



EDITHVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER

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Term 2—Week 4

17 May 2019

Working Together, Aspiring Higher, Connecting with our Community & Doing

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT Mr James Whitla

It's been an interesting week with the launch of NAPLAN online at Edithvale Primary. Whilst the frustration and disappointment at the failure of the system in many schools was obvious, I am proud to say that our students showed incredible resilience and persistence in dealing with the issues they were presented with. Their response was further proof that our Resilience Project work and the attention our entire school community continue to pay to health and wellbeing is having a positive impact.

Building Update

Meetings with local MP Tim Richardson, Project 12 Architecture and the Victorian Schools Building Authority during the last fortnight has helped progress our school's Master Plan, and with each day that passes, we get closer to seeing construction of our new STEM facility commencing. This work, in combination with locally raised and DET funds, should see extensive work completed over the next 6-9 months. Other than the STEM facility, we will see fresh landscaping works along Edithvale Rd, a revamped entrance to our Foundation entry and a new synthetic surface to replace most of our oval space.

With our school in the best financial state we have been in for a number of years, our School Council have committed significant funding to the school oval and stay true to our Master Plan. This will also compliment the \$195,000 that we have spent on Building and Grounds works over the last 2 years, which has seen new air conditioners, heaters, playgrounds, carpeting, and painting works undertaken. The significant contribution from our school community in raising funds through special events (School Fairs, Raffles, Trivia Night's) and voluntary contributions is the reason that we have this opportunity to create an environment that our students, families and staff can all be proud of.

There will be an open tender process (as per DET policy) to determine how much the oval works might cost and who will be entrusted in creating a unique space for our students and community to enjoy. There is sure to be some disruption to our normal work and the short term pain will, I'm sure, be forgotten once our new capital works have been completed.

Attendance

The state average per student absence is 14 days per calendar year. Over the course of primary school, this student would miss about 100 days of school - the equivalent of half a year. Regular attendance has a significant impact on student achievement and helps develop appropriate social habits and independence. Absences can restrict a child's progress BUT home is the best place for a sick child. He/she cannot concentrate, or perhaps runs the risk of their own health deteriorating by being at school when unwell; and also may be the cause of infection to other children.

If your child is away for any reason (Eg holiday, illness) please let us know either via the COMPASS portal or provide a written explanation to your child's teacher on their return to school. It is a government requirement to have all absences explained and we are required to report any unexplained absences to the Department of Education and Training.



Emergency Safety Drills

On Friday 24 May we will be conducting an Emergency **on site evacuation** drill as part of our Emergency Management Plan - in line with DET guidelines and to ensure our OHS practices are followed. We will ensure students are fully aware of what they will be asked to do in a safe and supported manner.

Student accident insurance, ambulance cover arrangements and private property brought to school

Schools are asked to remind their communities that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Please note that:

- parents or guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance or transport as well as any other transport costs; and
- parents or guardians can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers and it is the responsibility of parents or guardians to look into their preferred options in this regard.

The Department cannot provide advice to parents or guardians on the purchase of individual student accident policy or ambulance cover.

Private property brought to school by students, staff or visitors is not insured and the Department does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage.

This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. As the Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property, students and staff should be discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.

Congratulations

We would like to extend our congratulations to Ms Jess McGeachin on the announcement of her engagement.

SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT Mr Steve Smith

Last week we hosted our Mothers' Day events. This included our Mothers' Day Stall and Mothers' Day Breakfast. Events such as these involve lots of enthusiastic parents who volunteer their time. It's so great to have such an engaged school community. Thank you so much to all the parent volunteers who helped out this week. A big thank you to **Kerrie Jowett** and **Laura Moore** for organising these events.



The Mothers' Day Breakfast last Friday morning was well attended by school families and we have received a lot of great feedback from the parents. We were fortunate this year to have donations from Chobani, Carman's Kitchens and Mordialloc Florist. Thank you to **Bree Ryan** for coordinating the donations. Congratulations to our prize winners: Amy P, Amber D, Laura M, Megan M, and Cara F. Photos from the breakfast are now on the school website.

Tomorrow, Saturday 18 May, is our school's **Election Day BBQ**. Our school will be a polling location again for the Federal Election so our BBQ Crew will be there from 7.00am on to feed the hungry voters. We'll be serving bacon and egg rolls from 7:30am and snags and burgers later in the day. Hope to see you there. Thank you to all the families who have volunteered to help with the BBQ tomorrow.



Our Buildings and Grounds sub-committee has started planning a small **Working Bee** in June. More information will be provided once a date has been determined. We are requesting assistance with the completion of the Bike Shed; installing plinth boards, as well as levelling and raking out crushed rock and Tynong toppings. Then installing the bike racks.

At the School Council meeting earlier this week we reviewed the Child Safety Policy, the Complaints Policy, and the Statement of Values for the school.



We also discussed the upcoming construction that will commence in August which will transform our library building into a vibrant and exciting learning space for our children. This build is the result of the \$750,000 EPS received from the State Government in 2018. The process has been moving along behind the scenes for the past year with discussions and designs by our architects, project managers and our school. Some of the preliminary drawings from the architects are above.

Our next School Council meeting is Tuesday 18 June.

OUR BOOK FAIR IS COMING SOON!



Come join us in the library for this year's Book Fair. It will be held in the library from **Monday 3 June** until **Thursday 6 June**. Lamont Books will again be providing us with a terrific range of books—a little something for everyone!

We are looking for parent volunteers to help out with either a morning session from 8.20am to approx. 9.15am, or an afternoon session from 3.15pm to 4.15pm

We also require volunteers on Friday 31 May to help set up the Book Fair (usually done first thing after drop off), as well as Friday 8 June to pack up the Book Fair ready for collection.

A flyer should have come home by now with a reply slip. Please fill this in and return it to the office no later than Wednesday 29 May

We look forward to seeing you all there

Helen Arden
Book Fair Co-ordinator



Term 2: Important Dates

May 21	Year 2 Dandenong Market Excursion
May 22	Year 1 Melbourne Museum Excursion
May 22	Foundation 2020 Open Learning Morning
May 24	Year 6 BOSCH Excursion
May 28	Sushi Day
May 31	District Cross Country

REMINDER:
SUSHI DAY
Tuesday 28 May
Orders due by Thursday 23 May.
Pay by QKR or see Diane in the canteen.
NO other lunch orders on this day

CANTEEN ROSTER

Mon 20	Tue 21	Thu 23	Fri 24	Mon 27	Tues 28	Thurs 30	Fri 31
Sally James	Tanja Brinkman	Svetlana De Sousa	Kate Gibbon	Lisa Saint-Aubin	Jane Donaldson	Jill Donnelly	Kath Overton