



Edition 2 – February 8<sup>TH</sup> 2022

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Supervision Times: 8:15 Mornings Duty

3.20 -4:00 Afternoon Bus Duty

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### COVID Update

Your experience with school in Week 1 depended entirely on what side of the COVID fence you found yourself! 30% of our students missed at least one day, an extraordinary figure for Week 1 of the year but one many of us have little control over. What is critical going forward is that students look after themselves to the best of their ability. Eating well and exercising regularly combined with a good night's sleep will give all students the best chance of avoiding unnecessary days off. Teachers are doing their best to keep learning flexible for the time being and we all hope this situation will settle over the coming weeks.

As the week progressed, I amended our communication procedures of COVID cases. From now on, each time a class of students is exposed to a person who is COVID positive I will put a message out via Compass. This instruction comes from the Victorian Department of Education.

### Resilience Project

I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge and fully endorse the school's partnership with the Resilience Project throughout 2022. I know Donna Giliam will be taking every opportunity to explain what this amazing organisation has to offer so please get involved and check out their website, so you are well positioned to support your child going forward. Who knows, you may just pick up a few handy hints along the way too 😊

## CALENDAR

### Current 8/2 – 15/2

9<sup>th</sup> Feb – NO PREPS

9<sup>th</sup> Feb - Yr 3-6 swimming trials

### Upcoming

16<sup>th</sup> Feb – NO PREPS

17<sup>th</sup> Feb – Book Club orders close CIB

17<sup>th</sup> Feb – Welcome Evening / Bike Ride

22<sup>nd</sup> Feb – School Council, 7pm

23<sup>rd</sup> Feb – NO PREPS

24<sup>th</sup> Feb – School Photos

14<sup>th</sup> Mar – Labour Day (pupil free)

17<sup>th</sup> Mar – Yr1/2 Dinner - Yr 2 sleepover

22<sup>nd</sup> Mar – School Council AGM, 7pm

23<sup>rd</sup> Mar – Yr 3/4 Bugs Excursion

8<sup>th</sup> 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

*Gene VanderZalm*

## LOCAL EXCURSIONS CONSENT

The Local Excursion Consent and Photography Consent forms are at the end of the newsletter. If you have not yet returned these forms (new families do not need to), please complete and return to school as soon as possible. We are required to obtain parents/carers consent annually.

## WELCOME EVENING & BIKE RIDE

We are very excited to be having out Welcome Evening and we are spicing it up with a family bike ride/ walk on the Rail Trail beforehand.

**When:** 17<sup>th</sup> of February 2022

**Where:** The Rail Trail and The Rec Reserve Meeniyan

**The Game Plan:**

**4:45pm** - meet for the bike ride at the car park behind the IGA

**5pm** - bike ride/ walk commences

**5:30pm** - meet on the oval at the Rec Reserve for picnic and School Leader Badge Presentation.

**7pm** - Evening concludes

## MASKS

In accordance with COVID guidelines and taking into consideration the welfare of staff and students, we ask all visitors/ parents & carers entering school buildings to please wear a mask.  
Thanks in advance.



## RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

On the holidays I took my two younger girls to Tasmania. They had some money saved up that they were very excited to spend, they found it difficult to do so as we were bush camping and there were no shops where we camped! Finally, they found an opportunity to spend their hard-earned cash at 'Hollybank Wilderness Adventures'. They were keen to go ziplining but that was too expensive, so we settled on a tree top adventure.

I did not know what these girls had signed me up for, but I was up for anything. The moment I arrived at the 'starting tree' I started trying to think of excuses and reasons I could not do this. It looked terrifying. The courses were set up in colours and limited according to age. Yellow was for under 7, Green was an easy starter run for everyone, blue for 8 years and over, red for 10 years and over and black for 13 years and over.

We all started on green. The girls quickly scurried off and were joyfully chatting on the way around. I got to the second obstacle and FROZE. My mouth went dry, my heart rate went up and I was breathing so fast. I looked back at the instructor, but he was busy talking to someone. I had to figure out how to climb through these seesaws while 15 metres up a tree. I started to cry. There was a woman flitting over the blue course just above my head. She stopped climbing and talked me through it. Encouraging, cheering, and believing in me, as I sobbed and tried not to look down. I got through seesaws and after that I slowly completed the course.

Annie went straight to red after her first run, she was so high up in the trees I could hardly see her, Daisy went straight to blue. They both wanted to go higher but had gone as far as their age limit would let them. I proudly did two runs of the green.

It reminded me of school. That everyone is coming in our gates with a different bar to reach. For some it might be mega maths problems, for others it might be to run a full lap of the oval, for others it might be to make just one friend and others might be to walk out of their door and into ours. This is going to require resilience and bravery. It is going to expect that our kids show empathy and kindness to others as they reach for a different bar to them. Our kids are going to need support, opportunities for success and opportunities to fail.

Our kids are going to need to see us do this too, to see us fail, be scared, AND pick ourselves up, get help and move forward.

*Donna Giliam, Primary Welfare Officer*

## COMMUNITY NEWS

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

### **Meeniyon Basketball:**

Meeniyon Junior basketball for 5-16 year olds will commence Wednesday 23rd Feb (Aussie Hoops) & Friday 25th Feb (Mini's, Intermediate & Youth)

Please complete the Expression of Interest form before 16th Feb for your child/children. (Places are limited) PlayHQ registration will be completed later.

Juniors players from last season have NIL club Fees. New players \$50 plus yearly B'ball VIC Registration fee (if due)

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdMtmXIUHZEE6APXsuteRy62jqIX0tkIV3Psq96TYHIDj8XA/viewform?pli=1>

### **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.





## 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 LOCAL EXCURSION & TRAVEL CONSENT FORM

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Level \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Level \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Level \_\_\_\_\_

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.

<b><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></b>	<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 \_\_\_\_\_