



THE APPLE NEWS

22nd March 2024

Principal's Message

Dear Families,

It is hard to believe that we are now only 4 school days away from the end of Term 1. A reminder that school concludes at **2.30pm** on this day. Term 2 commences on Monday 15th April.

Easter Raffle

Thank you to all families who have donated to our Easter Raffle and/or purchased raffle tickets. Our raffle draw will take place Tuesday afternoon and prizes sent home on Wednesday.

If you have forgotten to return your tickets, please send them to the office on Monday morning.

Staffing & CRTs

As we are all hearing in the media on a regular basis, there is a staffing shortage across the state. On days of staff absence, we attempt to employ Casual Relief Teachers for each absence. Unfortunately, we are not always able to employ a replacement. On these occasions we may need to split classes. This is our last resort but a necessary one to ensure we have a teacher with the students for the day. We thank you for your understanding.

Parent Payments

A huge thank you to our families that have already paid their voluntary curriculum contributions for the 2024 school year. These contributions ensure that our school can offer the best possible education and support for our students. Please read the Compass post for details as to how you can support our students with these voluntary contributions.

IMPORTANT DATES MARCH

28th - Last day of Term
Early Dismissal 2:30pm

APRIL

15th - First day of Term 2

16th - Yr 3-6 X Country
(on site)

24th - District Athletics (for
qualifying students)

25th - ANZAC Day Public
Holiday

26th - Curriculum Day

Fiona Kerton, Casey Arrowsmith & Cameron Brown

Building Update

Over the past 2 weeks, we have seen the grounds at the front of the school dug up in readiness for our new Admin Block. Under ground works have commenced to ensure power, plumbing etc will be located to the build area. Our art works and totem poles have been removed and stored throughout the build and will be re-located once the build is complete. The covered walkway in front of the office is to be removed over the holidays, with a new pathway installed during the holidays also.

Congratulations to our Years 3 & 5 students who have undertaken the NAPLAN assessment program over the past two weeks. We are incredibly proud of how our students conducted themselves and gave their very best throughout the tests. We look forward to the results being delivered next term. Many thanks to our parent community in their support of our students and in ensuring all students are on time for school each day.

NAPLAN



FOUNDATION 2025

Application for enrolments for children who will start Foundation in 2025 will open on open **April 15th 2024.**

New and existing families are invited to our school tours which are scheduled on the following dates:

Wed 1st May 9:30am

Thurs 16th May 10:30am

Thurs 20th June 4:00pm

Please contact the office to book a place on any of these tours. We look forward to meeting you!

If you know of any families within our zoned community, please share this information with them.

YARD SUPERVISION

Under DET guidelines, the school provides supervision in the yard 10 minutes before the official start of school and 10 minutes after the completion of classes for students at the end of the day. To this effect, there are staff members on yard duty from 8.40am each morning and 3:20pm following classes. Students are to enter classrooms at 8.40am. This means that no children are allowed to be on playground equipment before 8:30am and after 3:30pm as there is no formal supervision of students. I ask that parents support the school by ensuring that you speak to your children in relation to this.



School Attendance – School is better when your child is there!

Why it's important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Getting in early

Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years and receive lower test scores than their classmates.

It's vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

In Victoria, School is compulsory for children and young people aged 6 – 17 years

Student absences

The main reasons for absences are:

Sickness – there are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick. Developing good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising can make a big difference.

Family Holidays – it's vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible and not during the school term. If you are planning to go on holiday during term time, make sure you talk to your child's teacher in advance and work with them for an absence learning plan

'Day Off' – think twice before letting your child have a 'day off' as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts

Truancy – this is when students choose not to go to school without their parents' permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

School refusal – school refusing children will experience significant emotional distress not only when going to school but also at the thought of going to school; they may be absent from school for weeks or even months at a time. School refusal differs from truancy as children generally stay home with knowledge of the parents despite their best efforts to encourage their child to go to school.

Being away from school for one day a fortnight equals missing 1.5 years over 13 years of school

If your child is away:

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child's school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Chronic or ongoing attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice being issued to parents/carers.



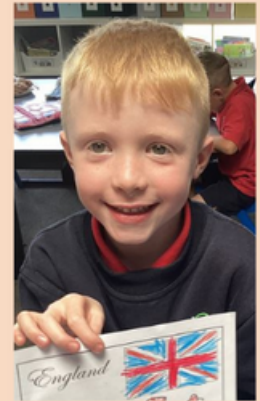
YEAR 1 WORLD TRAVEL

The Year 1's have been busy travelling the world! Every Friday, we travel to a new country and learn about culture, animals, famous landmarks and food!

We travelled to Ireland and learnt about leprechauns!



We travelled to England and tried their delicious scones!



We travelled to South Africa and learnt about safari animals!



SIZZLING STARTERS

Crash!... the waves broke the rocks. "Ella Morgan, do you want to go into the salty water?" Mia
3/4A

"Breakfast is ready!"
"Coming!" thud, thud, thud...
Harry 3/4B

On a hot summers day, I was in my bed with the air conditioner pumping. Blake 3/4B

"Ellie!" screamed Tony. Boom, pow..
Ellie had fallen off her horse.
Izabella 3/4A

"One stormy, windy day the gate busted open. Bang! Asha 3/4C

GRADE 3/4

This term, the grade 3/4's have been learning about the Writing Process. We have learnt that there are 6 steps to producing a written story. These are planning, drafting, revision, editing, conferencing and publishing. We have been talking about how to engage our readers with a sizzling start. These can include opening with dialogue, onomatopoeia's or describing the setting. Students were asked to use as much descriptive language as possible to really hook in the reader. Here are some examples of our students using a sizzling start to their story!

It was a really hot day in the bush and I decided to go for a walk. Thea 3/4C

Beep Beep! My alarm went off and I quickly remembered, I am going on holiday today! Maddison 3/4E

"C'mon Bill, we have to wake up and get ready for netball! We don't want to be late" Billi 3/4E

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSION FUND

Every Victoria Child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card, such as a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance (for eligible primary school students) of \$150 is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions and sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

How to apply:

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download the form from <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>. If you applied for CSEF through our school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year, unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- New student enrolments; your child has started or changed schools this year
- Changed family circumstances; such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year

Check with the school office if you are unsure, and please return completed forms to the school office as soon as possible.



SCREEN TIME & GREEN TIME

“Brush your teeth, eat your veggies and get plenty of green time!”

Carley McGauran
Psychologist & Mum



In this time of parenting in a digital world parents want to ensure their children are healthy. I know many of us feel overwhelmed about exactly what this means! With regard to how much screen time children should have, I explain to parents that there is no magical number of hours deemed “healthy”. BUT I do encourage parents to introduce a concept of ‘green time’ alongside screen time.

Our job as parents is to mentor and prepare our children to thrive in a digital world. Aside from keeping them safe online and ensuring they are accessing quality, age appropriate content, we need to support them in developing healthy habits - balancing screen time with ‘green time’. It is ideal for all children to understand the importance of ‘green time’ just as they grow to understand why brushing their teeth and eating vegetables needs to be a part of daily life!

All elements of ‘green time’ have a mountain of evidence supporting their critical role in the healthy growth and development of our children and young people. So what do I mean when I say ‘green time’?

Outside time - refers to traditional green time engaging in any activity outside in the natural world, this has such a remarkable restorative effect for our brains.

Moving time - any activity where our children are moving their bodies (sport, dance, bush walk, bike ride, trampoline, hopscotch...)

Mindful time - if you are not already in a habit as a family of some sort of mindfulness practice (placing your attention in the present moment), just start experimenting- it supports all human beings to build mental fitness. There are many options, it may mean listening to a meditation story at bedtime or simply google “mindful activities for children” and you will find a plethora of simple ideas depending on the age of your children.

Social time - ensuring our children have ample opportunities to engage with friends and family face to face. Even just being out and about, interacting with fellow customers and shop keepers builds critical social skills.

Unstructured time - (children may call this 'boring time!') refers to when you say “off you go and find something to do, no screens!”. Children typically complain (you know what I mean) and then after that their brain’s natural capacity to be creative and explore is activated and yes they find something to do!! Children experiencing boredom is actually very important for their development.

Reading time - this isn't limited to just encouraging your child to read a book or you reading to them, it may mean reading a recipe while cooking or reading signs when you are out walking.

Green time in my household , with three children, is a well known concept. When I asked one of my children to come inside to set the table for dinner recently, he answered with “I can’t, I’m getting my green time” (aka shooting basketball hoops with his brother!)... hard to be too cranky about that response!!

STUDENT OF THE WEEK



Awards



Foundation

FA - Harvey
FB - Jazmin
FC - Boaz
FD - Ario

Year One

1A - Ash
1B - Harley
1C - Sebastian
1D - Tex

Year Two

2A - Oakley
2B - Tyson
2C - Zahra
2D - Lukehy

Year Three & Four

34A - Lachlan
34B - Zoe
34C - Gigi
34D - Evie
34E - Billi

Year Five & Six

56A - Kasey
56B - Tahlia
56C - Tom
56D - Alana
56E - Shylla
56F - Logan

Specialist

Chinese - Paxton (56B)
HAPE - Jaxon (56B)
Performing Arts - FD & FA Whole
Class, Harley (1A), Max (2C) &
Quincy (2C)
STEM - Charlotte (56D)
Visual Arts - Milla (FC)

School

Nurture - Sebastian (1D) &
Frankie (1B)
Messy Squad - Sam (34B) &
Kaiden (3/4A)



Principals Awards

Week 7

COURAGE

Jai - 5/6E

CREATIVITY

Sebastian - 1C

CURIOSITY

Mason - 3/4B

COLLABORATION

Henry - 3/4C

CARING

Annabelle - 2B

**COUNTING ON EACH
OTHER AWARDS**

Tiana - 2B

Laikyn - 3/4A



100%
Attendance
Award

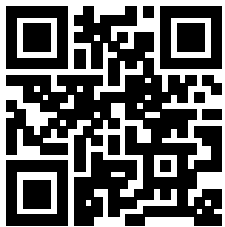
2024 Term 2 Planner

Week	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
April 1	15	16 Yr. 3-6 X Country <i>(on site)</i>	17	18	19
2	22	23	24 BM District Athletics <i>(for qualifying students)</i>	25 ANZAC Day Public Holiday	26 Curriculum Day
May 3	29	30	1 2025 Foundation School Tour 9:30am	2	3 GRIP Leadership Conference
4	6	7	8	9 BM District X Country <i>(for qualifying students)</i>	10
5	13	14	15	16 2025 Foundation School Tour 10:30am School Council Meeting – 5pm	17
6	20	21	22	Year 5 Camp	
7	27	28	29	30 WR Division X Country <i>(for qualifying students)</i>	31
June 8	3	4	5	6 BM District Winter Sports Yr 3-6	7
9	10 King's Birthday Public Holiday	11	12	13	14 BM District Girls Footy – Yr 4-6
Water Safety Certificate – Year 5/6 Swim Program					
10	17	18	19	20 2025 Foundation School Tour 4pm School Council Meeting – 5pm	21
11	24	25	26	27	28 End of Term 2 2:30pm Dismissal

Foster Care

Information Sessions On Now

Foster Care is about creating a safe space for children in our community. Take the next step in becoming a foster carer with Cafs. Register to attend one of our upcoming carer information sessions today.



REGISTER YOUR INTEREST
Visit cafs.org.au or call 1800 692 237

cafs WE CARE



Darley Primary School

Follow us on Socials



Facebook



Instagram

