually invite other children/adults to join them for lunch; serve lunch; clean and tidy-up afterwards. It's a big task and a big responsibility...but everyone is loving our special Tuesday cooking day!



Our Tuesday cooks - Vietnamese Rice Paper Rolls - YUM!



Introducing Procedural Writing



Cycle 2 News

We will be starting this term studying Multiplication, Procedural Writing, using Verbs in our writing, biomes and landforms of Asia, angles and shapes in Geometry, matter and energy in Science, stems and leaves in Botany, and delving into the creation of the world in History...and of course we will also find time for some craft activities (learning to knit), Asian inspired art lessons, more music and recorder playing, and sport fun too!

This week children enjoyed the dramatic and engaging presentation of the First Great Lesson, discovering what we understand to be the very beginning of our universe – how the stars, our sun, planets and our Earth came to exist. The story inspires a sense of awe and wonder, highlighting the vast interconnection, complexity and beauty of the natural world and our existence as we know it today, which is part of a much larger story that spans billions of years. The First Great Lesson has inspired the children to pursue research into volcanoes, which we will explore over the next few weeks.

It's going to a jam-packed, fun Term 3!

- Mr Foster



Volcanoes erupt during the First Great Lesson



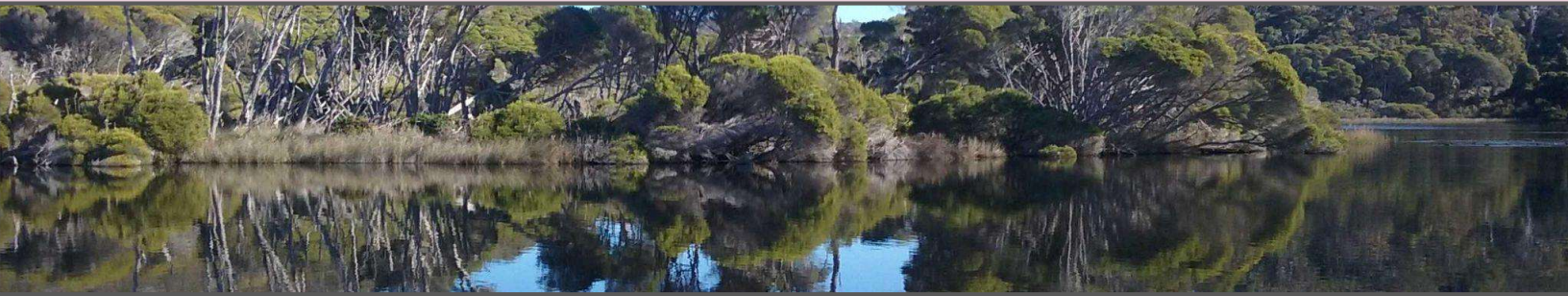
More Volcano fun!



Cycle 3 - Classroom News

There is no class report in this edition as Ms. Wagner is currently away. We look forward to bringing you a classroom update in our next newsletter.





Health & Wellbeing

One of the best things you can do for your child is to practice math at home – skip counting, fractions, timestables. By this I don't necessarily mean you should sit them down with worksheets each night after a long day at school; rather, just include them when you are baking a cake..."All I have is this quarter cup measure, but I need a whole cup of flour, so I will have to use four of them." Or see if they can use the $\frac{1}{4}$ cup measurement to fill up the cup measure and does that equal 4?

Skip counting can become a game where you see how far your child can count by 2's or 5's or 10's. Most kids love a challenge. Learning timestables is a bit tricky and may need a few different strategies. Rhythm really helps most children. When my kids were young I used to bounce a ball between us while we 'picked the pattern' – I would say 3 and bounce the ball to him, my son would then say 6, and bounce it back. Then I would say 3x1, bounce the ball to him, he would give the answer sending the ball back. In this way the bouncing of the ball on the ground gave us the rhythm he needed.

There are many other ways to practice with your kids and I have provided a list here.....

Maths Games

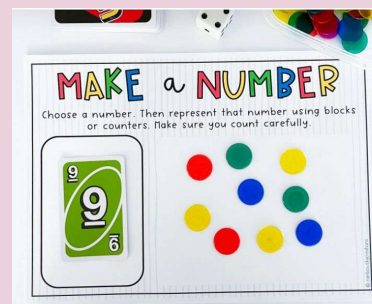
Games are always the most fun way to learn:

- *Bingo*
- [Playing Card games](#)
- *Dice games*
- [Games using Uno cards](#)

Songs can also help, something like Schoolhouse Rock from the 1970's (this was my favourite when I was a kid)

Other ideas:

- *Flashcards (make your own or have an older child make them)*
- *Group objects together, called arrays (counting beads or teddies)*
- *Make charts or print one out and hang it up where the child will see it often*



The Kitchen Garden with Mrs Remy

Welcome back to the garden space! The children were happy to see the garden again after the holidays, and the garden was happy to see them too! It's now been lovingly watered and nourished with worm wee and attention, while the children have, in return, snacked on bountiful winter harvests of carrots, snow peas, beetroots, cauliflower, kale and broccoli florets and flowers. Crunchy, and juicy!

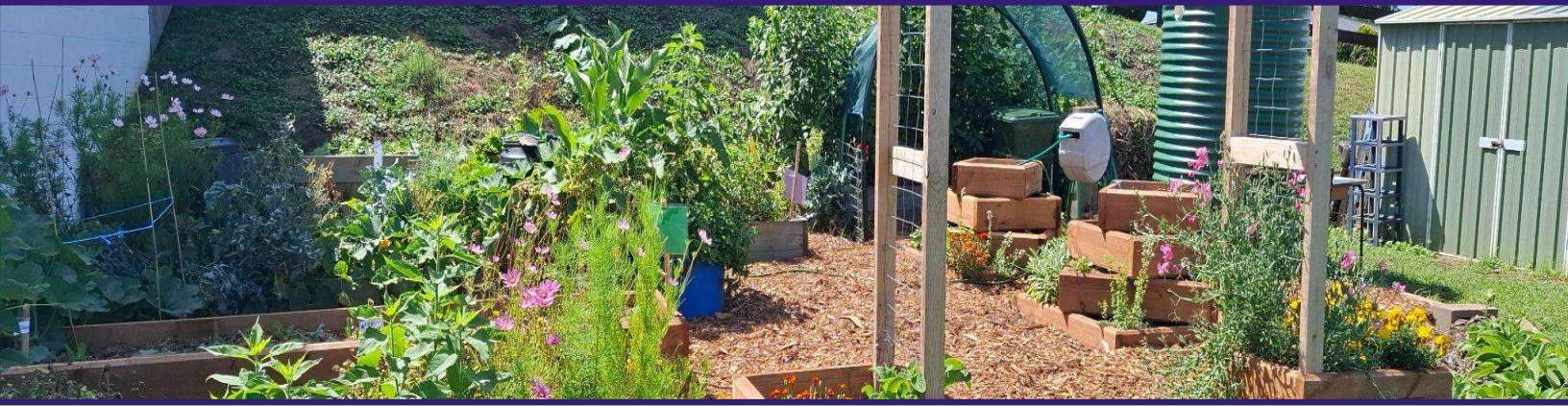


The children have all (except the youngest ones) received their official Wheelbarrow License, allowing them to move around with and use this important garden tool responsibly. It was well deserved after hilariously rigorous testing on slaloms, turns, backward wheeling, shoveling and emptying!



Winter is also a time for contemplation and so this week we spent time discussing the 'why do we garden' question. I look to the technique of Permaculture for my answers, and so I shared with the children the three Permaculture Ethics that govern our decisions in our garden.





We opened the discussion with some examples from my beautifully illustrated Permaculture Action Cards. Each child had the chance to explain and decide which ethic their card represented. Some lovely and meaningful discussions were shared.



Here's a little more about Permaculture:

What is Permaculture?

Permaculture comes from the words 'permanent culture'. In the face of big issues like climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, human conflict and overconsumption, permaculture helps us to find practical solutions that we can put into action wherever we are, to improve the world in which we live.

As a worldwide movement, permaculture has inspired individuals, households and communities to move away from lifestyles of excess consumption and towards a life of giving back (which is also way more fun!).

Permaculture Ethics

Ethics are deeply held beliefs and can be found in every culture, helping to guide our actions and decision-making around everything we do.

The three permaculture ethics are:

1. Earth Care: Protect soil, water and the living world.
2. People Care: Look after self, family and community
3. Fair Share: Respect limits and leave enough to go around.

Enjoy your glorious winter gardens this week.

Garden sunshine

Mrs Remy





From the Kitchen...with Ms Boulter



Join Our P&C

Connect, support, and grow with other parents and the school



Help build our
school community



Help organize school events & activities



Share your skills & ideas



Strengthen our school community
& faith-based values



Help create fun and meaningful
opportunities for our community to connect

Get involved – everyone is welcome!

Email: contact@begamontessori.nsw.edu.au



THOMAS MORE
Christian Montessori School

1ST MERIMBULA SCOUTS



ADVENTURE. FRIENDSHIP. FUN. LIFE SKILLS.
= **THAT'S SCOUTING!** =

FREE TRIAL AVAILABLE!

= AGE SECTIONS =



JOEY SCOUTS 5 – 7 YEARS

Fun, play and discovery.
Building confidence and
trying new things.



CUB SCOUTS 8 – 10½ YEARS

Adventure, challenge and
learning new skills with
friends.



SCOUTS 11 – 14½ YEARS

Exploring the outdoors,
developing skills and
taking on challenges.



VENTURER SCOUTS 15 – 17½ YEARS

Leadership, outdoor
adventures and making
a difference.

ACTIVITIES YOU'LL DO



**BUSHWALKING
& CAMPING**



**CAMPFIRES &
OUTDOOR COOKING**



**KNOTS &
PIONEERING**



**NAVIGATION &
ORIENTEERING**



**FIRST AID &
SAFETY SKILLS**



**MAKING FRIENDS
& HAVING FUN!**



**BE PREPARED
FOR ADVENTURE!** =



GROW YOUR CONFIDENCE. MAKE GREAT FRIENDS. =
CREATE MEMORIES THAT LAST A LIFETIME. =



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