

Term 2 Campfire Conversations Report

Wednesday, 17 June 2026

Barrbbunin Beek Gathering Space

On 17 June 2026, the Barrbbunin Beek Gathering Space hosted a Term 3 campfire Conversation that brought together First Nations students from across the Banyule and Nillumbik Local Council areas.



The day began early as an adventurous bus visited more than ten schools to collect students, resulting in 60 student attendees from approximately 15 schools. Some schools sent only one or two students while others contributed groups of ten or more. The atmosphere was warm and welcoming as students reconnected with friends from previous gatherings and made new connections. 'Womenjeka' proudly welcomed each student group that joined the bus.

The event opened with a heartfelt Acknowledgement of Country delivered by students from Olympic Village Primary School, which was met with applause and cheers. Following this, students chose from a range of activities designed to foster cultural learning, physical activity, and creativity. Sporting options like football and basketball offered high-energy opportunities for students to play together across year levels. Small groups walked the spirit trail, stopping to read interpretive signs and learn about the traditional seasons of the local Wurundjeri people, engaging in meaningful discussion along the way. In the creative workshop, participants collaborated to decorate timber animal figures using traditional Aboriginal symbols alongside their own artistic choices.



Parents and community members were present throughout the day, mingling during activities and strengthening connections with one another and the organisers. 20 parents in total visited, some dropping off their child/ren while others who stayed for a chat and cuppa. Several parents commented on the value of the experience, noting that they would have appreciated similar opportunities in



their own childhoods and were thrilled their children could connect with other First Nations students and learn about culture. The afternoon concluded with a communal pizza celebration, leaving participants with a sense of gratitude and satisfaction for the chance to come together.

Overall, the gathering facilitated strong cross-school and cross-age friendships, increased cultural awareness through the Acknowledgement of Country and spirit trail, creative activities and generated positive feedback from families.

Jeff Jackson

Principal Rosanna Primary School