



NEWSLETTER No. 2

Friday, 12th February 2021



DIARY DATES

TERM 1

FEBRUARY

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday 15th | Swimming Yrs 3-6 Duck Cup Meeting 7pm |
| Tuesday 16th | Pancake Day Swimming Carnival - Whole School |
| Wednesday 17th | Ash Wednesday Mass Sport - Mr Peavey Prep Rest Day (last one) |
| Thursday 18th | Book Club Orders due |
| Friday 19th | Hockey Clinic - Years 2-6 |
| Tuesday 23rd | Parent Teacher Interviews |
| Wednesday 24th | HDSSA Swimming Carnival Stratford Pony Club Interschool Prep's first full week Sport - Mr Peavey |

MARCH

| | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Tuesday 2nd | Wellington Division Swimming |
| Wednesday 3rd | Sport - Mr Peavey |
| Saturday 6th | Commitment Mass - 6pm |
| Monday 8th | Labour Day Public Holiday |
| Sunday 28th | 2021 Duck Cup - 2pm-5pm |

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It was lovely to be able to gather together for our Welcome BBQ and bootball, even though we were cut short by the weather. We had a fantastic turn up and I think I can safely say that everyone enjoyed being able to socialize once again, even with the restrictions. I came to realise after missing out last year that being able to have whole school and family events is an integral part of our St Michael's community. Nothing can replace that face to face contact and the making of memories together. Let us hope and pray that we will be able to continue and that families will once again be welcomed into our schools without any rules or restrictions.

TERM DATES 2021



- TERM 1** - 29 January - 1 April*
- TERM 2** - 19 April - 25 June
- TERM 3** - 12 July - 17 September
- TERM 4** - 4 October - 17 December

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

- Term 1 - Monday 8 March (Labour Day)
- *Friday 2 April (Good Friday)

SCHOOL CAPTAINS' MESSAGE

Everybody has had a good couple of weeks back at school. We are sure that it will continue for the rest of the year. Having new students join us has been great for new friendships and different people to chat to and play with.

Our main focus this term is to be the best learner you can be—some of the qualities of being a great learner are showing confidence, persistence and challenging yourself. We hope everyone aims high and tries to reach their goals.



*Never
stop
learning*

P & F DUCK CUP MEETING

There will be a P & F Duck Cup Meeting on Monday evening at 7pm in the staffroom at school. Please observe our Covid rules if you attend. If you would like to be part of this Committee or are interested in finding out more, please come along.



St Michael's Primary School acknowledge and pay our respects to the Gunaikurnai people, traditional custodians of the land on which the school is built. As a school community, we commit to walk alongside our First Nations people for reconciliation, truth and justice.





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WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

We cannot thank our parents enough for volunteering. It makes our job as teachers that bit easier. Just a reminder though to make sure that you have a current Working With Children Check card as a safe guard for yourself as well as the school. If you need a WWCC you can apply at www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au and please add our school as a place where you volunteer. Volunteer applications are free! **Please show your card to Jennie or Tina in the office.**

NOTICES & MONEY

When notices or forms are sent home on **yellow paper** to parents/guardians, these forms are to be signed and returned to school. Any money sent to school for an activity should be in a named envelope or clip lock bag and given to the classroom teacher.

LUNCH ORDERS

Lunch orders for children can be purchased from The Corner Store and the Heyfield Bakery on **Fridays**. Parents are required to place orders for their children at the shop. Children are not permitted to have fizzy drinks or lollies.



CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE PROGRAM

The conveyance allowance is a form of financial assistance to help families in rural and regional Victoria with the cost of transporting their children to their nearest appropriate school/campus. The conveyance allowance is available to eligible students travelling by public transport, private car and private bus. The conveyance allowance is also available to eligible students whose nearest school is not serviced by a free school bus and travel more than 4.8kms to school.

Please contact the office to obtain a form as they must be lodged soon.

ON TRACK WITH MARY MAC!

Congratulations to Shelby for receiving the Mary MacKillop Award this week. Shelby has demonstrated the qualities of Mary MacKillop through her attitude and actions and is a terrific role model for everyone.



This year we want to be on track with Mary Mac and...

"Never see a need without doing something about it"



At the end of the term, Mary MacKillop Award recipients are invited to lunch with Mrs Miller. If it fits within the restrictions at the time, this lunch will be at one of the local cafes.

CSEF 2021

(Camp, Sports, Excursion Fund)

Eligible concession cardholders.

If you are the holder of a current Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card (Card expiry on 01/01/2021 or later), you may be eligible to apply for CSEF in 2021.

A payment of \$125 is made direct to the school and comes off the costs of your child's camps and excursions levies. If you haven't already done so this year then **please contact the office to obtain a form as they must be lodged soon.**

For more information about the CSEF please visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

WEEKLY RAFFLE

During the week, staff recognise students who have been following our school rules of RESPECT out in the playground by giving them a raffle ticket. At assembly we draw out a raffle ticket and the winning student receives a voucher for a lunch order. When this is presented at either the bakery or the Corner Store, they know that the school will pay for the lunch order.



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OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE HEYFIELD YOUTH PLAY PRECINCT

Our school captains had their first official public duty on Saturday when they represented St Michael's at the opening of the pump track. They got to meet Darren Chester and were part of the official party alongside the captains from Heyfield PS, the Wellington Shire mayor and counsellors Carolyn Crossley and Malcolm Hole. Jamie Woolan also spoke at the opening; he was one of the key people who got the project off the ground and kept the momentum going. We are fortunate to have such civic minded people working for our community. The opening was a great success with lots of exciting prizes and fun activities.



available to help at the carnival, please contact Kellie Hole or the front office.

FIRST ASSEMBLY

We had a very successful first assembly and celebrated our new student leadership groups with the presentation of their badges.

Our SRC consists of our captains and vice captains and an elected class representative from each grade. I am sure they will be excellent role models and representatives for all students at our school.



Our House Captains will begin their first official duties when we have our swimming carnival next Tuesday. They have a House meeting on Friday so that they can motivate their team and have them ready for the Carnival.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

We will be holding our whole school Swimming Carnival on Tuesday, 16th February. This is Pancake Day but I don't think that will slow our swimmers down. Children get to wear their house colours on this day and cheer on their team. They can wear face paint (put on at home as we are unable to share and because of allergies), wigs, etc. Rooms 3, 4 & 5 will walk to the pool ready to start at 11.30am. We will bring the Prep/1 students down once the main races have been completed – this is so they don't have to wait around too long before their turn to swim. Prep/1 races will be in the toddler pool.

Parents/carers are welcome to attend the carnival; volunteers must have a current WWCC that is on record at school before the event. Everyone who attends must sign in using the QR code at the entrance to the pool. If you are





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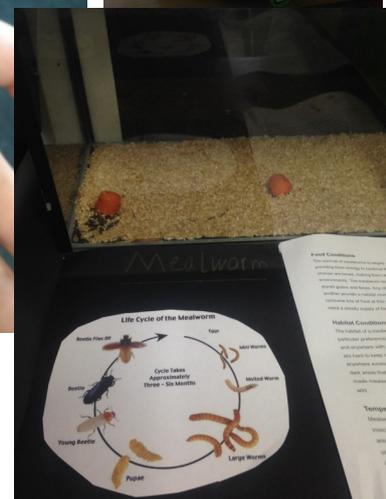
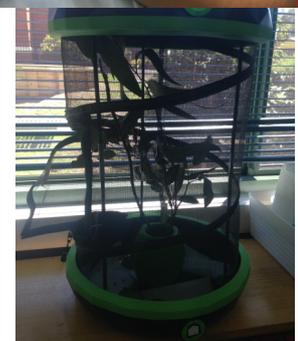
BIG PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Keep the 16th February free and join us on Shrove Tuesday from 8:20am for a big pancake breakfast. You should have received a separate note about this so that you can put it on your fridge! We will be picnicking on the grass so that everyone can sit in family groups (grandparents are welcome) and be covid compliant. Staff will serve up delicious pancakes, maple syrup, ice cream and fruit. We are not asking parents to pre cook pancakes as we have in the past so just come along and enjoy the occasion. Adults will need to sign in using the QR code though.



GETTING CLOSE TO NATURE IN ROOM 5

Students in room 5 are creating a fascinating class environment that fits perfectly with their integrated topic on animals and adaptations. So far they have a class pet, a well camouflaged stick insect, and they are looking after mealworms so that they can observe their life cycle. Angus brought in one of his pets—a bearded dragon named Rexene (have you made the link with the name?). The class learnt how involved it is to care for lizards and other reptiles and Angus has been awarded Writer of the Week for his report on the same subject. You may remember Luna from last year, Miriama's St Bernard puppy. She is 7 months old now and massive. Sharon is hoping to train Luna so that she can be a 'reading' dog so she went along with the children on the walk to swimming as part of her training. Let's hope that Luna learns quickly!



Writer of the Week



BEARDED DRAGONS

Written by Angus

I have a bearded dragon named Rexene. She sparked lots of interest when she came to visit our class this week. I thought I would write a guide for caring for bearded dragons in case people are considering getting one as a pet.

Getting a Lizard: Firstly, you need a reptile licence, which is a lengthy process but worth the effort.

Housing: My lizard's enclosure is an average 40-42 degrees. It has to be very hot because in her natural environment it would be 40-50 degrees so she has to be in a pretty hot environment. You may ask, how would I keep it that hot? Well, it's simple. I have three 18 watt uv lamps overhanging the cage and one 100 watt red light lamp in the cage with a thin metal cage surrounding it so she doesn't burn herself when she lays on it.

Food: For Rexene, I use strawberries, grapes, blueberries, king mealworms, normal mealworms and beetles.

Rexene can only have 30 minutes to an hour outside because if she's outside for too long she can get blood disease or a common cold but since she is cold blooded these are near fatal diseases.

Rexene is three and a half years old and I've had her for about a year and a half and since then she's just got fatter and fatter and lazier over time.

LEARNING IN ROOM 2

The prep/one class have had a fantastic start to the year, it has been wonderful to see the children forming new friendships and settling into their learning environment.

On Thursdays and Fridays the children are participating in learning investigation sessions. These sessions are based on the 'Walker Learning' approach, which is an effective learning model that provides a unique balance between the children being active participants in their learning and explicit instruction. Each week Mrs Cheshire sets up different learning investigations for the children to explore; this week we have a vet, literacy, numeracy, sensory, artist and collage stations. The children are using lots of different skills to investigate, negotiate and cooperate.





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WELCOME BBQ & BOOTBALL CHALLENGE

Thank you to everyone for making the effort and coming along to our BBQ. It was a lovely evening and a great opportunity for our new families to meet with our school community. We will have to call the bootball a draw as the adults didn't get their turn to challenge the kids!





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BOOK CLUB

Book Club catalogues were sent home this week and orders are due in by **Thursday, 18th February**. Book Club can be ordered online by using Scholastic's LOOP facility (please see below information) or by bringing your order and money to school.

SCHOLASTIC
Book Club LOOP
 for Parents

LOOP is the Scholastic Book Club
 Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for parents.
 To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit:
www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP

GET IT ON Google play | Download on the App Store



5th February

Kaylee - showing confidence when making a speech in front of the class when running for SRC.

Lily D - showing confidence when making a speech in front of the class when running for SRC.

Harper - showing confidence when making a speech in front of the class when running for SRC.

Tayla - welcome back to St. Michael's.

Chloe - a wonderful start to St. Michael's. Welcome!

Mitchell - a wonderful start to St. Michael's. Welcome!

Noah - a wonderful start to St. Michael's. Welcome!

Emmagen - a wonderful start to St. Michael's. Welcome!

Tahlia - taking initiative by helping her peers. Well done!
Shelby - making such a positive start. Great contributions in class!

Luther - striving to give his best in all classes. Excellent attitude!

Lahni - the enthusiasm and positive manner you have displayed on starting at St. Michael's.

Mikayla - settling in well and being kind and caring towards other students.

Belle - settling in well and for making an effort to make new friends.

12th February

Evie - being a good friend and taking turns.

Arthur - being so helpful when setting up the ipads. Well done!

Molly - excellent working habits.

Tori - her positive attitude and eagerness to learn. Well done Tori!

Zac - showing compassion towards others. Well done!

Phoenix - challenging himself in Maths, using his understanding to help others.

Archer - a positive start to the year and making good learning choices.



BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday and apologies to these people who were omitted from the last newsletter.

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| Shelby | 6th January |
| Angus | 18th January |
| Mitchell | 29th January |

Happy Birthday to the following people who celebrated their birthday today and over the past two weeks.

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|---------|---------------|
| Tori | 31st January |
| Zac | 3rd February |
| Evie | 12th February |
| Fr Siju | 12th February |





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St Michael's
Primary School
HEYFIELD

2021 ST MICHAEL'S ANNUAL DUCK CUP

Family fun day filled with kids activities, jumping castles, food and much more!

March 28th, 2021 | 2 PM to 5 PM
Heyfield Wetlands

TICKETS: \$15

includes: entry, access to rides,
sausage sizzle* and

**Entry into the
DUCK CUP for your chance
to WIN \$1000**

*additional food and drinks
available for purchase



Sponsored by



For more information, go to our
Facebook page
[fb.com/duckcup](https://www.facebook.com/duckcup)

This event is organised and run by the St Michael's Heyfield Primary School Parents & Friends committee. The funds raised go towards helping the school and the students.