



NEWSLETTER



Newsletter Number 7

25th March 2022

Upcoming Dates

Reward Day	Thursday 7th April
Pyjama Day/ Last day of Term- 2.30pm FINISH	Friday 8 th April
Term 2 commences	Tuesday 26 th April
Teeth on Wheels	Monday 2 nd and Tuesday 3 rd May
Book Fair	Wednesday 4 th May

News from the Principal

Dear Families,

This week we have been celebrating Harmony Day. Students have been reflecting diversity, inclusiveness, respect and that people from all different backgrounds and cultures make invaluable contributions to the world we share. You can check Facebook and Instagram for all of the latest learning updates.

Instagram

@mountpleasantprimaryschool

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/Mtpleasps>

We are excited this week to be hosting an event for READ Ballarat. READ Ballarat is a collective of teachers and educators who are committed to evidence based practices and that every child has the right to read. This session's presenter is James Dobson and the session is Focusing on Fluency.

Focusing on Fluency

Fluency is one of the six pillars essential to reading. However, it often doesn't get as much attention as other components (oral language, phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, and comprehension).

James Dobson is a Foundation teacher and Literacy Learning Specialist at Tylden Primary School in the Macedon Ranges. He is passionate about ensuring that literacy instruction is rigorous and robust.

You can find James on twitter @jdtdobson or via his blog <https://layingthefoundations.weebly.com/>

Pick Up Times and After School Care:

We are experiencing a large number of early pick-ups from school.

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. Victorian schools are experiencing ongoing staff shortages that is impacting our daily operations including staffing of our Admin Office.

COVID Updates:

Thank you to families who have been keeping children home whilst unwell. Even if you have a negative RA Test, *if your child is visibly unwell we ask that they stay home to recover*. There seems to be an array of other illnesses going around at the moment. Our first priority is keeping our community safe and our school open. We are very lucky that so far our staffing impacts have been manageable even with CRT shortages and staff absences.

School Uniform:

It has been pleasing to see so many of our students wearing full school uniform and with their hats every day! 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.

Change of Contact details:

Please let the Admin Office know as soon as possible if your details such as phone number, address change.

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.



School Blitz



As a Ballarat school leading the way in School Wide Positive Behaviour, we continue to strive to make Mount Pleasant Primary a great place for learning. We are currently holding a school wide 'blitz' **on keeping each other safe in the classroom and yard, particularly hands and feet to ourselves**. Books, games, discussions, songs and teaching moments are happening across the school based on the 'blitz'. Please discuss at home with your child to support this.

A Social Story that can be read with your child/ren daily is included in this week's newsletter.

Mrs Leah Lacny
Learning Specialist/Wellbeing



Reward Day – Foundation Students



At Mount Pleasant Primary School, Gold and Silver Reward Days are special days to acknowledge and reward children for their positive behaviour throughout the school term.

On **Thursday, 7th of April**, students who have achieved Gold and Silver status in Foundation will be going to Peady Street Reserve to play games and have a picnic as a group. Students who achieve Bronze status will be supervised by Kate at school.

There is no cost for attending this terms Reward Day.

Permission forms will be going out to students early next week.

Leah Lacny
Learning Specialist - Welfare



Reward Day – Year 1 to Year 6 students



At Mount Pleasant Primary School, Gold and Silver Reward Days are special days to acknowledge and reward children for their positive behaviour throughout the school term.

On **Thursday, 7th of April**, students who have achieved Gold and Silver status in Year 1 to Year 6 will be going to Sovereign Hill. Students will be leaving with staff at 10am and return approximately at 1:30pm. **Students are allowed to bring a maximum of \$8 dollars to spend.** Students who achieve Bronze status will be supervised by Kate at school.

There is no cost for attending this terms Reward Day.

Permission forms will be going out to students early next week.

Leah Lacny
Learning Specialist – Welfare



Please help our school win the war against head lice by checking your child's hair each week.

\$6 PER WEEK

SPARX

PARTICIPATION PROGRAM FOR JUNIORS AGED 19 YEARS AND YOUNGER

FRIDAYS: 4:00 - 6:00PM

GET ACTIVE
HAVE FUN
EASY TO LEARN
ALL ABILITIES WELCOME

106 DOWLING ST
0448 410 845

A Social story

I need to keep my hands and feet to myself



When I feel upset, I sometimes put my hands and feet on other people.

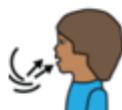


It makes people feel sad when I put my hands on them.



Hitting or kicking is not a good choice.

Take deep breath



If I am upset, I can take 3 deep breaths. This will help me to stay calm.



I need to stop putting my hands-on other people.



When I feel really excited, I sometimes put my hands-on other people.



It makes people feel uncomfortable when I put my hands on them.



If I am excited, I can jump up and down on the spot.



Everyone is happy when I keep my hands to myself.

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.

