



## Wednesday August 11th 2021

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Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 8.30-4.15pm

Friday: 8.30—4.00pm

School Hours: 8:50am—3:30pm



### School Council

Tonight is our August School Council meeting which will be held via video conferencing. The School Councillors are becoming experts at this mode of meeting.

Tonight we will be approving the upcoming school camps planned for the remainder of the year. We will also be getting updates on all the buildings and grounds work that has been completed since our last meeting and the upcoming building works to upgrade the students' toilets.

Also on the agenda is an update for School Council on the mid cycle review of our Annual Implementation Plan – looking at how the school is progressing with the Strategic Plan goals and Key Improvement Strategies.

School Council will also get a sneak peek at our new school website. The team of Vanessa, Mandy and myself have been working on this throughout the year. We look forward to launching this website in the coming weeks.

I will give you an update on all these items in the next newsletter.

### Concert

Concert preparations are continuing despite lockdown interruptions. I have seen lots of classes rehearsing their items and it is looking amazing. The underclothes document which details what items each child will require for the concert is going out to families this week. Teachers will have a tub ready in their classrooms for when the items start coming in. They are all **due by Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August**. Remember to place the clothes in one bag and ensure it is clearly labelled.

The complete underclothes document will be attached as a separate document on Compass and the website with this newsletter.

The concert team have spent a fair bit of time over the last few weeks planning for contingencies, so rest assured we have a plan for whatever happens!

### 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.

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

### Three Way Conferences

Thank you to all those parents who took the opportunity to meet with teachers by phone to discuss their child's progress. We felt it was important to provide this opportunity rather than reschedule the Three Way Conferences. I managed to hear a few of those calls, and it was lovely to hear some students participating in the conversations with their parents and teachers. There was a lot of pride in their personal achievements. If you did not take this opportunity but still wish to talk with your child's teacher, please contact them to arrange a suitable time.

### COVID update

We were so pleased to return early to face to face teaching. Our thoughts are with our colleagues and the families still in lock down in Melbourne.

- Staggered finish times (**but not staggered starts for children**), began Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> 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,

Continued on page 4.....



### Dates for the family diary...

Wednesday	11th August	School Council Meeting 7:00pm
Monday	30th August	Ceres Excursion Years 3-4
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

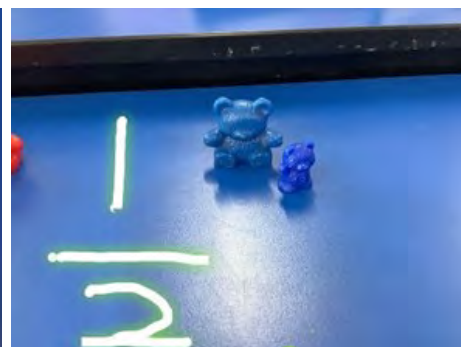
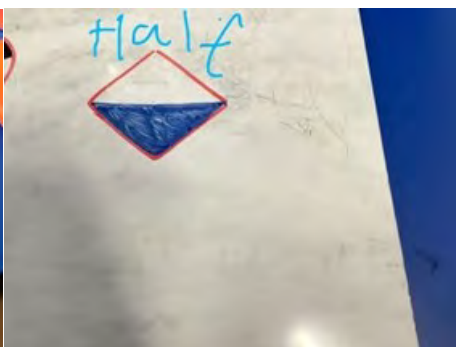
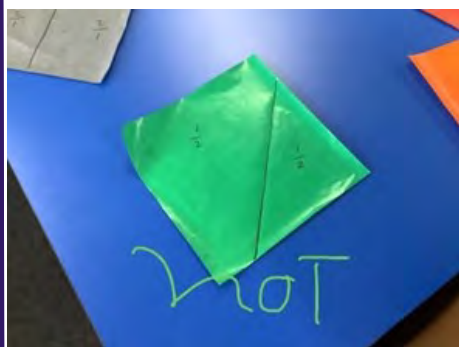
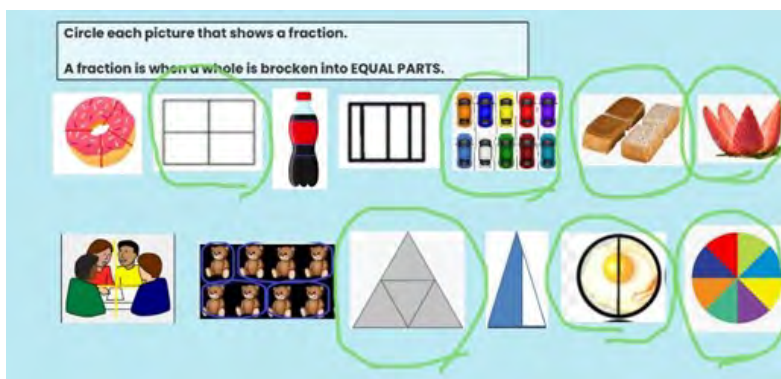
# Team News

## Prep/1/2 Team

This week in Grades 1/2, students have been very excited to get into their concert practice. Students are eager to show off their dance moves and some classes are working out which character or role each student will be playing. Some teachers were lucky enough to catch a sneak peak of their classes practicing in Performing Arts and the acts are coming along wonderfully.



Students have begun to explore fractions, focussing on fractions as equal parts of a whole and labelling and making different fractions. These lessons have been hands on and lots of fun for students.



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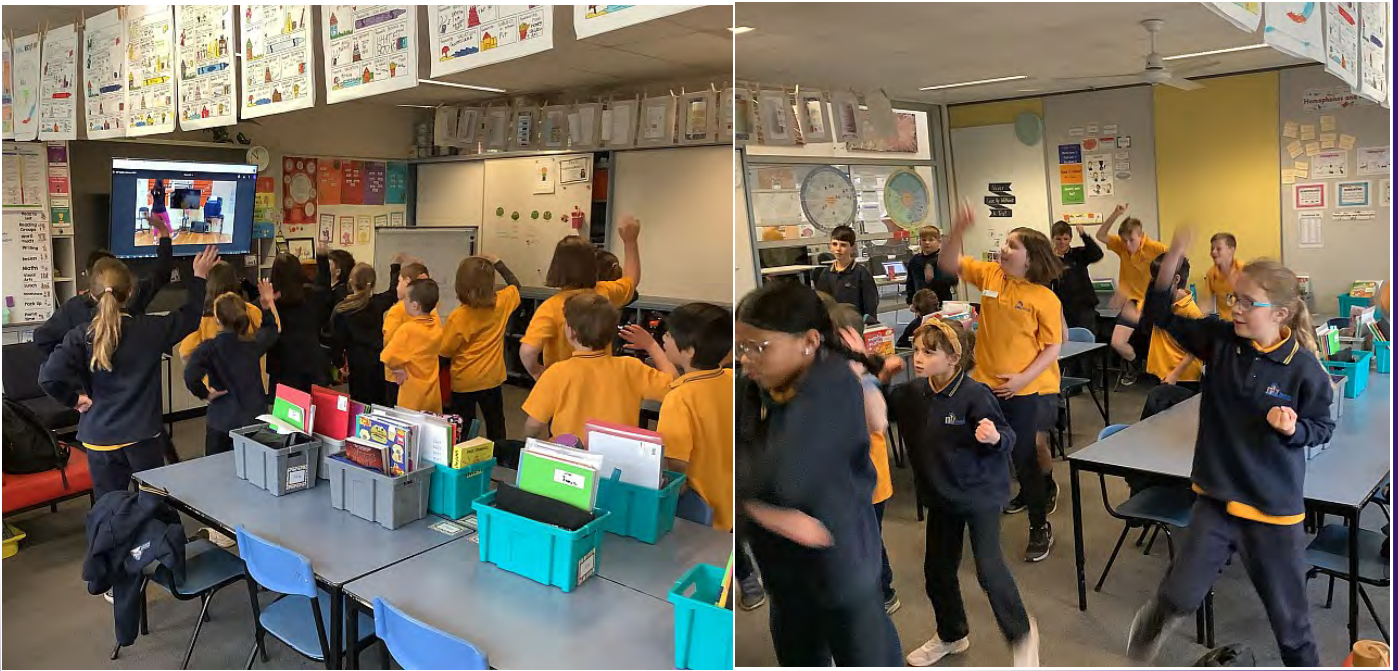
PO Box 280 BK  
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## Team News

### 3/4 Team

Students in Grade 3 and 4 are smiling and happy to be back at school and learning with their friends and teachers. This week we are focusing on finding key information in factual texts about features of Australia, and learning about chance and probability in Maths. Concert practice is in full swing! Look out for your costume information. A friendly reminder to send back your expression of interest note for camp and your excursion note for CERES.



### 5/6 Team

The 5/6 team was thrilled to return to school! We have been wrapping up our mini Olympic Games, working on our ability to collect, graph and analyse a variety of data sets. In Reading, we are learning about 'context clues' in order to work out the meaning of unknown words.

In week 7 we are having some free mental health sessions run by Ballarat Community Health Centre at school. Also, keep an eye out for some information coming out shortly in regards to our Melbourne Grade 6 camp and our 5/6 Somers camp!



## From Page 1.....

- 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:

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

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

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

**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 will be at the school exits.

**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.campastralia.com.au](http://www.campastralia.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 OHS 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:

Finley 56B

Freya 34C

Aurora 34F

Logan 34C

Ewan 12D

Roselle 12A

**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](http://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.