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From the Principal's Desk.

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Dates to remember:

TERM 4

DECEMBER

**Fri 18th End of Term
1.00pm finish**



*Thought of
the week:*

*And suddenly you know
it's time to start something
new and trust the magic of
new beginnings.*

Unknown

2021—School Structure and Classes.

We have been working on developing the best possible scenario and class structure within the funding we have been allocated by the Department. The development of classes is always quite challenging to ensure a sound balance academically, socially and of gender. The decision to have straight grades across the school has been the focus as we come out of a much disrupted year. This has had an impact on class sizes in some areas; however, we will still have 30 classes next year.

We have had number of our staff currently returning from leave. We welcome back Kate Chandler, Jacqui McLean, Nikki Gilham and Brooke Kennedy. We wish to thank and farewell Lisa Davis, who will be returning to her previous school, Patterson Lakes Primary. Melissa Sexton and Wendy Kilpatrick will be taking 12 months leave

Next Tuesday the children will meet their classmates and teacher for the coming year. Although this is very exciting for the students, some may be anxious. You can support them by showing enthusiasm for the opportunity of new friends while maintaining their current friends even if they be in different classes. Offering to arrange a play after school might be a helpful idea. Also, talking about the exciting new learning and their teacher will all help to quell concerns. How you react as their parents will assist them to settle into the coming year.

School structure 2021:

Foundation x 5 (Prep): Melissa Gleeson (TL), Emma Sanders/Jacqui McLean, Jo Marshall, Kate Chandler & Norm Williamson.

Year 1 x 4: Christie Holman (TL)/Lauren Wilmann, Sophie Stevens, Thane Francis & Charlotte Greig.

Year 2 x 4: Amber Ellery (TL), Katie Forbes, Alicia Howard & Alison Cumberlidge.

Year 3 x 4: Miranda Tring (TL), Kirstin Watson, Aidan Hudson & Tanisha Collins-Post.

Year 4 x 5: Matt Leyden (TL), Chelle Gray, Hannah Williams, Lyndal Robinson & Jack Butler.

Year 5 x 4: Laura Andreadis (TL), Steph Johnston, Selin Hull, & David Freeman.

Year 6 x 4: Guy Marsden (TL)/Ben Bryant, Jane Lacey, Jordyn Bower & Cathy Houston.

Performing Arts: Steve Davidson and Simon Dewar.

Visual Arts: Lynne White & Nikki Gilham.

Japanese: Tomoko Yamashita.

Physical Education: Evan Lukas & Ben Bryant.

Technology: Sam Rodwell.

APs – Curriculum, Management and Wellbeing: Ricky Joyce and Marie Yanni

Leading Teacher, Intervention: Jill Wathen.

Learning Specialist: Guy Marsden, Christie Holman and Sam Rodwell.

Tutoring program: David Pryor, Felicity Batty, Keryn Vasta & Brooke Kennedy.

Wellbeing Friday—Free Dress!

Don't forget tomorrow's wellbeing day is a "free dress" day. No gold coin required. Please see the website link of our school leaders talking: We are sure they will enjoy the day.



...continued overleaf

Tutoring Program.

The new funding for a tutoring program allows us to provide support for students across three days a week. Mrs Wathen will oversee this program in her role in intervention and will be supported by three staff as outlined. Our current programs of LEAP and MAP, which are specific to Overport, will continue along with further literacy and mathematics support for students' needs. Staff have already identified a number of students whom they believe will benefit from an out of classroom, small group support program. While tutoring programs may be offered at other schools for only 6 months, our intention is to continue this support throughout the year to provide support for more students.

The Victorian High-Ability Program - 2021

The Victorian High-Ability Program (VHAP) will see high-ability Years 5 – 8 students across Victorian government schools participate in a 10-week virtual enrichment program. This program will focus on tasks that stimulate students' critical thinking, problem solving and creativity – enriching their understanding of English and mathematics.

Only students who have been selected by the Department of Education and Training are able to participate in the program. As part of the selection process, the Department analyse student achievement data to assess student readiness and ability to participate in this program. Selected students will only be offered a place in up to one course each term. In 2021, we have four students selected who will participate in term one.

For students who are performing at least 18 months above level, parents and carers can register their child for at least one of the extension activities on the Victorian Challenge and Enrichment Series (VCES). This is optional. Information about this can be found at <https://arc.educationapps.vic.gov.au/eventhub/channels/VCES>.

The VCES provides funded extension activities for high-ability students in Victorian government schools from Prep to Year 12. Within the series, education expert partners are delivering an array of incursions, excursions, webinars and online programs across all areas of the curriculum. In term four, we have had a few students take up this opportunity. After registering for a webinar, they were able to complete the tasks on their chosen subject at home during remote learning or at school. To access more information about the VHAP, you can visit the Virtual School Victoria website at <https://www.vsv.vic.edu.au/victorian-high-ability-program/> or email the school attention to Miss Marie Yanni with VHAP in the subject title.

Xmas tech tips for parents

The Cyber Safety Project have released this following blog post about electronic Xmas gifts and how to use them safely. A really great article! <https://www.cybersafetyproject.com.au/blog/christmas-tech-gift-safety-guide-2020>

[Blog: Information, Resources & Tips for Kids, Parents and Teachers - Cyber Safety Project](https://www.cybersafetyproject.com.au/blog/christmas-tech-gift-safety-guide-2020)

Tech gadgets are undoubtedly among the most popular gifts for kids landing under Christmas trees around the world this year. With smart home technology and the internet of things (IoT) creeping into our lives many of the top tech gifts for kids this Christmas require connectivity to apps, platforms and cloud services. If drones, smartwatches and fitness trackers, VR headsets, gaming consoles ...

www.cybersafetyproject.com.au

*Kind Regards,
Julie Gleeson Principal.*



Privacy Note:

The Department of Education and Training (which includes all Victorian government schools, central and regional offices) values the privacy of every person and is committed to protecting information that schools collect. Please view the Overport Privacy Policy and all other policies on the Overport website.



To all students celebrating their birthdays this week and next week

Finnlay 5C, Amy 5C,
Cooper 5/6A,
Henrik 2D, Tully 4B,
Chase 5B, Tully 6C,
Max PA, Poppy PC,
Sunny 3/4A,
Ashton 4D,
Annie 1A, Everly 1C,
Nehana 4D,
Darius 6B, Cooper 6B,
Owen 6E,
Wolfgang 2B,
Hattie 3B, Mia 3/4A,
Luke 5C, Billy PB,
Noah 2E, Rosie 1B,
Zac 2D, Aj 2D,
Tomy 2C,
Avalon 2D, Nika 5C,
Thomas 5/6A,
Chloe PB, Ava PD,
Camilla PD, Layla 1B,
Blake 1C, Audrey 2E,
Lachlan 6C, Zoe
3/4A Deon 5B



Vegetable Garden News



Minasan Konnichiwa (Hello everyone)

Our school vegetable garden and Japanese garden are now thriving even though we had strict restrictions for COVID-19 for more than half of this year. We are very fortunate to have many students' help and our school community's ongoing support for the gardens. During term four, I am very fortunate to have Year three students' help in the vegetable garden and the Japanese garden. Many students demonstrated excellent teamwork to weed, water, and mulch around the gardens.

I would also like to acknowledge our great appreciation to Mr. Gleeson, The Burgess Family, Mr. Heritage, Mr. Mallinson, Mr. Hearn, and Mr. Davies. Mr. Gleeson spent quite long hours to trim the bamboo and tidy up the Japanese garden. The Burgess family have been looking after the vegetable garden on the weekends. Mr. Heritage did the major trimming of our fruit trees in the garden so in the near future, our students can enjoy picking more fruit. Mr. Mallinson (who has been working in the vegetable garden and the whole school ground planning for the long term) has started working with some of our vegetable garden club students on Wednesday afternoon. The students have planted summer vegetable seedlings and put mulch around the plants. Mr. Hearn and our new maintenance officer Mr. Davies were busy putting mulch around the school including the vegetable garden in order to reduce water evaporation around the trees.

As we start getting hot weather, I would like to ask some families for support with the watering of the vegetable garden during the summer holiday. Last year around 10 school community members shared a watering roster. If you are able to help with the watering during the school holiday, could you kindly let me know? My email address is Tomoko.Yamashita@education.vic.gov.au.

Arigatoo gozaimasu (Thank you very much)

Tomoko Yamashita

(Japanese teacher and keen gardener)



CSEF payment for Pension Card or Health Care Card holders

If you are the holder of a **Pension Card** or **Health Care Card** you may be entitled to apply for the **CSEF**.

CSEF is a payment of \$125 per student per year to go towards Camps, Sports and Excursions.

If you received a CSEF payment this year for your current students and have a Prep starting in 2021, please fill out a new application form to add your new prep student.

Application forms are available from the office



James with some of the books he won!!!
Wow, how lucky are we to have all these great books for our library. Thanks again James



"The Block"

