



Edition 1 – February 1ST 2022

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Supervision Times: 8:15 Mornings Duty

3.20 -4:00 Afternoon Bus Duty

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome everyone to the 2022 school year.

I along with many in our school community am excited at the prospects of 2022 and what the new year might bring. Once again, I'll be throwing caution to the wind and hoping. Hoping our students get every opportunity to learn. Hoping that we get a full year *at school* with all our students. Hoping we have few disturbances due to restrictions and positive results. Hoping we get to experience many of the normal school activities like camps, excursions, concerts, and sports days. Hoping our parents and Meeniyan community start playing a big part once again in our student's learning.

We have to hope and we have to be adaptable. Some positive actions the school is taking to address COVID interruptions include:

- The introduction of a Learning Specialist. For the first time in our schools history we will have a 4-day per week Learning Specialist in Mrs Jo Healy. Jo will be working across all grades to support teachers in making our student learning as effective as possible.
- We are fortunate to be running 8 classes once again with an average class size of less than 20.
- The school is very fortunate to have two experienced teachers in Ms Gilbert and Mr Robertson as Maths tutors for 2022. Both will be valuable assets to students and teachers.
- A new partnership with the Resilience Project. Wellbeing is one of two education department priorities that all schools will be addressing in 2022. Starting next week, I will share a link to a series of videos to support this program and our endeavours to improve resilience amongst our students.

If you haven't already, make sure you reach out and connect with your child's classroom teacher and start what is always an important relationship. Myself and Jo Healy are also here to support students and their families in any way we can. Enjoy your year 😊

Gene VanderZalm

2022 CURRICULUM CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you to those families who have paid their 2022 Curriculum Contributions. Payments can be made either by Direct Deposit into our account or cash at the office. Due to the technical difficulties we have recently experienced with Compass, we will not be using CompassPay for payment of contributions.

YEARS 3-6 SWIMMING TRIALS

Swimming trials for students in Years 3 – 6 will be held at Toora swimming pool next Wednesday. Notes will be sent home this week. Please return permission slip and cash to the school office.

CALENDAR

Current 1/2 – 8/2

2nd Feb – NO PREPS

Upcoming

9th Feb – NO PREPS

9th Feb - Yr 3-6 swimming trials

16th Feb – NO PREPS

17th Feb – Book Club orders close CIB

17th Feb – Welcome Evening

22nd Feb – School Council, 7pm

23rd Feb – NO PREPS

24th Feb – School Photos

14th Mar – Labour Day (pupil free)

22nd Mar – School Council AGM, 7pm

23rd Mar – Yr 3/4 Bugs Excursion

8th Apr – Last day Term 1

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

The newsletter is compiled on Monday.
All items need to be submitted by 1:30pm
to be included

School Assembly

We will hold our weekly school assembly on Thursday afternoons at 3pm, starting next Thursday, 10th Feb.

Weather permitting, it will be held outside on the basketball court allowing parents to attend.

HATS

It is Department policy that all children are to wear a hat outside during recess and lunch until 1st April. Any student without a hat will remain undercover during these times.

SCHOOL'S PRIVACY POLICY

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#).

Please take time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our website [tarwinvalleyps.vic.edu.au].

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents](#).

NOTES

There are several notes coming home today which need to be completed and returned promptly. **New families will not need to complete these forms.**

1. Family Contact Details: It is extremely important that we have your most up to date details. If your family has a new Prep this year, you are not required to fill this as we should have your up to date details.
2. Local Travel Consent: Consent for local excursions eg. class walks around town, visiting MACS etc throughout the current school year
3. Photography Consent form: Permission for photos and/or work to appear in local newsletter and newspapers.

Chaplaincy consent: Consent to work with the School Chaplain in a class or small group settings

BUS TRAVEL COMMUNICATION

1. It is school practice to follow the **last notification by parents or carers** regarding bus travel and not rely on verbal messages relayed by students. If a misunderstanding occurs or there is confusion, we endeavour to contact parents.
2. Parents/ Carers of bus travellers who are not going home on the bus on any given night **MUST** notify the office prior to the end of the day. A phone call or note to school is required.
3. If the arrangements are permanent, eg. tennis for the whole of Term 1, please email the office meeniyam@education.vic.gov.au. At the conclusion of your child's participation it is your responsibility to contact the office and have the arrangements revert back.



ABSENCES

Please report your child/ren's absence to school. This can be done via the Compass app (preferable) or a phone call to the office, press 1 and leave a message. By entering your child's absence through Compass, the information is fed directly through to the class roll, informing the teacher of their absence and the reason. You can also enter future absences for your child (eg. Medical appointment, family holiday).

To record an absence:

- Tap the compass home page (the page with your child/rens photo) and press on the child's photo
- Select 'Approvals' at the top of the screen (3rd tab). You will see any previously entered approvals
- Press on the blue circle with the plus sign at the bottom right hand corner
- Fill in Reason, Details and start and end date of absence
- Tap 'Add Approval'

BOOK CLUB

The first Book Club catalogue for the year has been distributed. Orders must be placed via the LOOP app or the Scholastic website before COB Thursday 17th February. Thank you to the parents who have offered to help out this year with Book Club. I will be in touch over the coming days to organise our first order.

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE (OSHC)

The OSHC program is now up and running with the Our Patch team. Information on the program can be found on our website (under General Info-> Programs), on Compass notifications or parents can collect a flyer from the school office.

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

I had a friend once called Ted. He had spent most of his life out in the hot northern NSW sun as a brickie. He and his wife raised 4 kids on the smell of an oily rag and they faced adversity often. Yet, he still had a cackling laugh and a kind heart. One day, I was ranting to him about something that was overwhelming me. I was pondering on how to fix the problem with words, conversations and noise. He listened for a while and then he said, "Donna, what you need to do is go and find a nice, flat, large rock" I was bewildered. I asked him why? Why did I need to find a large flat rock? He replied "you need to find a nice, flat, large rock and sit on it. When you are sitting on that rock, you need to just have quiet think". Ted has passed away now but I have taken those words with me forever.

I don't really like sitting on flat, large rocks. It can be a little bit uncomfortable, the silence even more so. But sometimes it is important to find a quiet moment out in nature, to rise above the discomfort and have a quiet think or empty your mind, give it a rest for a moment.

It is important that we give this to our kids too. During term one for Respectful Relationships all classes will be looking at emotional literacy and emotional triggers. We will be also using 'The Resilience Project' curriculum to support this learning. The Resilience Project focuses on Gratitude Empathy Mindfulness and Emotional Literacy. It is going to be fantastic fun and there will be a little bit of sitting on flat rocks too!!

I think of Ted's wise words to me 15 years ago, those words were a lifelong lesson in mindfulness. I hope you have a beautiful place in nature to sit, think and rest your soul.

Donna Giliam, Primary Welfare Officer

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

MDU Junior Football:

We welcome all boys and girls for the following teams in 2022!

U15's – Central Gipps (Saturdays & Sundays)

U13's – Central Gipps (Sundays)

U11's – Central Gipps Sundays

Training – every Thursday night at the MDU football oval – Meals are available each week on Thursday nights for all the family from 6pm.

Korumburra Musical Festival Competition:

The Korumburra A & P Society Show 2022 are holding a music competition, including Karaoke – "Anything Goes".

This can be music, singing or bands. The prize for Under 12's is \$50.

Contact Shirley on 0400 976 248 to apply.

Entries close Friday 4th February.

Entry fees - \$10 for 16 and over, \$5 for under 16 years.





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.
- ❖ 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.

2022 - FAMILY CONTACT DETAILS

Family Name: _____

Name of Eldest Child at MPS: _____

Contact details for Adult A		Contact details for Adult B	
Name: _____		Name: _____	
<i>During business hours, how is Adult A to be contacted</i>		<i>During business hours, how is Adult B to be contacted</i>	
Home Phone Number		Home Phone Number	
Mobile Phone Number		Mobile phone number	
Work Phone Number		Work Phone Number	
Days of the week at work		Days of the week at work	
Home Address			
Postal Address			
Email Address <input type="checkbox"/> I would like the newsletter emailed to this address	<i>Adult A:</i> _____ <i>Adult B:</i> _____		

Please provide details of two Emergency Contacts <u>other</u> than Parents / Guardians to care for your child if we are unable to contact you. It is your responsibility to ensure your emergency contacts are willing to assist in 2022.	
Name (Contact 1)	
Relationship to student	
Phone Number / Mobile Number	
Name (Contact 2)	
Relationship to student	
Phone Number / Mobile Number	

2022 LOCAL EXCURSION & TRAVEL CONSENT FORM

Student's Name: _____ Year Level _____

"I grant permission for my child/children to participate in excursions within the local township during 2022 as required." NB: for excursions outside our local area a permission form relating to the specific activity/day will be sent home.

"I authorise the teacher in charge of the excursion to consent, where it is impracticable to communicate with me, to the child/children receiving such medical or surgical treatment as may be deemed necessary, including requesting an Ambulance, the cost of which will be my responsibility."

Signed: _____ (Parent/Guardian)

Date _____

2022 PHOTOGRAPH CONSENT FORM

Our school communicates and acknowledges students' achievements and curriculum activities both within the school and the wider community (e.g. web page, newspaper articles, community newsletters). Some parents/carers prefer this not to occur and the school **endeavours** to comply with such requests.

<i>I give permission for my child's work and/or photo with first name to appear in the public domain (e.g. newsletter, web page, newspaper articles, and community newsletters).</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
I give permission for my child to electronically send and store their work for educational purposes according to our Acceptable Use of Technology Policy.	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

Signed: _____ (Parent/Guardian)

Date _____



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Principal: Gene VanderZalm

31 January 2022

NATIONAL SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM CONSENT 2022

Dear Parents,

This year we will be continuing with the National Chaplaincy Program (NSCP) at Meeniyán Primary School. The program will support and strengthen existing student wellbeing programs and introduce a number of new projects that operate under the ELEVATE framework of:

- Connecting with young people and school communities
- Building up positive values and resilience in young people
- Empowering young people to transform their school and community

The Chaplain will work in classes and with groups of students on various projects within and beyond the school to develop skills and understandings in Civics and Citizenship, Interpersonal, Personal Learning, resilience and leadership. The program will strengthen and extend current programs and intentions.

The program is funded by the Federal Government and administered by the State government. The program operates under the governance of the school including the administration of the program. Any questions, queries or concerns now or in the future, can be directed to me.

The program operates on a voluntary basis so parents are required to provide consent for their child/ren to participate in the program and projects. Please note ongoing, individual or spiritual work will require a separate consent form if the need arises.

Parents are asked to consider the program and return the annual consent form below.

If you have any queries regarding the role or programs, please contact me and I will be happy to detail the chaplaincy further.

Yours sincerely,

Gene VanderZalm

NATIONAL SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM CONSENT 2022

I consent

I do not consent to my child/ren participating in the Meeniyán PS School Chaplaincy program in 2022.

Child 1: _____

Class: _____

Child 2: _____

Class: _____

Child 3: _____

Class: _____

Child 4: _____

Class: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____