



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to 2019!! It was so wonderful on Wednesday last week to see every one back at school and smiling after the holidays. I don't know what some of you did, but my, some of the kids had grown! It was also great to have our Preps start on our first day.

As I type, this there is a hive of activity in the garden as the plants are put into the soil for our memorial garden. Tomorrow is the 10th Anniversary of the Black Saturday bushfires that ravaged the state and our local community. As part of our garden, we have 11 Feature trees that are planted to remember the 11 people who lost their lives from the local area. Each student has planted a plant in our garden. The Preps will plant theirs in the morning. Once again, a massive thankyou to one of our parents, John Ruyg, who has donated time and workers from his business, Treemendous Landscapes, to see this through.

As part of the anniversary, the school will be holding a remembrance service at 3:00pm on Thursday afternoon. The plaque for the garden will be unveiled and we invite all parents to this special service. If you know of anyone that is not involved with the school directly but you believe they would like to be present, please bring them along. Students will sing a song that unifies us all and we will have a minutes silence as well as some formalities.

For those that were directly affected by the fires and to those in the community who were present, and those who entered the community since that horrific day; we have created this garden for you. A place for you to come and have some quiet reflection, or just to know that those terrible days, weeks or years that have passed are not forgotten.

Please keep an eye on the dates to remember in the newsletter. Term One is very busy with photo day, incursions, House and District athletics and an author visit. On Tuesday 19th February, we also have our welcome BBQ and open classrooms. We encourage all parents to come and look through not only your child's classroom, but all classrooms to see how we are doing things as a school. Classrooms will be open from 5:30 and the BBQ will be ready to go from 6:00pm. As this is after school, a polite reminder that all students are in care of parents. We also request no bikes, scooters, skateboards etc. be brought along.

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to come and see myself or your child's teacher if you have any concerns.

2019 Materials Charge

The 2019 Materials Charge have been set by School Council and is \$150 per student. This payment goes towards student and class consumable materials. This payment is not voluntary and needs to be made asap, but before the end of February, unless an appropriate payment plan has been organised with me.

2019 Voluntary Contributions

The 2019 Voluntary Contributions have been set by the School Council and will be \$10 **per student** which goes towards grounds maintenance, in particular mowing, \$20 Working Bee **per family** and \$30 IT payment **per family**.

Tissues

A reminder to parents that tissues are no longer included in the Materials Charge, as per the Department of Education and Training policy. However, we do ask that parents supply a box of tissues to their child's classroom please.

Adam Downes - Principal

SCHOOL UNIFORM - POLO TOPS

Size 8 and Size 10 polo tops will not be available until approximately mid-March. There is a hold up with the supplier which has created this shortage. We are hoping they come in a bit sooner!

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE

You may be eligible to receive conveyance allowance for transporting your child to and from school. To be eligible to receive conveyance allowance, a student must:

- Be school age
- Reside more than 4.8km by the shortest route from the nearest school attended or bus stop,
- Be enrolled at the nearest government primary or secondary school, or at the nearest appropriate registered non-government school.

If you believe you are eligible to receive conveyance allowance, please contact the school to complete an application. If you have claimed this in the past you do not need to fill in another claim form.

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. Card must have been current on 29/1/19.

The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. The annual CSEF amount per primary school student is \$125. Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from

www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

If you applied for the CSEF at this school previously, you do not need to complete an application form in 2019 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances/additional student on the claim. Check with the school office if you are unsure.

UPCOMING SCHOOL INCURSIONS

We have two incursions booked for the same week in March. As incursions are not held outside of the school grounds, there is no permission form required. All students are expected to attend. Payment for both incursions for all students in the family can be combined - please just specify on the envelope/payment slip what is being paid for and for whom. As the Circus Challenge presentation begins at 9:00am there will be no assembly on this day.

Circus Challenge Incursion - \$7.50 per student - Monday 4th March

Circus Challenge is a fun, engaging, and hands-on experience for schools. Their aim is to get the students up and actively involved in physical and creative activities through performance and workshop classes. The Circus Challenge is not a traditional circus in the sense that they do NOT use clowns, animals and canvas tents. The Circus Challenge education program focuses on Physical Education, Performing Arts and Team Building.

The day begins with a whole school Circus Assembly. This 40 - 45min Circus Challenge presentation introduces the school to the skills of the circus. In the spirit of the program selected staff and students will be chosen to take on the starring roles in the circus skills presentation as the Presenter skilfully and comically acts as ringmaster. Following the presentation there will be workshops for the grades.

Author Visit Incursion - \$5.50 per student - Thursday 7th March

Chris Collin is an award-winning author of wacky, rhyming children's picture books and lives on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland. His interactive presentations and workshops are a lively mix of narration, puppetry, song, dance, poetry, audio-visual slideshows, acting and art. Humour is a big part of Chris' philosophy and he incorporates plenty of this into his fun and funky author visits!

SCHOOL PHOTOS / FAMILY PHOTO ORDER FORMS

Each student should have received a school photo order envelope which has their name and code on it. Please return this with payment on the photo day. If you would like to order a family photo of siblings at our school, you can get this from the school office.

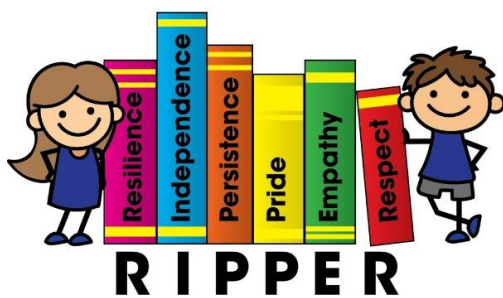
DATES TO REMEMBER

7 th Feb	Thu	Black Saturday Remembrance Ceremony at school - 3:00pm
13 th Feb	Wed	Book Club due in
18 th Feb	Mon	School Photos
19 th Feb	Tue	School BBQ
25 th Feb	Mon	School Council Meeting - 7:00pm
28 th Feb	Thu	2019 Materials Charge due in
1 st Mar	Fri	Clean Up Australia
4 th Mar	Mon	Circus Challenge Incursion - \$7.50 per student
5 th Mar	Tue	School House Sports in Traralgon
7 th Mar	Thu	Chris Collins - Author Visit Incursion - \$5.50 per student
11 th Mar	Mon	Labour Day Public Holiday
19 th Mar	Tue	District Sports in Traralgon

Our 2019 Prep students received their Prep bags at Mondays assembly.



Student Awards - Week Ending 1st February 2019



Prep	Ryan Ruff	For showing great independence in following instructions.
1	Greta Laws	For taking pride and showing persistence with all classroom learning tasks.
2/3	Roy Riseley	For showing independence and excellent listening skills.
3/4	Eva Prior	For showing excellent independence and always offering to lend a helping hand. Keep up the fabulous work!
4/5	Ford Gore	For displaying pride in his work and respect to his classmates.
6	Jayden Henry	For displaying empathy and thoughtfulness towards his classmates.