

## SPLASHING INTO 2023 ABOARD THE MOONRAKER!

Mornington Peninsula Ambassadors had a great time meeting students from Bayside and Melbourne ISIC schools for their workshop aboard Moonraker Dolphin Swims! They loved learning first-hand about why our marine environment is so precious, how much fun it can be to passively interact with wildlife such as dolphins, stingrays and seals, and the actions we can all take to help protect these precious marine creatures! Many first time snorkelers were so lucky to enjoy their first ever snorkel with the gorgeous Bottlenose dolphins! We also snorkelled locations including Portsea Pier with the graceful Weedy seadragons, the South Channel Pile Light and the Hat with the ever playful Australian Fur seals, and Popes Eye Marine Park, where Ambassadors were amazed at the abundance of the resident fish. All experiencing this special workshop now have an even better understanding of the benefits of long-term protection. Thank you as always to our council partners, Moonraker, and the parents/carers and teachers who all make these workshops possible!



**"No water, no life, no blue, no green"** – Sylvia Earle



## WORLD OCEAN DAY 8th JUNE 2023 CELEBRATIONS!

It is time to start planning your World Ocean Day celebrations with this year's theme **Big Blue Future**. The WOD mission is to conserve our wonderful marine resources for future generations, and to end overfishing which is enshrined within the UN sustainable development goals. Last year for example, schools celebrated with gold coin donation fundraisers alongside ocean themed dress ups! ISIC Ambassadors also visited classrooms to present on their favourite marine animals, the issues with marine litter, and how we can all help our precious marine creatures. IF YOU NEED ANY ASSISTANCE with projects or fundraising ideas please contact Jacqui and Mandy at DRI. We can't wait to see how you celebrate WORLD OCEAN DAY with your school community and SEND US YOUR STORIES AND PHOTOS so we can celebrate with you!

## RESEARCH UPDATE ON OUR DOLPHIN DISTANCING PROGRAM

The Research Team have piloted a new approach for improving boating behaviour around dolphins by asking the community to be part of the solution through Dolphin Distancing. Together we can build a strong community committed to doing the right thing around our magnificent resident dolphins and protect them for future generations. You can commit to Dolphin Distancing and receive a sticker to proudly display on your vessel! Please report breaches to DELWP on 136 186. Help your community know the rules – don't approach dolphins closer than 100m in boats (including paddled vessels), 300m on jet skis or 30m if you're swimming. Keep a respectful distance and enjoy the show!

**OUR DOLPHINS DESERVE A FAIR GO**



HELP US SHOW BOATERS HOW IT'S DONE BY COMMITTING TO

**DOLPHIN DISTANCING**

A Dolphin Research Institute Initiative

