



# BERWICK LODGE NEWSLETTER

MORE INFO:



(03) 9709 6700



[berwick.lodge.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:berwick.lodge.ps@education.vic.gov.au)



[berwicklodgeps.vic.edu.au](http://berwicklodgeps.vic.edu.au)

NEWSLETTER NO 3

15TH FEBRUARY 2024

**ALL CANTEEN ORDERS MUST BE DONE ONLINE VIA THE Qkr APP**

**CANTEEN IS OPEN MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY**

## ACTING PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### **WELCOME TO BERWICK LODGE – MEET THE TEACHER COMMUNITY AFTERNOON: MONDAY 19<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 3.30pm – 5:00pm:**

The weather is looking to be in our favour for our “Meet the teacher community afternoon” next Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February which is wonderful! All classrooms will be open from 3.30pm to 5:00pm, and our specialist teachers have planned a few fun activities. Parents are not required to make an appointment but if you do need to share personal/private information, please speak to your child’s teacher, and organise a time to meet. **All families are welcome to bring a picnic and enjoy the activities in our school yard. A limited number of BBQ sausages will be available at a small cost of \$2 per sausage and the money raised will go towards our fundraising efforts for 2024.** We look forward to seeing many families next Monday. Thank you to Camp Australia their donation towards assisting with purchasing the sausages.

### **CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION – MONDAY 19<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY AT OUR MORNING ASSEMBLY**

Our whole school assembly next Monday will also be a celebration of Chinese New Year. We encourage all students to wear something red/gold or a national costume. Miss Tian has organised for a couple of songs to be performed for our students. We look forward to acknowledging this celebration.

*Continued...*



BERWICK LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

**LEARNING FOR LIFE**

# ACTING PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

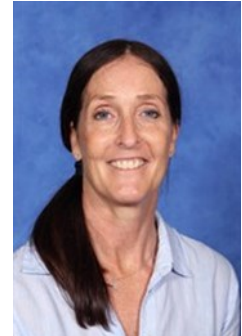
## MEET OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM – LEARNING SPECIALISTS



**Kerry Worthington - Numeracy**



**Rob Kelly - STEM/Digital Technology**



**Lia Whitelaw - Literacy**

**Kerry Worthington:** As a Numeracy Learning Specialist at BLPS, I work closely with our BLPS community to enhance teaching and learning, with a specific focus on Numeracy. My role gives me the opportunity to collaborate with teachers and provide mentoring and coaching opportunities to support classroom practice and improve student growth and learning.

**Rob Kelly:** As a STEM/Digital Technology Learning Specialist at BLPS, I have taught hundreds of students across the school, been a long-time member our school council, curriculum and leadership teams and co-developed an AR capable book.. I possesses a deep-rooted passion for Digital Technologies and STEM education. My passion extends beyond mere instruction; as a learning specialist, I am committed to fostering an environment where students not only grasp STEM concepts but also develop critical thinking skills essential for their future endeavours. By engaging students in hands-on STEM activities, I aim to instil in our students a sense off curiosity and a drive for exploration. Through STEM education, students learn to approach problems analytically, collaborate effectively, and adapt to new situations—a skill set invaluable in both their academic journey and future careers.

**Lia Whitelaw:** As a Literacy Learning Specialist, I work collaboratively with the principal class and staff to develop and improve the Literacy skills of students at Berwick Lodge. My responsibilities include overseeing the implementation and development of our Literacy programs (listed below), as well as coaching and supporting staff to create a literacy-rich environment where students have the skills to succeed. Literacy Programs: Spelling: Smart Spelling, Smart Foundation. Writing:VCOP, Seven Steps, Reading: Fountas and Pinnell, Cars and Stars, and Bug Club.

## SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2024

Our annual school council elections are now due, and the process must be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March. This year we have 4 parent representatives whose term of office ends - **Michelle Thompson, Mel Dobric, Brendan Pekjovic and Rajkeerat Sethi**. We also have (1) staff representative whose term of office concludes – **Angela Maskery**. Our PFA co-optee position on council is filled on an annual basis.

**All above retiring school councillors, other than those who no longer have children at our school, or who no longer work at the school are eligible to seek re-election in the forthcoming elections.** All vacancies are for 2-year terms.

Members of school council who have one further year to serve of their current term are:

**Parent representatives – Karin Keylock, Keiren Walker and Michelle Dobbin.**

**DET representative: - Robert Kelly and Sandra McCrum**

I have included the details of eligibility requirements, the process and timeline for our elections and the obligations of school councillors and the vacancies below. All parents are most welcome to nominate for the parent category vacancies and staff are eligible to nominate for the DET representative category vacancy.

NB: The principal is always the Ex-Officio member of council.

As the Returning Officer for school council elections, I will be conducting the election process over the coming month.

Parent Representative Vacancies: Four (4) vacancies, each for a 2-year term

DET Representative Vacancies: One (1) vacancy, for a 2-year term.

*Continued...*

# ACTING PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

## **SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS PROCESS 2024**

As the Returning Officer for School Council, I am now inviting nominations from parents for the (4) two-year vacancies we have for the Parent Category and from staff for the (1) two-year vacancy we have for the DET Category.

Council meets 8 times per year on Monday evenings, with meetings being conducted between 6.00pm and 7.30pm at the school. It is expected that school councillors will join one of our three subcommittees, which also meet 8 times per year at a time suitable to subcommittee members. Importantly, subcommittee membership is also open to parents and staff who are not on school council, so you can become involved with the work of school council via subcommittee membership if you do not have the time to commit to school council participation at the moment.

## **SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTION TIMELINE 2024**

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 9.00am – Nominations Open**

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024 at 4.00pm – Nominations Close**

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 4.00pm – Ballot Closes (if required)**

In the event that we do not receive sufficient nominations in both categories by the close of nominations on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024 at 4.00pm, then I will extend the timeline for receiving further nominations by one week.

**Should we receive more nominations than vacancies in either or both categories, then a formal election ballot will be conducted with all parents having the opportunity to vote for the Parent Category nominations and/or staff having the opportunity to vote for the Staff (DET) Category nominations.**

In the event that I receive exactly the number of nominations in either or both categories, then I will declare those nominated persons duly elected on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024.

**Please note that you can self-nominate or have other members of the category of which you are a member, nominate you. Nomination forms will be available on our parent portal on Compass, under School Documents, Parent Resources, from 9.00am tomorrow morning. Completed nomination forms should be emailed to the school email address: [berwick.lodge.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:berwick.lodge.ps@education.vic.gov.au)**

Retiring staff (DET) members are eligible to be re-elected if they continue to work for a minimum of 8 hours per week for the Department of Education & Training (DET).

I thank all school councillors for their contribution during their time on council. It is quite a sacrifice to give up so much of your valuable personal time on behalf of the students of Berwick Lodge.

## **THANK YOU**

A big thank you to Kenny from grade 6 for his wonderful artwork that he created for our office. It is now on display with our Helmeted Honeyeater work at the front office.



## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)**

**Q. Where can I park when dropping off/collecting my child at school?**

A. The Cyril Molyneux car park and neighbouring streets are locations families can park when dropping off/collecting students. The staff car park is only for our employees to access.

## **QUOTEABLE QUOTE**

*"The purpose of our lives is to be happy." Dalai Lama*

*Sandra McCrum*

# DATES TO REMEMBER

## DIARY DATES:

National Young Leaders Day	Friday 16th February
Chinese New Year Celebration	Monday 19th February
Meet the Teacher Afternoon	Monday 19th February
Grade 5/6 Summer ISS	Friday 23rd February
Grade 3-6 House Athletics Day	Thursday 7th March
Curriculum Day (No students at school)	Friday 8th March
School Photos	Tuesday 12th March

## COMPASS CONSENT AND PAYMENTS DUE:

State School Spectacular Permission	Friday 16th February
Prep Working with Food Program	Friday 16th February
Grade 5/6 Summer ISS	Friday 16th February
State School Spectacular Payment	Friday 15th March

## HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER?

Please ensure you let the school office know if you have changed address or updated mobile phones with new numbers. This information alleviates stressful situations for students when they are ill and we cannot contact parents.

# Assistant Principals' Report

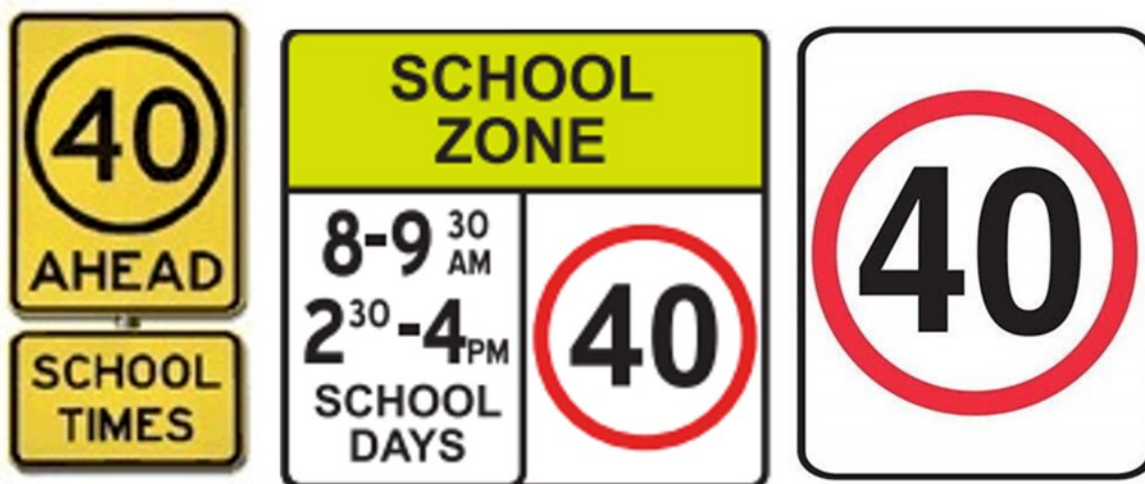
## SAFE AROUND SCHOOLS

The Safe Around Schools team supports 98 City of Casey Schools with key road safety education messages. Please take a few minutes to read these important road safety messages and follow the rules and signs around your school.

### 40km Speed Zones

School speed zones are reduced-speed areas that operate near schools. They're designed to keep kids safe by lowering the speed limit at peak times when children are travelling to and from school.

Visit: [School speed zones :VicRoads](#)



### School Crossings are the safest place to cross the road.

Not all schools have school crossings located outside their school, however there may be school crossings on your journey to school, as either a pedestrian or a driver.

Casey School Crossing Supervisors are trained to help children cross the road safely. Always listen to the supervisors' instructions. As a driver always keep the school crossing clear.

## RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS:

During our respectful relationship topics this term, across the school students will be developing their understanding of emotional literacy and personal strengths. Emotional literacy can be defined as the ability to understand ourselves and other people. It includes the ability to understand, express and manage our own emotions, build empathy, and to respond appropriately to the emotions of others. Building a large vocabulary for emotions helps to increase emotional literacy and build self-awareness and empathy for others.

Children and young people need a vocabulary to help them recognise and understand strengths and positive qualities in themselves and others. This topic provides learning activities to build this vocabulary and to use it when discussing personal, social, and ethical challenges. Research in the field of positive psychology emphasises the importance of identifying and using individual strengths. Social and emotional learning programs which use strength-based approaches promote student wellbeing, positive behaviour and academic achievement.

## CHANGE OF DETAILS:

A reminder to all families to please update the office with any changes to personal details, including any medical updates, change of address and phone numbers and emergency contacts. It is important for us to have up-to-date information to operate efficiently.

*Angela Maskery and Sharyn King*



# BACK TO SCHOOL

**Meet the Teacher  
Community Afternoon**

**WELCOMING FAMILIES TO BERWICK LODGE**

**MEET YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER**

**EXPLORE THEIR NEW CLASSROOM**

**ENJOY SOME FUN AND GAMES**

**BRING + ENJOY A PICNIC OUTSIDE**

**BBQ SAUSAGES AVAILABLE FOR  
\$2 EACH UNTIL SOLD OUT.**

## MONDAY

**19th of February  
3:30pm - 5pm**



# Photo Day



# PHOTO DAY

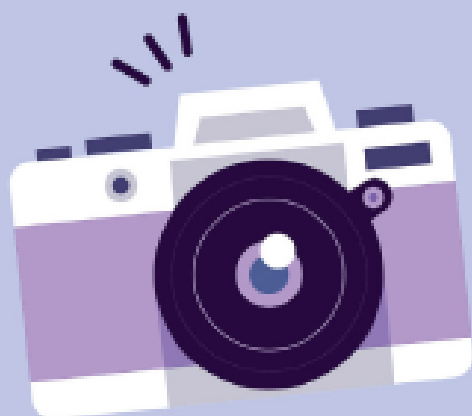
# COMING SOON!

Tuesday 12th March 2024

Head to our website to view the available packages and to place your order

VISIT OUR WEBSITE & ENTER THIS CODE:

**X3033EL52B**



ORANGE

Berwick Lodge Primary School

[www.theschoolphotographer.com.au](http://www.theschoolphotographer.com.au)

# MANDARIN



HAPPY NEW YEAR  
**2024**

THE YEAR OF THE DRAGON

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024 on our School Assembly at 9.00 am**

**Join us to celebrate this year of the dragon with Berwick Lodge PS!**

**It will be a dress-up day, so please come dressed in red, yellow, gold, or traditional Chinese costumes.**



# P.E NEWS

Our annual Grade 3-6 House Athletics Day is to be held on **Thursday 7th March**. This will be an all day event (weather permitting). Further information will be distributed closer to the date. If you are a parent of a grade 3-6 student and would like to assist on the day and have completed the induction program and have an up to date Working with Children's check, please email the office at [berwick.lodge.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:berwick.lodge.ps@education.vic.gov.au).

For any interested parents, NAB AFL Auskick is coming to Berwick Lodge Primary School in Term 1! AFL Victoria coaches will be coming down to run an introductory Auskick program for our students.

Here are the details for the program:

Dates: Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>, Mar 1<sup>st</sup>, Mar 8<sup>th</sup>, Mar 15<sup>th</sup> & Mar 22<sup>nd</sup>

Time: Fridays at 3:40pm-4:40pm

Price: \$50

Pack inclusion: Ball, pump and cards.

Use the link to register or scan the QR code on the flyer attached below:

<https://www.playhq.com/afl/register/878f24>

There is also a Superkick program running for the older students. AFL Superkick in Term 1 is an AFL Victoria run program that will be delivered across Victoria to engage new participants in a Superkick program running in a non-traditional timeslot. Like all Superkick Programs, this program will be heavily focused on delivering a fun and engaging experience to football for kids aged between 8-12. Please see the attached flyer for this program also.

Please reach out to [tyler.cabansag@afl.com.au](mailto:tyler.cabansag@afl.com.au) if you have any questions about either of the programs.

Thank you.

Kylee Muccignat and Ali McArthur  
PE Coordinators

# P.E. NEWS

AFL

PLAY

FOR  
the  
KICKS

come  
find your  
awesome

BERWICK LODGE PS  
AUSKICK CENTRE

Berwick Lodge Primary School

Feb 23rd - Mar 22nd

3:40pm - 4:40pm



[play.afl/auskick](https://play.afl/auskick)





**BERWICK LODGE PS  
SUPERKICK CENTRE**

Berwick Lodge Primary School  
Fridays, 3:40pm - 4:40pm  
Starts February 23rd



[play.afl/superkick](https://play.afl/superkick)

# CANTEEN NEWS

## CANTEEN ONLINE ORDERING SYSTEM



**Berwick Lodge canteen LUNCH ordering system called Qkr (pronounced Quicker) is available for canteen lunch orders**

Qkr by MasterCard can be downloaded for **FREE** from Apple's App store for iPhones, iPhone app for iPads, or from Google Play for Android phones and tablets.

### **What families need to do TO SET UP ORDERING:**

- Download the Qkr App to your phone or tablet.
  - Register
  - Find our School: Berwick Lodge P.S (from "Nearby Locations")
  - Register your child/ren – Select Student Profile
  - Order Meals (you can change, cancel or repeat orders)
  - Make Payment: Up to 5 cards can be linked.
- **To CANCEL an order:** Open the QKR app and tap Activity, scroll to order history, tap the red circle with the minus symbol to cancel. Cancelling needs to be done prior to close off at 9.00am for that day.

**NO COST TO DOWNLOAD THE APP!!**

**NO FEES, NO ACCOUNTS, you pay as you go for food only!!**

- Online orders must be placed / or cancelled by 9.00am, as the online order system will close shortly after.
- Orders can be placed online up to 2 weeks ahead.
- Make sure you link your child with the correct year level and home group.
- **HELP:** If you experience issues contact Anne from Bellbrook Catering on 0488 052 522. Please do not contact the school.

## REMINDER

For all existing families please remember to edit your child's profile to their new homegroup/class for 2024.

This helps with the timely delivery of lunch orders.

# LIBRARY NEWS

We hope everyone is enjoying reading their Library Books this year. We have lots of new books available and many more on the way.

Remember to return your books or re-borrow them if you need to. Loans are for two weeks but can be extended if you haven't finished your book yet. Just bring your books to the library and we will scan them out for an extra two weeks.

Don't forget to bring your Library Bag to every session.

Grade 1 and 2 students have started a **Tournament Of The Books**. They are reading two Picture Books each week and voting on their favourite. We have 16 books that will eventually be narrowed down to a final 2 to see which book is their favourite overall.

This week the stories are: **Room On The Broom** by Julia Donaldson and **There Was An Old Lady Who Swallowed A Thong** by P. Crumble.

Keep an eye out for the winner of each round.



# BOOK CLUB ORDERS

Issue 1 has now closed for orders. These will be distributed as soon as they arrive at school. There will be one more issue this term, catalogues will be given to classes so you can order and receive your books before the holidays.

Happy Reading,

Mrs Tsekouras and Ms Taylor



# SICKBAY NEWS

Thank you to all the families who have returned their medical forms back for this year.

We are still missing a substantial amount of forms so if your child has Asthma, Anaphylaxis, Allergies or requires medication at school, please complete these forms and return them back immediately. If you require these forms again, you can find them on Compass in the 'School Documents' tab under 'Parent Resources'.



# PFA NEWS



Yellow Long Sleeve Top



Blue Sports Top



Yellow Short Sleeve Top



Blue Bomber Jacker



Blue Rugby Jumper



Blue Crew Neck



Sports Shorts - Basketball  
Shorts - Thinner fabric



Shorts - Thicker fabric



Trackpants



Shorts Pleated - Girls



Skirt - Sports Skort



Skirt - Netball/Tennis Skirt



Summer Dress



Winter Dress



Beanie

# IN OTHER NEWS...

Program spotlight

Your  
OSHC.

## Berwick Lodge Primary School



Your OSHC by Camp Australia provides enriching experiences for children during term – before school, after school and on pupil free days. At Your OSHC we give children a supportive space to continue their development, build confidence and socialise with their friends.

What's coming up at Your OSHC this week:

12/2/2024 - 16/2/2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p><b>Big Art: Rainbow Confetti!</b> Using an array of skills, let's learn about colours and pattern by making vibrant rainbows.</p>	<p><b>Big Art: Wool Art</b> Craft art work with wool, glue, and imagination for Monet-inspired creations with few items.</p>	<p><b>Magnetics</b> Imagine and create individually or with peers an open ended construction activity.</p>	<p><b>Making spaces</b> Tape resist art creates designs and images made on cardboard with tape.</p>	<p><b>Paper Chandelier</b> Create beautiful paper room decorations.</p>
<p><b>Inclusion hand painting</b> To include the children who attend your OSHC in this fun art activity, using a banner, paint and the children's hands.</p>	<p><b>Rainbow Soap Foam Bubbles</b> This can be used for sensory or colouring mixing through swirling and mixing.</p>	<p><b>Spray Bottle Painting</b> Children can get creative while working on their fine motor skills.</p>	<p><b>Glue sun catcher</b> Mix and swirl colours in glue. The colours expand and mix together over a week to create new patterns and colours.</p>	<p><b>Stained-glass window</b> Laminate a blank sheet or use a plastic sleeve. Draw lines or pictures on sheet and colour in with permanent markers.</p>



### Register for Your OSHC

Once registered, you'll be able to easily make and manage your bookings online via our Parent Portal.

Register now



### Stop by and say hi!

Please feel free to visit the program with your children to meet the team and see what happens in our great program each school day.



### Visit our blog

New articles are added each week for parents and cover various topics to help families.

Visit our blog



# IN OTHER NEWS...

Program spotlight

Your  
OSHC.











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What's coming up at Your OSHC this week:

19/2/2024 - 23/2/2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 <b>Water Chef</b>   24 <b>Greek Salad</b> The children will engage in a healthy eating non-cooking experience making a Greek Salad.	 <b>Fruits and Vegetables</b>   28 <b>Mix fruits Smoothies</b> Children are having a healthy fruits smoothies.	 <b>Fruits and Vegetables</b>   28 <b>Compost Bottle</b> Composting is hard to see in a bin. Make a clear bottle with scraps. Watch how they break down over time.	 <b>Healthy Habits</b>   28 <b>Healthy Habits Crossword</b> Complete this fun reusable crossword to learn about healthy habits!	 <b>Dental Health</b>   22 <b>How much sugar in...</b> How much sugar do you think is in your favourite drink? Let's find out!!
 <b>Fruits and Vegetables</b>   13 <b>Fruit Salad game</b> Play a game of fruit salad. Give everyone a fruit and battle it out for the remaining chairs.	 <b>Fruits and Vegetables</b>   22 <b>Fruit basket craft</b> Creating a vibrant fruit basket.	 <b>Fruits and Vegetables</b>   38 <b>No Waste - Kitchen Vegeta</b> Don't waste your kitchen vegetable scraps. Watch them grow again just by planting them in water and cotton wool.	 <b>Healthy Habits</b>   24 <b>Eat a Rainbow of Colour</b> For children to use their existing skills and knowledge in colour matching, sorting, cutting and pasting.	 <b>Gross Motor</b>   24 <b>Football</b> Twist and turn to score goals against your opponent - it's like soccer in a small, fun package!



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New articles are added each week for parents and cover various topics to help families.

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# BUSINESS ADVERTISING



**Creating stars  
since 1990**

[www.cathy-lea.com](http://www.cathy-lea.com)

\*All ages \*All abilities \*Free trials \*Family discounts

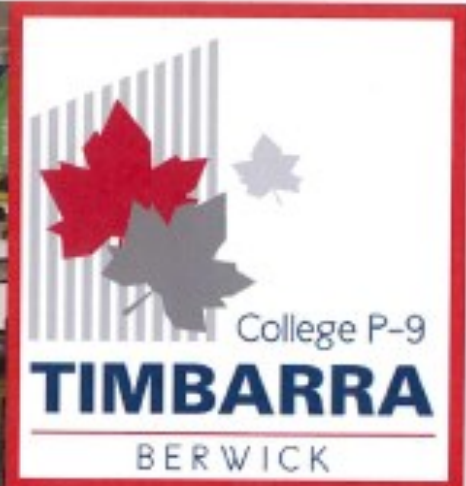
\*Recreational and Pre-Professional training

\*Ready Set Dance for 2-5yrs \*VCE VET Dance top marks 2023

**Enquire now**

📍 5/15-19 Vesper Dve, Narre Warren 📞 9704-7324 📧 [office@cathy-lea.com](mailto:office@cathy-lea.com)

# Transition News



## YEAR 7 2025 OPEN NIGHT

TUESDAY 26TH MARCH  
5:30 - 6:30PM



Scan to  
register your  
interest.



# COMMUNITY NEWS

YOUTH  
COUNSELLING  
& SUPPORT  
SERVICE

City of  
Casey  
YOUTH  
SERVICES

## MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT AND COUNSELLING

### What we do

We are a free and confidential service that provides ongoing support by appointment. We offer telehealth (phone and video) services in addition to face to face counselling.



### Who we support

#### Youth Counselling

- Individual counselling for young people aged 13 - 25

#### Parent Support Sessions

- Adolescent parenting skills, strategies and mental health information

#### Parent Assisted Therapy

- Support for young people aged 10 - 12 with the participation of their parent or guardian

### How to commence

For more information or to request a service:  
**Call 9792 7279** to speak to an intake worker or  
**Text 0417 347 909** with your name and number