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MELTON 3337
03 9743 4966
melton.ss@education.vic.gov.au

Bacchus Marsh
Coaches

**ABSENCE
LINE
03 5366 3444**

**DATES TO
REMEMBER**

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| LAST DAY OF TERM 2 FOR STUDENTS | THURSDAY 24TH JUNE |
| SSG MEETINGS | FRIDAY 25TH JUNE |
| FIRST DAY OF TERM 3 FOR STUDENTS | MONDAY 12TH JULY |
| FATHERS DAY | SUNDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER |

 **COMPASS**
School Manager



Edition 7 — Thursday 24th June 2021

A Message from the Principal

Dear Families,

As we approach the end of term 2, I have been reflecting on this term and of its many surprises. I have watched our school community – staff, students, and families work together to get through yet another stint of remote learning and the return of COVID restrictions in our lives.

Once again, I would like to thank you all for your positivity and resilience and the support you have shown one another and members of my team through this time. I hope you are able to have a restful and fun holiday period – ready to come back excited for Semester 2 2021!

Current restrictions

We are really happy that restrictions continue to be lifted across metropolitan Melbourne. We are still bound by density limits and mask use however:

Camps, excursions and community access have restarted.

School Tours can recommence however groups must be limited.

Non-essential visitors can attend however density limits must apply and all visitors must sign in using the schools QR code.

Work experience, VET classes and SBATs have all recommenced.

Staff meetings and other Professional Learning on site has still been deferred.

SSG week

Given the late change to restrictions, we decided to continue to host SSG Meetings via WebEx or phone. If this is not an option for your family, please make contact with your classroom teacher and they will discuss options with the leaders. The purpose of this terms SSG meeting is to discuss your child progress towards and achievement of the Victorian Curriculum. There will also be time for you to have other discussions to support your child and family – just bring these up at the beginning of the meeting so the teacher ensures there is time.

New report format

This year we have been working on improving our reporting processes to families. We have split the ILP and Victorian Curriculum reports into two, so each SSG has a focus rather than all areas being discussed at each meeting. During our review process, it was clear that this process is not clear enough for our families so I am going to attempt to outline below in as few words as I can. Your classroom teacher can discuss and clarify further at your SSG.

Individual Learning Plans (ILP's) will be developed in Term 3 and Term 1 of the next year.

These goals are divided into 3 skills based goals: Communication, Personal Learning and Social Learning. These goals are centred around your child being able to access the Victorian Curriculum and life in the community as independently and successfully as possible. Goals have an entry level (baseline) which is where teachers have assessed your child's current skill, and a target will be set where teaching teams believe is where your child will achieve. The progress towards and achievement of these goals will be reported during Term 1 and Term 3 meetings. New goals will also be discussed and agreed during these meetings.

In Term 2 and Term 4, Teachers will write reports based on your child's experience of and/or achievement of the standards within the Victorian Curriculum. Reading, Writing, Number and Measurement will be a focus of these reports. The reports will be different across the age ranges of our students. Early Years, Senior Secondary and The Independent Living Centre will have a format which is different to the Primary and Secondary format.

As always, we understand that this is a new process and there may be errors or mishaps – please make sure you provide feedback to your teachers during SSG when you get the changes, so we know if we are on the right track.

Building Project Update

As we attended the weekly project design meetings last week, I was excited to see that the architects had tried really hard to incorporate all of the feedback received.

Students shared the following:

- The open grassed area was well liked
- Gallery was a great space for activities and fitness exercises
- Treed area at the back of the site is great
- Bike Education is great. How can we expand this more with easy access to the bikes?
- No spaces for dance, performing arts
- Not enough outdoor open space
- No active spaces for things like down ball
- No dedicated art room, it had to be taken over for a classroom
- More open space needed for sports, such as tennis, footy, soccer
- Need more specialist spaces for science, art, a stage for performance
- The whole site needs to be accessible and inclusive, especially for wheelchairs
- Need more sensory spaces, especially for the younger kids

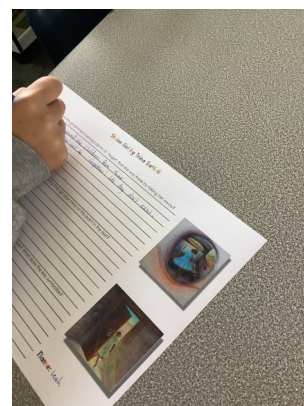
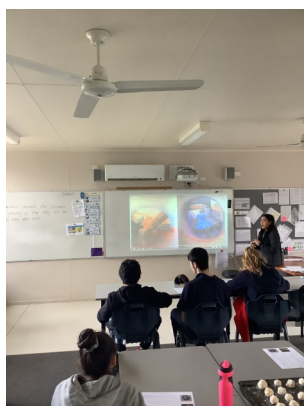
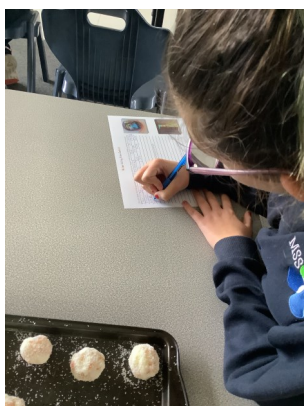
I was very proud of our student leaders in representing our whole student community! Well done Leaders and Student Reps.

NAIDOC Week



Officially NAIDOC week is celebrated and recognised during the Term 2 holidays and MSS has been recognising this important week in the last week of term. This year's theme, which the school will be continuing throughout the year, is Heal Country. NAIDOC 2021 invites the nation to embrace First Nations' cultural knowledge and understanding of Country as part of Australia's national heritage and equally respect the culture and values of Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders as they do the cultures and values of all Australians. The school will promote that we all need to continue to seek greater protections for First Nations lands, waters, sacred sites and cultural heritage from exploitation, desecration, and destruction.

Andreas class have been completing some literacy based activities on the book – Stolen Girl. Reconciliation week started with some great work done starting on Sorry Day 26th May. Thank you to Ivette and her team for organising the whole school activities. The students also made hands to create a sea of hands under the flagpoles to recognise the importance of the National apology. The school has also been given a framed copy of the document signed by Kevin Rudd.



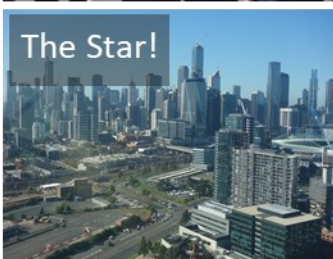
Staffing Update

This term we farewell Rachael and Emma from our Admin Team. Rachael has gained employment in a non-school setting and Emma has taken leave for the birth of her baby. We also farewellled Maddie and Lauren from our Speech Pathology Team.

We have welcomed many new staff as well Scott, Mary, Maxine, Mandy, Vidya, have all joined our classroom teams. Jackie & Abhi join our Allied Health team and Tori is our new admin team member working in reception.

Best wishes everyone
Brooke

Travel Training in S11



S11 have visited many of Melbourne's landmarks as part of their Travel Training days. I have been so impressed by their ability to navigate the transport system and their behaviour has been a credit to Melton Specialist School.

Ballarat

Queen Victoria Market

The State Library

ACMI

Old Melbourne Gaol

The National Gallery of Victoria

Federation Square

Melbourne Observation Wheel

At all times, S11 have been enthusiastic and engaged. They have all shown development of their skills by identifying bus routes from timetables, time management, mapping out the quickest route to get there and independently buying their own lunch.

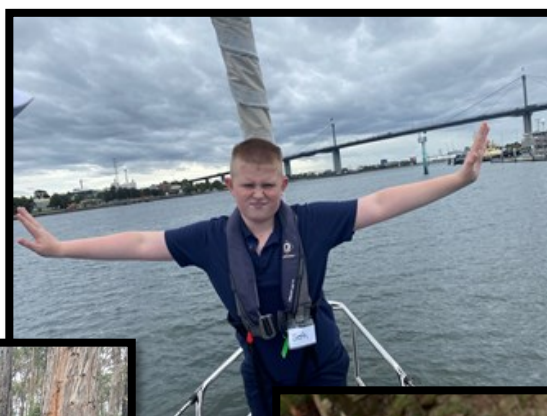


Out in the Community with P16



This semester P16 have had the opportunity to visit multiple places out in the community. During term 1 we went on a 3 day camp to Blackwood, Sailing on the Yarra and weekly visits to Woodgrove.

Term 2 we went back to Blackwood for a fortnightly high ropes course. The course is designed to challenge all students and offer them unique experiences as they work through their perceived risks to elevate themselves to new heights.





A DAY IN THE LIFE...



ROLE: SCHOOL RECEPTION / ADMIN

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| 8.30 AM | Start work. |
| 8.30 AM — 9 AM | Listen to external and absent voicemails. Enter student absences. Check school emails. First point of contact for phone calls |
| 9 AM — 12.30 PM | Process uniform orders and receipts, take calls regarding possible future school enrolment process. Start putting together the newsletter. Assist with late student arrivals. Welcome any external visitors, perform clerical duties, update student records such as attendance, family details, and coordinate meetings, including SSG bookings. Book interpreters as needed. Check uniform shop stocktake. |
| 12.30 PM — 1PM | Lunchbreak. |
| 1 PM—2.30 PM | Update student and staff Myki cards, complete CSEF applications and organise mail for postage. Continue to support teacher staff and leadership team. Continue to answer lots of phone calls. PA announcements as needed. |
| 2.30 PM — 3 PM | Take calls from parents/carers who are collecting students early or boarding buses |
| 3 PM — 4.30 PM | Process café till, return all casual relief staff keys, continue to respond to emails |
| 4.30 PM | Finish work. |



Tori

S2 Happenings

This term has been very eventful with two weeks of remote learning being a major part of the term.

S2 has continued to participate in many excursions and our first term camp was a highlight of the semester. Jasmine got herself a bullseye in the archery.

We have been practicing our public transport travel skills and have been to Melbourne Museum, the National Gallery of Victoria and Kryal Castle for our humanities excursion among many others. In class we have been working hard on our social thinking skills and our self-regulation skills.

The class has also been part of excursions to Melton Secondary College where we participated in activities organised by the year 11 and 12 VCAL students. We have also been part of having a local Aboriginal artist – Simone Thomson who worked with us and other classes to make some murals outside our classroom.

We wish to thank Natalie and Sean for all their hard work this semester. Have a great school holiday break and stay safe ready for Term 3.



HEAL COUNTRY! - PROUDLY CELEBRATING NAIDOC WEEK 2021



RIDING FOR THE DISABLED
ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA



Riding develops abilities

Melton & District RDA
975 Leakes rd,
Rockbank. 3335.
Victoria
rdamelton@gmail.com
Mob.. 0452 505 741

16/6/2021

Attention.. Heather,

Melton & District Riding for the Disabled was very pleased to welcome Melton Specialist school Horticulture students to our centre in term one this year.

During the term the students prepared the soil and planted out a large number of plants into our Sensory garden and started hedgerows for privacy, their assistance was greatly appreciated as was the advice given by Heather and her staff.

The Sensory garden is a major project for the centre and its participants, with a multitude of plants to be cared for from Fruit trees to Banksias.

The students presented themselves with excellent behaviour, a willingness to follow direction, and a can do attitude of nothing to big nor to small to be tackled, which is a credit to the partnership and respect your staff share with the students.

Our lawns and hedges have never looked so good and we look forward to the group being able to return in term four.

Let me know if any further details required.

Regards

M.L. Behan

Marg Behan
Coordinator
Melton RDA
0452 505 741

See the students at work



DROP OFF/PICK UP & PARKING INFORMATION

NO ENTRY TO SCHOOL CARPARK

In order to maintain a safe and orderly environment, we remind parents that between **8.30 a.m. and 9.20 a.m.**, as well as **2.30 p.m. to 3.20 p.m.** that parent/carer/guardian vehicles are to remain outside the school gates in designated car parks.

PARENT PICK UP/DROP OFF

A reminder that we are enforcing minimal foot traffic on campus. The first option is for you to line up in the driveway. Alternatively, we ask that you stay in your car and call the office on 9743 4966. We will then organise to have your student collected from or brought to your vehicle. It is also helpful that you advise which class your student is from, and which gate you are located at to ensure a swift handover. We appreciate your patience during pick up and drop off as they are our busiest times of the day for the administrative team.

CAMP, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

Just a reminder if your child is now over the age of 16 and has received their own pension card from Centrelink held in their name, we do encourage them to apply for CSEF in 2021. To apply please complete the form on the next page and provide evidence of your child's pension card to the office to photocopy or feel free to email the documents directly to the school melton.ss@education.vic.gov.au

For those who received CSEF in 2020, and have a child under the age of 16 we will re-apply on your behalf. This means you **do not** need to complete the form on the next page unless your details have changed. If in doubt please fill in the form and return to school.

Please read the attached forms for eligibility. If you have a pension card, health care card, low income earner card, etc. you are eligible to apply for CSEF. The funding covers expenses for camps, sports and excursions for your student.

To all new families and students who wish to apply for CSEF, please complete the form and return to the office. If still unsure about the process or if you have any questions please contact the office on 03 9743 4966.

CHECK OUT OUR SCHOOL FACEBOOK PAGE!

Catch up on the latest news and activities, download the school newsletter and see what is coming up on the school calendar.



We will be posting photos and news items about these two exciting projects as they progress.

CSEF ELIGIBILITY

Below is the criteria used to determine a student's eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

Criteria 1 – Eligibility

To be eligible* for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one, or;
 - on the first day of Term two.
- a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR
 - b) Be a temporary foster parent, and;
 - c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

* A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see:

www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and 17 years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and 18 years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooled, or TAFE.

Eligibility Date

For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (28 January 2020) or term two (14 April 2020).

PAYMENT AMOUNTS

CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

- Primary school student rate: \$125 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: \$225 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to your child's school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student's date of birth. For more information, see:

www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx

Year 7 government school students who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Secondary schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents so please register your interest at the school.

HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

NOTE: ALL SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

1. Complete the PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN DETAILS section.

Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.

If you are claiming as a Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.

2. Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.
3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible. The CSEF program for 2020 closes on 26 June, 2020.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name

School REF ID

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname _____

First name _____

Address _____

Town/suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Contact number _____

Centrelink pensioner concession OR Health care card number (CRN)

- - - OR

☐ Foster parent* OR ☐ Veterans affairs pensioner (Gold Card)**

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

**Applicants must provide a copy of the Veteran Affairs Gold card

Student details

| Child's surname | Child's first name | Student ID | Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy) | Year level |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------------------|------------|
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I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
- information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and /or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant _____

Date ____ / ____ / ____