



Respect



Responsibility

Edition 20 – September 8TH 2020



Doing Your Best



Care and Compassion

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Supervision Times: 8:15 Mornings Duty

3.20 -4:00 Afternoon Bus Duty

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Finally a light at the end of the tunnel!

October 12, the second Monday of Term 4, has been marked as the day that all students in Regional Victoria, from Prep to Year 12, will be allowed to return to school for onsite learning. Until this time, students will continue remote and flexible learning (including the first week of Term 4).

No doubt more guidelines around this return to school will be forthcoming in the weeks ahead. Nonetheless, we are excited by this pending return and can't wait to have students back in the school doing what they do best: Having fun and learning 😊

What has made this isolation so much more difficult for the staff is that we can't showcase the many upgrades we've made across the school to our parents and carers. A new administration area complete with a touchscreen Compass Kiosk for signing in and out, a promethean board (like a giant Ipad) installed in Room 8, Four new TVs installed throughout the school, more murals from Gonzalo, an artificial turf area near the horseshoe, new bell and speaker system and a complete bank of new netbooks and Ipads for students has the school in the best shape it has ever been.

Life as we knew it, with regular events and countless volunteers passing through our gates, seems to be some way off still.

But rest assured that Meeniyān Primary is well placed and ready to take off when we can get students back in school and keep them there.

Gene VanderZalm, Principal

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

RU OK? Day - 10th of September 2020

This year even more than others RU Ok? day is timely. The pressure on Australian families has been much higher with COVID, lockdowns, job losses, bushfires on top of regular life stresses.

The Respectful Relationships team had a good discussion about WHEN do we ask someone if they are ok? HOW do we ask someone if they are ok? What do we do if they are not? HOW do we support our students, our parents and our own families if they say "actually, I am not ok"

Mental ill health is not always pretty. It is so painful and tiring for those suffering and also for their families. YET offering an ear, a cuppa, a facetime or a walk is a good start. ASKING them RU OK and then LISTENING with empathy and without judgement. Sometimes just having a chat can make people feel heard, valued and like they matter. Sometimes people need more support and ENCOURAGING them to get help from a professional can change and even save their life.

Finally CHECKING in on them and their loved ones to see how they are travelling reassures people that you still care and you are still there for them.

Ask Listen Encourage to seek help Check in

When supporting others it is important that you also take care of yourself. See help if you need it, talk to your friends, exercise and take time out for yourself. Please be in touch if you or someone you know might need support - we are here.

Donna.giliam@education.vic.gov.au or 03 90801881 or find me on messenger.

CALENDAR

Upcoming

Sep 10th – Staff Panning day (pupil free)

Sep 10th – Wellness Thursday, 8pm

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

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

RU OK?



CHILD SAFETY STANDARDS WHAT WE EXPECT AT MEENIYAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

- ❖ Everyone connected to our school can help children be safe.
- ❖ We have zero tolerance of any abuse of children.
- ❖ We have policies and procedures in place to protect the care, safety and welfare of children.
- ❖ There are clear boundaries about how adults in our school community may interact with our students.
- ❖ The new Child Safe Standards go further than child protection arrangements did in the past.
- ❖ The Child Safe Standards apply to school staff, volunteers, contractors, visitors and students' family members.
- ❖ Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility.
- ❖ We want to ensure you know how we are keeping your children safe at school, and how we would like you to support us.
- ❖ Unsupervised contractors will be asked about their child safety arrangements as a condition of working with us if they work with children enrolled in the school (or children can reasonably be expected to be present while they are at the school).

Please see further information on Child Safe Standards on our school website.

Community members are encouraged to raise any concerns about child abuse with the Principal or report directly to Child Protection / Police.