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PRINCIPAL REPORT...

Prep – Year 6 Swimming Program:

Following the Melbourne Cup public holiday next week, students will return to school and begin the 3 week/10 session swimming program at Churchill Leisure Centre. This program will support our students to achieve the Victorian Water Safety Certificate by the time they finish Year 6 (or sooner if they demonstrate competency), a requirement of Victorian Government primary schools. We have also deliberately scheduled this whole school program in the lead up to summer given the increased likelihood of students enjoying our nearby beaches, rivers, and waterways over the upcoming warmer months.

These sessions will have some impact on our normal school operations, so adjustments to our specialist (PE and Music) timetable will occur to facilitate this. Nevertheless, this is always a fun and popular program, and we are looking forward to seeing our students enjoy themselves throughout.

School Procedures for the 2021/2022 Bushfire Season:

Given our location and surrounds, our school has for many years been categorised on the Bushfire At Risk Register, requiring us to include additional planning and preparations within our Emergency Management Plan. One aspect of this planning relates to the review and development of our localised procedures for the upcoming bushfire season, a copy of which is included within this edition of the newsletter and posted in our General Office foyer. I encourage our school community to familiarise yourselves with this document as we edge closer to the upcoming bushfire season.

2022 Parent Payments Policy:

At our School Council meeting last week, our Parent Payments Policy for 2022 was ratified and approved for distribution. Last week, the eldest child in each family was provided a hard copy of this in readiness for next year, however we ask that no payments are made until 2022. At this

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point, our only intention is to communicate the relevant charges to families in readiness for the new year, with plenty of forewarning. A digital version of this policy can also be found via the following link:

https://www.traralgonsthps.vic.edu.au/uploads/1/0/8/4/10847507/2022_parent_payments_policy_oct_2021.pdf

We are very proud that the total amount for each child as detailed within this policy remains consistent with previous years. Additionally, when developing this policy, we were also able to compare and contrast ours with a sample from other schools, and pleasingly, our amounts remain much lower than those in the local area. We trust that you too see the level of value offered and how we have been able to provide richer learning experiences for your children above the standard level at such as low price point.

Take care

Joel Blythman

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DATES TO REMEMBER…

27th October	Wednesday	Swimming Program Payment & Forms Due In - $60 per student
1ST November	Monday	Student Free Day
2nd November	Tuesday	Melbourne Cup Day – Public Holiday
3rd November	Wednesday	Swimming Program begins – November 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15 & 16

RSL REMEMBRANCE DAY

Once again we will be supporting the RSL's Remembrance Day Poppy Appeal. Items are priced between $1.00 and $6.00 each. Our School Captains will be visiting the classrooms for those who wish to support the appeal.

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RIPPER STUDENT AWARDS...

Grade P/1	Isabel S	For being a motivated and independent student with a great love of learning.
Grade 1/2	Ahliana S	For making some valuable learning connections and participating fully in discussions.
Grade 4/5	Jace S	For being persistent to act on feedback to improve his work.
Music	Oliver M	For contributing and making connections to our music class discussions.
Principal	Roy R	For demonstrating high levels of independence and pride.

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School Procedures for the 2021-2022 Bushfire Season

The following is to inform families and the local community of our planned response to Fire Danger Ratings and local conditions during the bushfire season, in order to keep our students and staff safe.

FORECAST FIRE DANGER RATING (Local Bushfire Conditions)	ACTION	COMMUNICATION
Code Red	• **SCHOOL CLOSED/RELOCATED** (decision made by the Department of Education and Training). • Out of hours care cancelled (if applicable). • No staff onsite. *Families enact their bushfire survival plan.*	• Parents contacted directly, up to 3 days prior, and confirmed the day before. • Decision will not change. • Local CFA notified.
Extreme/Severe **(Fire in local area – for example: Callignee, Churchill, Loy Yang)**	• Principal to request approval for school closure/relocation from Department of Education and Training. • Out of hours care cancelled (if applicable). • No staff onsite. *Families enact their bushfire survival plan.*	• Parents contacted directly as soon as possible. • Decision will not change. • Local CFA notified.

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FORECAST FIRE DANGER RATING (Local Bushfire Conditions)	ACTION	COMMUNICATION
Extreme/Severe **(No fires in local area)**	• **School remains open.** • School to monitor Vic Emergency website/ABC radio and keep in contact with Regional Emergency Management staff from the Department of Education and Training. • Follow advice of emergency services. • Out of hours care cancelled (if applicable). • Note: If considered necessary, approval will be sought for school closure/relocation as above. *Families enact their bushfire survival plan.*	• Parents notified of any changes to situation. • Parents to ensure they can be easily contacted, or alternatively, inform the school who the best contact is for that day.
Extreme/Severe/ Very High **(Fire starts spontaneously during the day and may impact the school)**	• School to monitor Vic Emergency website/ABC radio and keep in contact with Regional Emergency Management staff from the Department of Education and Training. • Contact emergency services. • Follow advice of Emergency Services - If time allows and if safe to do so, evacuate with emergency services escort - Shelter in place in Multi-Purpose Room. *Please note: If parents arrive during this time, they will be strongly advised to stay on school grounds.*	• Parents notified of any changes to situation, **if possible.** • Parents to ensure they can be easily contacted, or alternatively, inform the school who the best contact is for that day.

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School Uniforms:

Please note that some items have increased slightly in price as marked below. Items we already have in stock will be sold at the old price. As we have limited storage space, we can only keep a small amount of uniform items on site, so please check with me prior to payment being made. The uniform price list is available on our website.

Karyn

SCHOOL UNIFORM PRICE LIST AS AT 25th October 2021

Items marked with * have had a price increase

ITEM	SIZE (No Odd # Sizes)	COLOUR	PRICE	QTY	SIZE	TOTAL PRICE	
Cotton / Jersey Shorts (Limited Stock)	4 to 16	Royal Blue	$11.50				
Mesh Shorts	4 to 16	Royal Blue	$11.00				*
Microfibre Shorts (Limited Sizes)	4 to 16	Royal Blue	$13.00				
Microfibre Shorts - Shorter leg style	4 to 16	Royal Blue	$15.50				*
Girls Box Pleat Shorts (Limited Sizes)	4 to 16	Royal Blue	$21.00				*
Boot Leg Pants (Limited Sizes)	4 to 16	Royal Blue	$22.00				
Gaberdine Long Pants - Double Knee	4 to 16	Grey	$18.00				
Tracksuit Pants	4 to 16	Royal Blue	$17.00				*
Windcheaters – Hooded	6 to 14	Royal Blue	$25.80				
Polar Fleece Jackets (Lined)	4 to 16	Royal Blue	$24.00				*
Polo Shirts – Short Sleeve	4 to 14	Royal Blue	$22.80				
Micro Fibre Bucket Hats	S-M&M-L	Royal Blue	$8.00				
School Bags	Large	Royal Blue	$44.00				*
School Satchels	One Size	Royal Blue	$6.50				
				TOTAL		$	

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Managing illness in schools and early childhood

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

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