



Calder Chronicle

NUMBER 22

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THURSDAY, 30TH JULY 2020

CALENDAR

Friday, 31st July
Monday, 3rd August
Wednesday 5th August
Friday, 7th August
Wednesday, 12th August
Friday, 14th August
Monday, 31st August

Items due at school for First Steps 100th Day of School
100th Day of School
First Steps and Junior Unit Marine Animals Incursion – cost \$14, why not use our Qkr app to pay?
School Breakfast Club program commences – EVERY Friday from 8:30am – 8:50am - all welcome!
Orders due on Qkr or by phone by 9:00am for Pizza Day
Pizza Day – no normal food items available – iced treats are and you can order them on Qkr too
Curriculum Day

School Organisation

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Week 3 has actually been incredibly busy with School Interviews on Monday and School Photos yesterday. Classes continue to run well and our children are generally settled, which is pretty pleasing considering the stress in the community around COVID-19 and infections.

COVID-19 OPERATIONAL MATTERS – UPDATED 30/07/2020

It's never been more apparent than now that we all need to keep enforcing the following to keep us all safe:

- Restrict adults other than staff on site. Please do not come onto the grounds unless absolutely necessary and definitely not when you feel unwell. Phone calls, emails etc are the way to go,
- Children to drink from a drink bottle. Please send one to school each day. They can be filled up from taps,
- Children to wash hands / sanitise before and after using the toilet, playing outside, eating food, changing rooms, coughing, using a tissue etc. Families are encouraged to send children with their own hand sanitiser, however, we have plenty of it at school as well as good old fashioned soap!
- Children to use good cough etiquette, dispose of tissues in the bin, wash hands etc,
- Dismiss children in Prep & Year 1/2 (along with older siblings) at 3:05pm. Years 3-6 will dismiss at 3:15pm (normal times). Ravenswood bus leaving slightly earlier at 3:10pm and Kangaroo Flat normally at 3:25pm,
- Staff social distance and don't congregate in internal areas... as well as encouraging hand hygiene, cough etiquette etc,
- Parents / carers not to congregate outside exits... and if they are waiting outside the school, to social distance. Please also social distance when walking home etc and ensure the paths are clear for foot traffic. Students and parents must be able to walk along the paths without breaching social distancing,
- Children and families to make use of different entry / exit points to reduce congestion – when waiting, please spread out and find your own space. Ensure you are not blocking the path for others,
- Exclude staff and children who present with flu-like symptoms (ie: the symptoms of COVID-19),
- Permit the use of a face mask for staff and children who feel safer wearing them. They are not mandated for our area... however, if a child or adult chooses to wear one, that is completely fine. Parents waiting for children outside the school can also wear one as a precaution also,
- Temperature testing of children coming to First Aid, complaining that they feel unwell. Whole school temperature testing of students does not need to occur in our local shire at this stage.

UNWELL?

If your child has cold or flu-like symptoms, they must stay home. In the current climate, please seek medical advice and get tested for COVID-19, especially if requested by your GP. If a child is sent to school with cold / flu symptoms, families will be contacted and asked to collect students as soon as practically possible. We are unable to leave unwell students in classes as they risk infecting other children and adults. This arrangement is also in place for staff – if one of us is unwell, even quite mildly... we are staying home and seeking medical advice. This is to keep us all safe and at a low risk with COVID-19. Sometimes having a child come home during the day is a real inconvenience, however, understand that we are not doctors or nurses... and when a child persistently maintains they are unwell, we have to ring to arrange pick up. This is the law, as outlined by the Victorian Chief Medical Officer.

VISITS TO THE SCHOOL

Do you really need to come on site? Could you make a phone call or send an email instead? If you have to come on site, please follow social distancing rules to keep our staff safe. Parents, as outlined above, are not to be on site unless it's absolutely unavoidable. Visits to the office need to be distanced and safe. Adults that need to escort a child into the school must not enter learning spaces. If picking up your child, ring the office to organise collection OR visit when numbers in the office are not exceeding the recommended amount.

REPORTS

Reports for Semester 1 were emailed home last Friday. If you didn't receive yours, please contact your child's teacher to arrange a copy to be emailed home. Some parents reported trouble opening reports on a smart phone – due to this, we advised the community to read reports on a computer to ensure the formatting is correct. Our mid-year reports for the Middle Unit (Rena/Sandra, Dean and Wendy) and Senior Unit (Lauren/Roberta, Brett, Ainsley/Zoe and Kate) did not show progression on the 5 point scale. Due to this, some families may have been concerned when it appeared children had not moved, or were suddenly behind. The accompanying report letter explained that for these classes, assessments were unable to be completed due to remote learning... and therefore an accurate report was unable to be given mid-year and the 5 point scale was just a reminder of where children were in December 2019. By attending your Parent Teacher Interview, these concerns were able to be addressed and explained. If you did not attend an interview remotely, please consider a conversation with your child's teacher ASAP.

STAFFING

Kate Dole will continue to work remotely next week (Week 4). We are very lucky that Leisha Morrison will continue to work with Kate's 5/6's next week. Whilst we'd love to have Kate back, due to her medical vulnerability, she is unable to return to face-to-face teaching for the near future.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Pure and simple – please send your child to school with a school jumper on. Other jumpers should not be worn, unless a note is provided excusing the attire on the day worn. Remember we have our second hand uniform shop available via the Qkr app with all items only \$2. Items purchased will be sent home with your child.

SOCIAL DISTANCING & AFTER SCHOOL PLAY

The Victorian Premier and Chief Medical Advisor have put in place laws to ensure all Victorians are social distancing. This includes parents outside school grounds. If you are picking your child up, please collect them swiftly and depart to ensure no gathering of adults around the school. Children, when dismissed from class, are not able to play on equipment after school either – they must head straight to the car and head home. This is part of DET's Operational Requirements as part of COVID-19 law in Victoria.

PARENT TEACHER STUDENT INTERVIEWS

Our staff enjoyed catching up with parents and carers virtually (either on the phone or via Webex) to discuss student progress during Semester 1 of 2020 on Monday. From all reports, interviews were very well-attended and conversations were productive and positive. For those families that didn't catch up with their teacher to discuss progress, please endeavour to make a time to talk on the phone in the coming week or two.

OUR NEXT CURRICULUM DAY – MONDAY, 31ST AUGUST

Just a reminder to parents that our Term 3 Curriculum Day is on Monday, 31st August. As Curriculum Days are pupil free / no school for students, advanced notice is provided to ensure families can arrange care.

LOCAL CASES OF COVID, ANXIETY ETC

The local cases of COVID-19 are of course a concern and families will be very worried. Please remember to talk to your child about their feelings and worries and try as much as possible to calm them, reassure etc. We are noticing some children are easily upset, anxious, teary, moody etc, and these are all signs of the current times. Children pick up on what's happening for adults, so just keep an extra close eye on your child/ren during the coming weeks. Lots of TLC is in order for all.

MOBILES AT SCHOOL

Children are discouraged, at such a young age, from bringing mobiles to school. Where parents insist that a child needs to travel to and from school with a mobile, these must, by Victorian Law, be switched off on entry into the school and handed into the office. They are not allowed to stay in bags or classroom – rather, when handed in at the office, Janet and Kerry store them safely in a container and lock them in a safe... all COVID-19 safe also. If you know your child comes to school with a mobile or iPad, please remind them to take them to the office. Pick up at the of the day is easy... and when exiting the school... devices can be switched back on in case use is required on the way home. Honestly... unless there is a real need (not a want), don't send your child to school with a mobile.

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

School photos are done for 2020! I honestly was worried we were going to miss the opportunity, but luckily we snuck it in this week! It was great to see lots of stylish new hairstyles on Wednesday... and even better... big smiles. MSP do a great job of photos... and in current times, they managed well with our current restrictions – ensuring everyone was safe. I wanted to make special mention of our School Leaders – Lochie, Mia, Zac and Matilda were amazing helpers yesterday... doing such a great job they were presented with a certificate from MSP! Well done Leaders!

If you missed ordering school photos which were held yesterday, you can still order over the phone directly with MSP Photography. Their number is 5333 5577. All enquiries should also be directed to this number. Please note that class whole group photos WERE taken, not the composite version as we had originally thought they were going to be, so that made the children's day! If you need to see what packs are available and their costs, please email janet.dean@education.vic.gov.au and a copy will be emailed to you.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ORDERS MUST BE PHONED THROUGH TO MSP BY AUGUST 4TH. Thank you.

LOST PROPERTY

We have a near new black coat, size 8 at the Office with no name on it. If you believe it is yours, please call and we can send it home with your child. Thank you.

BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to Avery F, Jarrod M, India H, Mason P & Jack E.

As Week 4 approaches, stay safe and enjoy some time with your child/ren in uncertain times. It's time for families to enjoy special times together.

Take care everyone!

Matt Pearce, Principal

FIRST STEPS NEWS

INCURSION

Last week your child brought home a permission form for Chris Humphrey's Wildlife incursion. Chris Humphrey's will be visiting our school on Wednesday, 5th August with lots of different creatures for us to look at and learn about. If you would like your child to attend, please return the permission form by Monday, 3rd August. If you have misplaced the permission form please advise the office or your child's teacher and another permission form can be organised to be sent home with your child.

SCHOOL NURSE FORMS 2020

Last week your child brought home an envelope containing a questionnaire about your child's health. Please fill out the questionnaire and return it to the school by Monday, 3rd August if you would like your child to be part of a free health assessment. All students enrolled in their first year of school in Victoria are eligible for this free health assessment.

100TH DAY OF SCHOOL

As we near our 100th Day of School celebration, the children's excitement is starting to grow. We will spend Monday, 3rd August investigating the number 100 as part of the celebration.

A zip lock bag with a note attached has been sent home for your child to fill with 100 small items. This may include things like beads, icypole sticks, toothpicks or anything your child chooses that will fit in the bag provided.

We ask that the bags be returned to school tomorrow Friday, 31st July in preparation for our whole unit activities on Monday. If you have misplaced your child's zip lock bag you can contact the office or your child's teacher to arrange to have another bag sent home with your child.

STARS OF THE WEEK

For following the School Value of 'Respect' by showing kindness and respect to their friends:

FSN Abby M
FSP Jacinta D
FSJ Claudia V

Nicole, Jen, Pauline & Sharyn

JUNIOR UNIT NEWS

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Yesterday we all took part in this year's class and individual photo sessions. The children were happy to be able to have a traditional group photo with their classmates and also have their individual and family photos taken. If you forgot to order a group or individual photo of your child this can still be done by contacting MSP Photography on (03) 5333 5577.

MARINE ANIMAL DISPLAY

We would like to ask families to send in items for our classroom marine creature display. Items such as books, sea shells, trinkets, marine toys / stuffed animals, etc would be good to add to our collection in order to immerse ourselves in our Science topic this term.

INCURSION

The children of the First Steps and Junior Unit will be learning about Marine Animals throughout this term. Usually this science topic of study would see us visiting the Melbourne Sea Life Aquarium, however due to current restrictions, this is not possible this year. As an alternative we have organised an incursion by Chris Humphrey's Wildlife, who will be visiting our children and bringing along lots of different creatures for us to look at and learn about on Wednesday, 5th August. Please return the permission form which was sent home last week by this Friday, 31st July.

HEAD LICE

We would like to advise our families that we currently have active cases of head lice in our Junior Unit classrooms. Please regularly check your child's hair and if you find lice or eggs, treat them immediately.

The two preferred treatment options available for initially treating head lice are the 'conditioner and comb' method, and the use of an insecticide. No topical insecticide treatment kills 100 per cent of the eggs, so treatment must involve two applications, seven days apart. (This kills the lice that hatched from the eggs that didn't die the first time around.)

We ask you to advise your child's teacher of the lice and treatment so that we can keep our families updated and checking for lice when required. Remember, not all people that have head lice will feel itchy!

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Thank you to the families who booked in for parent teacher interviews earlier this week. It was nice to chat to parents and children and share some of the children's work over Webex. Keep an eye on the Dojo App as your child or their teacher posts pictures of their work and experiences throughout the year.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For actively taking part in our Student / Parent / Teacher / Interview and sharing his thoughts about his learning:

JR Tom C
JC Xavier K

Catherine & Rhys

MIDDLE UNIT NEWS

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Teachers would like to thank all the parents who participated in our phone interviews on Monday. It was an opportunity to discuss student's reports and set individual learning goals. If you didn't make a booking for Monday, please email your child's teacher to arrange an interview.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For displaying the School Value of 'Respect':

MD Cayden H
MR Harley W
MW Jai N

Rena, Sandra, Wendy & Dean

SENIOR UNIT NEWS

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

It was great having a chat to parents on Monday about our students learning, thanks to those who made appointments. If you were unable to book a time, please let your child's teacher know if you require a phone call interview.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

As there has been quite a lot of cold weather this term we are asking that all students wear either a school jacket / jumper or a plain black jacket / jumper. We are noticing a lot of our students regularly out of school uniform without notes from parents. Remember that our P&F have their second hand uniform available via our Qkr app if you need it, with items on \$2 each.

STAFF EMAILS

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PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS 2020

Unfortunately due to the COVID-19 situation, School Nurse run Personal Development sessions will not be running this year. This includes the bi-annual Mother / Daughter, Father / Son session for the Senior Unit, however Senior Unit staff will run an adapted session in Term 4 for Year 6 students with the support of Matt Pearce. If you have any questions or concerns, please find the following resources provided by the School Nurse team to support.

Resources

Catching on Early:

<https://fuse.education.vic.gov.au/Resource/LandingPage?ObjectId=ee5cfd49-48e7-4698-a06d-37e2e21cbbd9&SearchScope=All>

Family Planning Victoria

<https://www.fpv.org.au/schools> OR

<http://rse.fpv.org.au/the-program/develop-deliver-program/>

FPV also have suggestion statements for answering difficult questions. Regarding inclusiveness, FPV state "when talking about bodies we often talk about what is typical for girls/women or boys/men but it is important to note that this is not true for all people or bodies."

Clickview:

<https://www.clickview.com.au/education-victoria/>

Other clips you can use:

<https://online.clickview.com.au/exchange/videos/31417/puberty>

'My Great Big Adventure' series have many topics including self-esteem, school, bullying, failure, boyfriend and girlfriend

Kidshelpline <https://kidshelpline.com.au/>

Reach Out <https://schools.au.reachout.com/>

Smiling Minds <https://www.smilingmind.com.au/>

Menstruation resources:

<https://sustainableperiodproject.org/>

<https://www.ubykotex.com.au/teachers>

<http://www.amaze.org.au/2019/03/amaze-launches-autism-accessible-menstruation-resources/>

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For demonstrating resilience in the yard:

SA Mitchell T
SB Sam P
SK Allira L
SL Kyle W

Ainsley, Brett, Kate, Lauren & Roberta

PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

We now have our online platform through Qkr open to purchase items. Once the payment comes through to us, we will pack and send home your order with your child. If it is ordered before 5:30pm it will be sent home the next school day, but if it is after 5:30pm, it will be sent home the day after that.

P&F FACEBOOK PAGE

Keep up to date with our P&F activities by joining our Facebook Community: (<http://www.facebook.com/groups/bhpspf/>). Our page provides reminders and updates on all the activities as well as connecting you with other families at our school.

CASH REWARDS PROGRAM EARN REAL CASH FOR YOURSELF & THE SCHOOL

Have you signed up for our cash rewards program yet?? It's FREE to join and by simply doing your usual online shopping through our unique landing page, you will contribute towards the school without even leaving your home. Better still you'll earn cash rewards for yourself at the same time. You really can't lose! Signing up is easy just head to our unique landing page and follow the prompts:

(<https://www.cashrewards.com.au/community/schools/big-hill-primary-school>)

Thank you all for your support with P&F activities, it's really appreciated.

SCHOOL BREAKFAST CLUB

Big Hill PS is very pleased to advise you about the School Breakfast Club program coming to our school, starting next week on Friday, 7th August 8:30am – 8:50am.

Our new School Breakfast Club will run every Friday 8:30 – 8:50am.

This is a free breakfast open to all children attending Big Hill PS.

The Victorian Government has continued its partnership with Foodbank Victoria to provide healthy meals that will help students focus better and participate fully in their education.

Our School Breakfast Club aims to ensure students start the day with a healthy meal, to improve concentration, to help students make friends and strong social connections.

Clare Grant will be managing the Breakfast Club at Big Hill and it will operate from the Multipurpose Room. The menu consists of fresh fruit, cereal, fruit cups and a milk drink. Children grab-and-go, and enjoy eating breakfast on the seats under the pavilion.

Please remember children at Big Hill PS are required to bring a drink bottle of water to school each day from home as this is not offered at the Breakfast Club.

For more information about the School Breakfast Clubs Program visit: www.foodbank.org.au/VIC/school-breakfast-clubs-in-action/

COMMUNITY NEWS



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30/07/2020

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

We hope that you have all been able to stay safe and well during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Wide Open Road Optometry has been unable to visit schools during this time. We do not plan to attend schools for the foreseeable future due to the challenge of offering thorough eye testing in schools and due to the risks to staff, students, families and selves of moving from one school to another.

We wanted to let schools and parents know this so that if there are any children struggling with their vision or eye health they should attend a conveniently located optometrist in a town nearby or call us to discuss the best management for their child.

There will be students where we have suggested a review or extra testing in 2020 or early next year. If parents/guardians of students who we have tested have any queries or concerns regarding our previous advice to them or regarding their child's vision issues please feel free to call Catherine or Jeremy.

We are happy to suggest a new management plan for your child. We can refer to Ophthalmologists or Optometrists where appropriate or discuss the best option for your child.

We would like to extend our thanks to the staff of the school for their efforts in working in education during this time. Their work is so important and we understand that 2020 has posed a unique and stressful challenge for everyone.

We would also like to thank the school for having us to visit and wish you a very safe 2020.

Warm regards,

Jeremy Vallence
BOptom UMelb

Catherine Vallence
B Optom UNSW

FRIDAY, 14TH AUGUST

PIZZA DAY MEAL
\$5.00



HAWAIIAN
OR
MEATLOVERS
OR
VEGETARIAN



WITH PRIMA OR MILK

(No choice in flavours, sorry, can only choose between prima or milk)

- ✚ If you wish to order an extra slice, the cost is \$2.00 per slice
- ✚ Orders can be put in an envelope, or ordered on our Qkr app
- ✚ Orders are to be placed in the classroom or ordered using the Qkr app by 9am Wednesday, 12th August. Late orders cannot be accepted.
- ✚ **AND YOU CAN NOW ORDER ICED TREATS ON QKR!**

**THE CANTEEN'S NORMAL FOOD MENU
IS NOT AVAILABLE ON THIS DAY**