

NEWSLETTER

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ISSUE

5th MAY
2022
DATE

DATES TO REMEMBER

- **Tuesday 3rd May - Friday 13th May:**
Year 1 Swimming
- **Friday 6th May:**
District Cross Country
- **Tuesday 10th May - Friday 20th May:**
Year 3 & 5 NAPLAN Testing
- **Friday 13th May:**
Year 6 Winter Interschool Sports Day 1
Book Club Issue 3 Due
- **Friday 20th May:**
Year 6 Winter Interschool Sports Day 2
- **Friday 27th May:**
Student Free Day - Staff PPD Day
- **Monday 6th June - Friday 17th June:**
Year 5 Swimming
- **Monday 13th June:**
Queens Birthday Public Holiday

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PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Dear parents & friends of Parkwood Green,

Welcome back everyone. Everyone looks refreshed and ready to start a new term. It has been so exciting to start Term 2 with the government and department easing the restrictions. Term two promises to be another busy term with Education Week, NAPLAN , curriculum day, excursions, reports, three-way conferences and of course, teaching & learning.

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program –Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2022 tests, for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students. All students are expected to participate in the NAPLAN tests. We encourage all our students to strive to achieve their personal best in preparation and during these tests.

Our NAPLAN schedule for 2022

Tuesday 10th May		Thursday 12th May	Friday 13th May
Grade 3 Writing	Grade 5 Writing	Grade 3 Reading	Grade 5 Reading

Monday 16th May	Tuesday 17th May	Wednesday 18th May	Thursday 19th May	Friday 20th May
Grade 5 Language Conventions	Grade 3 Language Conventions	Grade 3 Maths	Grade 5 Maths	Catch up

What is NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program–Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students in these year levels participate in tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

Later in the year, parents will receive their child’s personal NAPLAN report. The report will outline their child’s skills in the areas assessed. The report will show how their child performed in relation to the national student performance.

ANZAC DAY

Anzac Day, 25th April, is one of Australia’s most important national occasions. Not only does it mark the anniversary of the first major military action fought by Australian and New Zealand forces during the First World War, but ANZAC day also honors every one of our service men and women who served and died in all wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations. We thank them for their service and sacrifice. Due to ANZAC Day falling in the school holidays, on Friday the 29th of April, we held a special ANZAC Day commemoration assembly at school. Our school captains did an amazing job leading the assembly. Well done to them.

On ANZAC Day, Kayleen Dumic (Grade 6 teacher) and I were privileged and honored to attend the dawn service at the Caroline Springs war memorial along with our school captains, staff, parents, and students. It was a beautiful service and a great reminder of the sacrifices many made and how lucky we are to have the freedom we all have today. Here are a few snapshots of our ANZAC Day celebrations



DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS GUIDELINES

Face masks

Face masks are not required to be worn in primary schools by staff, students or parents/guardians and visitors. They are still recommended, and any student, staff or visitor who wishes to wear a mask may do so, including those who are medically at-risk.

Screening requirements

Students and staff who have tested positive for COVID-19, and have completed their 7-day isolation period, do not need to undertake rapid antigen test (RAT) screening for 12 weeks after their release from isolation.

Household contacts

Students and staff who are household contacts of a COVID-19 case are no longer required to quarantine. They can return to school if they undertake rapid antigen tests (RAT) 5 times within their 7-day period and wear face masks indoors if they are aged 8 and above unless they have a valid exemption. If any household contact returns a positive RAT result during this period, they must isolate for 7 days and not attend school.

Vaccination requirements for visitors to schools

Parents, guardians and other adult visitors (not performing work) are no longer required to show evidence of two doses of COVID-19 vaccine. RAT screening program extension reminder: The supply of RATs will continue for the first 4 weeks of this term. The screening recommendations remain the same: Please continue to test at home twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

SCHOOL ORGANISATION

Parents and Guardians are welcome to enter the school grounds. The gates will be opened for students to enter the school at 8:45 am. Teachers will be in their classes from 8:45 am and parents, guardians and carers are able to enter the learning spaces. We ask that parents and guardians continue to physically distance while in buildings.

Just a reminder: staff are on duty from 8:45 am. We request that all students go straight to their classrooms to get themselves ready for the day rather than playing on the playground or oval (even with parent supervision). Research shows when students have a 'soft start' to their morning, they are more focused, in tune, and ready for learning. And with the colder weather coming our way, it is much warmer in their classrooms.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE DAY (STUDENT FREE DAY)

For Term 2, 2022, the Department of Education and Training has provided schools with the option to hold each teacher's allocated professional practice day on the same day for all staff. This is to enable the most effective and efficient use of this day. As a result, our professional practice day will be held on Friday 27th May. **Students will NOT attend school on this day.**

UNIFORM

School uniform promotes a sense of identity, pride, cohesion and good order in a school. It allows students to feel equal and enhances individual student safety and group security, as well as enhancing the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community. The School Council Policy of Parkwood Green PS states that uniform is compulsory for the students of Parkwood Green. It is important that parents are vigilant in ensuring students appearance reflects the expectations of the school community. We would appreciate your assistance in ensuring that a high standard of uniform is maintained.

KISS AND DROP

It is unfortunate that here at the school office, we continue to receive complaints about the way in which some of our parents put their own children, as well as others, at risk during school drop off. We have even been informed of the abusive nature of some parents. **Please be mindful of the example you are setting in front of your children and the risk to public safety.**

The Kiss and Drop zone is a short term stopping area where drivers are allowed to stop and park the vehicle for a short time – no longer than two minutes – while the student exits or enters the vehicle from the kerbside doors. This enables students to walk between the car and the school, using the safety of the footpath.

- In the afternoon, parking and waiting in the Kiss and Drop zone is prohibited.
- The zone operates during peak periods allowing parents to park their vehicles for up to two minutes outside the school gates.
- The zone is a designated No-Parking area where drivers are not able to go in to the school but they may get out of the car to see the child off or welcome the child in, within the two minute timeframe.

A message from Caroline Springs Police Station is also included in the newsletter. Please take the time to read through it.

2023 ENROLMENTS OPEN

I wish to advise everyone, that 2023 Foundation enrolments are open. I urge all families with children reaching school age next year, to enrol now. I am being inundated with requests for enrolment tours and it seems that once again there is much interest from new families wanting to join our school community. We also encourage and welcome enrolments for all year levels too. If you know any local families that would like to join a fabulous school, please give our school a recommendation.

Enrolment forms or tours can be collected or made via our school office.

ASSEMBLY

Whole school assemblies are BACK! These will be held fortnightly (odd weeks) on Fridays at 2:40pm (whether permitting) in the courtyard. We hope that families find this a convenient time as it is before school pick up. All parents and guardians are welcome to attend.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Research demonstrates a strong correlation between students' learning, longer term life outcomes, attendance at school and appropriate participation in education programs. It is crucial that students develop habits of regular attendance at an early age. Absence from school means that learning opportunities are reduced and this can ultimately lead to poorer student achievement. We encourage all students to attend school regularly and on time to ensure they receive the explicit classroom instruction. It is recommended that family holidays should be taken during school holiday where possible.

Kind regards,

Bobby Kotevski

PRINCIPAL

Walk Safely to School Day

WE'RE TAKING IT IN OUR STRIDE ON FRIDAY 20 MAY 2022

Well it's that time of year again when our school seriously starts talking about walking!

Walk Safely to School Day asks that we all consider our transport habits and try to incorporate more walking as part of a healthy, active way to get around. And although walking all the way to school isn't realistic for many of us, it's quite easy to figure out how you can build a walk into your family's daily routine.

You can teach your child the healthy habit of walking more by:

- Walking with them the whole way to school
- If they get the bus or train, walk past your usual stop and get on at the next stop
- If you have to drive, park the car a few blocks away from the school and walk the rest of the way.

Regular exercise like walking with your child not only helps them (and you!) beat chronic problems like obesity, heart disease, behavioural and mental health issues and diabetes. It also gives you a great opportunity to teach your child safe ways to behave around roads and traffic.

Remember, Active Kids are Healthy Kids so get planning your own Walk Safely to School Day journey for Friday 20 May 2022!

For more information, visit www.walk.com.au



Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge

The Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge is now open and Parkwood Green Primary School is excited to be participating. The PRC application offers a range of exciting features including:

- access to a library catalogue (including book images and blurbs)
- a modern user-friendly interface
- rewarding students with badges as challenge milestones are achieved
- the option for students to mark books as a favourite, give them a star rating or complete a book review

The Challenge is open to all Victorian children from birth to Year 10 in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development. It is not a competition; but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by **2 September 2022**.

Children from Prep to Year 2 are encouraged to read or 'experience' 30 books with their parents and teachers. Children from Year 3 to Year 6 are challenged to read 15 books.

All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and former Premiers.

Students will receive their login details and further information this week.

Happy reading!

Belinda Crombie and Tamara Jacobs

Premiers' Reading Challenge Team

COLOUR EXPLOSION FUN RUN

Our Colour Explosion Run 4 Fun was a great success last term. Students, staff, and families enjoyed the colourful day together. The draw for the electric scooter will take place during our school assembly next Friday. Every student who raised over \$100 will enter the draw. One lucky person will come home with the scooter next week! These students will also receive the Mini Monty plush toy which will be delivered to students on Friday.

Congratulations to our highest fundraising student **Iris from 3MP**

We would like to thank all the volunteers who helped with the Colour Explosion Run 4 Fun and our Mother's Day stall this week. We wish all our Mum's and special people a relaxing day on Sunday.

Our Fundraising meeting is 2.30pm Thursday 12th May. We invite anyone from our school community to come along and join us. Please contact jocelyn.brabin2@education.vic.gov.au for any questions.

Fundraising Team



Administration Reminders

- Our Second-hand uniform sales are back every second Friday during our whole school assemblies at 2.40pm outside the Learning Centre.

All items are \$5.00 (CASH ONLY)



Performing Arts News

In performing arts so far in 2022, students have been exploring music and dance.

They have used various instruments such as drums, shakers, ukuleles, triangles and clapping sticks to accompany learnt songs demonstrating an understanding of beat and rhythm.

Students have enjoyed playing games such as musical freeze to songs from different times, genres and parts of the world.

We are looking forward to another term of learning and exploring the performing arts in Term 2!

Regional Swimming

A big congratulations to our 6 students who competed in the Regional Swimming Competition in Geelong in the last week of term 1:

Hedy C, Michael J, Remy H, Stella W, Yustus G and Zander B

An amazing achievement for them all. A special congratulations to Stella who achieved a third in the 50m Butterfly.

You all showed great commitment and encouraged and supported each other throughout the day. Thanks also to all the parents who attended to cheer the students on.



MESSAGE FROM VICTORIA POLICE

It is of great concern that Police from both Melton and Caroline Springs have seen an escalation of violence and aggression towards School Crossing Supervisors and School Staff monitoring school drop off and pick up.

With students returning to "normal" school attendance there is an increase in traffic congestion in and around schools and with this the aggression and frustration of a number of drivers.

Police would like to remind all drivers that the bottom line is SAFETY. The role of the Crossing Supervisor is there to ensure the roads are safely crossed by all pedestrians and the laws are in place to protect everyone.

We have seen reports of appalling behaviour that include serious threats and violence which nobody should be subject to. Some of the infringement notices that can be issued in response to this problematic behaviour are:

- Fail to stop and remain stationary at children's crossing
- Fail to stop at the stop line when a handled stop sign is displayed, or a pedestrian is entering or on the crossing
- Proceed after stopping when the handheld stop sign is still displayed
- Proceed after stopping while a pedestrian is on or entering the crossing
- Pass stopped vehicle at children's crossing or pedestrian crossing

All of these offences carry a fine of \$454 and 3 demerit points.

Along with this is the illegal and dangerous stopping of vehicles in and around schools, particularly in the afternoon. Whilst it may be frustrating and not convenient, Police are asking that drivers make an effort to legally park their car and to refrain from remaining stationary on road causing traffic to bank up and create a dangerous environment. Walking a short distance to collect your child is far safer than causing a collision that could injure many.

As we move into Term 2 a number of operations will target school zones where infringement notices will be issued to those failing to follow the Road Rules. Some examples of the penalties are:

- Drive motor vehicle on a path, nature strip, traffic island or dividing strip – Penalty \$182
- Fail to obey traffic direction given by police officer or authorised person – Penalty \$363 & 3 demerit points
- Drive unlawfully in a bicycle lane – Penalty \$273
- Stopped contrary to a no parking sign – Penalty \$36
- Stopped on a nature strip – Penalty \$109

THIS IS ABOUT SAFETY OF ALL IN PARTICULAR OUR LOCAL SCHOOL CHILDREN