

# NEWSROUND

## Principals Message

*Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,*

Hello to you all and welcome to the week 6 edition of the weekly newsletter. It has been a very busy week once again with the highlight of the week being our 2022 Preps coming to school on Wednesday for their first transition day. We have also had confirmation that our Outside School Hours Care program has been approved as well which is fantastic news! Tune in below for a more detailed overview of our news and updates.

## PREP TRANSITION

Our first prep transition for our 2022 prep enrolments was held on Wednesday morning from 9am—11am. It was wonderful to see our prep enrolment in a classroom environment. All students had a fantastic time in a fun filled morning. We would also like to welcome all our 2022 prep students and their families to Ardmona Primary School.

The next transition day is next Wednesday, the 17th of November from 9am—12pm.

The final transition day will be a full day 7<sup>th</sup> of December aligned with all students moving into their classes for the following year with their new teachers. Please contact Mr Story and or Mr Turner for clarification on these days.

We are also still taking prep enrolments for 2022 as well as new enrolments up to Grade 6.

## OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE APPROVAL

We are excited to officially announce that the Ardmona Primary Schools Outside School Hour's Care program will commence in January 2022. The OHSC program will be able to provide a nurturing home like environment for children and families, in which they can feel safe, secure and supported at all times before and after school.

The program will allow opportunities where the children can develop life skills, communication skills, social & emotional learning skills, self-worth, independence, open-ended learning and creativity and children develop positive relationships between educators, and feel welcomed and supported.

The aim of the program is to provide activities that are inclusive, stimulating and are of the children's interest.

For further information, please contact the school office 03 5829 0273. For interested parties an information session is scheduled to take place on Friday the 26th of November at 6pm via webex so jump on board and engage with the TheirCare host who can support you with any questions or clarify any of your concerns.

## STAFF VACCINATIONS

The Victorian Chief Health Officer has determined that COVID-19 vaccinations will be mandatory for staff who work in schools. All staff who work in schools have been required to have a first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine by 18th October 2021. Staff are required to be fully vaccinated by 29 November 2021.

## SUN SMART

A reminder that hats are compulsory during this term. Please ensure that you supply your child with theirs or take advantage of purchasing a new one from the school from Mr Turner at a cost of \$15 each.



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# NEWSROUND CONTINUED

## KEEPING COVID SAFE

### VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS ATTENDING SCHOOLS

All parents and carers attending schools, including for drop off and pick up must also adhere to physical distancing, density limits, face mask requirements and practise respiratory etiquette and good hand hygiene.

Parents and carers who enter school buildings must check in using the QR code.

Parents and carers **who enter school buildings** must also have had at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine and must have had two doses of COVID-19 vaccine by 29 November 2021 or have a valid medical exception with the following limited exceptions:

- when attending to administer medical treatment to their own child when the treatment cannot be administered by the school
- when attending to collect their child who is unwell and cannot leave the school building unaccompanied by their parent/carer.
- when attending for a momentary period that does not involve any sustained contact with staff or students, for example, to collect a completed art project or similar.

### UPDATES

- Parents and carers attending any event or activity inside a school building including, but not limited to tours, graduations, kindergarten transition, whole of school events are required to show evidence of vaccination.
- Meetings and other discussions (such as Student Support Group meetings) with parents and carers who do not meet vaccination requirements should be held virtually.
- Parents and carers attending school sites for drop off and pick up who do not enter school buildings do not need to comply with vaccination requirements.

## NEWLY APPOINTED AREA KESO

Throughout the week Ms Varty and Mr Turner had a meeting with Amy Walker via Webex. Amy has just recently been appointed as the Koorie Education Support Officer(KESO) of a few schools within our area. We are delighted to have met with Amy but we are also excited to meet Amy in person here at school on the 30th of November for a morning tea to welcome Amy into our school.

We would also like to invite all of our indigenous families to come and meet Amy on the 30th of November and also enjoy the morning tea.

## ATTENDANCE

Staff are directed to continually maintain daily connections via telephone contact or via learning platforms to contact families in support of student learning and attendance. Please inform your child's teacher of your child being absence. Attendance and daily check ins with staff are essential in supporting your child's learning at school and also when completing remote work on any occasion at home.

## 2022 DOXA CAMP

Doxa camp is set for June 2022 thus whilst early in our news please consider that payment plans can be put into place so to accommodate our Melbourne campers with the anticipated cost approximately \$160 per student.

Feel free to have a chat if it is the case.



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## Grade F—3 Star of the Week

Stars of the Week!

Blake Young (F-3)



*Well done to Blake for having a fantastic week. He has shown great behaviors all week by following the three school values. Blake was also a fantastic helper with our prep transition students on Wednesday! Keep up the great work Blake!*

## Grade F—3 Classroom News

Welcome to the week 6 junior classroom news!

Much like last week we have had a very busy week in the junior class with a number of different assessment being completed. Our Number Fluency Assessments have been completed with students progressing in all 4 testing topics of Counting, Numeration, Addition & Subtraction and Multiplication & Division. We have also been busy testing students on their reading levels as well as their high frequency words which will also roll into next week.

On Wednesday we were fortunate enough to be able to hold out first transition morning for our 2022 prep enrolments. It was great to meet our prep students and have them in for the morning to help ease the transition into primary school and help create friendships along the way! A focal point of the session was reading *The Gruffalo* with all students which we will also incorporate into our next transition day on Wednesday the 17th from 9am—12pm.

It was also great to have some of the senior students join the class for the morning to help and be buddies for the transition students.

**Mn Story**



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## Grade 4-6 Star of the Week

**Stars of the Week!**

**Beau Lummas**<sub>(4-6)</sub>



*Well done to Beau who has been working really hard on his reading this term and it has really shown! He passed two goals on his Fountas and Pinnell Reading test and is reading very fluently and showing great enthusiasm towards his reading. Great work Beau!*

## Grade 4—6 Classroom News

Welcome to week 6 everyone!

In Literacy this week we have been focusing on making connections when reading, we have been making the following connections; text to text, text to self and text to the world around us. It has been fantastic to see the great connections students have been making. In writing we have begun a new topic of historical recounts, and have begun exploring the text structure and language features of historical recounts.

In numeracy we have continued on with our new topic of angles and transformations. This week we have created our own protractors and measured angles around the school and sorted them into categories of right angles, straight angles, acute angles and obtuse angles. We have also looked at the transformation of various shapes and their rotational symmetry.

On Wednesday we welcomed our Foundation students for their first transition session and a big thank you goes to our senior students for helping out with the juniors and their transition activities.

On Thursday we participated in an online Remembrance Day service live streamed from the Shrine of Remembrance in Melbourne. It was fantastic to see how respectful our students were in participating in the online service.

Lastly a reminder to listen to your child read every night or morning at home and fill out their reading log. It really does make a big impact on their reading! Thank you for your support.

**Mr Tunks**



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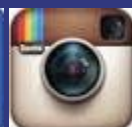
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How is **YOUR** head today?  
What **THOUGHTS** are taking  
up most of your  
headspace?  
It's okay not to be **OKAY**.  
Remember, **HELP** is just a  
phone call away.



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# Supporting young children during COVID-19

## What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 novel coronavirus is a worldwide pandemic. Luckily few young children have fallen ill. Most of the sick children have had mild cases. However, young children are highly affected by the isolation and the anxiety of their parents, carers and other adults.

Adults may think that children will not notice all the changes and stress, but they are very sensitive to what is going on. This info sheet describes some ways children react to stress and some things you can do to help them.

### Common Emotional Reactions in Young Children

- Crying
- Restlessness
- Sleep problems
- Nightmares
- Being clingy
- Fear of being alone
- Easily upset or angered
- Withdrawn

They may also engage in repetitive play activities with themes about fear and protective behaviours, such as caring for dolls and toy animals.

You may also see behaviours such as bed wetting and thumb sucking in children who had previously outgrown these activities.

### Concerns for family

If you're a parent or primary carer for a child or children and need to be separated for any length of time during the pandemic, talk to the children using electronic means as often as possible during the day and at bedtime. If possible, do this via Skype, Messenger, Zoom or Facetime so they can see you.

Children in care may have additional concerns about family members, or their past trauma may be triggered (e.g. food uncertainty). They may need additional regulating activities (physical and sensory).

### ROUTINES are very important for young children.

Creating new routines or re-establishing usual routines can help children feel safe. Keeping regular mealtimes and bedtimes, setting a daily time to play games together, read to them, or singing songs together all help.

**SUPPORT** from parents or caregivers is very important during periods of stress. Parents may be physically present but not available emotionally because they are so stressed themselves. It's important to make time to reassure young children and spend time with them. Even young children can benefit from seeing playmates or family members on video conferencing.

## How you can help

**EXPLAIN** why things are different. Young children may not understand why things have changed (like why they cannot go outside or play with other children) but talking with them will help them feel supported by you. Keep explanations simple.

### TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

This is very important. Even if young children are not directly exposed to the trauma, they can recognize stress and worry in older children and adults in the house. Reach out to your support network and remember social distancing and even physical self-isolation does not mean social isolation.

This information sheet has been derived from: Joy D. Osofsky, Ph.D. Paul J. Ramsey Chair of Psychiatry Barbara Lemann Professor of Child Welfare LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, LA and Howard J. Osofsky, M.D., Ph.D. Kathleen and John Bricker Chair of Psychiatry.

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