



Chewton
Primary School 1054



Resilience – Respect – Community – Integrity - Achievement

Newsletter No 1 5th February 2016

Hello all and welcome back to what we hope has been a positive start to the new year.

With 63 students I was concerned that the school would feel different but the classes are running so smoothly and the children have settled so well that other than the very busy car park and far more children on the playing field, things are pretty much the same.

I apologise for being over busy this week. I am planning to have the first half hour and last hour of the day free so I am available to talk to parents and help with uniform and other office issues on the days Sally is not in. The 2 week swimming program has meant a change in timetable and I am teaching a swimming group each day as well as my normal teaching program. The children are still having 10 hours of literacy and 6 hours of maths in the week but many of our other programs are not fully up and running till week 3. If you would like a copy of our timetable, please collect one from the front desk or see your class teacher.

This week 2015 families will receive a school report survey. Please take the time to complete this as it provides valuable information for our planning. If you did not receive a survey you can find them in the office. There is a box out near the office door for collection.

With so many cars in the car park can you please park facing down the hill in the west car park. There is very little room for a circuit exit and we wish to avoid the need to reverse, especially at the end of the day. The reserved car park on the east side is not for me. It is for easy access with Alba and her wheel chair when she is here on a Tuesday. We can't have a disabled car park due to this not officially being our land. Take car where you park at the front of the school to keep well clear of the bus zone. We have 15 children using the bus and they are walked onto the road. Please drive with this in mind. We also have many families cycling which is fantastic. We do ask that children do not cycle across the road but walk their bikes down the hill and only cross if needed.

Please remember to check the website for a full list of camp and other dates. We have already needed to make some changes so check regularly. I will publish major events with next week's newsletter. There will only be a full newsletter each fortnight with one page of important information on the following week.

Please make time to speak to all of our staff over the next week. Formal interviews are not until next month.

Julie

Calendar

February

Mon 1st-Frid 12th: Swimming program. Every afternoon.

Tues 9th: Prep health checks

Frid 12th: Swimming Carnival.
Whole School 2:15-3:15

Wed 10th:

Sporting schools starts

Grounds and buildings at 8:30am
School Council at 6:00pm

Frid 12th: Swimming Carnival 2:15-3:15am All grades

Thurs 18th: 6pm. Parent information session on our schools internet use. Child minding provided

Mon 29th: Life education Van. All grades

March

Wed 2nd: p-2 reading/ writing information session. 3:00-4:00.
Child minding provided

Thurs 3rd: Welcome family tea. 5:00- 7:00

Frid 4th: Clean up Aust Day

Mon 7th: Family interviews this week. Monday and Wednesday

Frid 11th: Ride to School Day.

Mon 14th: Labour Day Holiday

Tues 15th: School Photos

Wed 16th: AGM school Council

Mon 21st: Harmony Day

Thur 24th: Last day of term 2:30 finish. Easter Fun Day



Students of the week:

This term we are celebrating: 'Ready to Learn'. Teachers are encouraging children to be ready when the bells goes. Have books out when asked. Sit on the mat with eyes on the teacher. Make sure you have all the items with you before you start a task.

This week **Ready to Learn** students are:

Paige: Grade 1

Leila: Grade 3

Tav: Grade 5

Thanks to:

Rob: For making sure the fish can see out of their tank

Daydd: For helping me with some of the p-1 swimmers.

Bronwyn: For sorting out our seasons tickets

Kate and Belinda: Are back in the library and working hard.

Jennifer: For continued work on the rebound wall design. It will be finished this year.

All parents: Who have made the journey to the pool for pick up this week.

School Captains

A huge thanks to Dan, Jett, Amara, Dash and Luke for nominating for school captains. They presented their speeches today. Harry Koponen from NAB will be presenting badges at 9am on Monday. There can only be one school captain and this year, just the one vice- captain. Each one of these students would easily be able to represent our school with pride.

Want to be involved with our school?

- Join our Grounds and Buildings Committee. We currently meet on Wednesday mornings at 8:30 in the meeting room next to the multipurpose room. All welcome. We are after ideas not a work force.
- Consider nominating for School Council. (See notes in this newsletter)
- Work in our vegetable garden on your own or with some children
- Offer to help make lunch for one of our grades using the produce for our garden along with other ingredients.
- Tidy the shelves in the library or see Belinda and Kate for how else you can help.
- Ask your teacher how you can be involved.
- Please consider obtaining a 'Working with Children's Check.' They are free. You apply on line and it is much easier to be involved in our school programs.

Special Food Requirements:

With the garden almost ready for harvest we hope to be back to cooking soon. Please make sure I am aware of any special food requirements your child may have. Some of our children have life threatening issues and others are vegetarian, wheat or gluten free. If you don't tell us we will not know.

What's happening in your class this term?

The Peewans are off to a great start this year and had their first formal Inquiry session yesterday. Our topic this term is 'All About Me' and covers the history component of the Victorian Curriculum F-10. We are learning about each other as individuals and our families, different family structures and roles, family trees as well as special events we celebrate, like birthdays. We kicked off with the presentation of our All About Me booklets that the children will complete, filling in personal details such as their eye colour, birth date, favourite things and what pets you have etc. Looking deeper we will explore 'Me as part of Australia' and make cultural comparisons with other school children around the globe. Please take a moment to ask your child if they know their birth date and phone number and chat to them about your family history. Thanks, Nicole.

This term in the 2/3 classroom we are going to be learning about Government, democracy and how to be an active member of the community. We will look at how government works at all levels and incorporate what we have learnt into the classroom. We look forward to a busy term and using our rights to elect our own leaders when elections take place for the school captain and vice-captain. Emma

Grade 4-6 have begun our Inquiry unit on Australian Democracy by investigating the national values of, Freedom, Respect, Equality and Justice. It will be a busy term with investigations that include identifying roles and responsibilities within the Parliament, our system of Government, Laws, values and elections. We look forward to learning about Australian politics in our mock parliament classroom, where no issue great or small will be left un-debated. Scott

Bushfire Information

School procedures for the bushfire season

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children's services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a Red fire danger rating day is determined in their of Meteorology district. **Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk listed on the BARR.**



Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days notice of a potential Code Red day closure by letter and SMS. A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.
- All bus routes will be cancelled.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – **on such days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the CFA advise that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

Important reminders:

- Sporting schools starts Wednesday. You must complete a new enrolment form. This terms sport is hockey. Please see Patsy for more details.
- Holders of current concessions cards are eligible for a \$125 subsidy for camps and excursion paid directly to the school. Pick up a form from the front desk.
- Sally has handed out enrolment detail updates. Please check we have your current details.
- A notice has gone out today re 'Life Ed Van'

School Council Elections 2016

We have 2 parent vacancies available for membership of School Council in 2016:

Retiring Members are John Thomas and Caroline Pflienger. We also have 1 Department vacancy. I hold the other DET position as principal of our school.

These members may wish to renominate for their current positions.

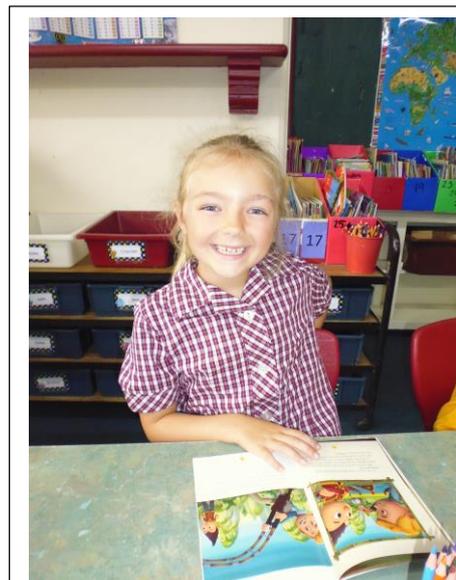
Following the declaration of the poll and before office bearers are elected the School Council may co-opt a community member. This is currently a vacant position.

The functions of School Councils are to:

- Establish the broad direction and vision of the school within the school's community
- Participate in the development and monitoring of the school strategic plan
- Develop, review and update school policies
- Develop, review and monitor the Student Engagement Policy and the School Dress Code
- Raise funds for school-related purposes
- Approve the annual budget and monitor expenditure
- Maintain the school's grounds and facilities
- Enter into contracts (e.g. cleaning, construction work)
- Report annually to the school community and to DET
- Generally stimulate interest in the school in the wider community
- If you would like to nominate for one of these positions, please collect a nomination form from the office
If there are a greater number of nominations received, a School Council Election Process & Timetable will need to be followed:

School Council currently meets on a Wednesday. We have needed to move this start time to 6pm. For our school to have an additional DET member (staff member or parent employed by the Department) we may need to move the meeting day to a different day of the week.

Notice of election and call for nominations	Frid 5 th Feb
Closing date for nominations	Frid 19 nd Feb
List of candidates and nominators will be posted	Mon 23 rd of Feb
Ballot papers will be prepared and distributed (If required)	Monday 22 nd Feb
Close of ballot (If required)	Mon 29 th Feb
Vote Count	Tues 1 st March
Declaration of poll	Frid 5 th March
First council meeting to elect office bearers (the principal will preside)	Wed 16 th March



Brianna is one of our new grade 2 students and she has made many friends at our school.



2016 INSTRUMENT LESSONS

- ♪ Piano and keyboards
- ♪ Violin, Viola & Cello
- ♪ Woodwind & Brass
- ♪ Singing and Vocals
- ♪ Electric, Acoustic & Bass Guitar
- ♪ Ukelele & Banjo
- ♪ Drums and Percussion

\$20/lesson +GST
For enquiries, please contact Drew
Ph. 0407 502 438
drewthorpemusic@gmail.com
Facebook page: Drew Thorpe Music

Violin lessons

for creativity and enjoyment

with Hilary Blackshaw

Recommencing this term on Wednesdays
at Chewton Primary School



Please contact Hilary for further
information

blackshawhilary@gmail.com or 0431 384
123

Or pick up an info sheet at school
opposite the staff room.



Sophie and Neon were all smiles during dress up
time in the p-1 room this week.