



Wednesday August 25th 2021

601 Chisholm St. Ballarat

Telephone: 03 5332 4544

Email: black.hill.ps@education.vic.gov.au

www.blackhillsps.vic.edu.au

Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 8.30-4.15pm

Friday: 8.30—4.00pm

School Hours: 8:50am—3:30pm



Black Hill Primary School Website

Our new Website is due to be launched by **Friday 27th August**. We are very excited about this updated website and hope you find it an improvement. The team of Vanessa, Mandy and myself been working on this throughout the year.

Please take the time to check it out and let us know what you think. <https://www.blackhillsps.vic.edu.au/>

Concert Update

Concert preparations are continuing despite lockdown interruptions, and we are just as excited as ever about it. The theme has so much to enjoy and connect to.

The team had prepared well in advance for all eventualities and met on Monday to look at the most likely scenarios for ensuring our concert can go ahead. Unfortunately, all three options for concert are *without an audience*. I know this will be so disappointing for parents and extended family. However, don't despair. We have some great options to ensure you get to see the whole event and allow us to stay within the regulations and restrictions that involve mixing of students from across year levels and the numbers of people we can have at any venue.

Option 1: We will perform at the Wendouree Performing Arts Centre with no audience and it will be filmed. DVDs will be sold to families to cover costs. Rehearsal will happen during Week 9 and the performance will be in Week 10 during the day with students travelling to the theatre in year level groups by bus for their performances. Photos will also be taken during week 9 available for families to purchase.

Option 2 and 3: the performance will happen at school in the last week of Term 3 or at a date to be decided early in Term 4. The concert performances will be filmed by us and made available for the community, also being sold to cover costs of camera hire etc. We will also take photos of the students in their costumes. Again, there will be no audience.

Dates for the family diary...

Wednesday	8th September	School Council Meeting 7:00pm
Tues-Wed	14-15th September	School Concert Performances

The underclothes document which details what items each child will require for the concert has been sent out and we want you to gather these items and have them ready to bring into school when we return to onsite learning as our timeline is very tight. Teachers have a tub ready in their classrooms to collect them. Remember to place the clothes in one bag and ensure it is clearly labelled.

Services and support for students and their families

It can be challenging to process and manage changes to routines and the uncertainty that comes with COVID-19 and related restrictions – including moving to remote learning.

To support our school community during this time, resources and support are available for parents, carers and families.

These resources will help to support the mental health and wellbeing of our students and the young people in our care during this time.

I encourage everyone in our community to access these resources and take care of themselves during this time.

Supporting the mental health and wellbeing of our students remains our priority this year, especially during the continued COVID-19 pandemic and while students are learning from home during the current circuit breaker restrictions.

Here are some resources that you might find helpful.

A [Quick Guide to Student Mental Health and Wellbeing resources](#) is available for students, parents and carers looking to access expert guidance and resources to support wellbeing.

Continued on page 4.....



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

Permission forms due back—3/4 Camp—Campaspe Downs

Team News

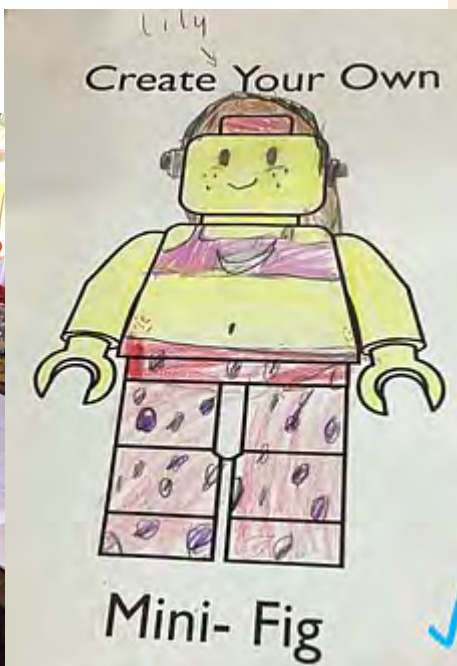
Prep/1/2 Team

What a change of pace we have had this week. It's hard to keep track of what lockdown number we are up to. A very big thank you to all of our students who have been connecting with their class and teachers via WebEx each morning at 9:30 am. It's great to see how happy they all are to see their classmates and share what they have been up to. We have all been seeing some fantastic learning taking place either at school or at home.

This week is Book Week so to acknowledge this and have a bit of fun we have decided to run a simplified Book Week dress up for our WebEx on Friday. This is not a big dress up day, rather a small nod to our student's favourite books. For example; students could wear glasses to represent Harry Potter or a striped shirt for Where's Wally or anything else they come up with. If you are unsure of ideas we are more than happy to help.

Thank you all very much for your resilience, patience and positive communication. Enjoy the rest of the week and please remember to contact us via Compass or Seesaw if you have any concerns about the tasks.

Create Your Own



Create Your Own



PLATINUM SUPPORTERS



Plumbing LIC NO:45716
richardburrows
**PLUMBING &
GAS FITTING**

0418 508 487

PO Box 280 BK
Black Hill VIC 3350

E richardburrowsplumbing@live.com

Team News

3/4 Team

Over in 3/4 we have some exciting news! We have a new teacher joining us to replace Jess whilst she is looking after her new born! Here is a message from Angela:

'Hi everyone in Year 3 / 4. My name is Angela Rennie and I moved to Ballarat with my family about 3 years ago. We moved up from Melbourne, where I was teaching Grade 5 at Elsternwick Primary School. In the past 3 years I haven't done a lot of teaching because I have had 2 babies; Lyla who is 3, and Sampson who is 18 months old. They keep me and my partner Nik very busy! As a family, we love going on camping holidays to the beach. The beach is the thing I miss most about living in Ballarat. Luckily there is a beautiful lake here that we enjoy going for walks around. I'm excited to be back teaching again and feel very lucky to be with the amazing kids in 3/4F.'

The photos below are of Angela and her family, and the students in 3/4F learning over Webex!



5/6 Team



Once a week some of our students attend a Life Skills program where they enjoy playing cooperative games, team building activities and sometimes even cook. Here they are doing a trust activity where students had to follow directions while being blindfolded.



From Page 1.....

For students, the guide includes resources to support their own mental health and wellbeing.

[Advice and resources for students](#) about ways to adapt their learning during COVID-19, to look after themselves and where to get help.

[Wellbeing activities featuring AFL and AFLW players](#) with tips on managing stress, staying active and gratitude.

[Smiling Mind mindfulness activities](#) for senior secondary school students, including short videos, online tip sheets and meditations.

The guide also includes resources and supports for parents and carers to help them build their child's physical and mental health and wellbeing. This includes:

- [resources to support children's physical, mental health and wellbeing](#).
- Wellbeing activities and conversation starters for parents of [parents of primary school-aged children](#) and [parents of secondary school-aged children](#)
- [Raising Learners podcast](#) series
- how to [talk to your child](#) about COVID-19
- headspace is running [webinars](#) for parents and carers about offering support when they are concerned about a young person's mental health.

Wellbeing guidance for parents and carers is also available:

- [on the Department's website](#)
- headspace has created a video providing [tips to support parents and carers during lockdown](#)
- through the confidential parent support hotline, Parentline, available 8am to midnight, seven days a week, Phone: 13 22 89.

Be Cyber Smart

Just released from eSmart are new online PD sessions. All sessions are fully funded by the Department of Education, aimed at primary and secondary students and particularly suitable for you, our parent community.

Choose your sessions from the calendar:

<https://www.trybooking.com/BPYZX>

Parenting in the Digital World (Parents)

Wednesday 25 August 12pm – 1pm

Join a special online presentation of 'Parenting in the Digital World' hosted by an eSmart educational expert. Empower your children and family with skills and strategies to navigate negativity.

Parenting in the Digital World (Parents)

Wednesday 25 August 7:30pm - 8:30pm

Join a special online presentation of 'Parenting in the Digital World' hosted by an eSmart educational expert. Empower your children and family with skills and strategies to navigate negativity.

The 3 Cs of Cyber Safety (Upper Primary)

Thursday 26 August 2021 9:30am - 10:30pm

These are general cyber safety sessions that provide an overview of the key cyber safety topics and protective factors.

3 Rs to Online Etiquette (Junior Secondary)

Thursday 26 August 2021 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

This is a general cyber safety session, tailored to early adolescents. It provides an overview of the key cyber safety topics and protective factors.

Book your tickets: <https://www.trybooking.com/BPYZX>

Coming in September

Specialist teacher, parent and student [live sessions](#) are now open for bookings throughout the week.

Focus Groups

I will be offering an opportunity for parents to be involved in focus groups around parent community engagement. This is one module in the parent opinion survey. It included questions on:

- Parent participation and involvement
- School communication
- Teacher communication

These focus groups will be looking at what we can do to improve in these 3 areas and will be conducted online via Webex. Please email the school at Black.hill.ps@education.vic.gov.au with your preferred day and time from the selection below with Focus group in the subject line. We will then send you out a WebEx link and some question prompts. Groups will be capped at 6, however if we have more interest, we will offer alternative times and dates.

Dates and Times Remaining:

Morning	9:15am	Tuesday 31st August
Afternoon	4:00 pm	Wednesday 1st September
Evening	6:30	Tuesday 31st August

NAPLAN Online School readiness Test

Due to lock down our NAPLAN online school readiness test will be rescheduled when we return to onsite learning. A selection of our year 3/4 and 5/6 students will be undergoing a practice NAPLAN test online. In 2018, the National Assessment program – Literacy and Numeracy NAPLAN commenced transition from paper based to an online assessment. Our school is making the transition to NAPLAN Online by performing the school readiness test on Monday 23rd August. A sample of our students will complete the practice tests via a secure locked down browser (LDB) on an iPad.

NAPLAN Online delivers benefits including:

- A new test design and a wider range of item types.
- A tailored test design that adapts to correct and incorrect student responses providing more precise understanding of student achievement.
- Enhancement of provisions for students with disabilities with broader access and participation to the tests.
- A longer window in which to schedule the tests.
- Reduced time between testing and reporting once the online transition is complete.

COVID update

We are thinking of our colleagues and the students in Melbourne as they go into a further period of lock-down. While we still have restrictions in place, we have so many more freedoms. The remaining restrictions include:

- Staggered finish times (**but not staggered starts for children**), began 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:

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.

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).

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:

Chloe	56B
Elva	12A
Amelia	12F
Annabel	OPC

Kind regards,
Donna Bishop

Fathers Day Stall

Don't forget our fabulous fathers Day Stall is now live on Qkr! Purchases can be made until next Tuesday 31st August. You will be able to pick them up at the school gate, or send your child/ren in to pick them up at the office.





NEW PLAYERS WELCOME

DRUMMO DRAGONS BASKETBALL CLUB

**REGISTER NOW FOR SUMMER
2021/22 SEASON**

Drummo Dragons Basketball Club has opened registrations for the upcoming summer 2021/22 season.

New players welcome

Registration link:

<https://www.playhq.com/basketball-victoria/register/94b777>

Further enquiries:

drummodragons@hotmail.com

DRUMMO
DRAG



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

bgt.org.au
JOBS + TRAINING

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.