

PARKWOOD GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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ISSUE

22nd FEB

2023

DATE

DATES TO REMEMBER

- **Fri 24th Feb :**
Whole School Assembly 9.15am
- Stall payments for Trash and Treasure due
- **Mon 27th Feb—Fri 10th Mar :**
Year 4 swimming
- **Wed 1st Mar :**
Grade 6 Athletics
- **Mon 6th Mar :**
Grade 3 Athletics
- **Tues 7th Mar :**
School photos
- **Wed 8th Mar :**
Year 5 athletics
- **Sunday 19th March**
Market Day.

INSIDE..

- Principal's Report
- School Council
- Census Day
- School Review
- Lunch Clubs
- Karate Incursion
- Leadership Team
- Specialist Programs
- Market Day Trash & Treasure



PRINCIPALS UPDATE

It has been a wonderful start to the 2023 school year! I cannot believe we are already edging close to the halfway mark of term one. Our students have settled into classrooms extremely well and teachers are implementing rigorous teaching and learning programs to support and grow your child's learning. I have visited each classroom and I must say, I'm very impressed to see how well our teachers, support staff and students settled into the year. I know everyone is very happy to be back at school and we are looking forward to a great year of learning and friendships but as we all know, school life can be tough. You can help your child by being really positive about their school days and making sure that your child gets plenty of sleep. Going back to school is hard work for children and they will be extremely tired until they get used to the routines of getting up early for school.

Census Day

Tuesday 28th February is census day. Census day is that day that the Department of Education collects data on student attendance to determine funding for schools. It is important for students to be at school every day and if they are unable to attend, please call the office to let us know the reason so we can update the system. On census day it is especially important if you can ensure your child is at school and if they are unable to attend, please let us know before 9:15am as this can help our admin team with their data tracking.

2023 School Council

Our school council is made up of a total of twelve members. Eight parents, three members of staff and one Community member. Each year some of the member vacancies are up for re-election. Membership is for 2 years.

An error was made in my previous communication to families. I stated that this year we have 4 parent vacancies This is incorrect as we have 5 vacancies. Four 2-year positions and one 12-month casual vacancy position due to a parent leaving the school at the end of 2022. The 5th vacancy is a 12mth casual vacancy that Luan Walker was filling in which will end at the end of this month. We thank Luan for all his time and hard work, thanks Luan. Members up for re-election can re-nominate.

At the close of nominations on Monday 13th February 2023 we had two parent nominations. Therefore, in the parent category, I declare Tracey Ridsdale and Paul McDougall elected to the Parkwood Green Primary School Council for 2023 and 2024. Congratulations Paul and Tracey, we look forward to having you on our school council.

With two positions filled we still need to fill three more positions (two 2-year positions and one 12mth position).

I have extended the call for nomination. Nomination forms are available at the office and must be returned to the office by **4pm Friday 24th February**. If the number of nominations exceed the vacancies, we will have a community election.

At the close of nominations on Monday 13th February, I received one nomination for the vacant position in the staff category. No staff election was required.

Therefore, in the staff category, I declare Elyse Edwards elected to the Parkwood Green Primary School Council for 2023 and 2024. Congratulations Elyse.

School Review- Term 3

The Department of Education (DET) conducts reviews of schools every 4 years. This rigorous process is conducted by the Victorian Registration & Qualifications Authority (VRQA) and the evaluation is completed with support from a DET appointed external reviewer as well as external challenge partners. The school review supports each school to differentiate its improvement journey by building on current strengths and assisting it to respond to challenges. It emphasises continuous improvement and affirms that every student, no matter their background or circumstance, has a right to learn in a school committed to improvement. It maintains that every school can continue to improve.

Parkwood Green Primary School and the review:

welcomes school community participation

embraces the input of experts from both within and beyond the school through staff, student and parent forums

Include classroom visits

Breakdown of school based data in relation to teaching and learning, engagement and wellbeing, financial and policy, community engagement

forges links between evidence, school review, and strategic and annual planning

seeks multiple perspectives, engagement with the whole school community and being open to challenge for improvement

celebrates strengths and achievements

The result of this is the development of the School Strategic Plan (SSP).

Following our Strategic Plan our website and documents will be updated to include :

Reports related to the school's academic achievement

Reports detailing the results of surveys of key stake holders including students, parents and teachers

School policy documents which are also looked at as part of the Review.

As a school we look forward to this process to set our future goals and continue to be the best school we can be.

The leadership team will undergo training to prepare for the school review.

Happy and Healthy kids

Getting a good night's sleep helps your child stay settled, healthy, happy and ready for school the next day. Children are usually tired after school and should look forward to bedtime from about 7:30pm. Your child needs about 10 to 11 hours of sleep each night to ensure learning is maximized at school.

A bedtime routine is very important for your child as it helps them wind down at the end of the day and settles them prior to going to sleep. Getting ready for bed at the same time each day is important. The predictability of going to bed at the same time each night helps children develop a positive sleep routine and feel secure. Allowing children to stay up late, even on weekends, is not recommended as it disrupts this routine. Assist your child to wind down about an hour before bedtime by turning off the television and computer games, and encouraging quiet activities. Reading to or with your child is a great activity to incorporate into their bedtime routine.

For more information or great parenting ideas check out the Parenting Ideas Blog: <https://www.parentingideas.com.au/blog> written by renowned, Australian Psychologist Michael Grose.

Respectful Behaviours

Our school community has demonstrated incredible solidarity and resilience throughout the last three years. Being back in our classrooms with extra health and safety measures is another big transition, however our students are managing well and their regular attendance at school is so important for their wellbeing during these uncertain times. As we navigate these changes to onsite learning, including required mask wearing for some students, it's more important than ever that adults in our school community treat each other with respect and kindness. The Department of Education and Training has released a new policy that describes the positive behaviour expected from parents, carers, and other adults in Victorian school communities. The policy sets clear standards of behaviour to create a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment for students, staff and adults. This policy is in a very easy to read format; we hope all families will take a few minutes to engage with the positive behaviours described in this policy.

School Parking

We understand that time is precious, parking availability can be limited, and we all want to get to our destination as quickly as possible. But placing our children, parents, staff, and other members of the public at risk is very concerning. We have witnessed and had reports of parents breaking road rules, making illegal u-turns, illegally parking in disabled car spaces, and parking across neighbour's driveways. I urge all drivers to please be cautious, slow down, and only park in spaces you are permitted to park in. The local police have informed me that again this year they will make regular patrols in marked and unmarked cars. I thank you for your understanding in this very important safety matter.

Cheers

Bobby Kotevski

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Hi everyone,

I am Monique Lumsden, the new Acting Assistant Principal at Parkwood Green. It has been a terrific and settled start to the school year. A special mention goes to our newest members of our school community, our Foundation students. They have done such a great job of settling in, so well done!

I thought I would start off with a little a bit about myself. I have been at Parkwood Green PS since I began my teaching career back in 2013. I have taught in a range of year levels from Foundation to Year 4. Over the last few years, I have been a Learning Specialist and Team Leader. I have a strong passion for student wellbeing and have led School Wide Positive

Behaviour Support framework and Respectful Relationships initiative within the school. This year I will also be undertaking some training to be the Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader within the school where I will work across the school to implement a whole-school approach to mental health and wellbeing for students, staff and families.

In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with my family and friends. I also enjoy travelling and going away with my family to our cabin in Corowa on the Murray River.

I look forward to seeing you all and if you ever need to chat, please know my door is always open. I am located in the front office (next to Marlise in Wellbeing).

Kind regards,

Monique Lumsden



Welcome Mr. Andoniou and Ms. Saciuk to the Parkwood Green leadership team



for 2023!

Hello Parkwood Green Community! My name is Thomas Andoniou and am so excited to be a part of our wonderful school's leadership team for 2023. Having been at Parkwood Green for 8 years, it has been a pleasure to teach across multiple year levels, working alongside the most

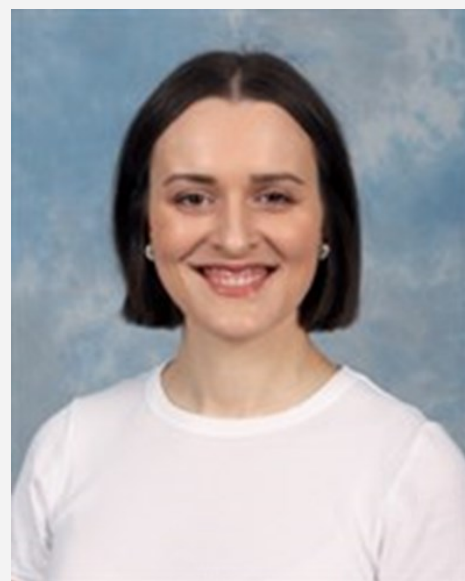
brilliant staff and dedicated students, whilst always feeling supported by our amazing families.

I am looking forward to continue building strong relationships across our community, whilst dedicating my time to support all our students and staff in reaching their full potential.

Always keen for a chat, so come and say hi!

My name is Lesya Saciuk and I am a Learning Specialist focusing on the curriculum area of Literacy as well as supporting the Specialist, Foundation, Year 1 and 2 teams. I joined PGPS in 2014 as a classroom teacher, teaching classes from Year 2 to 6. Previously, I lived and taught in a remote Indigenous community in the central desert of the Northern Territory for 5 years.

I'm a passionate reader and writer and enjoy developing all students' love of both. I have experience in teaching students with diverse learning needs and supporting teachers to create inclusive and engaging environments.



LUNCH CLUBS

This term, some of our amazing grade 6 leaders have shown great initiative by designing and running lunch clubs.

The first club to get underway is the Yoga Club, which is for grades 2 and 3 students, on Tuesdays.

Supported by the Wellbeing Team, the grade six students created a project brief, outlining their aims, target audience and delivery model, and then wrote the plans for each of their sessions. The leaders created posters, then visited the classrooms to introduce themselves and promote the sessions.

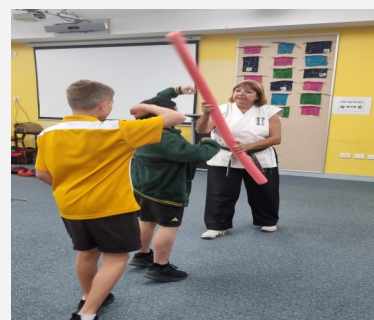
Each Tuesday, the students have made carefully thought out announcements to the school about the benefits of yoga, and reminding the students about the club that day.

It has been wonderful to witness the older students modelling their commitment to a mindful practice and the creation of an engaging session each week. The younger participants are learning breathing and yoga skills, but perhaps more importantly, are looking up to, and sharing space with positive role models in their school.



KARATE INCURSION

Art of Defence Australia joined Parkwood Green Primary School today during PE sessions for 3TV,3MP,5KL,5AC,5NC,5JG, 2CN & 2LL. Karate techniques were demonstrated and students practiced the skills modelled by their instructors. Students that participated will bring home a pamphlet which includes 2 free lessons at any of Art of Defence Australia classes.



Spotlight On: Science with Mrs. Brownbill

What a great start to the year it has been in the science room. We are looking forward to challenging our STEAM knowledge and skills throughout this year.

Our Grade 6 Science Leaders were welcomed to their role with their badges and I look forward to working with Alina, Angad, Ben F, Hudson, Lara E, Marcus, Rachael and William.

Here are just a few examples of our amazing students experiencing and representing their science at Parkwood Green.

Grade 3

Our Grade 3s have been working with Bob, our skeleton, to understand our Science Room expectations. This term they are looking at FORCES.



Grade 4

Grade 4s have been focusing on cooperation and resilience with their challenging activities. This term HEAT is our focus.



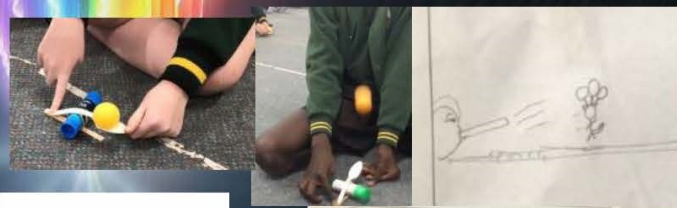
Grade 5

How do you build a strong bridge when you only have straws, paper and 1m of sticky tape? The grade 5s worked together to meet this challenge. The strongest bridge held 580g! This term they are looking at LIGHT.



Grade 6

Our Grade 6s had to utilise their STEAM knowledge to fly a 'man' across our classroom. They took up the challenge with some entertaining devices. This term they are looking at ENERGY.



Foundation

The Foundation students have had a fantastic start to the first year of schooling. They have been busy setting up daily routines and understanding the expectations of each lesson and what to get from their tubs to be prepared for the morning.

Reading- Students come into school in the morning and get their book box out place It in a learning space ready for Independent Reading.

Writing- Students will usually get out their Writing Books and pencil case ready for their Writing session.

Numeracy- Students will get their Maths book and pencil cases out. They are learning the routines of different parts of the Maths lessons such as; Number Talks (where we discuss the number of the day) and fishbowls (where students all stand around the table, ensuring that everyone has view and can see what the teacher is modelling.)

Social and Emotional Learning- Students are learning about our school matrix and our school values. They are looking at ways that they show respect and responsibility.



SEALS

The Parkwood Green Swimming Team (SEALS) have been training in preparation for their District

Swimming event which will take place on Monday 27th

February. Students from Years 3-6 took part in trials and the selected students will now compete against other schools in individual and relay events at Melton Waves Aquatic Centre. We would like to wish all swimmers the very best for their events.



**PAUL SADLER
SWIMLAND**
THE SURVIVAL SPECIALISTS • SINCE 1972

*Learn to swim with
the survival
specialists!*

At Paul Sadler Swimland Parkwood Green we have a range of swimming lessons available! We run babies swimming classes from 4 months old, children's swimming lessons right through to adult swimming lessons. As proud members of the Parkwood Green Community we would love to offer all **NEW** families who enrol into swimming lessons with us from Parkwood Green Primary School the first two lessons **FREE!**

PARKWOOD GREEN
PRIMARY SCHOOL



MARKET DAY

9am-2pm

Sunday 19th March

New & Used Items

Plants, Seedlings & Homewares

Books, Toys & Sporting Equipment

Jewellery, Hair & Makeup

Coffee & Food Trucks

Performances

Fresh Produce from Kitchen Garden

**We would love to see our community
come along and support our school!**

Administration Reminders

Camps, Sports & Excursions Funding

What is CSEF?

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 (Primary school student rate: \$125 per year).

The CSEF is paid directly to your child's school and will be

allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

Are you eligible?

To be eligible for the fund, 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 one, or on the first day of Term two

a) be a holder of one or more of the eligible financially-means tested cards OR be a temporary foster parent, and;

b) submit an application to the school by the due date

Ready to apply?

If you are eligible for this funding and wish to apply in 2023, please fill in the attached CSEF application form and return it to the front office with a copy of your health care card.

If you received CSEF in 2022 you will not need to fill out a new application form unless you have a new student starting at the school this year who was not previously listed on the application.

Lost Property

Could parents please check the lost property in the Office foyer, we have a lot of unclaimed uniform at present.

