



**Empowers students to
become respectful and
resilient lifelong learners**

Upcoming Events

June

Tuesday 10th June to Friday 13th June - Dental Van Visits.

Thursday 12th June - Indigenous Art Incursion Consent Due.

Friday 13th June - Year 5 & 6 Interschool Sports.

Friday 13th June - Wyniss Torres Strait Islander Song & Dance Consent & Payment Due

Tuesday 17th June - VSSS Rehearsal at Pakenham Springs PS.

Tuesday 17th June - Indigenous Art Incursion.

Wednesday 18th June - Indigenous Art Incursion.

Friday 20th June - Lightning Premiership.

Friday 20th June - Foundation - Year Four Swimming Consent & Payment Due.

Friday 20th June - Girls AFL Football Day Consent & Payment Due.

Tuesday 24th June - Wyniss Torres Strait Islander Song & Dance Incursion

Friday 27th June - House Meetings - students can wear house colours.

Friday 27th June - Girls AFL Football Day

Monday 30th June - Student Academic Reports released on Compass

July

Tuesday 1st July - Parent Teacher Interviews (information released closer to date).

Friday 4th July - Last day of Term Two - students finish at 2.30pm.

Monday 21st July - First day of Term Three.

Wednesday 23rd July - Foundation to Year 4 Swimming Program begins.

Wednesday 23rd July - VSSS Rehearsal at Melbourne Town Hall

Friday 25th July - House Meetings - students can wear house colours.

Friday 25th July - Year Five Camp - Final Consent & Payment Due.

Monday 28th July - VSSS Consent & Payment Due.

PCS NEWSLETTER

May Edition



Principal Report

As the cold weather sets in, and the rain teams down right on 3:20pm, it is important that all students use the school crossing, and all drivers ensure they are driving and parking correctly. The streets around the school are a very dangerous area. Please don't call children across the road to your car or help them to run across without the crossing. It is far better to be a couple of minutes longer than to have a tragedy on our hands.

We have put a lot of time into continuing to upgrade our school grounds. At this stage, we are working on the outdoor tables, the new 'shop', and new bins. There has been grass planted on two sides of the new classroom building. We will get the front of the school and the remaining area around the new building tidied next. We hope you are noticing the changes that are occurring each week.

All our classrooms are heated, and we don't go outside if it is raining. This means that it is fine to send your child to school during winter. Many children choose to take their jumper off when they get inside. It is therefore very important that all jumpers are clearly named so if they get lost we can return them.

Foundation enrolments for 2026 are now open. If you know of someone who would like to send their child to PCS in 2026, please ask them to enrol now. Early enrolments help us with organising the number of Foundation classes we will be having, and this lets us begin the staffing arrangements.

All teachers have been putting in a lot of additional hours over the last few weeks to complete student assessments and write mid-year reports. We will release the student academic reports on Monday 30th June via Compass, in preparation for interviews on Tuesday 1st July.

Stay warm



2025

voluntary contributions

As we continue into the 2025 school year, we'd like to thank all who have contributed so far this year and remind our families about Voluntary Contributions. These contributions play a vital role in helping our school provide the best possible learning environment for your children.

Voluntary Contributions directly support the purchase of updated educational resources, as well as much-needed improvements to our school grounds and buildings. Your support helps us create safe, engaging, and modern spaces for students to thrive.

For details on contribution amounts and payment options, please see Compass.

Thank you for your continued support—it truly makes a difference.

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

APPLICATION FORM

School Name

School Ref ID

Parent/carer details

Surname	
First Name	
Address	
Town/Suburb	
State and Postcode	
Contact Number	

Centrelink pensioner concession **OR** Health care card number (CRN)

OR - - - **OR**
☐ Foster Parent* **OR** ☐ Veterans affairs pensioner (Gold Card)**

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH).

**Applicants must provide a copy of the Veteran Affairs Gold card.

Student details

Child's surname	Child's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

I authorise the Victorian Department of Education (DE) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry about my Centrelink customer details and concession card status to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) to provide the results of any enquiry to DE regarding temporary care orders.

I understand that:

- DFFH or Centrelink will use information I have provided to DE to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DE personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- This consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DFFH and provide it to my child's school so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- If I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DE.
- Information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to DFFH and/or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You can request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant _____

Date ____/____/2025

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund eligibility

Below are the criteria used to determine a student's eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

Criteria 1 - Eligibility

To be eligible* for the fund, a mature minor of sixteen years of age or over, a parent or carer of a student attending a registered government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term 1; or
 - on the first day of Term 2.
- a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder; or
- b) Be a temporary foster parent; and
- c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

* A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see: Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF): Eligibility | education.vic.gov.au

Mature minors or parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between 6 and 17 years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between 5 and 18 years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students' attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooling, or TAFE.

Eligibility date

For concession card holders, CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/carer's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink (see [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Policy | education.vic.gov.au](#)).

Payment amounts

CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

The CSEF is paid directly the school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child. Please refer to the policy for the current rates.

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student's date of birth. For more information, see: [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Payment amounts | education.vic.gov.au](#)

[Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Payment amounts | education.vic.gov.au](#)

Foundation and Year 7 government school students who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents, so please register your interest at the school.

How to complete the application form

Note: all sections must be completed by parent/carer

1. Complete the PARENT/CARER DETAILS section.

Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.

If you are claiming as a Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.

2. Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.
3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.

Privacy Statement

The Department of Education is committed to protecting your privacy. All information collected will be handled in accordance with the Privacy Data and Protection Act 2014 (Vic) and the Health Records Act 2001 (Vic). Your data is securely managed and only shared with third parties when necessary for business operations or legal compliance. By submitting this form, you consent to our data practices. For more information regarding correction to your personal information or the handling of personal information please email csef@education.vic.gov.au. For more information about the departments privacy policy, please visit: [Schools' privacy policy](#) | vic.gov.au



Australian Library and
Information Association

Hardie Grant

CHILDREN'S PUBLISHING

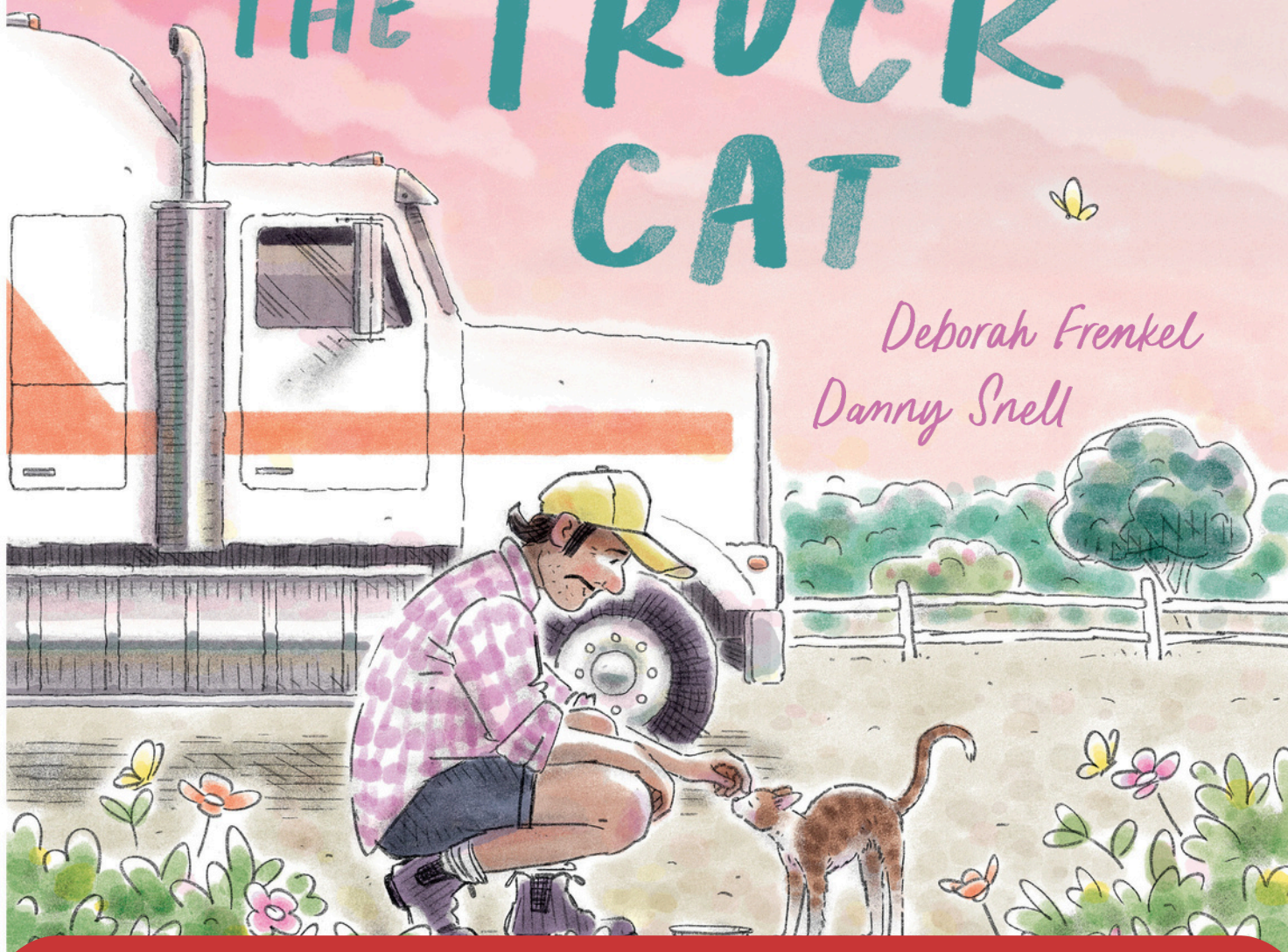


Pakenham Consolidated School

was one of **16,632** locations that shared a reading of

THE TRUCK CAT

*Deborah Frenkel
Danny Snell*



On Friday 23rd May PCS was excited to host Deb Frenkel, the author of the National Simultaneous Storytime book, Truck Cat.

She explained how she developed her ideas, characters, and setting, provided insight into what is required for quality writing and explained how she collaborated with many people to produce the book.

We hope it inspires our students to great writing themselves.

From Mrs Westwood
English Leader and Library Coordinator



Australian Library and
Information Association

Hardie Grant

CHILDREN'S PUBLISHING

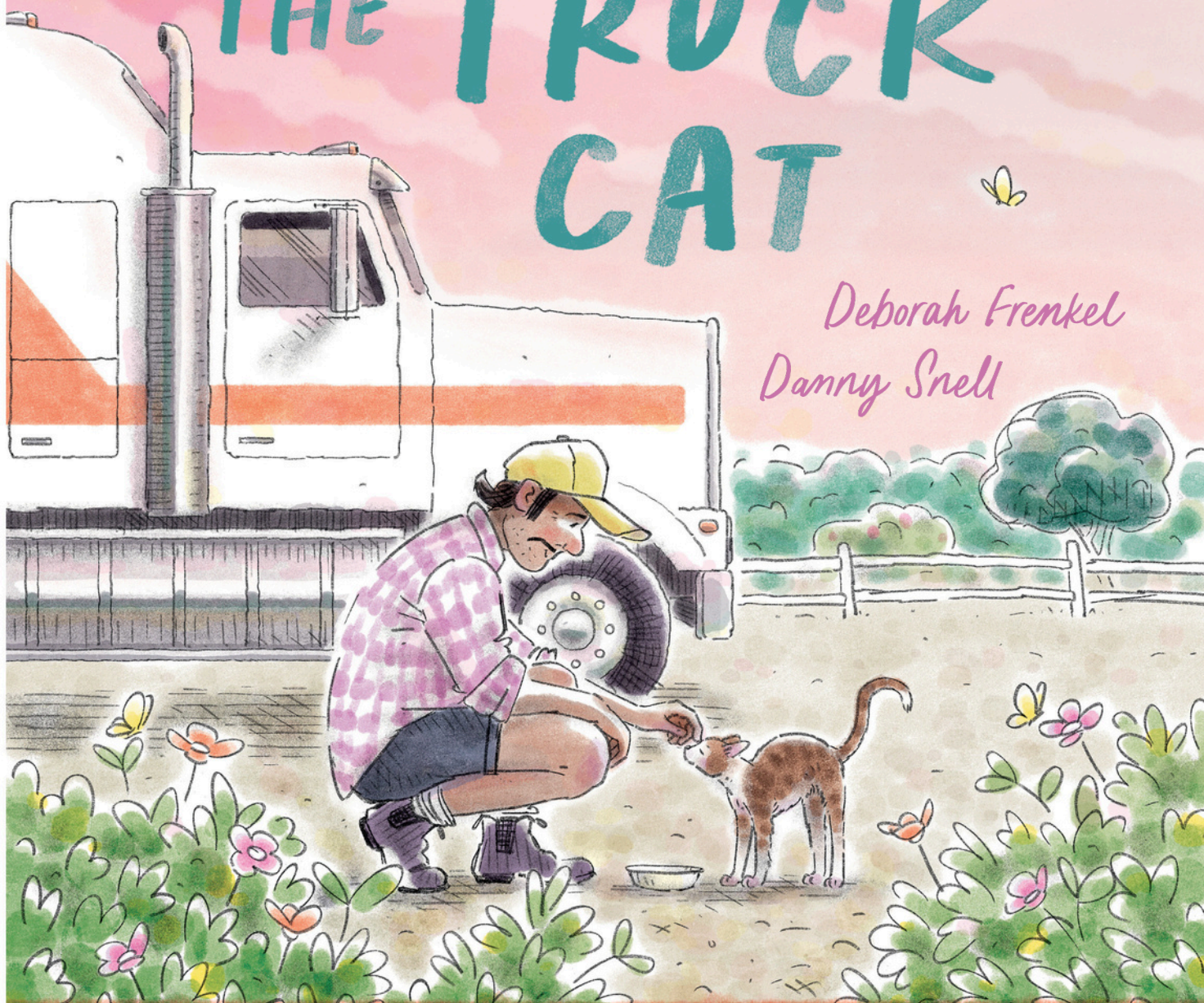


Students at PCS

was one of **2,204,658** participants that shared a reading of

THE TRUCK CAT

*Deborah Frenkel
Danny Snell*



NATIONAL SIMULTANEOUS STORYTIME

21 May 2025 | www.alia.org.au/nss | #librarystorytime



6 May 2025

Pakenham Consolidated Primary School
2 Rundell Way
Pakenham VIC 3810

Re: Parking and Road Safety

Dear Principals,

We are writing to request your support to share important road safety reminders with parents and guardians.

Council has received a concerning increase in reports regarding illegal parking, dangerous driving and pedestrian safety around schools, across the Shire.

To create a safer environment for all road users, we kindly ask if you could please share the below message in your newsletter to parents and guardians.

Together with Cardinia Shire Council, we wish to remind drivers of the importance of safety and adhering to the road rules when parking around the school, at pick up and drop off times.

To ensure the safety of all pedestrians, students and members of our school community, we ask that you:

- **Park only in designated areas:** Parking is not permitted on nature strips, no-stopping zones, no-parking zones, bus zones, or areas reserved for staff. Please adhere to all signage and the road rules.
- **Follow drop-off and pick-up procedures:** Use the designated drop-off and pick-up zones to ensure a smooth and safe flow of traffic.
- **Be mindful of pedestrians:** Follow directions from School Crossing Supervisors and take extra caution during peak times when children are arriving or leaving school.
- **Be respectful:** Council Parking Officers are required to conduct regular patrols around schools to ensure safety. Please be respectful, and courteous.

Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Collette Belmuda'.

Collette Belmuda
Acting Team Leader Compliance Services
Cardinia Shire Council

MOONLIT SANCTUARY

WINTER HOLIDAY CLUBS

JNR KEEPER CLUB

Ages: 7-14

10:00am-3:00pm

Registration Fee

\$104

Become a Junior Keeper for a Day and experience life behind the scenes at Moonlit Sanctuary.

- Meet and feed our amazing Australian animals
- Help with real-life wildlife care
- Learn about conservation and animal behaviour
- Get hands-on with enrichment activities, animal diets and more

Unplug the devices and send your junior explorer off for an unforgettable day with real keepers, real animals, and real adventures.



Learn more: moonlitsanctuary.com.au

Info : (03)5978 7935



SMOKIN' JOE'S
PIZZA & GRILL

**We would like to thank
Smokin' Joe's for their
amazing donations to
our lunchtime
activities club**



Financial Hub 2025

support with rising living costs + FREE goodies

Services on offer:

- Information and support with your tenancy, fines and energy use.
- Tools to build on financial skills and increase your savings.
- Indigenous and CALD support with accessing Services Australia.

FREE goodies:

- Groceries from the AV Food Van
- Brand new Thread Together clothes
- Nappies from The Nappy Collective

DATE: Wednesday, 9th July 2025

TIME: 9:30 to 12:30pm

PLACE: The ParentZone Hub
75 Army Road, Pakenham



Register:

Scan the QR code or [click here](#)

Contact:

0417 028 719 or
cfccardinia@anglicarevic.org.au

Who will be available:



Anglicare Victoria, Rental Stress Program

The Rental Stress Program supports families living in a private rental experiencing financial pressure. RSP can assist if your rent is more than 30% of your income and you: have difficulty affording other living expenses, have legal trouble with your rental, are behind on your payments, or at risk of homelessness. Services can be legal advice, support understanding your financial situation, tips and tools to manage your income, help arranging payment plans and negotiating with creditors, or referrals to other services.



Anglicare Victoria, Aid Food Van

Everyone needs a hand now and then. The AV Aid food van can provide you with pantry goods, fresh groceries and other household items. All you need to do is bring some shopping bags!



Cardinia Shire Council, Cardinia Support

Speak with Council's Community Support Officers to learn more about *Cardinia Support*, their online community services directory that lists a range of local services. They can also provide information on reducing energy bills through improved home efficiency, and help you contact Council's Rates team for assistance understanding your rates notice, and support with pet registration and animal services.



Thread Together, New Clothing

Thread Together collects end-of-line brand new stock from fashion retailers all around the country. Volunteers sort clothes ready for distribution to people in need through networks of charities and social services agencies. You will be supported in making an order from Thread Together. Orders are sent to the ParenZone Hub and you will be contacted when your clothes are ready for collection.



South East Community Links, Financial Counselling

In these challenging times of the cost-of-living crisis, financial counsellors are here to support you. They are qualified, non-judgmental professionals dedicated to helping individuals navigate financial difficulties. Whether you need guidance on managing debts, exploring your options, or negotiating with creditors, financial counsellors provide free information and advocacy you deserve. Don't face these struggles alone—reach out today and access the financial counselling services available to you.



Berry Street, Saver Plus Program

Saver Plus is a FREE 10-month financial education and matched savings program. It helps you develop savings and money management skills, while saving for your child's or your own education. Participants receive matched savings from ANZ for every dollar they save once they have completed the program (up to \$500 for education items, such as school uniforms, computers and textbooks). The program also provides opportunities to attend online workshops to further develop your money management skills.



Peninsula Community Legal Centre, Tenancy Assistance & Advocacy Program

The team provide initial triage, assessment, and potential referral into the Peninsula Community Legal Centre for further advice or assistance. They can discuss *Tenancy*, for people in private rentals, rooming houses and caravan parks (support with VCAT etc). They offer assistance and advice for outstanding *Fines*, like driving on toll roads without an e-tag, parking and public transport fines (including WDP).



Services Australia, Indigenous & Multicultural Services Support

Indigenous Service Officers and Multicultural Service Officers will be available to help promote and improve access to Services Australia. They build relationships with local communities, connecting them to the services and payments they need in a culturally informed way. They can help you navigate the system and communicate with staff using language services..



The Salvation Army, Parent Pathways

Our voluntary program can help with some of the barriers to employment or education. These may include helping with driving lessons and gaining a driving licence. We can also assist with paying for courses, laptops to complete courses, engagement vouchers, paying for childcare bond fees or holding fees, referral to English classes, referral to family services and career guidance to name a few things.