



Newsletter

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6th Nov 2020

NAIDOC week

Next week we celebrate NAIDOC week. 'Always Was, Always Will Be' is the theme of this week.

Always Was, Always Will Be recognises that First Nations people have occupied and cared for this continent for over 65,000 years. They were Australia's first explorers, first navigators, first engineers, first farmers, first botanists, first scientists, first diplomats, first astronomers and first artists.

NAIDOC 2020 invites all Australians to embrace the true history of this country – a history which dates back thousands of generations.

It's about seeing, hearing and learning the First Nations' 65,000+ year history of this country - which is Australian history. We want all Australians to celebrate that we have the oldest continuing cultures on the planet and to recognise that sovereignty was never ceded.

<https://www.naidoc.org.au/get-involved/2020-theme>

Parent Teacher Interviews - A Compass note was sent out regarding interviews for this term taking place in the last week of this term. Please note this will be an early finish (1:30pm) for those families that are able to pick their children up. Staff will be onsite to supervise those children who remain at school until 3:15pm. Before and Afterschool care will run on this day. Interviews are later than usual to allow staff the opportunity to complete assessment and reports.

Ms Irvin - As many are aware Ms Irvin will be taking maternity Leave and her last day is 21st November 2020. This is a very exciting time for Ms Irvin and Josh. On behalf of the community we wish her all the best for this wonderful stage that they are about to enter.

Preps and Transition

Next week we welcome our 2021 preps to the school. Unfortunately they are not able to interact with the students, but we are thankful they can attend onsite.

I have been reviewing assessment data across the school and am now very close to announcing class structures for 2021. Our teachers have been outstanding, competing an amazing amount of work in a short period of time to allow me to do this.

We have seen a range of outcomes from remote learning and this requires a slightly different approach for 2021 to meet the needs where required.

To assist teachers meet the needs of students in 2021 we will have:

- Two educational assistants trained in Speech and language intervention together with Literacy and numeracy.
- A tutor (role description provided in this newsletter) who will work with identified students across the school for 26 weeks
- A targeted classroom structure across the school

I will be meeting with families online to discuss these structures and strategies at the following times:

Webex - 576041548 or cowan.russel.r@eduvic.webex.com

Prep - Wed 11th November 6pm

Grade one - Thursday 12th November 6pm

Grade two - Tuesday 17th 6pm

Grade three - Wednesday 18th November 6pm

Grade Four - Wednesday 18th November 6pm

Grade Five Thursday 19th November 6pm

JSC—Well done to our Student leaders for delivering the new bins to our school. They identified a need, planned and delivered. Well done!



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Staffing for 2020 - I am pleased to announce that we have two new staff starting with us in 2021. Mr Walters and Ms Millgate. Both come very highly recommended with a passion for teaching in rural settings. They will both be coming to our school on December the 8th to meet their new students. Mrs Barrett will be taking over from Ms Irvin for the remainder of 2020.

Cross Country– Well done to all students for their efforts last Friday. It was great to see the kids outside and exercising again. Mr Allen performed a great job in organizing the event. The house winner will be announced at Mondays assembly.

Remembrance Day - We will be holding a remembrance service on 11.11.2020 at 11am. Our school leaders will MC this important event.

School Photos - A reminder that a purchase of the composite photo through Compass will also get you an individual and family print (if taken). Digital copies are available from the school if an online purchase has been made.

Happy Birthday

We would like to wish Happy Birthday to Zara, Kai, Angus, Jayden, Josh, Milla, Kate, Elke, Lilly T, Alex D, Chelsea, Layla, Ella, Leah, Maya, Wilson. Have a wonderful day!

Have a great weekend!

Russel Cowan



Beachy's shed



Beachy shed extension is nearing completion. Heating and cooling to go





Dear parents, carers and guardians,

As students in both mainstream and specialist settings recommence on-site learning in Term 4, I want to thank you all for your efforts during this challenging time. I also want to reassure you that the health, wellbeing and safety of children, young people and those involved in their education continues to be of paramount importance.

Throughout the pandemic we have closely monitored the impact of coronavirus (COVID-19) on schools; the strategies that can be implemented in schools to reduce risk; and the health impacts of coronavirus (COVID-19) on children and young people, including those with a disability or complex medical condition.

Research by Murdoch Children's Research Institute found that coronavirus (COVID-19) transmission in schools is uncommon when community transmission is low. A [summary report](#) of these findings is available to read.

With declining case numbers in the community, I am confident that the risk of coronavirus (COVID-19) transmission in mainstream and specialist schools is very low, when we have in place a range of health and safety measures.

The health and safety measures recommended for schools focus on the strategies we know are most effective. These include ensuring unwell staff and students remain home, good hand hygiene, enhanced cleaning and wearing face masks (only mandatory for those 12 years and over attending high schools). Temperature screening is not currently recommended for schools, given low levels of community transmission. I encourage you to read the [health and safety advice for schools](#) for further information on what schools are doing to keep students and staff safe.

The most important thing I ask of every family this term is to keep your child home from school if they have even the mildest coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms and to get tested as soon as possible. Staying home when unwell is one of our strongest measures to limit the spread of the virus. For more information on what to do if your child is unwell, see this [fact sheet](#).

The good news is that evidence continues to show that children are less impacted by the virus, and are less likely to develop severe illness. Additional [advice for families](#) has been developed for those with medical vulnerabilities to support decision making about on-site learning at this time.

Working together to implement COVIDSafe strategies, I am confident Victoria's students can continue to safely attend school throughout Term 4.

Adj Clin Prof Brett Sutton

Victorian Chief Health Officer

Raffle - Win three cubic metres of wood!



Three tickets will be sent home with each child early next week with instructions. All funds will go towards the new playground installation.

What will the Tutor program look like?

Identified children will receive two or three 45 minute sessions each week for 26 weeks.

A variety of implementation models based on best practice and evidence-informed strategies will be used to support student learning.

Who can be employed as a tutor?

A teacher where that person is registered with the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) or, as an education support class employee where they are a pre-service teacher who will be working under the direct supervision of a fully registered teacher.

Tutors will be required to complete core professional learning and will be able to select further differentiated professional learning based on their needs.

How will we identify students to be supported through the tutor program?

Even with the very best of efforts of teachers this year, there are some students who have not been able to engage as fully in the remote learning program as they would have been able to in the usual classroom teaching program.

This includes students at all ability and achievement levels. The challenges of remote learning have not only impacted on students who struggle with learning. There are students across the full distribution of learning attainment who have not made the progress they would have made if we had been able to proceed with a normal school year.

Teachers are currently identifying these students who will be provided targeted teaching in 2021.

As well as a massive investment in learning support, this program is also a very significant contribution to the critical work of supporting the wellbeing of every student. We know the connection between student learning and wellbeing: student wellbeing is a necessary pre-condition for student learning. Student engagement in learning contributes to re-establishing routine and therefore belonging, security and building positive self-esteem and self-efficacy.



November 2020

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				6	7	8
9	10 Prep 2021 Infor- mation Night	11 Prep transition Prep 2020 info night	12 Grade one 2020 info night	13	14	15
16	17 Grade two 2020 info night	18 Grade three / four 2020 info night	19 Grade five 2020 info night	20 Ms Irvin's last day	21	22
23 5/6/Camp Mrs Barrett commences	24 5/6/Camp	25 5/6/Camp Prep transition 2	26	27	28	29
30						

All dates were correct at the time of going to print however they may be subject to change.