



Mount Pleasant Primary School

NEWSLETTER



Newsletter Number 12

May 13th, 2022

Upcoming Dates

Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
School Photos

Monday June 13
Friday June 17

News from the Principal

Dear Families,

This week has seen us under more challenging circumstances than we would have anticipated. I would like to firstly thank all families who continue to follow the correct procedures and to ask that families continue to keep RAT testing. Thank you also to our *incredible* staff who have pulled together to support each other during this time, our team are exceptional. They have the children at the centre and are working together to ensure the wellbeing of everyone. As you would be aware the school has been managing an enormous number of COVID absences that we forecast will continue for some time.

Thank you to all of those families who have supported the school with the Book Fair and Mother's Day Stall, and to everyone who contributed to making these events so successful.

COVID Update:

This week has seen the school **significantly impacted** with COVID. We urge families to please continue to keep symptomatic children at home and keep RA Testing.

Whilst it is pleasing to hear that masks are no longer required in Primary schools we ask that families presenting with symptoms please **do not** present to the Admin Office or at school if unwell. Schools are still high-risk spaces and are running at staffing shortages state wide. If you and/or your child presents at school with symptoms we will ask you to please step outside or put on a mask. Unwell children presenting with symptoms will still be required to be picked up from school. We appreciate your understanding with our efforts to keep our school safe and running as close to "normal" as possible.

Home Reading Program:

We highly value our Home Reading Program at Mount Pleasant Primary School. Developing a nightly home reading routine is paramount to children's reading success.

The school sees the most reading growth in students who are committed to a nightly home reading routine. We strongly encourage all children to read to for at least 5-10 minutes every night at home. Schools provide many activities, learning routines that teach our learners how to read – **the consolidation of this learning happens with an evening reading routine.**

Curriculum Day – Getting our reading model right!

Yesterday we held our Curriculum Day. Due to COVID many staff attended via Zoom. Emina unfortunately could not be with us in person however staff onsite all worked together to deep dive into purposeful discussion about our "reading model" progress and "getting our reading model right!"

The discussion centred around literacy practices that support all children to become successful readers including Sounds Write, Spelling Mastery, Fluency Pairs and our Home Reading Program.



NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students was held across Victoria this week. Due to high levels of student absence with COVID we have successfully arranged some extensions for some students. The catch-up tests will continue throughout next week.

NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The results of the tests provide information for students, parents, teachers and principals and can be used to improve student achievement.

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.



A big **THANKYOU** to Mrs Eames for organising another amazing Book Fair for our school.

\$367.85 was raised! This will go towards new books for the school library.

Everything \$5



A selection of **Second-hand uniform** is currently on sale from the General Office between the hours of 8.30-10.30am each morning and 2.30-4pm in the afternoon. General Covid safe practices will be in place.



NOMINATIONS FOR BALLARAT'S BEST TEACHER HAVE CLOSED AND NOW IT'S TIME TO VOTE!

Vote for your favourite teacher below for their chance to win some awesome prizes for the class and the school including a brand new Apple iPad and MacBook!

Voting is limited to once per day so don't forget to spread the word to help your class and teacher.

Main voting closes midday on Friday May 20th before our Top 10 teachers are released on Monday May 23rd!

Hop online to vote at
powerfmballarat.com.au

VOTE NOW and daily!

Our nominated teachers are Leah Lacny and Dave Elvey.

NOW TAKING 2023 FOUNDATION ENROLMENTS

A great school in the heart of Ballarat.

Book a **School Tour** here:
<https://mtpleasps.vic.edu.au/book-a-tour/>

Stay up to date with the latest here:
www.facebook.com/Mtpleasps

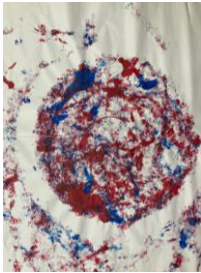
Call 5332 3646 for an Enrolment Pack

ON-SITE
After School Care
Monday to Friday



Grade 5/6 STEM

In STEM this week, grade 5/6 students became digital artists. By wrapping Sphero robots in bubble-wrap and applying paint to their 'canvas', students worked together to create some interesting works of art which seem to redefine art in strange, new ways.



If your child is missing a school jumper, please check our lost property at the office. Clearly name any items brought to school so the items can be returned to students. 😊



Extend After School Care
3.15pm – 6.00pm
Call 1300 366 437
for enquiries.

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Piano Lessons

By Miss Karen Cox

Learn Piano skills and reading of music.

Weekly Rates \$20

If interested, please call Karen
on 0404 601 481.

Family
& Children's
Services



City of Ballarat Family and Children's Services

- Maternal and Child Health • Supported Playgroups
- Central Kindergarten Registrations
- Child Care (including Family Day Care and Occasional Child Care)
- Parent Place • Childhood Immunisation services



Want more information?

ballarat.vic.gov.au | Find us on Facebook | 5320 5165

CITY OF
BALLARAT



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.

