



OUTDOOR EDUCATION



WELCOME

By **Nerrida Johnson, Principal**

Castlemaine Steiner School & Kindergarten is situated in Central Victoria, in the Loddon Valley. It is noted for its Box Ironbark forests, and is rich in interesting ecology, geology, gold rush history and indigenous connections. On our doorstep we have granite outcrops, ancient volcanoes, rivers & creeks which become our classroom, and much more in the unique locations that encompass our outdoor education program. The natural environment is an important component of Steiner Education where that which is learnt in the classroom is met and enhanced in the natural world.

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OUR SCHOOL

Established in the area in 1987, our current campus was built in 1995. We enjoy buildings and classrooms that are sustainably designed, featuring solar energy, rammed earth and natural materials. All on 18 acres of beautiful natural bushland.



We have an onsite Playgroup program and classes from Kindergarten to Year 8, with approximately 230 students.

OUR PROGRAM



Our Outdoor Program seeks to develop the student's understanding of their place in the natural world, through immersion in it. As children develop their sense of adventure we see confidence developing, a connectedness with the environment and a sense of stewardship toward the natural world.

Taking learning outside the classroom gives students a non-academic setting in which to excel. It allows an experience where time is dictated not by the bell or a clock, but by our surroundings. Students have an opportunity to appreciate the value of their hard work as it meets the class curriculum and resonates with their own inner stage of development.

Our program offers a variety of different ways to explore the environment, such as; walking, bike riding, paddling, climbing, drawing, singing and star gazing. Through these activities students build confidence in their physical capacity, resourcefulness and ability to look after themselves. We then observe these skills extending to the social cohesiveness of the class, strengthening their bonds and care for one another.

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of this country and have strong connections to the local Dja Dja Wurrung people. This culture is meaningfully woven into our curriculum and camps program.

CLASS 3 & 4

CLASS 3 - CLASS SLEEPOVER & FARM CAMP

We begin our outdoor education in Class 3 by setting up camp at school and experiencing a sleepover. Following shortly after, we embark on our first overnight camp in the local farming district. The students learn about seasonal cycles, the interdependence between us and our environment, Nomadic lifestyles and the importance of shelter, climate and soils.



CLASS 4 - MUCKLEFORD FOREST & OCEAN CAMP

This year focusses on local history, geography and peoples. Indigenous studies, European Settlement, local area mapping and measurement are the focus of the students within the Muckleford State Forest.

We participate in self-sustained low impact camping, bushwalking, orienteering, artistic activities, communal cooking and sleeping.

To resonate with the curriculum exploration of Norse mythology, the students make an expedition to feel the power of the ocean.

CLASS 5 & 6

CLASS 5 - TERRICK TERRICK, & BALRANALD

Class Five students dive deeply into Botany, Ecology & Environmental Studies, along with regional history and geography.

Terrick Terrick National Park is the destination for our bike riding camp and a highlight each year for the class. The park contains threatened indigenous grassland full of botanic wonder, which ties in to our Botany studies in the classroom.

At Balranald we spend time at Yanga Lake and Station with a local family, with history to share of both Aboriginal and white settler heritage.

Greek Olympics, an annual tradition is hosted at various Steiner schools across the state.

Activities include athletics, marathons, javelin and shotput, and on occasion, a chariot race!



CLASS 6 - MUCKLEFORD GORGE, LAKE TYRELL & KOOYOORA

With much experience now in camping, bushwalking and the natural environment, our camps extend in length and the physical demands increase.

Across the school year the curriculum will take in the mineral world and its relation to geography and geometry and this is reflected back to us in our explorations of the Muckleford Gorge and the Muckleford Fault.

We explore astronomy at Lake Tyrell and ecology at Mt Kooyoora.



CLASS 7 & 8

CLASS 7 - SERPENTINE CREEK, MOUNT ARAPILES & GOLDFIELDS TRACK

At Class Seven the curriculum focuses on core topics such as Medieval Times, Voyages of Discovery and Indigenous Societies & Civilisations.

We match these explorations in our outdoor program with a Rock Climbing Camp at Mount Arapiles, a Medieval Pilgrimage along the Goldfields Track and paddling the Serpentine Creek.



CLASS 8 - SAILING, SHOREHAM & RAFTING

Class Eight continue their voyages of discovery locally and learn the art of sailing at Cairn Curran. Their skills are further tested at Lake Eppalock where we build and paddle our own rafts. At the end of their final year at CSSK we travel to the seaside at Shoreham for some reflective time together.

COME JOIN US

ENROLMENT INFORMATION

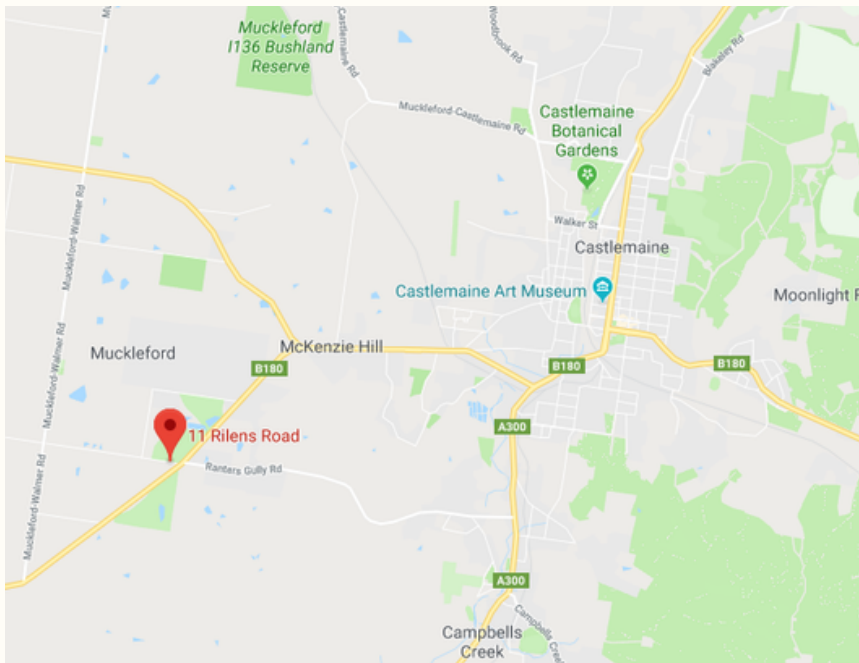
For all enrolment information contact our Enrolments Officer or visit our website www.cssk.vic.edu.au.

School Tours are available to experience what Steiner Education has to offer.

OUR LOCATION

We are located a short drive from the township of Castlemaine at:
11 Rilens Rd, Muckleford VIC 3451.

Phone - 5479 2000 Web - www.cssk.vic.edu.au



THE PENNY NEWSLETTER

To keep up with our school news and gain insight into day to day life in our classrooms, subscribe to our school newsletter, The Penny.

OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE

Other available information can be found at www.cssk.vic.edu.au. including our Policies, Procedures & Enrolment Information as well as an overview of how the school began.



**CASTLEMAINE STEINER SCHOOL
& KINDERGARTEN**

*For more insight into our programs follow us on
social media;*



Instagram – @castlemainesteinerschool

*Facebook – Castlemaine Steiner School &
Kindergarten*



*We look forward to welcoming you
to our school soon.*