



Mount Pleasant Primary School

NEWSLETTER



Newsletter Number 36

18th November 2021

Upcoming Dates

25 th November	Stay Late at School event
30 th November	Step Up Day
1 st -3 rd December	Years 3-6 Camp



IMPORTANT NOTICE:

There will be **NO LUNCH ORDERS**
for the rest of the year.

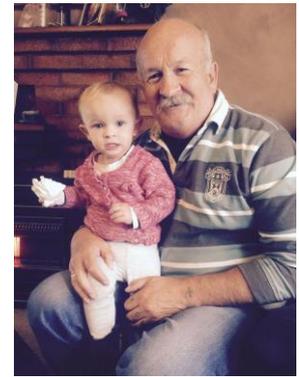
News from the Principal

It is with great sadness to let our learning community know that one of our School Councillors Brian Peoples passed away earlier last week.

Brian has been an enormous support to the school over many years, he has always served with humour and kindness. Brian will be a very missed member of our learning community.

In the words of our School Council President Sam Kargaran *“he also ran a tight BBQ at every fundraiser and festival we had. He will be missed.”*

I let Brian know last week, that this year he was the recipient of the Catherine King Community Shield Award. He was thrilled with this honour and was to be presented this on this Thursday by Catherine King, this was unfortunately not to be. We will now ask a family member to accept this on his behalf at the end of year Assembly. We send Brian’s family our most sincere condolences during this sad time.



I will be taking personal leave from Monday 29th of November for the remainder of the school year.

Senior Education Improvement Leader for Central Highlands Karen Howden-Clarnette has worked to appoint Rosemary Doherty for this duration.

Rosemary comes from Werribee Primary School with an enormous amount of school wide experiences as the Assistant Principal. I will be meeting with Rosemary over the next week to begin a hand over process to ensure a smooth transition. I know that you will all give Rosemary a big MPPS welcome when she begins!

Student Stamina and Behaviour:

Teachers and Education Support staff are noticing that children are beginning to show signs of slowing down and decreased stamina at school. With the year we have had this is understanding. It’s now more important than ever that we work in partnership to support our children. Sometimes we may need to call you for support and work together to find ways to support students’ behaviours at school. This is not unusual and always works best when we work together as a team. Just as importantly is sleep and eating habits, a good night-time routine will make a big impact on stamina the next day.

Foundation Transition:

This week we again welcomed our new Foundation students to Mount Pleasant Primary School. This is a very exciting time for families and especially for students. Thank you to the staff who all worked so hard to ensure a smooth transition for our new Foundies.

2022 Classes:

We have started the process of staff appointments and class lists are also now being created. If you are moving on from MPPS or plan on enrolling a child for next year, please let the Admin Office know ASAP.

Change of Schools:

Please let the Admin Office know as soon as possible if you will be moving on from Mount Pleasant Primary School in 2022.

School Camp:

Thank you to all the families who attended our Camp Webex meeting it was wonderful to the support of so many families. Our staff are very excited to able to take our students on camp this year!

Stay Late at School:

Stay Late at School event is on November 25th for all of our students. Our students have been so resilient this year that we want to acknowledge their effort with a fun event! Please make sure you have sent the purple note back.

Wellbeing:

We continue to focus on Wellbeing, for our students, staff and wider community. This means following the correct hygiene and restrictions measures. It also means ensuring we are looking after ourselves through good sleep habits, good eating habits and getting outside for fresh air and sunshine.

Pick Up Times and After School Care:

A reminder that school pick up time is between 3.15pm and 3.30pm. We kindly request that families observe these times. We are lucky to have on site After School Care that you can book your child/ren into if you need a later pick up time. Contact Extend directly on: 1300 366 437.

We discourage families picking children up early from school unless there is a valid reason to do so such as a medical appointment. If you arrive early to pick your child up without prior communication you may need to wait until there is an available staff member to go to the classroom to collect them.

School Uniform:

Wearing school uniform is compulsory at Mount Pleasant Primary School. Wearing a uniform develops a sense of belonging and promotes equality in our learning community, assists in student safety by ensuring staff are able to identify children when on local walks and excursions, and reduces clothing costs over time. Please ensure your child wears the correct and clean school uniform each day. Navy blue items such as shorts, pants, t shirts and jumpers can all be purchased at very reasonable prices from a range of stores such as Big W/Best and Less/K-Mart. For embroidered school uniform pieces you can purchase from Crockers in Ballarat.

Warm regards,

Kate Robinson

Principal

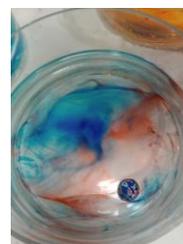
I respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria and pay respect to the ongoing living cultures of First Peoples.



Wishing Well Project with Mairin Briody



Our sessions with Mairin have seen the students thinking about well wishes for others and how they might travel once they're made. Students translated the resonance of their thoughts into abstract images using liquid paint, chalk and through colour. As art scientists they experimented and documented their findings. Mairin has uses these images to design the foundation of the mural.



Costume School Experience Sovereign Hill 5/6

Our **year 5/6 students** had a truly fantastic time at the costume school at Sovereign Hill. All students should feel very proud of themselves for how well they took on school life in the 1850's.

We learnt of the many challenges of life on the diggings and how hard work, perseverance and resilience paid off. School life was very different back then, with different games, rules and work for boys and girls. We played games from the olden days at recess, learnt our 16 times tables and practiced our copperplate handwriting with a quill and ink. Students enjoyed taking part in gold panning, learnt to tie knots and sew. And of course, we also squeezed in a visit to the lolly shop.

Many students commented on how lucky they are to live in a time where they are free to make their own choices and be equal. This was such a wonderful experience generating many questions and discussions within our classes.

Well done to our year 5/6 students for their commitment to this program and willingness to step out of their comfort zone. Lots of wonderful memories have been made from this excursion as you can see by these photos.

Sarah Dean



Year 2/3 – update

This week, Year 2/3 have been learning how to write friendly letters to a friend. As our inquiry is fairness and friendship, students worked hard to think of questions they could ask their friend and friendly compliments they could write in the letter. Here are photos of us reading our letters to our partners.



Masks are compulsory for Grade 3-6 students

and must be worn inside at school. This is a government requirement. It is the family's responsibility to supply a mask for your child. Masks can be purchased at most leading retail outlets.



**REMEMBER
ONCE A WEEK,
TAKE A PEEK**

Please take the opportunity over the weekend to check your child's hair. Checking hair on a regular basis helps to keep this issue under control. Thank you for your support.



Piano Lessons are back!

We are very fortunate to have Karen Cox deliver private Piano tuition to our students. Karen has been teaching piano for 38 years and is a member of the Australian Guild of Music. Music has many benefits for students in a range of ways including developing their sense of achievement, emotional development and improved creative thinking.

Karen currently has a few vacancies for students. These take place at school for 30 minutes. The cost is \$20 per lesson and can be paid either weekly or termly.

Please phone **Karen on 0404 601 481** for further info.



Put a spring in the step of our local kids by encouraging them to get involved in the **Walk to School** programme. This is a great time for us all to get involved in helping families stay healthy and active while following local coronavirus restrictions.

When we support our kids to walk, ride, scoot or skate to school, we're setting them up for healthy, active adult lives. We're also making the streets around our schools safer and less congested. To find out more about how the kids at your school can get involved in **Walk to School** (and to download the free worksheets!) visit walktoschool.vic.gov.au



Albert Coates Project:

Our grade 6 students are beginning their work on their projects for Albert Coates (An Australian Soldier, surgeon and past student of MPPs). Two scholarships are awarded by the Sir Albert Coates Foundation for the most informative and innovative projects sharing his life story. Time will be given to work on these projects here at school, but time spent at home in this project is greatly encouraged. The projects are due on 26th November so they can be assessed and judged by The Albert Coates Trust and staff committee.

Stay late at school night is on Thursday 25th for students. Don't forget to return your permission slip (purple) by the 19th – tomorrow!



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EXTEND OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE.



BOOK 14 DAYS IN ADVANCE TO SAVE MONEY!

Did you know that if you book 14 days or more in advance, you can save money? With plenty of time still left this term, now is a great time for families to book early and secure the early bird rate.

ENROLMENT IS EASY AND FREE

We understand plans can change right at the last minute and that's okay. Whether you book in advance or at the last minute, Extend is here to help! We recommend that all families enrol. Enrolling is free, easy and ensures we have the right information to safely care for your child and... did we mention it's free?

For more information about Extend's programs visit our Before & After School Care page at extend.com.au.



Enquiries 1300 366 437 Book online today extend.com.au

School hats are available at the office to purchase for \$6.



PLEASE WEAR SCHOOL UNIFORM

School uniform is compulsory at MPPS. Please ensure your child/ren are wearing a clean uniform to school each day.

One of the most important things we can do to slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) in our community is to stay at home when we are unwell, even when we have the mildest of symptoms.

What you need to know

1. If a child is unwell, even with the mildest of symptoms, they must stay at home

If a child becomes unwell during the day, they must be collected from school/early childhood education and care (ECEC) as soon as possible.

2. If a child has any of the symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) outlined below, however mild, they should get tested and they must remain at home until they receive their results:

- fever
- chills or sweats
- cough
- sore throat
- shortness of breath
- runny nose
- loss of sense of smell or taste.

In certain circumstances headache, muscle soreness, stuffy nose, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea may also be considered symptoms.

For further advice:

- call the 24-hour coronavirus (COVID-19) hotline 1800 675 398
- call a general practitioner
- use the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) [online self-assessment tool](#).

Visit: [Where to get tested](#).

3. A child must stay at home until they are symptom free, even if their coronavirus (COVID-19) test is negative

If a person has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or been identified as a close contact they must isolate/quarantine until they receive clearance from DHHS.

Children with persistent symptoms due to underlying conditions such as hay fever or asthma whose symptoms are clearly typical of their condition can continue to attend ECEC/school. They should be tested for COVID-19 if they develop symptoms that are different to or worse than their usual symptoms. They should consider getting a medical certificate from their GP to attend ECEC/school if they have persistent symptoms that may overlap with symptoms of COVID-19 such as cough or runny nose.

Younger children (pre-school up to Grade 2) may have prolonged post viral symptoms such as a runny nose or cough and may return to school/ECEC following a negative COVID-19 test even if they are not completely free of symptoms. They will need a medical certificate from their GP to confirm they are otherwise well or have recovered from their acute illness.

For information on the minimum periods students and children need to stay at home for other conditions, refer to the [DHHS school exclusion table](#).

4. Children do NOT need a medical certificate before returning to school/ECEC

Once symptoms have cleared, there is no requirement from the Department of Education and Training or DHHS for children/students to have a medical certificate before they return to school/ECEC.

Thank you for your support in following these steps, together we can all stay safe.



This advice has been prepared by the Department of Education and Training, Safer Care Victoria and the Department of Health and Human Services