



## Week 1 Term 1, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the 2024 School Year. We trust all our families had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday break and were able to spend quality time with family and friends. The new school year is always exciting but even more so for prep students and their families. I would like to extend a big welcome to our new students: **Hollie Bernaldo, Eden Bongiorno, Arthur Fearn, Iris Cronin, Lucy Green, Oakley Harris, Jack Kelly, Amarah Magnus, Hunter Randle-Slowik, Bindi Sinclair, Benjamin Spratt, Memphis Tallent, Leonard Rhyder (Year 1) Kaylee Heatherington (Year 2) and Emmaly Heatherington (Year 4)**. A big welcome back to Billie McGrath who returns after a mammoth holiday around Australia. I would also like to welcome Miss Chelsey Terry to our staff.

The staffing for 2024 is as follows:

Year 4/5/6 – Miss Renae Williamson and Doug Crowe

Year 2/3 – Mrs Annie Ewings and Trish Beardsley

Year Prep1 - Mr Dean, Mrs Kerry Miller and Mrs Kymm Maddern

Year Prep/1 - Miss Chelsey Terry and Sue Monagle

Art -Mrs Loretta Wilson

STEM – Annie Ewings

ICT- Chelsey Terry

Music- Adam Dean

PE – Moira Ross

Auslan – Cassandra McLean

MARC VAN – Trudy East

Renae Williamson will continue her welfare role and take Resilience /welfare lessons on Monday.

Vivian Lunt will continue working each Tuesday as our social worker and our administration officer,

Alice Harrison will be in the office each Tuesday and Thursday.

**OSH CLUB** – Out of school hours care program

Bailey Terry returns this year to run OSH Club – our out of school care program. OSH Club provides child care facilities each morning and afternoon, providing breakfast and afternoon snacks to all students who attend. This program is highly subsidised by the government. Fees are calculated on a sliding scale depending on your income. Enrolment for the program is free and there are no obligations to use the service. I highly recommend that all families enrol so that in case of an emergency or if you are running late then your children can be supervised safely. Students who arrive at school before 8:30am will be asked to join the OSH Club program as our teaching staff will not be supervising students before 8:45am. Details about OSH Club can be found in this newsletter, on our school website and at the school office.





On **Friday the 2nd we will be holding a Parent information session** on the use of COMPASS and our expectations/rules for Ned, the wellbeing dog.

This information session will be held at 2:30pm and will conclude in time for our first assembly for the year. I strongly advise all parents who are unsure of how to use COMPASS to attend as all communication with families will now go home via COMPASS.

### **Parent-Teacher Interviews**

Parent Teacher interviews will be held on 13th February, 12:30-6:00pm. All books for interviews will be made using COMPASS. Bookings on COMPASS will open 10:00am Monday 5th and will close on Monday 12th 5:00pm. Instructions on how to do this will be sent home on Thursday and explained at Friday's parent information session.

Term 1 will see us dive headfirst into a busy term filled with many extra curricula activities.

We will see selected students compete in the BMPSSA Swimming Carnival, our whole school will participate in the 'Small Schools

Athletic Carnival' and all Grade 3 and 5 students will

participate in NAPLAN testing which is scheduled for March. The famous Moo Poo BBQ will also be held after school one night.

Our whole school swimming program and Year4/5/6 Melbourne Camp will take place in Term 2. The Year 2/3 camp to Billabong, Echuca will be held in the first week of Term 4 and the Year Prep/1 classes will have a special activity day and sleep over in October. Details regarding these events will be sent home in the future, closer to each event.

## **Parents and Friends**

This year the Parents and Friends Committee hope to hold many activities that help foster and maintain strong community relationships. Our Parents and Friends Committee is a wonderful group of people who need your help to create the best school for your children. By sharing your skills, time and efforts you can become part of a very rewarding and influential group. Please see Regan Montgomery, Blair Dellelijn, Sara Ray or Anna Simcocks if you would like more information on the role of Parents and Friends. The next meeting and AGM for Parents and Friends will be organised and advertised in the coming days.

### **Arrival time at school**

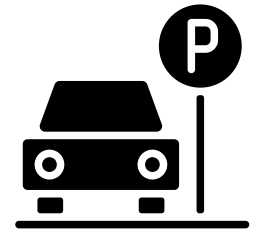
The perfect arrival time for all students is at 8:45—8:55am. This allows children time to unpack their belongings and chat with their friends before the bell rings at 9am. I ask that if you wish to see a classroom teacher in the morning that you arrive prior to 9am. If you need to see the teacher for an extended period of time, please make an appointment with them at a mutually agreeable time. If you are running late to pick your child up, please ensure that you contact the school so that we can inform your child. It is also a great courtesy to the staff, especially if we have meetings located off site after school. Notifying the school often relieves any stress or anxiety that children may feel with you not being there at 3:30pm. Children who remain on site after 3:45pm will be placed in the After School Care Program and you will be charged for this service. If your child arrives late to school or needs to be collected before the end of the school day, we ask that you ensure that you sign the late arrival and early departure book located in the foyer of the office. It is vital that this is kept up to date, in the event of an emergency. If you are in the school grounds for more than half an hour or are helping in the classroom, we ask that you sign in using the visitor book located in the foyer near the office.

## Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club returns on Wednesday the 7th of February. The serving of breakfast will begin at 8:30 and run until 9:00am. Cereal, toast, hot porridge, spaghetti and baked beans are just a few of the things on offer for breakfast. Soup at lunch time will be offered when the weather becomes cooler. All of this is for free thanks to the School's Breakfast Club program run by the "Food Bank".

## Car Park:

We are fortunate enough to be able to park on site at Coimadai, however to ensure everyone's safety we ask that all families model our car park expectations. When driving on the school grounds the speed limit is 10km. When parking in the car park, we ask that you park at a 90° angle. All pedestrians in the car park are to walk on the grey stoned paths and not cut across the car park (white parking area). This is extremely important, as cars reversing may not see a young child behind their car if they are walking across the parking area.



## School Fees— Student Book & Stationary

All student stationary must be purchased by parents. Those families who opted to purchase the online packs, these have been delivered to school and these will be given to students to take home for labelling. We ask that all items be returned as soon as possible. Teachers will then hand out books and equipment for students for use and extra supplies will be stored in classroom cupboards for future use. Families who chose to purchase the booklist themselves, we would appreciate it if all items can be brought into school as soon as possible. Grade 3 students who wish to purchase a computer for use at school need to purchase these privately. Any family wishing to obtain details of how to purchase a netbook please visit the office for the details. If family wishes to discuss school fees please do not hesitate to see either Alice or myself in the office.

## School Uniform

During term 1, all students are required to wear a school hat at recess and lunch time. If your child has misplaced their hat there will be a week's grace period. After this the policy of NO HAT, NO PLAY will be enforced. Uniforms can be purchased from the Uniform Shop in Bacchus Marsh.

Our school newsletter is a weekly electronic publication. If you are wishing to have an item included in the newsletter, please do not hesitate to email me at the school email address on the front page. If you would prefer a hard copy printed each week please advise the office.



Happy Birthday to the following students who had birthdays over the Summer holidays.

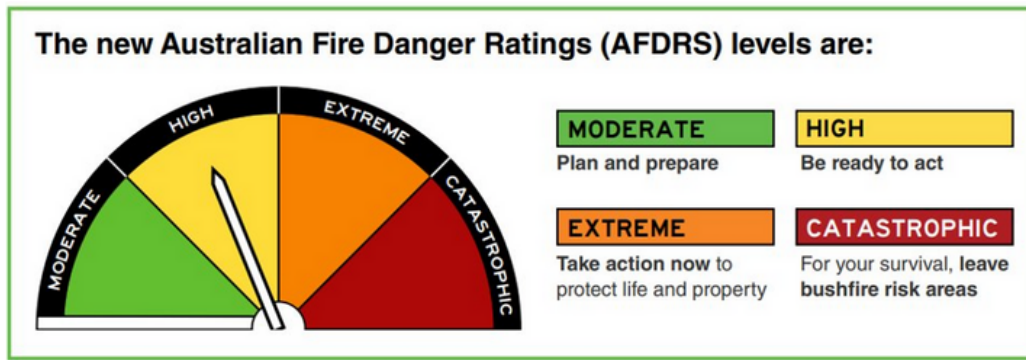
**Amelia N, Xavier, Hope, Spencer, Jackson T, Ella-May, Robert, Olivia, Sheldon, Oakley & Lauchlan F**

We hope you had a lovely day celebrating your special day with family and friends.

### **School leadership**

Congratulations Darcey Cressey who was voted our School Captain for Term 1 and Chloe Beardsley who has been appointed our Vice Captain. Both students are to be congratulated on their new leadership role. I look forward to working with them. Elections for Student Representative Council will be held during this week and will be announced at next Friday's assembly.

Thank you for your support,  
Moira Ross



## SCHOOL PROCEDURES FOR THE BUSHFIRE SEASON

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children's services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. **Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.**

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days notice of a potential Catastrophic Fire Danger Day closure by letter [and SMS message/phone tree]. A Catastrophic Fire Danger Day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1:00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Catastrophic Day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

**Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast.** This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Catastrophic Day.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.

Our Bureau of Meteorology district is Central Victoria.

On these Catastrophic rating days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan - **on such days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.**

### Fire Drill

Please be advised that we are hosting Fire Drills in the coming weeks. If your child comes home and states that there was a fire at school on this day and you have had no notification from the school, please be advised that it is a drill.



# Important Dates

## February

- 1st Classes begin for all students from Years Prep- 6th
- OSH Club begins operating morning and afternoon sessions
- Parents & Friends AGM - to be arranged
- 13th February Parent -teacher interviews
- 27th Feb -Sporting schools Athletics Program begins



## March

- 1st BMPSSA Swimming Carnival
- 5th March Proposed School Council Meeting
- 11th March Labour day - Public Holiday
- 12th March Curriculum Day - Pupil Free Day
- 12th NAPLAN testing begins
- 15th Small Schools Sports Day - Mason Lane
- Cyber Safety Parent information session - Shire Hall
- 28th School dismissed at 2:30 for Term 1 holidays
- 29th Good Friday - Public Holiday School holidays begin

## April

- 15th Term 2 begins
- 24th BMPSSA Athletics Carnival for Years 4/5/6

## May

- 1st -3rd Year 4/5/6 Melbourne Camp
- 9th BMPSSA Cross Country Carnival

## June

- 6th Winter Sports Years 4/5/6
- 17th -27th whole School Swimming Program
- 28th School dismissed at 2:30pm for Term 2 Holiday

## July

- 15th Term 3 commences

## August

- Summer Sports Years 4/5/6

## September

- 20th School dismissed 2:30 for term 3 holidays

## October

- 7th Term 3 begins
- 7th -9th Year 2/3 Billabong Camp, Echuca
- 15th Year 2/3 Big Bash Cricket Day
- 18th Prep/1 sleepover/ activity day

## December

- 20th Last day of the school year



# HOOK IN 2 HOCKEY

## MOORABOOL

*Join us for afterschool Hockey fun!*

Programs available for 5-12 year olds

Every Wednesday from  
7 February - 27 March

Ages 5-8

4:45pm - 5:30pm

Ages 9-12

5:30pm - 6:15pm

*First session free!*



**REGISTER TODAY**

<https://bit.ly/Hin2HMoorabool>

