

Clippings

Newsletter for Treetops



UPCOMING DATES

EDITION 167

Friday 7th - Tuesday 25th April

School Holidays

Wednesday 26th April

First Day of Term 2

Friday 12th May

Constable Care Incursion



Extra Large Edition - as it is the end of the term, we have a lot to share with you!

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From the Principal

Dear Treetops Community,

We have had a lovely Term 1 and are very much looking forward to the Easter Break. Throughout this term, we have at times reflected on how nice it is to enjoy 'school normal' without the spectre of COVID interrupting our operations. Part of our 'new normal' has been having swimming lessons again. Whilst the Bilgoman pool in Autumn is no one's first choice for a venue, our students have braved the cold and participated thoroughly in their lessons. Three weeks prior to the lessons commencing, the Department of Education wrote to us suggesting that they would not be able to staff the swimming lessons due to a shortage of swimming instructors. They were wondering if we would be willing to reduce the number of lessons and possibly provide staff of our own! So it was with some relief that the lessons went ahead as planned.

I hope you have a lovely holiday and look forward to seeing you all next term.

Stuart Harris



Early Years



Children's House

This term, Children's House have been learning about dinosaurs. We consolidated our learning with an incursion from Dino World. The in-class session introduced these prehistoric creatures, and focused on well-known dinosaurs such as the Stegosaurus, Triceratops, Allosaurus, T-Rex, and Camarasaurus. The children discovered that dinosaurs were big but had small brains in comparison. They got to see a large Allosaurus skull. This skull had many holes that made it lighter. The plates of the Stegosaurus acted like solar panels and helped cool or warm these 7-metre-long dinosaurs. Their big, heavy tails served mainly to counterbalance their long necks and heavy heads. We even got to see some coprolites (dinosaur poo) and dinosaur eggs!

The students were able to see and touch a variety of fossils. Everyone wanted to try on the Triceratops horns!







The session ended with time to view James T. Rex. (an 11m x 6m inflatable dinosaur). It was a great opportunity to compare features such as foot size with those of the children as well as how many children wide and long James is.

Families may be interested in visiting Jurassic Kingdom. This will be in Perth, (Burswood Park) from Good Friday (7th April) until ANZAC Day (25th April), with staggered starting times and the ability to wander the park until 4pm each day.

Anene Lamb



Primary School



Wattle

Wattle consolidated their learning about ocean animals with an excursion to AQWA. Students became SEAcet Agents, learning about ocean animals and cracking the secret code. The secret code is about how to prevent the prediction below coming true: "There will be more plastic in the ocean than fish by 2050". The answer to the secret code is YOU! Everyone is responsible for saving the ocean. Everyone is responsible for reducing waste to ensure that ocean animals have a healthy environment to thrive in. Students brainstormed that, to reduce the use of plastic, they should use refillable drink bottles, beeswax wraps for sandwiches, reusable containers, reusable bags, and never use single-use plastics!





All students enjoyed the swimming lessons during the final two weeks of term. The afternoon teas supplied by the families were a special treat everyone looked forward to upon their return - thank you. Well done to all students for their participation during these cooler two weeks of the term. The ability to swim is vital for saving your life in untoward situations in and around water.





Thank you to all families who have supported Wattle over the term. Thank you to everyone who provided special lunch, provided afternoon tea, completed the laundry, came in for a Parent Activity, and generally supported Wattle as a whole. An extra thanks to Holly and Jenelle, the Wattle Parent Liaison mums.

Enjoy the holidays. See you after Anzac Day.

Natalie Boyd-Ratcliff

A few weeks ago Marri was lucky enough to talk to some paramedics who visited the school with an ambulance. Students got the chance to sit inside the ambulance, take their blood pressure, heart rates, and some even sat in the driver's seat! The students had lots of questions for the paramedics and were told so many interesting things about ambulances and paramedics. It really benefits children to have a positive experience of an ambulance and to understand that paramedics are there to help us, as this may help them feel more at ease if they, or someone they know, ever needs help in the future.



To support our learning in biological sciences this term, Marri conducted two experiments in which they grew green bean seeds in different conditions. In the first experiment, they changed the variable of sunlight to see how they would grow differently, with some seeds being grown in our storage cupboard, while the others got to live happily on the windowsill.

Some students predicted that the seeds in the cupboard would not grow at all, while others said they would grow longer as they searched for the light. At the conclusion of the experiment, it was found that the ones in the cupboard grew paler, longer, and eventually died after about six weeks of growth. To support learning of the nutrients that plants get from soil, students also planned and conducted an experiment in which they planted seeds in sand and cotton wool balls. To the surprise of many, the seeds still grew in these conditions, but not healthily.



I want to say a big thank you to all the Marri families for their support this term, we've had a really positive start and I'm really looking forward to seeing what else this year brings us. Also, a big pat on the back to all the students for sticking it out during swimming lessons, even in the freezing cold!

Enjoy your holidays!

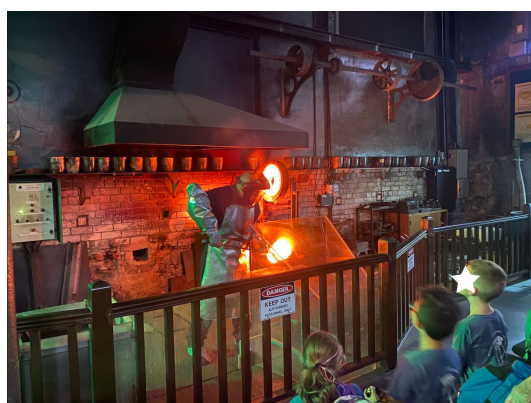
Caitlin Morey

Karri

Karri recently enjoyed an excursion to Perth Mint and the WA Museum. Here's what some of the students had to say about the experience:

Toby: "When the bus dropped us off we were at the Mint! We each got a Perth Mint coin and weighed ourselves to see what we were worth in gold! I was worth 3.5 million dollars!"

Niamh: "Afterwards we were taken to a special room to watch gold be made into gold bars! First the man put the gold in furnaces, then he took it out and poured it into a mould, next he took the gold bar out and put it in the water to cool! When it was cool he showed it to us!"



Aiden H: "After that we went to the museum! There were whale bones and even an exhibit to play old video games in! We got to ride on a mechanical horse. We read historical writing and saw some aboriginal stuff."

Aiden G: "Then my group found the entrance to the museum, it had a buffalo named Billy! It's story is very interesting! Originally the museum had ordered two buffalo, but one was too big so they sent it back and kept the smaller one and called it Billy! There was also a penguin and a dingo."

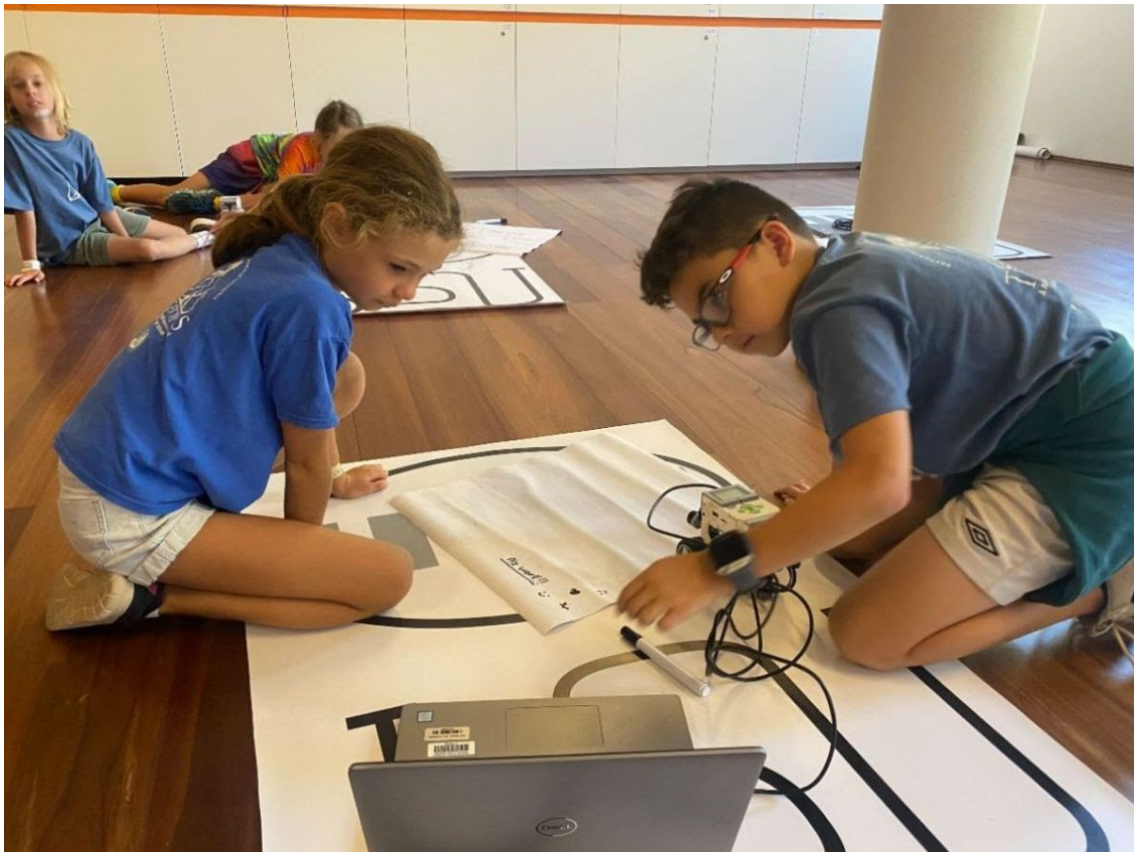




Indiana: "We then went to computer coding and got to code robots and we used all types of codes like 'go forward 10 seconds then stop'. We each had laptops and plugged the robots into them to command! There was also loads of battle armour in the museum! We then went to the blue whale and had a photo under it! It was the same room of Bill the bison! The whale was the size of three school buses!"

Overall it was a fun and interesting trip which we all enjoyed!

Katie Simpson



Secondary School



Formal Dress Up Day

Year 11 student, Will, organised a 'Formal Dress Up Day' to celebrate the last day of Term 1. Many of the students and staff got on board to show off their fancy side. Thank you to Will for the fun idea!





Humanities and Social Sciences

This term in HaSS, Wandoo has been studying Business and Economics, with a particular focus on global supply chains, trade relationships, inflation and business choices. They were tested on their business skills by being given a budget to spend on materials, marketing etc., with a requirement to make that back plus 10% interest. Students got to keep whatever profit remained and split it amongst themselves. We had a number of visitors to the stalls from across the school - student, staff and parent alike - and you can see the effort they put in! Those profits were well deserved. Well done, Wandoo!

Kasey Hayman



Physical Education

In Physical Education, the Secondary students have been playing dodgeball. It has been a fun and engaging way for students to get active and improve their physical health. The game involves running, jumping, and throwing, all of which can help to build strength, endurance, and coordination. The game has also been able to assist in developing important social skills.. When playing as a team, students must learn how to communicate effectively with their teammates, work together towards a common goal, and support each other through both wins and losses. These skills can translate into other areas of life, such as school projects, extracurricular activities, and future careers.

Hylton Hayes



Psychology

Every wondered what makes one person choose red M&M's over blue M&M's? They aren't assigned a flavour, just a colour. Could it be that previous pleasant or unpleasant experiences with red or blue foods contribute to a consumers' bias? Or have the consumers completed the M&M Personality Quiz and identify with a specific colour M&M's personality? (Hint: Check out the personality types then take the M&M Personality Test)

M&M Personality Types
M&M Personality Test

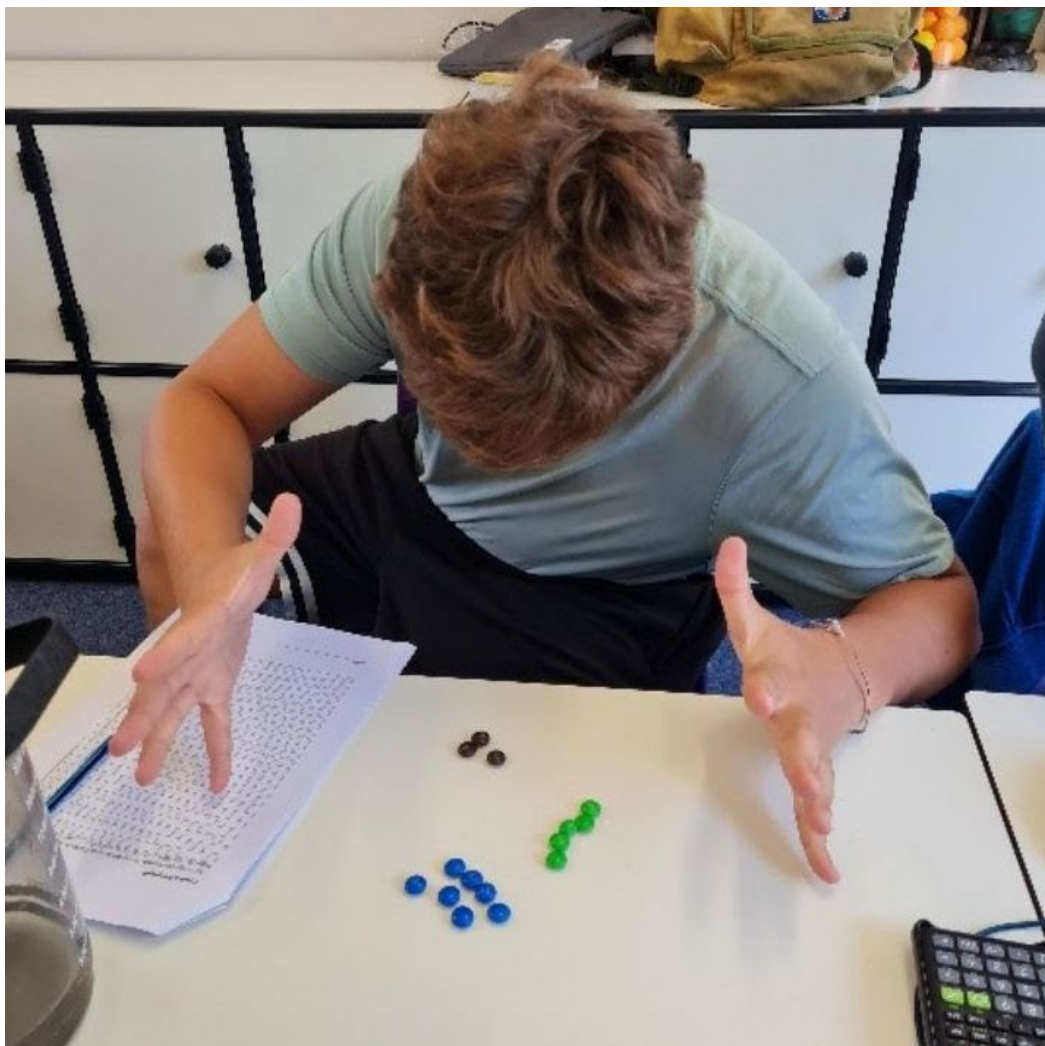
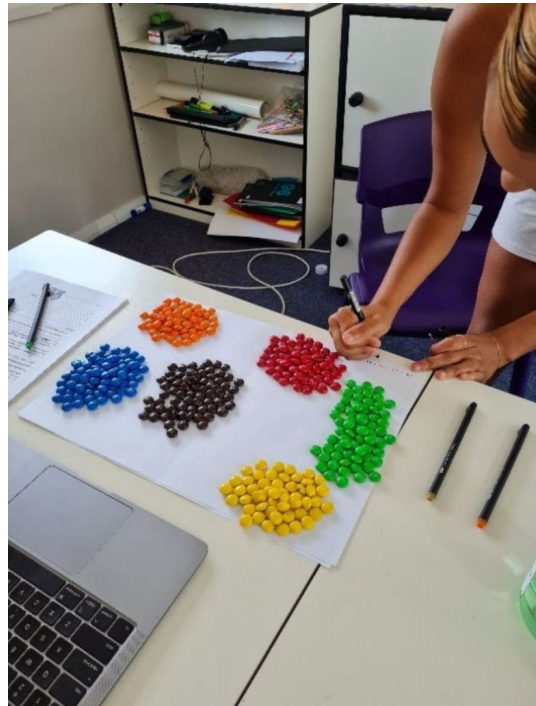
<https://www.mms.com/en-us/explore/mms-characters>
<https://brainfall.com/quizzes/what-m-m-color-are-you/>

Mars Wrigley, producer of M&M's, employs Psychologists to analyse people's behaviour when it comes to consuming their products. People are more likely to consume a product they find a familiar connection with – even rock stars use M&M Psychology!

The Brown M&M Principle, also known as the Van Halen Principle, is a shrewd business move used around the world. Van Halen used it to check that stage requirements were followed meticulously as their shows were complicated and potentially dangerous. When performing, Van Halen would request a bowl of M&M's with all of the brown ones removed and if this wasn't done it indicated that the contract hadn't been read so the show was forfeited at cost of the event organiser. <https://effectiviology.com/brown-mms/>

Students spent a fortnight analysing the Psychology of M&M's including the statistical data of colour amounts in a variety of different sized bags and the possible reasons behind it... and yes, there were a few uncontrolled variables or confounds that attempted to skew the data by eating it. Fortunately, this didn't impact on results.

Selenee Van Der Steen



Science

Across Mallee and Jarrah, we have just concluded our Food Webs & Food Chains unit. A recent scientific study about why cats have slit-shaped eyes is the hook for this unit. You can read more about it here: <https://cosmosmagazine.com/nature/animals/why-do-cats-have-slit-shaped-eyes/>

We have examined the difference between living things that create their own energy and those that eat other living things. We will also create food chains and food webs. Our major assessment task this unit was working in groups to test the impact of an abiotic factor on plant growth. This is to not only learn about all the factors that interact in an ecosystem, but it has also introduced our investigation lab report template that will be used throughout Secondary Science.

I have no doubt this unit is going to be eye-opening!

Kim Steimer



Wandoo have been working on the Chemical Reaction unit this term. They have been looking at all sorts of chemical reactions, including reactions in nature, in the Science lab, and in industry. Here they are playing a game about the Haber Process, learning about the importance of nitrogen in fertilisers, to maximise crop yield.

Suzanne Blake



In IB Biology, we have continued our study of biomolecules with proteins. Proteins, along with being much of the stuff that makes us up, can also be enzymes. Enzymes are biological catalysts that allow for all the chemical reactions in our body to take place. Our Year 11 IB student tested how concentration of substrate (the reactant) impacts how quickly the reaction takes place. As all living things need enzymes to function, you can use a number of substrates including liver, potato and yeast. This is our student's first design lab which is done to prepare for her IB internal assessment.

Kim Steimer



Specialist Subjects



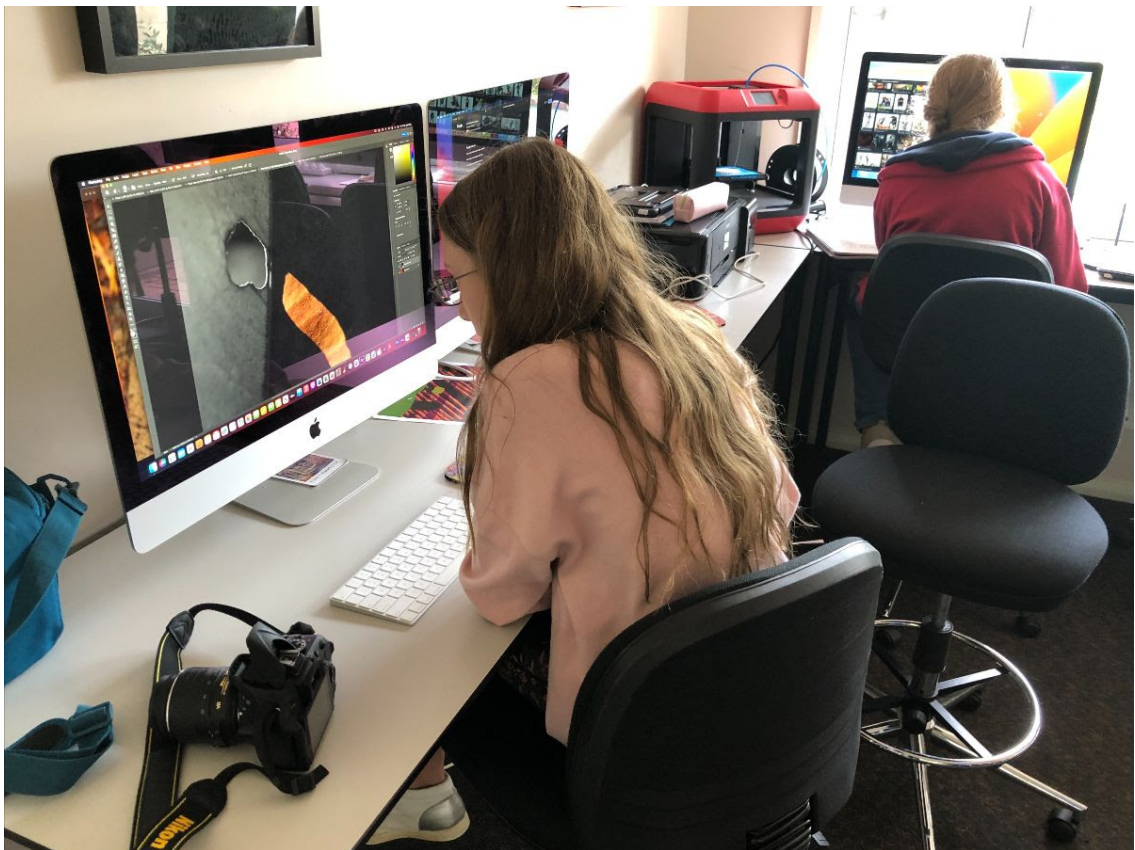
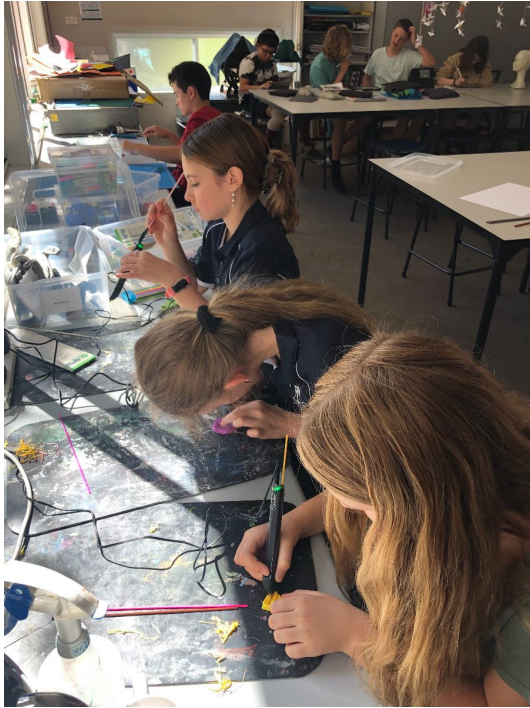
Art

Marri and Karri students are currently finishing their masks in Art class. They have built their designs and are refining the final details and texture. Students that have completed their mask are creating comics of their character.



Mallee and Jarrah students are completing their final art project based on their research and experimentation with Surrealism and Dada art. Students are creating drawings,

paintings, photography, sculptures and digital art, using 3D pens, resin, clay, origami, Procreate, Photoshop, Copic pens, collage and many other materials and processes.



Wandoo students are nearly finished creating their final artworks based on their investigation and designs of Kinetic Art (artwork that has movement or the illusion of movement). These artworks range from mechanical sculptures to digital art, using a wide variety of techniques and processes, including the 3D printer, nature-based art, Adobe Animate, Procreate and EyeJack software, magnets, clocks, clay, textiles, metalwork and various woodworking techniques.

Peter Zylstra



Japanese

In Japanese this term, Primary students have been learning the necessary skills for self-introductions, with differing levels of detail. The Japanese syllabus includes recognition of kanji numbers from Pre-Primary. In Children's House, this means incorporating age appropriate methods to reinforce learning.

Year 7&8 students can now order a meal at a Japanese restaurant and politely discuss their likes and dislikes. Year 9&10 students have been learning about mythological creatures and can describe body parts, appearance, and personality.

So much great learning happening!

みなさん、がんばってね！

Sharon Crossman





Music

Term 1 has seen wonderful engagement in Music in all of the different ways possible at Treetops! We have a record number of students taking part in private instrumental and group lessons this year, and toward the end of this term our students have been getting very excited about starting Dance and Drama in Term 2.

Dance and Drama will start in Week 1 next term. They will take place on Thursdays and Fridays each week until our Performing Arts Night, which is in September. Wattle will take part in Dance, Marri and Karri will take part in Dance and Drama, and our Secondary students (almost half of the entire Secondary cohort this year!) will take part in Dance and Drama as an 'option'.

The beginning of 2023 has been absolutely wonderful in Performing Arts and I'm more than excited to see what Term 2 will bring!

Mary Pollard

