



Edition 8 – March 23<sup>RD</sup> 2021

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Supervision Times: 8:15 Mornings Duty

3.20 -4:00 Afternoon Bus Duty

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### Student Rocks for New garden

The school would like each student to bring to school their own special rock that will become part of a new garden area being developed on the side of the oval. We need each stone to be between the size of a cricket or softball and rounded in shape. We would like the rocks to be brought to school from now until the end of term. So, start looking for a distinctive rock that you can call your own to make part of our school for ever more 😊

### Morning Drop-off

During 2020 we were forced into restricting parents from entering the school. At first we weren't keen on this change but what we soon discovered was an inadvertent positive impact, particularly on our junior students.

By saying goodbye at the school crossing or gate, students became more independent. The change forced them to carry their own bags, organise their belongings and initiate conversations with friends and teachers all on their own. Teachers quickly noticed that their classes settled far quicker and were ready to learn.

We discussed this phenomena at School Council last year and at our last meeting we passed the motion that in Term 2-4 each year we would encourage students to enter the school and settle in on their own. We still invite parents to come in of an afternoon if they so choose. Of course, if parents have an important reason for coming in on a certain morning they may do so. However, the benefits are quite obvious and we strongly encourage all our students to enter the school on their own from the beginning of next term.

Feel free to contact Gene at school if you have any further enquiries.

*Gene VanderZalm, Principal*

## BOXES & BITS

Prep G and Prep S are collecting empty boxes of various sizes, clean bottle tops and lids, bread tags and other recycled items that may be useful for construction next term. These can be left at either Prep room or in the Prep corridor. Thank you, Mrs Guy and Ms Sanders.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- 😊 **Pippa F** for always showing care and kindness toward others.
- 😊 **Oscar B** for raising his hand and being respectful during the incursion.
- 😊 **Alby P** for showing kindness and compassion to his peers every day.
- 😊 **Tessa T** for challenging herself with all learning tasks.
- 😊 **Jacob T** for going outside his comfort zone to try new things.
- 😊 **Thomas D** for rising to a challenge in maths.
- 😊 **Scarlett B** for always encouraging her peers to try their best at Stuart's Cup and Athletics.
- 😊 **Lucas M** for being a great sport in Fitness.
- 😊 **Bailey N** for his engagement during spelling sessions.



# RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

I have had goose bumps the last few weeks listening to our very independent Junior Action Team planning Happiness Day. The students decided to celebrate International Happiness Day because it is something we sometimes forget to be grateful for, happiness. So, happiness on International Happiness day at Meeniy Primary School looks like this:

- Students dancing in circles to the music booming out of the speakers
- Harriet's cackling laughter over the loudspeaker
- Children and teachers in their pyjamas
- Teachers finding surprise letters on their desks and in their pigeon holes
- Free icy poles supplied by the Junior Action Team
- Older children looking after younger children in the whole school game of Kayaki
- The grade 2s eating breakfast at school after their grade 2 sleep over
- Teachers cooking pancakes for them in their pyjamas

School is a wonderful place for learning, but it is the special days which stay with us forever. Thank you so much to the Junior Action Team for giving us all a bit of magic last Friday!

Donna Giliam, Primary Welfare Officer / 0390801881 / [Donna.giliam@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Donna.giliam@education.vic.gov.au)

## COMMUNITY NEWS

The following Community News articles promote community connections and communications. They are not considered school activities

### Meeniy Auskick:

Come and join in Mondays 4-5pm starting Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April and running for the duration of term 2. Register online now at [play.afl/auskick](http://play.afl/auskick) with walking bus from Meeniy Primary School leaving 3.30pm and complimentary sausage sizzle following Auskick session. For more info, contact Steve Trotman 0438 762 068. To join the walking bus, contact Emma Trotman 0448 438 610.

### NetSetGo:

Our program starts Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> April from 10am. The 45minute program includes warm up, skill development & modified netball games. All participants receive a NetSetGo pack! Program is for boys and girls aged 7 and runs at the Leongatha & District Netball Association (LDNA) Netball Courts. The cost is \$90 for the 14 week program. For further information, please contact Chloe Cope 0459 999 622 or [leongathaanddistrictnetball@gmail.com](mailto:leongathaanddistrictnetball@gmail.com)



### 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.