ISSUE 13 SEPTEMBER 2024



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OFFICER SPECIALIST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

https://officerss.vic.edu.au

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MINI WOOLIES OPENSIAT OSSIS

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OUR HISTORIES WITH PLC5

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SCIENCE WEEK IN PRIMARY!

ISSUE 13 SEPTEMBER 2024 OSS NEWS Officer Specialist School Newsletter

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Officer Specialist School acknowledges the traditional owners of the land throughout Australia. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to the elders past, present and future.

Message From The Principal

Hello everyone.

Hello everyone

The end of term is upon us and what a busy one it has been!!!

We have had lots of events, building, construction, new staff, and celebrations. Our Mini Woolies opening this week was a real highlight!

Our Celebration Assembly will be on Friday at 10.00 am in our school gym because of the disruptions that so often occur when we use the gym next door. It will be cozy, but we are all looking forward to the completion of our new community space. This should be finished by the end of the year so fingers crossed, it will be in use in 2025.

Don't forget to get the hats and sunscreen ready for term 4 and make sure they are named.

A SAVE THE DATE FROM OUR PFA

Saturday 19th October: A Music Bingo Night!!! \$15.00 a head. More information soon.

Enjoy the holidays, stay safe and we will see you all back for term 4 on Monday October 7th.

Thanks, everyone,

Helene Rowe

Principal Officer Specialist School



OSS NEWS Officer Specialist School Newsletter

Health Hub Update! Officer Specialist School Nursing Team.

Angie - School Nurse

holidays.

Our nursing team is expanding at Officer Specialist Team, Rochelle has started in the last couple of weeks and is loving meeting all the staff and students at our school. We now have 3 nurses working at Officer Specialist School:

Angie works Monday – Friday Kerrie works Monday – Wednesday Rochelle works Thursday – Friday We hope everyone has a safe and happy



Happy School Holidays! School holidays start 21st September and we are back at school October 7th. See you all then!

Don't School Holiday Ideas.

See Pages 23 onwards for some great ideas.



Also in Issue 12 Did you Miss?









We are excited to introduce the Mini Woolies program, which is designed to enhance student learning through hands-on experiences. initiative practical, This by Woolworths allows students to engage in real-world tasks such as grocery shopping, handling money, and making healthy choices. Through activities like role-playing in a mini supermarket setting, students will develop important skills in numeracy, communication, and decision-making. The program provides a safe and supportive environment where students can practice these skills, building confidence and independence in a fun way.



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NEW PROGRAM OPENS AT OSS



We believe that learning extends beyond the classroom, and Mini Woolies aligns perfectly with our goal of preparing students for everyday life. By participating in this program, students will have the opportunity to apply their knowledge in meaningful, practical situations, helping them understand the value of money, budgeting, and making informed choices. Mini Woolies encourages problem-solving, teamwork, and social interaction, all essential for personal growth and future success. We are confident that this program will empower our students to thrive and become more independent in their daily lives.



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SATURDAY OCTOBER 19TH

JANA A

Fundraise

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START AT 7 PM

OFFICER SPECIALIST SCHOOL

Tickets will be available at the office. \$15 a ticket. 10 tickets per table Byo Nibbles and drinks.

There will be raffles and silent auction items and games. Come along, have fun and help us raise funds to help the kids. We have limited tickets so get in quick.







Teacher: **Carme Alincomot**

Term 3 is so much fun!

Students in Room 1.08 have participated in several school activities such as excursions and book week parades. These school extra-curricular activities have allowed 1.08 students to practice their social skills by walking as a group, tolerating their peers beside them, and interacting with both unfamiliar staff and students, well exploring unfamiliar as as environments. As a result of these learning opportunities, 1.08 students have demonstrated improved self-regulation by listening and following staff's instructions to remain safe, yet engaged, during indoor and outdoor school activities.

Keep reaching for the stars 1.08 Students! YOU can do it!













Classroom Teachers Ros Stewart & Rachel Golden















Students in 201 and 202 have had engaged in many creative activities to enhance their learning during Book Week. They contributed to our combined Alice In Wonderland door display by making different elements of the display. Each student took on a character for the display. Students in 201 also were visited by their buddy classroom, who read a book to them.

Students have also continued their Upper Body and Fine Motor programs in the classroom with engaging activities.





Classroom Teacher Ros Stewart

> Room 2.07 celebrated NAIDOC week Students recently. explore indigenous culture through sensorybased activities. We joined with other students in our building to celebrate this occasion.









Secondary Department CLASSROOM Supshor Welcome to Room 305







The students in 305 got to use some VR headsets to explore biomes in 'Nature Trek'. My favorite biome was the beach and grassland. We played a friendly game of soccer with students from 306 in PE, the best part was that we all had fun and demonstrated the school values while playing. Classes 301, 305, and 306 made RUOK bracelets for each other using black and yellow beads and letter beads as well. Great and happy end to the term.









Teacher: Jessie Ryan

307 have had a wonderful term 3. Though we said "See you later and not goodbye" to Connor we have continued our learning journey without disruption.

Students have been working hard on their inquiry projects about how they and the world around them has changed. We discussed and looked at how technology and transport has changed; along with creating a book about how they have changed and will continue to change as they grow up.

Students have continued to work hard in literacy and maths showing great success and progress in their learning. 307 students have also been working on helping each other in the classroom with collecting and handing out learning resources, playing and sharing with toys and helping clean up a the end off the day together. We are looking forward to a great term 4.

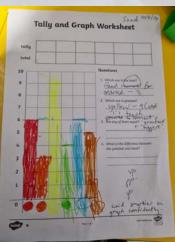
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CLASSROOM Supshall Welcome to Room 308

Classroom Teacher Rachel Shambrook

The past few weeks have been busy and exciting in 3.08. Students have been working on their addition activities, learning to combine two groups of unifix blocks, stickers, or pictures together and finding how many altogether. We have been focusing on developing pictographs and simple bar graphs as a way of presenting information, such as counting groups of animals to total the number of each, surveying classmates about their favourite ice cream flavours and counting smarties in colour groups. Students are just beginning to recognise that they can make comparisons between two groups and comment on which one is 'bigger' or has more in it.

3.08 have been exploring our own personal characteristics or facts and expressing this in an "All About Me" book. Students have been creating sentences about themselves or filling the gaps in sentences to share information and presenting them in book format with the use of symbols to help with reading.





Continued Next page....







308 Continued...

Teacher: Rachel Shambrook

We have been recognising and exploring similarities and differences between ourselves and our friends as part of this activity. Students are also participating in creating a photographic timeline from birth to the present time. They have loved looking over photos from themselves and enjoying the idea of 'past and present' and noting how they have changed.

Finally, we have been exploring the school value of feeling 'Safe.' Our particular focus has been on the need to feel safe, checking in with our classmates and family to see if they are ok, and who to ask for help. Students made a mini poster to represent their Safety network, and from whom they could ask for help if they are not feeling safe.

Well done to all 3.08 students on all your efforts throughout Term 3. What great achievements have been made! Thanks go to the fabulous Education support staff who have helped in 308. Thank you for all your hard work.











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Classroom Teacher Jade Kercheval

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Throughout Term 3, Room 5.03 have been working on their play and social skills through structured play sessions with their peers. They also have continued working on their comprehension, speaking and writing skills through engaging in weekly Colourful Semantics activities.

A highlight for students has been working on their personal timelines and family trees during History lessons that have incorporated their personal and family photos. Book week was a hit, and it was great to see some students dressing up in costumes!

Students are looking forward to our walking excursion next week to celebrate the end of Term 3.

Well done 5.03!





Secondary Department





Welcome To Class 4-01 Teacher:

Glynis Vogrig

In Term 3, Room 4.01 has been reading and exploring the book 'Cooking at 10 Pomegranate Street'. Through the book, students have integrated all our subjects through exploring tomatoes, avocado, broccoli, and this week, black beans. This week we followed the recipe for Black Bean Soup and made some beautiful, dried bean murals.

Students have also been working hard focusing on socialising, by learning how to play different board games together and socialise with others when inside and outside class. Rebekah, Jesse, and Robbie have been drawing 2D shapes and Jesse and Rebekah have been focusing on reading, spelling, and writing most used words.

We celebrated our special weeks. With Science Week, we experimented with floating and sinking. Book Week, we read 'A counting adventure out for the Count'. We explored silhouettes, counted and the students decorated our doors and dressed up as Witches and Wizards.

Cayde has been lucky enough to go swimming each week and is becoming more and more confident each week.













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Secondary Department CLASSROOM Support Welcome to Room 510

Classroom Teacher Maija Gusts

Classroom 510 has undertaken a hands-on approach to learning with their recent work experience at Connecting 2 Communities, where students have been involved in recycling ewaste, giving students an opportunity to contribute to environmental sustainability by properly disposing of old electronics. In addition to this, the students have supported the community by cooking meals for the They also undertaken homeless. have stocktaking of personal hygiene products to ensure that there are ample products to be sent to various charities within the local area. These experiences and the student's respectful, safe, and enthusiastic attitudes have demonstrated their progress toward work in the future.

The students have been working hard to complete many components of the Victorian Pathways Curriculum, they have been working in groups with other senior students to create a micro-business. Students have been learning about how advertisements influence the buyer and have begun to create advertisements that will be displayed in a variety of mediums to attract buyers in the school community in Term 4. Keep your eyes peeled for some amazing products coming your way before Christmas!



Secondary Department CLASSROO Snapsher Welcome to Room 704

Classroom Teacher Sonal Kaur

As we wrap up Term 3, we wanted to share some highlights from the exciting learning happening in Class 7.04!

Exploring Past and Present Changes -'We Are Historian'

This Term, our students have been diving into the theme of "Past and Present," exploring how things have changed over time. Through handson activities, they have observed the evolution of various items such as toys, cars, houses, cooking, personal timelines, and kitchen tools. One of the highlights was creating PicCollage posters to identify these changes. For example, students compared the new features and body shapes of cars and traced the transformation of utensils from traditional clay and earth ovens to modern electronic ovens. Students have also created their lives so far through 'Personal Timeline' Pic collage stories.

Building Maths Skills

Our learning didn't stop there! We've also been developing essential math skills such as equal sharing, subtraction, addition, multiplication, understanding directions, and interpreting locations. These skills were integrated into our activities to make learning both engaging and meaningful.



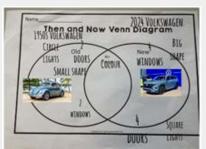
2024 Toyota



in the 1950s car







Secondary Department





Class 704 continued ...

Classroom Teacher Sonal Kaur

International Cooking Adventures

Students have also embarked on a culinary journey this term! They have been involved in cooking recipes from various countries, discovering different cooking methods, and broadening their understanding of cultures worldwide. Please see our Seesaw journal to check student's achievement.

Our recent excursion to the Air Museum provided an exciting opportunity for students to learn about the history of airplanes. Students explored various exhibits showcasing the evolution of aviation, from the earliest flying machines to modern aircraft. They learned about significant milestones in aviation history, the development of airplane technology, and the stories of pioneering pilots.

The hands-on experience of viewing historic airplanes up close and engaging in interactive displays enriched their understanding of how aviation has shaped our world over time. Overall, it was a fascinating and educational experience for all!

I am very proud of the hard work and enthusiasm our students have shown this term, and I look forward to more exciting learning adventures ahead!









By - Ros Stewart Teacher

We have recently celebrated National Science Week at Officer, and students had an amazing time participating in a range of different science-based learning throughout classrooms and in the playground. There were rockets being launched, chemical reactions using vinegar and soda, communications through paper cups and string, and sink and float experiments.











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Our school photos tell stories. They help us to remember what we were like in the past and how we have grown during our years at Officer Specialist School.

Students have been exploring what parts of them have stayed the same, such as their eye and hair colour, and what parts of them have changed, such as their height, strength and weight. We have explored how the things we like to eat and the amount we eat has changed over our school lives. Students have had the opportunity to revisit a variety of foods they may have eaten when they were younger porridge and stewed fruits.

Students have seen how their developmental play and toy choices have changed. They have discovered that although some of the activities are the same, such as I've always enjoyed completing puzzles. However, the puzzles they are completing now are more complex and have more pieces. Students have really enjoyed this unit of learning.

Chewies.

What are they?

Chewies are specifically designed objects that a child can safely chew on instead of their clothes, hands, or writing utensils.

A chewy is typically a piece of rubberlike material that comes in different textures and shapes.

Why use it?

Children who chew on non-food objects may benefit from a chewy in order to reduce damage to their clothes, body, or tools. Chewing on something can provide a calming and focusing effect on a child who seeks sensation in their mouth.

If Allied Health staff believe your child would benefit from a chewy, the school can provide one for school use only. Who can use it?

A chewy may be appropriate for your child if they:

Always chew on non-food items Have increased biting behaviours Becomes anxious and chews on objects

Constantly seeks sensation through their mouth

Where to find it?

The Therapy Store

https://www.thetherapystore.com.au/

Sensory Connect

https://www.sensoryconnect.com.au/

Please discuss with a private OT for further information for home prescription details

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SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACCELERATE PROGRAM

Next program:

It is a well researched fact that short burst of intensive learning accelerates motor skill development

Book now!

Sept. 23rd-26th

Inspiring a lifelong love of swimming

\$70 for 4 days

BOOK

TODAY

- Small class sizes
- Structured learn to swim lessons
- Dedicated family focused learn to swim facilities
- All swimmers individually assessed

60 Kangan Drive, **Berwick**, VIC. 3806 **T. (03) 9707 5922**

4/114 Princes HWY, **Pakenham**, VIC. 3810 **T. (03) 9701 3225**

137 Stud Rd, Dandenong, VIC. 3175 T. (03) 9792 5461

5/121 Grices Rd, Clyde Nth, VIC. 3978 T. (03) 7009 4030



www.splashs.com.au

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HOLIDAY

ACCELERATE

PROGRAM

GIFT VOUCHER

Gift Voucher Number: 0924

This voucher entitles the holder to One FREE Splash's Accelerate School Holiday program enrolment 4 day x 30 minute program in 2024

Voucher is valued at \$70.00. It cannot be redeemed for cash or account credit.

To book contact your nearest Splash's:

Berwick	9707 5922
Clyde North	7009 4030
Dandenong	9792 5461
Pakenham	9701 3225
Plenty Valley	7009 2199

berwick@splashs.com.au clyde@splashs.com.au dandenong@splashs.com.au pakenham@splashs.com.au plentyvalley@splashs.com.au

Please insert Official School stamp to validate Issued by: Jane O'Sullivan Date: 01.09.2024



Official School Stamp



ALL BELEZA RETAIL STORES Will be closed for first week of School Holidays

All Retail Stores will close at 2pm on Friday 20th of September

- Stores will be closed from Saturday 21st of September to Sunday 29th of September
- All Stores will resume regular trading days & hours from Monday 30th of September

Shop online at beleza.com.au/online-store



Kite Fest





SUNDAY 6 OCTOBER 2024 RIPPLESIDE PARK GEELONG 11AM - 2PM www.kidsplus.org.au/kites



2 Day Autism Workshop for Parents and Carers

Cranbourne, VIC

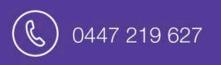


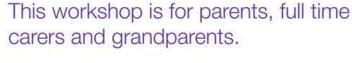
Scan the QR code or <u>click here</u> to register **Free workshop**

During the workshop you will learn about:

- The diversity of autism
- Sensory processing
- Understanding behaviour
- Working together with your child's school.

Learn more about autism and ways to strengthen the partnership between home and school.







Tuesday & Wednesday 26 & 27 November, 2024 9:30am - 2:30pm



Cranbourne Golf 750 Glasscocks Road CRANBOURNE NORTH VIC 3977

Morning tea and a light lunch will be provided



Interpreters available upon request

For more information or to register visit: <u>
☆ https://www.positivepartnerships.com.au/PC</u> <u>
Corrigan@positivepartnerships.com.au</u>



Bringing Up Great Kids (Cranbourne)

Bringing Up Great Kids (BUGK) is a sixsession program for parents and caregivers of children aged 2 to 12 years.

It focuses on building positive and supportive relationships between parents and their children.

The program encourages mindfulness and reflection to improve communication and helps parents understand what influences their parenting. BUGK aims to:

- Encourage parents to think about their parenting and strengthen their bond with their children.
- Teach about brain development and its impact on a child's thoughts, feelings, and behaviours.
- Help parents understand why children behave in certain ways.
- Identify challenges that may make parenting more difficult.
- Explore ways to improve parents' self-care and overall well-being.

Cost Free

Date Every Wednesday 23rd October – 27th November

> Time 10am until 12:30pm

Light refreshments will be served

Venue Cranbourne Library 65 Berwick-Cranbourne Rd, Cranbourne VIC 3977

Get in touch

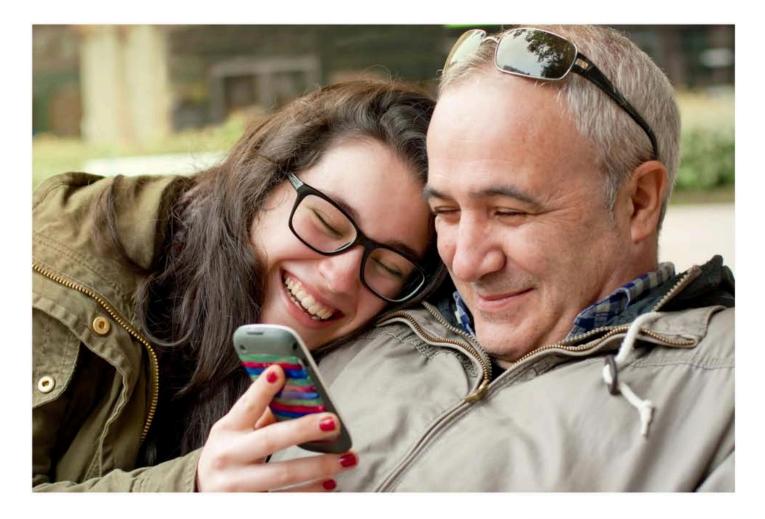
Bookings Essential



https://for ms.office.co m/r/JvJJEk BJaq

Please call the Group Workers on 03 5990 8400 to register or email: groupwork.south@vt.uniting.org unitingvictas.org.au





Tuning in to Teens™ (Narre Warren)

A six-session parenting program for parents or carers of adolescents aged 10 to 18 years.

Tuning in to Teens helps guide parents through a five stage emotional coaching program. This program offers parents an alternative parenting style to help improve communication and emotional awareness. Throughout the program we will cover a range of topics, including:

- Improving conversations with your teen
- Helping prevent behavioural challenges through emotional coaching
- Managing adolescent emotions, worries and anxieties
- Encouraging emotional intelligence to help deal with conflict and improve relationships

Cost Free

Date Every Monday 21st October- 2nd December (No group: 4th November)

> Time 10am until 12:30pm

Light refreshments will be served

Venue

Uniting 53-55 Webb Street Narre Warren VIC 3805

Bookings Essential



https://forms.o ffice.com/r/ER ZsQqpnQe

Please call the Group Workers on 03 5990 8400 to register or email: groupwork.south@vt.uniting.org

unitingvictas.org.au





Parenting with Mental Health (Pakenham)

A six-session parenting program for parents or carers of children aged 0-18 years.

The group promotes respectful, caring, and nurturing relationships between parents and their children, whilst supporting parents experiencing mental health difficulties.

Our Parenting and Mental Health program is facilitated in partnership with FaPMI (Families where a Parent has a Mental Illness) and input from a Consumer Consultant from the Mental Health program at Monash Health.



The program aims to:

- Provide a supportive learning environment for parents to develop new skills
- Learn more about brain development and how this influences a child's thoughts, feelings, and behaviours.
- Provide information, support and ideas to help parents remain calm when challenging behaviours present
- Explore ways of increasing self-care and wellbeing.



Cost Free

Date Every Tuesday between 22nd October – 3rd December (no group 5th Nov)

> Time 10am until 12:30pm

Venue

Outlook Community Centre 24 Toomuc Valley Rd, Pakenham VIC 3810

Light refreshments will be served

Bookings Essential

Please complete the following online registration form:



https://forms. office.com/r/y wePu18qpF

General enquiries contact: 03 5990 8400 or groupwork.south@vt.uniting.org

unitingvictas.org.au



The Victorian FaPMI Program Families where a Parent has a Mental Illness



MoneyMinded ™ (Dandenong)

for parents and carers

MoneyMinded[™] is a fun and practical program that helps you feel more confident about managing your money. You'll learn how to make smart choices with your finances so you can stay in control.

This group meets once a week for five weeks, with each session lasting two hours.

It's open to all parents and caregivers, and we provide morning tea each week!



Are you looking to feel more secure about your finances?

This program makes learning about money easy and enjoyable with engaging activities. You'll learn how to manage bills, save money, and spend wisely. We'll help you create a budget that works for you, so you can afford the things that matter most.

Key topics covered include:

- Creating a budget that works for you
- Managing debt
- Smart banking tips
- Planning for the future, including

Cost Free

Date Every Thursday

7th November- 12th December

No Session: 21st November

Time 10:30am until 12:30pm

Venue Uniting 51 Princes Highway Dandenong

Bookings Essential



https://forms.of fice.com/r/7b8T GTa8NL

Please call the Group Workers on 03 5990 8400 to register

groupwork.south@vt.uniting.org

unitingvictas.org.au



DID YOU MISS LAST ISSUE?

If you missed our last issue, log on and see all the important Community information you missed!

https://officerss.vic.edu.au/



Cardinia Youth Services Spring School Holiday Program



Bookings for our Spring Teenage School Holiday Program are now open! Secure your place by scanning the QR code, phoning 1800 496 884 or visiting www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/tshp

All Cardinia Youth Services activities are fully supervised drug, alcohol, vape and smoke-free myplace@cardinia.vic.gov.au 1800 4 YOUTH (1800 496 884)	Cardinia
Spring sweet treats cooking classGet ready to mix, stir and create some yummy treats.My Place, PakenhamThurs 3 Oct, 1.30pm - 3.30pm	Cost: Free
Hip Hop classJoin us for an afternoon of energetic hip hop dance moves.My Place, PakenhamWed 2 Oct, 1.30pm - 3pm	Cost: Free
Koo Wee Rup skate, scoot and BMX competitionBring your good vibes and Skater skills for an afternoon of friendly competition.Koo Wee Rup Skate ParkTue 1 Oct, 11am - 3pm	Cost: Free
Ceramic paintingCreate personalised artwork keep sakes.My Place, PakenhamMon 30 Sep, 1.30pm - 3.30pm	Cost: Free
AFL footy day Bring your competitive spirit and put those AFL skills to work. My Place, Pakenham Thurs 26 Sep, 1.30pm - 3.30pm	Cost: Free
Library lock in at Emerald Library Join the Youth Services team for pizza and games – can you beat the staff? Emerald Library, Emerald Wed 25 Sep, 5pm - 7pm	Cost: Free
Ice skating at Olympic Ice Skating CentreGlide into fun and make memories on the ice rink.Oakleigh SouthTues 24 Sep, 12pm - 2.30pm	Cost: \$15

Parents and Carers

Want to be more involved in your child's school experience?



Parent and teacher communication plays a significant role in a child's learning experience.

The Compass app enables parents to engage closely with school to see how their child is performing and feeling, book their next teacher conference, pay fees easily, and get ready for the next excursion.

The Compass app gives busy parents access to everything they need to know.

Any queries after downloading the app, please contact the school directly

www.compass.education

OFFICER SPECIALIST SCHOOL NEW SLETTER

SHARING OUR SCHOOL WITH OUR COMMUNITY

https://officerss.vic.edu.au

With The Making Waves Foundati

CLASS

OSS NEWSLETTER



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SCAN QR CODE TO READ ALL RECENT ISSUES

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