



Wednesday August 4th 2021

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Office Hours: **Monday—Thursday 8.30-4.15pm**

Friday: 8.30—4.00pm

School Hours: 8:50am—3:30pm



Concert

Concert preparations are moving along at a fast pace and we are really hopeful that all our plans will be going ahead without any changes as it is already looking amazing! We have plans to ensure concert goes ahead in some form if restrictions prohibit our original plans. No matter what happens it will be an amazing event. Ask your children about their role in the concert - you might remember some of the books referred to as some of your favourite ones from your childhood. I was so excited to see the Magic Faraway Tree featured as one of the books. I remember reading that as a child and it being one of my favourites.

Caitlin in the art room is looking for **volunteers who can sew concert costumes**. If you can help, please contact one of the specialist team members (Julie, Caitlin, Vanessa or Chloe). Ring the office to leave your details, or email black.hill.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

Feedback Surveys

Remote learning

We are interested to hear about your child's experience of remote learning from the parent/guardian perspective. The teams will use this information to plan for any future remote learning experiences, although we certainly hope this will not be the case. You can find the QR code to the online survey below.

A similar survey is also being conducted with the students in years 3- 6. We hope this information will ensure that as we plan for the future we are able to continue to make the experience as supportive and engaging as possible. It assists us to know what the challenges were and what was successful.



We appreciate your time in providing us with this feedback.

Invitation to participate in the 2021 Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey

Each school family has been invited by email to participate in the 2021 Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey (previously known as the Parent Opinion Survey). **NOTE: Only one parent/caregiver/guardian from your family is invited to complete the survey.**

Each year the school conducts an opinion survey amongst a sample of the school community. This year, all our parents/caregivers/guardians have been invited to participate. Results will be used to inform and direct our future school planning and improvement.

I ask you to please take the time to complete the survey as your opinions are important to us and will contribute to the future management and organisation of our school.

The survey is being conducted **online** and should take **20 minutes** to complete.

The survey can be completed on any internet enabled device (iPad, Desktop or Laptop, Smartphone) and is compatible with most browsers.

The survey is open until **Sunday 22 August 2021**.

Please be assured that your responses are completely confidential. The survey is conducted anonymously, and it is important to us that you complete the survey as honestly as possible.

If you did not receive an invitation you can contact the office to have the details with log in sent out to you again.

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Dates for the family diary...

Mon-Tues	9th & 10th Aug	Three Way Conferences (3/4B 11th & 18th August.)
Wednesday	11th August	School Council Meeting 7:00pm
Tues-Wed	14-15th September	School Concert Performances

Urgent!! If you have a child starting in Prep next year, please enrol them ASAP.

Green Permission note due back:

*Ceres—Years 3 & 4

*Royal South Street Debating—selected students

Team News

Prep/1/2 Team

It has been wonderful having the students back onsite for the last week since Remote Learning and the students have really eased back into familiar classroom routines.

In 1/2 A and B, the students were rewarded for their hard work with a very sweet treat in Maths. The students were each given a packet of Skittles and were asked to record how many of each colour was in their packet, recording this information on a graph. This activity was a big hit!

A reminder to please make sure the students read their take home reading book each night. These books are selected specifically for the students to practise reading with fluency, without worrying too much about unknown words. It is also important for the students to talk through what they have read about to enhance their understanding of the text. If you are unsure of what questions to ask, begin by asking them to retell what happened in the book.



2021 School Concert

Programme Cover Competition

“PANDEMONIUM IN THE PAGES”

‘After a catastrophe in the school library, it appears some very important characters have gone missing from their very famous book series.

It is up to a group of students to read their way through the library to find the characters and put them back where they belong.’

Draw your ideas for the cover of the concert programme. No text please! Hand into the office by the end of Week 4, 6th August.

Team News

3/4 Team

It has been wonderful having all students back onsite at school. This week students have completed some great work on symmetry and have been learning about the different decades of Australian history using the book "My Place".

Students have started to learn their item for the concert, which is very exciting!

Reminders:

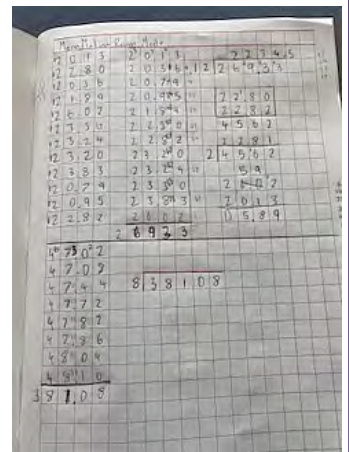
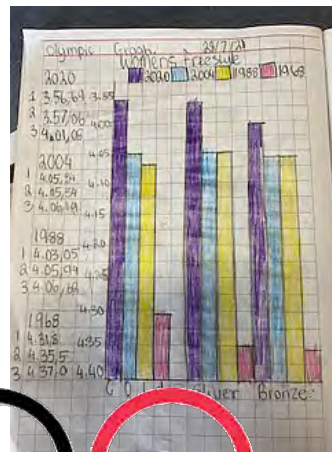
Please remember to bring back the camp expression of interest and medical forms.



5/6 Team

Throughout the Olympics, the 5/6s have been completing Maths tasks relating to current and previous results. They've looked at graphing results from the same event at different Olympics as well as using a protractor to measure the angle that javelin throwers release the javelin and compare it to the distance it travels. Have a talk to them about some of their learning.

We've also been competing in some of our own mini Olympic events. They've included the strongman contest, rubber band archery and skewer javelin. You might be able to try some of these at home.



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Change to the organisation of Three Way Conferences

This term has been a bit topsy turvy trying to organise whole school events, however we still plan to have parent meetings regarding your child's progress next week on Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th August, except for 3/4 B and 5/6B which have a few changes that parents will have been notified about.

This is different to our Three Way Conferences and more like a parent teacher interview which **will be conducted by phone call**. Teams will also send out some question prompts for parents to discuss with their child around their learning from this semester.

Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions **teachers will phone parents at the allotted time or as close to that time as possible**. It is important that your current contact details are up to date – please contact the office to update these details if necessary on 53324544.

The specialist team will be phoning parents of some students on these nights. If you have particular need to speak with one of the specialist staff regarding any concerns about your child's progress, please email the school and we will forward it through to them. They teach students across the whole school so will make every effort to talk with you about any concerns or specific questions.

Be aware teachers may be using their private phones and the **number will come up as private** so please ensure you answer the call.

Bookings for the meetings are via Compass and **will close strictly at 9am on Monday 9th August**. The admin team will not be able to book parents in after that time.

Monday 9th August will be an early dismissal for students from 1.30pm. Camp Australia will operate student care from 1.30pm. They will open the bookings closer to the date.

Prep bags

At the beginning of the school year, the Department of Education and Training provided every Prep student attending a Victorian government school with a red Prep bag.

The Prep bags contained 14 items, including children's storybooks, flyers, stickers, and stationery items, all designed to help Prep students and their parents and carers thrive from the start of Term 1.

The Department is now inviting **families of current Prep students** to participate in a short survey, closing Sunday 29 August.

Feedback will help inform what Prep students and their parents and carers like about the Prep bags and what can be improved in 2022.

To have your say, complete the survey through [Survey-Monkey](#).

The survey takes about five to ten minutes to complete.

For more information on this year's Prep bags, refer to the [Prep Bags 2021 web page](#) on the Department's website.

COVID update

With our return to school, we have some new restrictions in place

- Staggered finish times (**But not staggered starts for children**), beginning Thursday 29th July.
- Restrictions on access to the school site for anyone other than immediate school staff, DET employees or staff delivering programs for student learning and of course our students,
- No assemblies, however we will still have the Blueprint

We encourage you to utilise the drop off zones in Chisholm Street and Sherrard Street to assist with the quick drop off. Staff will be on duty in the mornings at the gates from 8:35am to welcome students and assist. School starts at 8:50am.

Pick up from school at the end of the day will happen in 3 waves according to the surname of your child: **Children will leave the school ground and go straight to the adult who is collecting them.**

(Families with children with differing surnames should choose the wave according to the parent surname.)

If your child is anxious or you predict this may be of concern, please contact your child's teacher to organise an appropriate strategy for us to support them. Staff

PLATINUM SUPPORTERS



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will be at the school exits.

Pickups after school be staggered:

Surnames commencing **A-G – leave at 3:20pm**

Surnames commencing **H-R – leave at 3:25pm**

Surnames commencing **S-Z – leave at 3:30pm**

Parents may not collect their children from the classroom, they should collect their children outside THE SAME gate that they were dropped off at. We request that parents waiting for children at the gates practise safe social distancing and wear masks.

Parents who need to drop off children **before 8:40am** should book them into **Camp Australia** Before School Care www.campaustralia.com.au.

Students who arrive late should go to the office as per usual. However, if your child is anxious and it is after the bell, call the office and we will come out to assist. Any updates will be advertised on both our Compass and Facebook pages.

Practise good hygiene

All staff, students and visitors to schools should undertake regular hand hygiene, particularly on arrival to school, before and after eating, after blowing their nose, coughing, sneezing or using the toilet. Staff should direct or supervise young students where required.

Sharing of food is not recommended. Where this occurs, individual portions should be encouraged alongside strict hand hygiene.

Use non-contact greetings (not shaking hands or hugging).

COVID update

Face masks in schools

Please see the Department of Health website for the latest face mask requirements as advice may change at short notice.

As directed by the Victorian Chief Health Officer, from 11.59pm Thursday 15 July:

- School staff and secondary school students aged 12 or older must always wear a face mask at school, including when attending an Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) program, unless a lawful exception applies.
- Children under 12 years of age and students at primary school are not required to wear face masks when at school, or when attending an OSHC program.
- For communication purposes, teachers and education support staff are not required to wear face masks while teaching, but those who wish to do so, can.
- Face masks are mandatory for all school staff and school students aged 12 or older when travelling to and from school on public transport and when in taxis or ride share vehicles.

There are a [number of lawful reasons for not wearing a face mask](#), including for staff and students who are unable to wear a face mask due to the nature of their disability. This includes students or staff who have a medical condition, such as a breathing problem, a serious skin condition on the face, or a mental health condition.

A face mask must cover the nose and mouth. Face shields, scarves or bandanas do not meet these requirements.

Face masks at external premises

Staff and students attending camps and excursions will be required to meet any face mask requirements of an external provider/venue, including transport providers, unless a lawful exception applies.

Staff and students unable to wear face masks

A combination of strategies are required to limit transmission of COVID-19. Where students and staff are unable to wear face masks, other transmission reduction strategies, such as physical distancing, can be enhanced, noting that any additional or enhanced strategies should be aimed at the whole school or class population.

Staff members unable to wear face masks should avoid providing supervision or care of students with COVID-19 symptoms.

Birthdays

I would like to acknowledge all those students who have had birthdays over the past week. Your book marks will be given to you by your teacher.

Happy Birthday to:

Eden	56E
Frederick	56B
Gabriel	56A
Leni	56D
Aidan	56B
Meikah	56C
Ava	56A
Lex	34E
Grace	34A
Fletcher	12D
Oscar	12B
Andie	12B
Ricky	12C
Ashley	12F
Finnley	0PC
Ellie	0PC

Kind regards,
Donna Bishop
Principal



Want \$500 to help you with school costs?



Saver Plus is a financial education program for families and individuals on a tight budget to develop life-long savings habits.

To join Saver Plus, you must:

- ✔ Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card **AND** an eligible Centrelink payment*
- ✔ Be studying yourself **OR** have a child in school (can be starting school next year)
- ✔ Have regular income from work (either yourself or your partner)*
- ✔ Be 18+ years old

*Many types of income and Centrelink payments are eligible

Here are some of the school costs the \$500 can be used for:



laptops & tablets



uniforms & shoes



books & supplies



sports fees & gear





lessons & activities




camps & excursion

For more information, please contact your local Saver Plus coordinator:

 Sue Ogilvie

 sue@bgt.org.au

 0401 144 089

DELIVERED BY



Find out more at saverplus.org.au

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ and delivered in partnership with local community organisations. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services.