



MELALEUCA PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL



# Newsletter

23 February, 2024

Term 1, Issue 01



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

61 Boandik Terrace, Mount Gambier  
Telephone: 8725 1404  
dl.1020.info@schools.sa.edu.au

In support of  
**White Ribbon**



## Welcome to 2024

An eager group of 12 receptions were welcomed as new members of our school community in week 1. This group of children along with new students Ozzy, Elijah, Jyerece, Bianca and Porcia have spent the last three weeks developing relationships with the educators and establishing routines as part of school life that started them on the path to becoming powerful learners.

Every child is a member of a learning community within which they are supported by a team of educators to engage with and progress their learning.

• **Foundations & Year Ones** - Jaymee Harkness, Vanessa Maxwell, Georgia Revill and Rachael Rout

• **Year Ones & Year Twos** - Kathy Lang, Vanessa Maxwell, Tracy Eady, Rachel Rout and Shani Henderson.

• **Special Options** - Haidee Allen, Vanessa Maxwell, Mel Griffith, and Billie Jones .

• **Year Threes & Year Fours** - Emma Brown, Nicole Copping, Tracy Eady, Brody Allison, Trudy Horsburgh, Michelle McKinnon and Kath Blacketer.

• **Year Fours & Year Fives** - Karissa Schultz, Nicole Copping and Kath Blacketer.

• **Year Fives & Year Sixes** - Jayde Peacock, Rachel Beavis and Rachel Larsen.

Some staff changes to our community this year: **Shalene Venn** will be this year's Student Wellbeing Coordinator and Nurture teacher. The partnerships between families and the schools are enhanced by an inherent trust in each other (children, parents and educators) and the knowledge that every member of the community is competent.

As a school community Melaleuca Park holds the belief that children are: **competent, powerful and rich in potential**. Learning begins from birth and happens in relationship with each other. The commitment as an educating community is to involve children, parents/caregivers and teacher as active participants in learning, growth and development.

We welcome our new families to our school community and invite you to actively participate with us. With the start of the school year we remind families that change can be difficult for children and young people. I ask that families work together with educators to support children as they adjust to the expectations of their class. We have high expectations for your child's learning and it may at times be difficult for children to believe that they can meet these expectations. Our children can communicate their fear and anxieties in any manner of ways.

If you have any concerns with regard to your child's learning please make an appointment with their teacher, please refer to the parent conduct leaflet if you have any queries.

*Erica Hurley*

## COMING EVENTS

**27 February Tuesday**  
Fundraiser tea at the South Eastern 345 Naracoorte Camp 6.00pm  
No playgroup today

**5 & 6 March**  
SACA Cricket Sessions for 56's

**11 March Monday**  
Adelaide Cup Public Holiday

**13, 14, 15 & 18, 19, 20 March**  
NAPLAN

**15 March Friday**  
Assembly 2.40

**18 March Monday**  
Governing Council 5.30

**19 March Tuesday**  
56's Active8 at Wulanda

**21 March Thursday**  
Harmony Day

**22 March Friday**  
SAPSASA Athletics (MGHS)

**26, 27, 28 March**  
345 Naracoorte Camp

**29 March Friday**  
Good Friday Public Holiday

**1 APRIL Monday**  
Easter Monday Public Holiday

The Melaleuca Park Primary School community acknowledges the Boandik people as the traditional custodians of the land that we live, work, learn and play on.

*Be Kind - Work Hard - Dream Big*

## Seven Little Wonders

08 February 2024

The PaperBoats make works for children from scratch over a 2-3 year period. They began the *Seven Little Wonders* project with an urge to pay homage to the wonder and power of art and creation.

The title of the work was inspired by Sir Isaac Newton's discovery in the 17th Century that white light could be split into the colours of the rainbow using a prism.

Because seven was a magical and mystical number in those times, Newton imagined that he saw seven colours in the rainbow (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet) which beautifully coincided with his observation that there are seven notes in the musical scale.

Newton suggested that light, colour, music and sound might be all parts of a whole; that they were fundamentally intertwined.

We now know that that is not the case but we loved the idea that music, sound, colour and light belong to another and that when they play together in human company they cause us to dance, connect, synchronize and find expression and joy through art and creation.

*Seven Little Wonders* was created in Mt Gambier by The PaperBoats in partnership with Country Arts SA, employing experienced local professional performer/theatre-makers, Sarah Broekensha and Gavin Clarke.



## Uniform

Our uniform consist of a navy jumper, navy and teal or navy polo shirt, navy pants/shorts/skirt and a navy and white checksummerdress.

Sneakers, shoes and sandals are appropriate footwear. Slip on shoes, thongs or shoes with high heels are not acceptable as they can cause a safety issue to students.



## Daily Timetable

8:00-8:30	Breakfast Club available for all students
8:30-8:45	Yard supervision
8:45 Bell	School commences
8:45-9:30	Discovery time
9:30-10:00	Circle time & Fruit break
10:00-11:15	Learning Block 1
11:15-11:45	<b>Recess</b>
11:45-1:00	Learning Block 2
1:00-1:10	Eating lunch in class
1:10-1:40	<b>Lunch</b>
1:40-3:10	Learning Block 3
3:10	Dismissal

## Mobile Phones

### Student use of personal devices at school:

All students are required to keep their personal devices 'off and away' between the start and end of each school day and while they are attending authorised school activities off-site, such as camps and excursions.

Students may only access their personal devices during these times if they have received an approved [exemption](#) from their school to use the device for a specific, agreed reason.

Access refers to both physical access, including wearing any wearable technology that fits the definition of personal devices in this policy, and remote access, such as connecting other technology to the personal device's hotspot or using headphones that are paired to the personal device.

## Excellence Awards

### Dean Waihape

Dean, we are so proud of the great week you have had this week. You have been using safe hands and safe words and have listened to the teachers. Keep up the great work!

### Damon Parson

For such an amazing start to school. You should be very proud of how well you have settled into school and the fantastic effort you have put into your learning. Well done Damon!

### Harlie Delaney

For a great start to the school year. You have demonstrated confidence within the class and are great role model and friend to our new receptions. Keep up the great work!

### Katie Pratt

What an amazing start to the year. You are using all the school values. You are a kind and respectful class member. You take pride in your work and get it done quickly and neatly. Congratulations on a great start to the school year.

### Dylan Redden

It's a pleasure to have you in our class. You are kind and thoughtful of others. You get involved in class discussions and activities. You have been giving your learning your best effort. Well done Dylan.

### Jenny Tun

For always working hard and being kind to others.

### Luka Shaw

For a positive start to the year. We are really enjoying watching you build your confidence in both your learning and interacting with others.

### Benjamin Richardson

For a fantastic start to the new school year in the classroom. The effort you have been putting in has been amazing and really demonstrates out school value of work hard. Keep it up and we are sure to have an excellent school year.

### Porcia Major

For demonstrating amazing resilience starting a new school. You have seamlessly fit into the classroom and demonstrated straight away that you can follow the school values. Welcome to Melaleuca Park Primary School.

# Year 5/6 Adelaide Camp



12 February—15 February 2024

# Welcome to The Resilience Project

## PARENTS & CARERS

This year, we are excited to bring The Resilience Project (TRP) into our school community!

### WHY?

Current research tells us...

Why mental health matters



One in four Australian adolescents will experience mental health problems this year

Nearly two thirds of them will not seek help.



One in seven primary school students are also likely to experience mental health problems this year.



Source: National Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Australia's Youth: Mental Illness

### EVIDENCE-BASED

The Resilience Project's School Partnership Program has been independently evaluated by both The [University of Adelaide](#) and The [University of Melbourne](#). Click the links or scan the QR code to find out more about the impact the program has on emotional wellbeing and behavioral changes.



### ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Resilience Project is committed to teaching positive mental health strategies to prevent mental ill-health and build young people's capacity to deal with adversity.

We will be implementing their evidence-based **Teaching and Learning Program** throughout our classrooms, staffroom and school community.

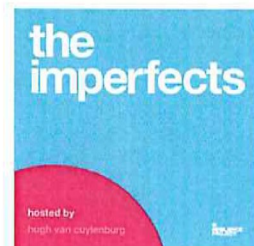
Teachers and students will engage in weekly lessons and activities around the key principles of **Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness (GEM)** and **Emotional Literacy** to build resilience.

### WHAT CAN BE DONE AT HOME?



To learn more about The Resilience Project and get involved from home, you can start exploring the ideas, activities and resources which bring **Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness (GEM)** to life on [TRP@HOME](#).

[The Imperfects](#) podcast, led by Hugh van Cuylenburg, Ryan Shelton and Josh van Cuylenburg, is all about how perfectly imperfect we all are. Hugh, Josh and Ryan chat to a variety of interesting people who bravely share their struggles and imperfections, and we all learn some valuable take-aways we can apply to our own imperfect lives.



# Kimochis

social and emotional learning

## KIMOCHIS AT MELALEUCA

The Kimochis education program is a universal, school-based, social and emotional learning program designed to give children the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to recognize and manage their emotions, demonstrate caring and concern for others, establish positive relationships, make responsible decisions, and handle challenging situations constructively.

As part of our Setting up for success program, we have been meeting the characters and learning about their traits as well learning about different feelings, and later we will be introducing the keys to communication. Keep your eye out in the coming newsletters over the year where we will keep you up to date about our learning. It complements our commitment to 'The resilience project' which we are also rolling out at Melaleuca Park this year.



## Hi! I'm CLOUD.

### COMMUNICATION TOOL FOR:

Unpredictable moods

Regulating tone of voice, body language, words, and actions

### MY STORY

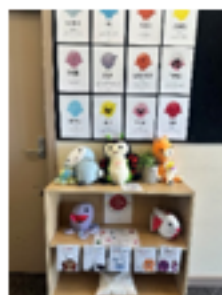
Lives in the big sky and loves to travel across the treetops to visit all his friends.

Favorite number: 9

Favorite color: Gray because there are so many different shades of it—just like his personality.

Loves butterscotch pudding and green tea.

Doesn't play an instrument, but he is a great audience!



## Student Home Internet Access Program

### Free home internet access

Students and families who have inadequate or no access to internet at home are eligible to apply for a free internet connection to support learning.

There are 2 options available to eligible families:

- wireless internet access from the Department for Education through the student home internet program
- NBN broadband internet access until December 2025 from the Australian Government through the School Student Broadband Initiative.

You might be eligible if you:

- have a school aged child
- don't have reliable home internet access or have no active NBN broadband connection.

Find out more about what options are available and how parents and carers can apply by visiting the [department's website](#).

## Peanut Allergy Alert

**ALERT:** There may be the odd chance that students might share their food. To prevent an allergic reaction with one of our students this year we recommended that students not bring sandwiches that contain **peanut paste** to school.



## Headlice

There has been several cases of head lice found in the school. We wish to inform you about this incident as you may want to check your child's hair.

If eggs or lice are present your child may return to school when s/he has been treated. We ask that you treat all members of the family and also suggest that you wash sheets, towels and soft toys to reduce the risk of further infestations.

Thank you for your assistance in eliminating this annoying pest.

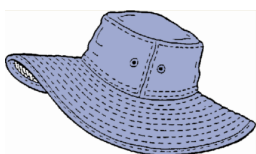
## School Card

School Fees are due. If you need to discuss payment options please contact Trudy Horsburgh on 87251404. If you need to apply for school card please call the school for further information or go online to fill in the application, alternatively please check your child's bag for a School Card form to be filled in and returned ASAP.

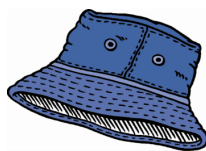
## SunSmart

During Terms 1, 3 and 4 (this is when the UV Index level reaches 3 and above) all students need to have a SunSmart hat.

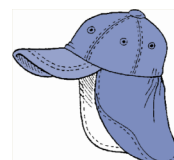
SunSmart hats are broad-brimmed hats, bucket hats, or legionnaire style hats. A SunSmart hat not only protects the face, head, neck and ears, it can also reduce the amount of UV radiation reaching the eyes by 50%.



Broad-  
Legionnaire

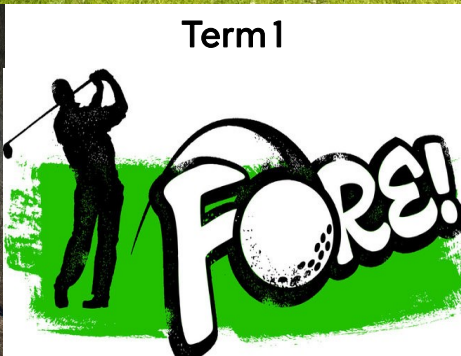


brimmed  
Style



Bucket

# Golf





## Story Dogs

Melaleuca Park Primary school is very excited to have returning two of our regular visitors to school to help our students with their reading. Helen Williams and Miss Maggie will be visiting every Tuesday morning to help in our 3/4 class.

Also Helen Cottier and Ace are returning every Monday morning to help our year 2's in the year 1/2 class.

The Story Dogs program partners with the classroom teachers to help students with their reading.

Helen and Miss Maggie will help the same 4 students each week as will Helen and Ace. The students will come out of their Classroom and sit one-on-one with the Story Dogs and read to them because they love to listen and will not mind if the student makes a few mistakes. The Story Dogs just want to have a fun time so that books and reading become a joyful experience.

Miss Maggie is a long haired Border Collie who is now four years old. She loves dog obedience and agility and chasing her ball. She has a lot of doggie friends that she meets regularly for runs and loves to chase them all and round them all up just like a working dog does, as Border Collies are bred for herding livestock.

Miss Maggie adores the students that she has worked with over the previous two years. Miss Maggie loved playing

the (two feet game) that she played with the students at the end of the reading session, and the students love this game just as much as she does. Miss Maggie is scared of the school bell and is nervous walking across the school yard because she thinks the bell is going to make that very loud noise!

If you see Miss Maggie in the school yard please approached slowly, Miss Maggie likes the students to introduce themselves by not rushing up to her and crowding her, so please put your hand out with a clenched fist then approach her one person at a time, then stand still while she sniffs your clenched fist, then you can slowly pat her under her chin. **Remember no hugs only Pats for all dogs.**



the streets in 2016 when he was about four years old.

Ace is now about twelve years old and he is a Kelpie. He went to dog school in his early years, going through to grade five then we enjoyed trialling for a while.

Ace is also a therapy dog who in the past made time to visit people in hospitals.

If you are interested in volunteering in this rewarding program, please contact the Coordinator Helen Williams: [helenw@storydogs.org.au](mailto:helenw@storydogs.org.au)



## Community News

# The Melaleuca Hub Shop

Open 9am - 12pm  
Monday, Wednesday and Friday  
(during school terms)

### About The Hub

Located next to the kindy in the big, colourful building - The Melaleuca Hub offers a range of services including playgroups, courses, and opportunities to connect with others.

### at the hub shop

- Affordable groceries
- Free fruit, veg and bread
- Free clothes and books
- Free toiletries

Pop in, make yourself a coffee and say hi!

This term we will be setting up a parent support group. It is a safe and supported session for families of children with autistic characteristics, behavioural concerns and school anxieties.

Please come along for a chat and a catch up. Four times a term we will have a special guest join us for some helpful tips. The group will be run by Vanessa Maxwell who is the Autism Inclusion Teacher.

When: Monday every week  
Where: The Hub  
Time: 1:15pm until 2:15pm

If you have any questions or concerns write Vanessa Maxwell a seesaw message or email. Looking forward to seeing you all.



PIC-COLLAGES



Family Connection Program

## MELALEUCA PLAYGROUP

TUESDAYS

All playgroup sessions start at 9:00-10:30 am and are held at the Melaleuca Primary School Gym—Boandik Terrace, MOUNT GAMBIER SA 5290

DATE	THEME	
WEEK 1 5th Jan	AUSTRALIA DAY	
WEEK 2 6th Feb	SUMMER FUN	
WEEK 3 13th Feb	MUSIC & MOVEMENT	
WEEK 4 20th Feb	CRAFT TIME	
WEEK 5 27th Feb	THINGS THAT GO	
WEEK 6 5th March	EXPLORING SHAPES	
WEEK 7 12th March	COOKING UP A STORM	
WEEK 8 19th March	HARMONY DAY	
WEEK 9 26th March	EASTER CELEBRATION	
WEEK 10 2nd April	EXPLORING AUTUMN	
WEEK 11 9th April	DRESS-UPS	

Healthy fruit—kindly donated by She's Apples  
For further information please contact the Family Connection Program on 083 8383 8383 or Phoebe West on 0432 974 979 & Sanna West 046 896

MOUNT GAMBIER LIBRARY

## FRIDAY AFTERNOON POOL

Fridays 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Join in with a game of 'Kelly Pool' or maybe 'Reverse Eightball' with our weekly tournaments.

Suitable for ages 12+  
Bookings not required.



Mount Gambier Library  
6 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier  
Phone 08 8721 2540  
mountgambier.sa.gov.au/library



Mount Gambier Library

## LEGO Fan Clubs

Thursdays 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Bookings essential for both clubs.

### TECHNICS

Weekly builds, using machines and mechanics.  
Suitable for ages 8+.



### CLASSICS

Weekly challenges and fun for the whole family.  
Suitable for all ages.

### HIDDEN LEGO MAN

Hidden in a new spot every Thursday 4:00pm - 5:00pm - find me and receive a treat!



Mount Gambier Library  
6 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier SA 5290  
Phone (08) 8721 2540

MOUNT GAMBIER LIBRARY

## STEAM CLUB

Let's explore:  
The Rube Goldberg Machine with  
One Thing Leads to Another

Term 1: Tuesdays 4:00pm - 5:00pm  
6 February to 9 April

Unleash your inner engineer and enjoy learning about simple machines, chain reactions, stored energy, and much more as we take engineering to a new level.

Suitable for ages 8+.  
Bookings essential.



Mount Gambier Library  
6 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier  
Phone 08 8721 2540  
mountgambier.sa.gov.au/library

MOUNT GAMBIER LIBRARY

## TABLE TOP GAMES CLUB

Wednesdays 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Enjoy all the classics and more!  
With a selection of games and brainteasers each week - you'll never be bored!

Suitable for ages 8+  
Bookings not required.



Mount Gambier Library  
6 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier  
Phone 08 8721 2540  
mountgambier.sa.gov.au/library

MOUNT GAMBIER LIBRARY

## WHAT'S AT YOUR LIBRARY FOR FAMILIES?

### AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

#### STEAM CLUB

8 - 13 YEAR OLDS  
Tuesdays 4:00pm - 5:00pm  
Explore Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics through a series of programs designed to foster a love of learning.  
Bookings essential.

#### LEGO FAN CLUBS:

CLASSICS and TECHNICS  
Thursdays 4:00pm - 5:00pm  
CLASSICS - ALL AGES  
Weekly challenges and fun for the whole family.  
TECHNICS - 8+ YEAR OLDS  
Weekly challenges, using machines and mechanics.  
Bookings essential for both clubs.

#### TABLE TOP GAMES CLUB

8+ YEAR OLDS  
Wednesdays 4:00pm - 5:00pm  
Enjoy all the classics and more! With a selection of games and brainteasers each week - you'll never be bored!  
Bookings not required.

#### FRIDAY AFTERNOON POOL

12+ YEAR OLDS  
Fridays 4:00pm - 5:00pm  
Join in with a game of 'Kelly Pool' or maybe 'Reverse Eightball' with our weekly tournaments.  
Bookings not required.

### CAVE CLUB - UNDER 5'S

Fostering a strong connection to community and a sense of belonging for our littles visitors, our Cave Club runs simultaneously with our Storytime and Move & Groove programs held weekly. Join the Cave Club and start collecting stamps in your Cave Club passport today.

Baby Bounce:  
Tuesday & Thursday at 10:00am  
Storytime:  
Tuesday at 10:30am  
Move & Groove:  
Thursday at 10:30am



## FREE ONLINE RESOURCES USING YOUR LIBRARY CARD



Thousands of titles for South Australian borrowers with up to 10 loans at a time.



Library members can borrow up to 10 eBooks and 10 eAudiobooks.



Australian stories for primary school aged children read by some of Australia's finest storytellers with additional learning resources.



Enjoy Audiobooks, eBooks, comics, movies, TV episodes, music and magazines



Learn a language through the magic of storytelling. Thousands of audio-picture books in 50+ languages.



Research and complete homework assignments with age appropriate material on a child-friendly site with credible and accurate information.



Study help, online, anywhere! Connect in real-time with live experts or get feedback in less than 24 hours.

Scan the QR code to go to our eResources online:



Mount Gambier Library  
6 Watson Terrace,  
Mount Gambier SA 5290  
Phone (08) 8721 2540

## Community News

VICIS  
AGM

FEB 11TH  
2024

& REGISTRATION

MOUNT GAMBIER NETBALL ASSOCIATION CLUBROOMS

10.00 AM - POSITIONS OPEN

What's On? Melaleuca Hub Term 1: 29th January—5th April, 2024				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Hub Shop</b> 9-12 Low-cost groceries Free clothes, toys etc		<b>Hub Shop</b> 9-12 Low-cost groceries Free clothes, toys etc		<b>Hub Shop</b> 9-12 Low-cost groceries Free clothes, toys etc
<b>PlayConnect+ Playgroup</b>  <b>FREE</b> 9-11am  Commences Week 2 of term  A safe and supported playgroup for children with autistic characteristics, developmental delays or behavioural concerns and their families.  Diagnosis is not required to attend.  Ph: Nicky 0409448691  	<b>CENTACARE Family Connections Playgroup</b>  <b>FREE</b> 9-10.30am (0 to 6 years)  Pop in or phone: 83036630  Held in the Melaleuca Park Primary School gym  	<b>Creating Connections</b>  <b>FREE</b> 9-11am  Meet other parents, join in community projects, exchange ideas & skills, learn about services available in the community More info: 0439 569 599  	<b>My Time Connections</b>  <b>FREE</b> 12:30-2:30pm (0 to 5 years) For parents and carers of children with a disability, developmental delay or chronic medical condition Creche available Ph: Nicky 0409448691  	<b>Cooking For Family Health &amp; Wellbeing FREE</b> 11:00am-1:00pm Starts 16th February  A 4 week cooking program for parents with young children.  Booking essential Phone: 0439 569 599  Held in the Melaleuca School Kitchen  
<b>Are you interested in a Free Fitness &amp; Exercise Group?</b> <small>(day &amp; time to be decided based on expressions of interest)</small>  Please express your interest at the Hub or call 0439 569 599  		<b>Child &amp; Brain Development</b>  A workshop for parents that helps build an understanding of how a child & a child's brain develops.  <b>Wednesday 20th March 10:00am-12:30pm</b> Ph: 0439 569 599	<b>Hub Library Monday, Wednesday, Friday</b>  A great selection of fiction and non-fiction books for free, also computer use for printing, emails, resumes, job applications etc.  	<b>Enquiries:</b> Community Development Coordinator Mob: 0439 569 599  

# PLAYGROUP

FROM BIRTH TO 5 YEARS

9am - 11am  
Every Friday morning during term

FREE

Come talk, play, read and sing with Helen

Bookings are not required

Melaleuca Park KINDERGARTEN

## MOUNT GAMBIER LIBRARY LIBRARY LOVERS' DAY 2024 YOUTH COMPETITION

What is an activity/resource that we could provide to make you love your library?  
All entries go into the draw to win a \$50 Ultimate Teens Gift Card.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Adult Art Classes @BeArtiful

Day and evening classes available

Join our art studio to broaden your horizons to the wonderful world of art. Whether you are a novice or experienced creative, our classes are structured to suit many individuals and groups.

Artists and Teachers

Ruth Stephenson and Pariya Ziakas

**2024** BeArtiful Inspiring Creativity CLASSES AVAILABLE FOR BOOKINGS

40 Gray Street, Mount Gambier SA 5290

Contact Us: [hello@beartiful.com.au](mailto:hello@beartiful.com.au)  
Instagram: [beartiful\\_studio](#)  
Facebook: [BeArtiful](#)

**BeArtiful**  
INSPIRING CREATIVITY  
Visit Our Website: [beartiful.com.au](http://beartiful.com.au)

## BLUE LAKE BMX CLUB

Do you or your kids love riding... then come and try BMX racing

Training and Gates, Tuesday nights from 5:15pm

Racing, Friday nights, Racing starts at 6:30pm

Hastings Cunningham Reserve, Millard St, Mount Gambier.

4 week FREE trial, through AusCycling

- Suitable for all ages.
- Learn new skills.
- Form new friendships.

[bluelakebmx@gmail.com](mailto:bluelakebmx@gmail.com)  
 Blue Lake BMX Club

## Grant High School's Production of

Disney  
HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

ON STAGE!

SAVE THE DATE!  
July 4th and 5th

Based on a Disney Channel Original Movie  
Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia).  
All performance materials supplied by Hal Leonard Australia