



Murgon

STATE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Be a Learner, Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Cooperative

Term 1, Week 7 • Friday 13 March 2026

At least 12 months growth for one year's schooling

From the Acting Principal – Ms Karen

Supporting Mathematics Learning at School and at Home

This year, Murgon State Primary School is continuing to strengthen the way we teach Mathematics as we implement and refine the teaching of Version 9.0 of the Australian Curriculum. The updated curriculum focuses on helping students develop strong number knowledge, problem-solving skills and confidence with mathematics in everyday life.

A key part of this approach is making sure students understand mathematics, not just memorise it. To support this, teachers are continuing to use and implement hands-on learning in the classroom.

This means students may be working with concrete materials such as blocks, counters, measuring tools, number lines, clocks and real-life objects. These tools help children see and feel how numbers work, which builds stronger understanding and confidence. Research shows that when students can touch, move and explore mathematical ideas, they develop deeper learning and are more likely to remember and apply what they have learnt.

Why Hands-On Maths Matters

Hands-on activities help students:

- Understand number and place value
- Build problem-solving skills
- Make connections between maths and everyday life
- Develop confidence when tackling new concepts

You might hear your child talking about using blocks, counters, measuring cups, clocks or number lines in class. These are powerful learning tools that support students as they move from concrete understanding to more abstract thinking.

The Importance of Wearing a Watch

We encourage students to wear an analogue watch (a watch with hands) to school if possible. Learning to tell the time is an important life skill and a key part of the mathematics curriculum. There are some

great 'teach the time' watches – a great gift for a birthday present!

Analogue watches help students understand:

- The relationship between hours and minutes
- Fractions of time (quarter past, half past, quarter to)
- Time management and independence

Digital clocks are helpful, but analogue watches support deeper understanding of how time works.

Easy Ways to Practise Maths at Home

You don't need special equipment to support maths learning. Everyday activities can help build strong skills.

Try some of these simple ideas:

Cooking together

- Ask your child to measure ingredients
- Talk about halves, quarters and cups, millilitres, grams and kilograms
- Discuss what a dozen looks like and the link with half a dozen

Shopping

- Let your child help count money
- Ask them to estimate the total cost
- Count together how many apples they are buying

Telling the time

- Ask what time it is when leaving for school or sport or what time they go to bed and get up in the morning
- Practise reading analogue and digital clocks at home

Counting and number games

- Count steps when walking
- Play card games or board games
- Practise skip counting by 2s, 5s and 10s

Talking about maths

Simply asking questions such as "How did you work that out?" helps children explain their thinking and build confidence.

(continued over)



Pictured: Mathematics in Year 4/5

Diary Dates

Monday 16 March

Vision and eye health screenings commence

Friday 27 March

Term 1 Learning Showcase

Thursday 2 April

Last day of Term 1

Friday 3 April

Good Friday Public Holiday

2026 TERM DATES:

Term 1:

Tuesday 27 January – Thursday 2 April

Term 2:

Monday 20 April – Friday 26 June

Term 3:

Monday 13 July – Friday 18 September

Term 4:

Tuesday 6 October – Friday 11 December



Acknowledgement

Ngai biange Wakka Wakka murun

We honour Wakka Wakka people

doom, daru, doomu

Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow.

Ngai biange mana djaa wandja murun

We honour this land where people

wanenyi djinang duur gari nyalang

Left foot print in muddy

balan djagan.

flat land.



Aspire • Believe • Challenge

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"Every day in every classroom every student is learning"

From the Acting Principal – Ms Karen (continued)

Working Together

At Murgon State Primary School, we believe every child can succeed in mathematics with the right support, encouragement and opportunities to practise.

By working together at school and at home, we can help students develop the skills, confidence and curiosity they need to use mathematics in everyday life.



Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions about your child's learning in mathematics, please ask. We are more than happy to discuss the teaching and learning of mathematics with you.

Ms Karen
Acting Principal

A Note from the Deputy Principal

As I divulged in our first newsletter of the year, not only am I a crazy sheep lady but a keen sports fan as well! Here are a few reasons as to why mathematics is important to me and I think numbers are fun:

- My fattest lamb (sheep), Lilah, weighs approximately 80kg, which means I need to give her 160mL of drench each year, as the recommended dose in Australia is 2mL per 10kg
- As a footy lover, I had the opportunity to go to the Dolphins vs Souths game this past weekend (which, unfortunately the Rabbitohs won). Here were some of the statistics from that game:
 - Souths made 8 line breaks, compared to the Dolphins 4
 - Souths ran 1880 metres compared to the Dolphins 1647 metres
 - Souths made one 40/20 kick, compared to 0 for the Dolphins
 - The Dolphins were required to make 124 more tackles than Souths
 - No wonder the Rabbitohs got up!
- Finally, one of my favourite cricketers, Alyssa Healy retired on Sunday after a stellar career. An amazing cricketer all round, Alyssa's favourite format was the One Day format of the game. Here she played 126 matches for a total of 3777 runs at an average of 37.0 with a strike rate of 100.7

See... mathematics matters to me and should to all of us!

Mathematics matters in the real world because we use it in everyday activities like agriculture and trade. Farmers use maths to measure land, calculate how much seed or fertiliser they need, and estimate how much crop they can harvest. They also use maths to plan irrigation, divide fields, and track the growth of their crops. In trade, maths helps people set prices, weigh products, and calculate profits and losses when buying and selling goods in markets.

Maths also helps communities and countries manage their resources and economies. Traders and business owners use mathematics to keep records, calculate taxes, and understand supply and demand. In agriculture, governments and scientists use maths to predict crop yields and plan food distribution. Because of this, mathematics plays an important role in making sure food production and trade run smoothly and fairly in the real world.

This is why that we, at Murgon State Primary School, focus on building strong mathematical skills from the ground up. From the early years, students learn the basics of numbers, patterns, and problem-solving through hands-on activities and real-life examples. By developing confidence with these foundations, children grow their ability to think logically, solve everyday problems, and apply mathematics to areas such as trade, measurement, and understanding the world around them.

Happy counting!



Until next time,

Beth Harlow
Acting Deputy Principal



Head of Department – Curriculum

Mathematics Enrichment Opportunity

At our school, we are always looking for ways to extend and enrich students' learning in mathematics. This term, selected students in Years 5 and 6 have the opportunity to participate in a weekly **virtual tutoring session with students and teachers from Somerset College**.

During these online sessions, students work collaboratively to explore, consolidate and expand on mathematical concepts that they are learning in class. The lessons are designed to be highly engaging and interactive, allowing students to deepen their understanding through problem-solving, discussion and real-world mathematical challenges.

This partnership provides students with the opportunity to:

- strengthen their mathematical thinking
- engage with new problem-solving strategies
- collaborate with students beyond our school community
- build confidence when explaining and justifying their ideas

Students have been enjoying the challenge of tackling rich mathematical tasks and sharing their thinking with others. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and persistence as they explore new ideas and extend their learning.



We look forward to continuing this exciting learning opportunity throughout the term and celebrating the growth in our students' mathematical skills and confidence.

Mrs Sarah Ridder



Head of Special Education Services (HOSES)

Hello everyone,

QUT Whole School Vision Screening begins next **Monday 16 March**. To make the most of this opportunity, please ensure that consent notes for have been returned, signed on both sides.

Monday is not too late to return notes.

Also, if you have a consent form from CRAICCHS about skin checks and health checks, please return these as soon as possible as CRAICCHS will be visiting the school soon.



Alex Brimblecombe
Head of Special Education Services (HOSES)



HPE

Mathematics is not always the first subject people think of when they think about HPE, however it plays an important role in many activities students participate in. Movement in HPE often requires students to use mathematical skills in practical ways.

In the lower years, students use mathematics when counting team members, keeping track of steps, and following movement pathways during games and activities. They are also developing their understanding of positional language such as in front, behind, beside and through while completing movement challenges.

In the upper years, mathematics is used during invasion games, where students apply their understanding of space, positioning and movement to work as a team. Students move into open spaces, defend areas and create passing options while recognising movement patterns and making quick decisions.



In the coming weeks, when we begin cross country training, students will also use mathematics to measure time, distance and track their personal progress.

Mrs Sarah Scanlan

Language and Culture

Ngara yumbin,

Students in Prep and Year 1 classes have continued to learn about the importance of Country and our need to acknowledge the traditional custodians, the Wakka Wakka people. Prep students have viewed a video of the local Wakka Wakka Dance Group performing the song at a Cherbourg Ration Shed event. They have shared their favourite songs and dances to identify connections between their own culture and that of First Nations Peoples.

In Year 1, students are learning to represent the school Acknowledgement of Country in Wakka Wakka, English and pictures. They have created a title page for their journals to represent "left footprints on muddy flat ground." (Pictured top right: Amalia gets her footprint spray painted for her title page.)

In Year 2/3, students are tackling the language of introductions and have learnt how to introduce themselves and ask the name of others using Wakka Wakka words and phrases.

In Year 4/5 students have learnt the words and phrases that can be used to introduce themselves, ask the names of others, share the English and First Nations name of their place of birth and enquire as to other people's place of origin.



In Year 5/6, students have recorded an introductory conversation in English and are working with a partner to create a Wakka Wakka translation of their recording. (Pictured bottom right: Finn and Asha record an introductory exchange in English for translation to Wakka Wakka.)

Ms Carmen Godbaz



Prep

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to Week 7! The term is flying by so quickly and our little learners are working hard every day. This week's focus for the newsletter is Mathematics.

What have Prep been getting up to in Mathematics?

We have been learning about numbers from 0–10, including practising how to write numbers and matching groups of items to the correct number. Students have been using hands-on materials to help them recognise and understand numbers.

Prep has also been collecting and recording data by becoming "question detectives". Students asked questions with yes or no answers and recorded the results to discover what their classmates liked most, such as their favourite sport, food, fruit or animal.

We even stepped outside the classroom to watch the traffic and recorded which colour car drove past the most. The students loved being mathematicians and using their learning in the real world!

As the term continues, we will begin exploring positional language, learning what it means when an object or person is in front of, behind, next to, or between something else.

Mathematics in Prep is all about learning through play and hands-on experiences. You will often see students playing maths games, sorting counters, and using Play-Doh to help build their understanding of new concepts.



Reminders:

- Please ensure your child comes to school with a healthy snack each day, such as fruit, vegetables, or yoghurt.
- A water bottle is essential to keep students hydrated throughout the day.

Thank you for your continued support. We love seeing our Prep students grow and learn each week!

Miss Kaitlyn Carter

Year 1

Maths in IM

Hello parents and carers,

Welcome to week 7!

This term in Maths, our Year 1 class have been learning about data and how we can collect and organise information. We have explored how to record data using tally marks and have been practising this by surveying our classmates about their favourite things, such as colours and ice cream flavours. Students have enjoyed gathering information, counting the results, and discussing which options were the most and least popular. These activities help build important skills in counting, comparing numbers, and understanding how data can help us answer questions.

We have also been learning about directions and how to move people and objects within a space using directional language. Students have been practising identifying left and right and giving and following instructions using words such as forward, backward, and turn. Through games and hands-on activities, students are becoming more confident using these terms. Each day we also continue to strengthen our number skills by counting to 100. We now know the song word for word!

Additionally, we practise addition to help build strong foundations in early number learning.

We have shown great effort and motivation towards our mathematics learning so far and we all look forward to seeing what wonderful achievements we can make for the rest of Year 1!



Miss Danielle Murphy



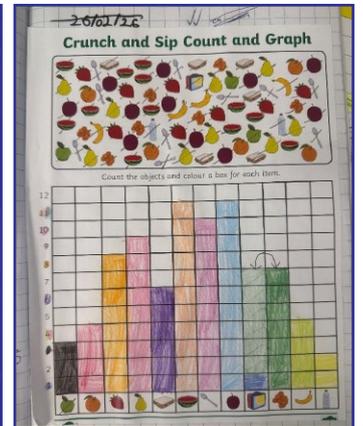
Year 2/3

In our Year 2/3 classroom, students have been learning how to collect and use data in fun and meaningful ways. We started by thinking of questions we were curious about, such as favourite fruits, pets or sports. Students then asked their classmates and recorded the answers using tally marks and simple tables. After collecting the information, we began turning our results into graphs so we could easily see and talk about the different results. It has been great to see students working together, asking questions, and discovering how data can help us learn more about our class.



In a broader sense, collecting and using data is important because it helps us learn new things and understand information. When we collect data, we gather answers and ideas from people or things around us. When we use the data, we can see patterns, compare results, and answer questions.

Mr Davis



Year 4/5

Hello parents, families and caregivers,

As we come closer to the end of the term, our Year 4/5 class is continuing to work incredibly hard in Mathematics. Developing strong maths and numeracy skills is very important as it helps students build problem-solving skills, think logically, and apply their learning to real-world situations. These skills support learning across all subjects and help students become confident thinkers.

Earlier this term, students explored Space, learning about lines of symmetry and transformations such as flips, slides and turns. Students enjoyed hands-on activities including creating symmetrical designs and completing transformation challenges on grids.

We have now moved into our new unit on Statistics. To begin the unit, students' prior knowledge was assessed in a fun and interactive way. Students created their own survey questions and possible answers, then asked their classmates the questions. As they collected responses, they recorded the results using tally marks on mini whiteboards. This helped students practise both their data collection skills and their understanding of how information can be organised. Students are now using digital tools to survey the class as part of their assessment and to represent the data they collect. This allows them to clearly read and interpret the results, identify trends, and discuss what the data shows.

We have also begun using Maths Online, which has been a fantastic tool for supporting student learning. Maths Online provides engaging videos, practice questions and interactive activities that allow students to revisit concepts, practise skills at their own pace, and build confidence in their mathematical understanding.

Reminders

- Homework is due each Friday.
- Please send a piece of fruit with your child each day for our brain break.

As always, if you have any questions or would like to discuss your child's learning, please don't hesitate to reach out.



Mrs Kirsty van der Lugt



Year 5/6

In 5/6S, students have been exploring a range of mathematical concepts, including arithmetic, graphing, data representation and negative numbers. Each lesson begins with explicit number work to build fluency. This term, we have been working on multiplication, skip counting, and recognising numerical patterns. During our main teaching block, students have been learning how to collect, interpret, and present data accurately, as well as how graphs and number lines can be used to visually represent information and understand values below zero.

We have used our laptops to represent data in new ways and explore how data can be manipulated. Throughout these lessons, students are developing stronger reasoning skills and becoming more confident in analysing and communicating mathematical ideas.



Miss Eleanor Stuart



Murgon State Primary School

TERM ONE

LEARNING SHOWCASE



Friday 27th
March

2:15pm-
3:00pm

Join us as Murgon State Primary School students proudly share their learning from Term One.

Not a member of our Murgon State Primary School team yet?
Come along and see what your child can achieve at
Murgon State Primary School.

Your Child, Our Student, One Team

- ✓ All classrooms will be open - see our engaging and well resourced learning spaces
- ✓ Meet our amazing classroom teachers
- ✓ Meet our supportive teacher aides

For More Information

Phone: 41 69 8333

<https://murgonss.eq.edu.au>

Find us on Facebook

Lucky Door Prizes

Attend and go in the draw to win a lucky door prize