



# School News



*Aim High, Achieve Together*



Respect



Responsibility

**BULLETIN**  
Edition 34 – October 31<sup>ST</sup> 2018



Doing Your Best



Care and Compassion

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Supervision Times: 8:15 Morning Bus Duty

8:30-Morning Yard Duty

-4:00 Afternoon Bus Duty

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Wow, last week's Principal Report about Confidence certainly sparked plenty of conversation. Parents from across our school have been emailing and stopping me all week to share the same sentiment – 'opting out only hinders a child's development'. Well after such a response, I think it is only fair to share a Tarwin Valley story about the power of opting in.

Last Friday we held the Prep-Two Athletics Day at Foster. The day is an introduction for junior students where they can give a range of sports a go, meet students from other schools and understand the logistics of an inter-school athletics carnival. For some students it is a lot of fun, a chance to show off their skills, enjoy the sunshine and chat with lots of 'new' kids. For others it is scary, a confronting setting where they feel inadequate, confused and lost. So what should a parent do? If your child is one of the latter, do you just let them stay home and believe that 'kids can race around with each other but I'm just not up to it.' One of our parents faced this exact scenario last week and sent their child to the Prep-Two Athletics. The day started fine, their child enjoyed a few events, came last in several and then had to listen to the boasting of a child from another school. It was at this point the child approached me, asking to go home. 'Please just call my Mum, I hate sports! I want to go home.' When I sat and discussed where this feeling was coming from, the child was very articulate. It had nothing to do with Mum not being there or coming last. They simply wanted to be saved from the judgement. So that was where we focussed. We formulated a few plans. First, to avoid the boasting child. We then organised for a friend to stay a little closer and provide moral support and if worst came to worst, planned out a few responses if the boasting child didn't get the message. It was no surprise that the rest of the sports day went by without a hitch. They had a plan and it is amazing how less scary the world is when we have one. So where was the learning?

If this student had been allowed to opt out they would have simply learned that they can't cope with sports days, boasters and everything these days throw at them. Instead, they developed stronger friendships with some close mates, resilience to deal with adversity and most importantly proved to themselves that, 'I might not always like something but I know I can get through it.' So congratulations to the family that sent this child to the sports. You may have heard a few grumbles, they may have even sounded a bit sad, but ask them how they dealt with it and commend them for sticking it out. Who would have thought that a tricky situation could teach us something so profound?

**Gene VanderZalm, Principal**

## SCHOOL CONCERT DVDS

DVDs of this year's school concert 'A Day at the Museum' are now available for order at a cost of \$5 per DVD. If you wish to place an order, please fill out the order form at the end of the newsletter and return with **cash** by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November.

## CALENDAR

### This week 31/10– 7/11

**1<sup>st</sup> Nov** – Class of 2019 uniform orders due COB

**1<sup>st</sup> Nov** – Kanga Cricket Tournament

**5<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Pupil free day

**6<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Melbourne Cup Day (pupil free)

**7<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Yr 6 xmas cake money due

### Upcoming

**9<sup>th</sup> Nov** – P-2 Swimming Program commences

**9<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Concert DVD orders due

**13<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Bricks4Kids Incursion (Yr 1-3)

**13<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Yr 6 xmas cake decorating commences

**16<sup>th</sup> Nov** - P-2 Swimming

**23<sup>rd</sup> Nov** - P-2 Swimming

**30<sup>th</sup> Nov** - P-2 Swimming

**7<sup>th</sup> Dec** - Final P-2 Swimming

**11<sup>th</sup> Dec** – State wide Orientation Day

**13<sup>th</sup> Dec** – Year 6 Farwell / Graduation evening

**17<sup>th</sup> Dec** – Whole School End of Year Celebration

**20<sup>th</sup> Dec** – Class parties

**21<sup>st</sup> Dec** – Last day Term 4

### NEWSLETTER ITEMS

The newsletter is compiled on Monday afternoons. All items need to be submitted by 1:50pm to be included.

## SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE

As a school council one of our goals is to improve our communication with the rest of the school. Many people may wonder what we actually do when we meet. So, we recently decided that we will have a regular update included in the school newsletter.

In a nutshell, School Council acts as a team to support the Principal to provide the best possible educational outcomes for our students and the school. We review the schools goals, strategic planning, budgets, policies and much, much more! Being a part of the school council is a great way to gain insight into the inner working of the school, and to become involved in decisions that affect our children. It is a rewarding and challenging experience.

Our last council meeting was held on Tuesday the 23rd of October. A highlight of each council meeting is when we are presented with the Finance Report, the Principal's Report, a Wellbeing Report and a Curriculum report. The Curriculum Report includes information about the learning focus areas for each of the different classrooms and specialist subjects. As a parent, the Curriculum Report is so interesting! Because of this, we decided at our last meeting that we will hopefully add this to our new website, which will be going live very soon.

Also at our last meeting Gene presented us with a Data Review. Together we looked through some key aspects of our School Report looking for trends over the last 5 years in our students performance, in areas such as reading, writing and mathematics. It was very interesting to see areas of growth and areas which may need improvement. This report will assist the teachers to adapt curriculum and adjust teaching strategies.

If anyone has questions about School Council, we are always happy to chat and will have an AGM next March and will be seeking new councillors, so please consider being involved.

*Danielle Lacy, School Council President*



### **ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

- ☺ **Elsie-Mae J** for articulating so well an important lesson for a successful life: sometimes you do fall off!
- ☺ **Alastair T** for his excellent use of vocabulary in his narrative writing.
- ☺ **Cole M** for being respectful to others both in and out of the classroom.
- ☺ **Danielle P** for approaching new opportunities with confidence and a 'can do' attitude.
- ☺ **Scott M** for embodying the values of our new class culture through his actions and transferring this into specialist classes.
- ☺ **Shanae H** for being such a consistent borrower in MARC. She's read many of our books but there are still many waiting just for her!

~~DAY~~  
**Night at the Museum**

## **DVD ORDER FORM**

I \_\_\_\_\_ would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ DVDs @ \$5 each and am aware that these DVDs are not to be uploaded to the internet or any social networking sites.

Please find enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

All orders due Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November  
NO LATE ORDERS ACCEPTED to allow purchasing and production to commence.