



## NEWSLETTER No. 1

Friday, 4th February, 2022



### DIARY DATES

#### TERM 1

#### FEBRUARY

Wednesday 9th	Prep Rest Day
Wednesday 16th	Prep Rest Day
	Yrs 3-6 Swimming Trials
Saturday 17th	Heyfield Timber Festival
Monday 21st	Hockey Clinic 1-4 TBC
Wednesday 23rd	Prep Rest Day (last one)
	HDSSA Swimming Carnival TBC

#### MARCH

Tuesday 1st	Shrove Tuesday/Pancake Day
Wednesday 2nd	Ash Wednesday Mass TBC

*Please note: Dates may change due to COVID regulations. Updates will be placed on the school app, and on the website.*

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

We have launched into 2022 with a few ups and downs—luckily we are used to it by now and seem to be able to adapt. I think it is a reflection of what a great team and school community we have here at St Michael's. Everyone just pitches in and makes sure that things run smoothly. I'd also like to thank everyone for the support and compassion I received with the passing of my mum. It helps to know that I am surrounded by a loving and caring community.

This term our whole school focus will be on 'Being the best learner you can be' and we will be exploring in depth the traits that help you to be a successful and switched on learner, such as work confidence, persistence, organization and team work. These skills and attitudes can be learned and can be built on so that students become strong and connected learners who can think flexibly, creatively,

### TERM DATES 2022



TERM 1	- 28 January - 8 April
TERM 2	- 26 April - 24 June
TERM 3	- 11 July - 16 September
TERM 4	- 3 October - 20 December

#### PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Term 1	- Monday 14 March (Labour Day)
	*Friday 15 April (Good Friday)
Term 2	- Monday 25 April (ANZAC Day)
	27th May Reconciliation Week
	Monday 13 June (Queen's Birthday)
Term 4	- Tuesday 1 November (Melbourne Cup)

logically and ethically. If we, as a school community, can achieve this then the future will be looking good.

LEARNING  
IS A TREASURE THAT WILL  
FOLLOW ITS OWNER  
EVERYWHERE.

Chinese Proverbs  
InspirationBoost.com

### SCHOOL CAPTAIN'S MESSAGE

We hope you have had a great holiday and are ready for 2022. We are looking forward to being your School Captains this year. We are proud to be School Captains and want to be positive role models and strong leaders in our school.



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.



## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Congratulations to our student leaders for 2022. Our school captains are Lahni and Zac and our vice-captains are Mikayla and Ben. I am sure they will be excellent role models and leaders of our school. I am looking forward to working with them all.

The Student Representative Committee is still to be decided—each grade elects a class representative who will attend meetings and be involved in the decision making. Our SRC plans at least one social justice activity per term in keeping with our Catholic social responsibilities.

This year we have three House Captains for each House: Joseph (Yellow) Captains are Max, Stella and Miriama, MacKillop (Red) Captains are Mia, Ruby and Shelby and Michael (Blue) Captains are Cooper, Caleb and Belle. We envisage that our House Captains will be taking on a more active leadership role this year as we will extend their role out beyond the sports carnivals.

## ON TRACK WITH MARY MAC!

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and the Josephite sisters set up schools in Australia and New Zealand. They also set up houses for elderly women, young girls and women without jobs. They gave their life to people in need often giving comfort to the sick and dying and even visiting people in jail to give them whatever help they could.



Throughout the year we will be looking at the life and work of Mary MacKillop and the Josephite sisters (who founded our school). St Mary of the Cross is a terrific role model for our lives. She was the model of an independent woman who showed great strength and persistence, dedicating her life to the promotion of justice for all and education for everyone, especially in small towns that might not otherwise have a school.

We will also be connecting with our local Parish story and are excited about finding out about the history of both the church and the school.

## NEW TO OUR SCHOOL

This year we welcome Tilka Brown and Liane Barry to our staff. Tilka started with us in term 4 last year and will be continuing in 2022. Tilka will be teaching Italian on a Friday and in the 5/6 on a Wednesday. Liane will be teaching in the Prep class on a Thursday and Friday. Both Liane and Tilka are a great addition to our staff and between them they bring a wealth of experience and a passion for teaching.

We are also pleased to welcome Charlotte into the 5/6, Justin into the 3/4, and Isabelle and Hayden into the 1/2. It's great to see all these new faces and I'm looking forward to hearing how they are settling in. We hope their families love our St Michael's community as much as we do.



## FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

We welcome our new Preps who have made a great start to the year. We have been amazed at how organised and settled they are even though it's only been a short time. They've also impressed us with their independence—it looks like it's going to be a good year! We welcome Alex, Lewis, Marshall, Ruby, Ged, Corbin, Lilli-Rose, Olivia, Kathleen, Erika, Indi and Mia and we pray for God's blessing as they begin school life.



Unfortunately Lewis had to miss the first week but we are looking forward to him starting on Monday!



## UNIFORM & SPORTS DAYS

Sports days for this term are **Monday** and **Wednesday** so these are the only days where students can wear their sports uniform. If your child is out of uniform, please notify their classroom teacher of the reason. Just a reminder that in terms 1 and 4 hats are compulsory, although we would encourage students to wear their hats all year.

Please monitor your child and their uniform throughout the year and make sure they are wearing the correct uniform. Our school rules of RESPECT include respecting yourself and a part of that is presenting yourself well and wearing the uniform with pride.

## SWIMMING

Unfortunately Kemp Aquatics have had difficulty getting qualified swimming instructors to run the 3-6 swimming program. We have had to postpone the swimming program until the end of the year, when we will have two weeks of swimming. We also hope to have swimming trials on the 16th February for students in Year 3-6. Our participation in interschool carnivals will be subject to the Covid restrictions as advised by Doscel. At this stage, the P-2 program will go ahead in Term 2 at Kemp Aquatics in Maffra.



## CLASS NEWSLETTERS

You should receive a class newsletter next week if you haven't done so already. Each newsletter will outline important features and expectations of your child's class. For example, information about homework, specific class structures, classroom rules and consequences, behavioural expectations, learning topic for the term, and so on. Please read this information carefully and get in touch with your child's classroom teacher if you require additional information.

You should also receive a request to join Class Dojo. Class Dojo is a very easy and effective way for parents and classroom teachers to communicate with each other in this busy world.

## CLASS DOJO

All grades will be using Class Dojo again this year to enhance communication between home and school. We strongly recommend that you sign up when you receive the information—it is a simple and easy way to keep in contact with your child's teacher.



**Please be aware that during the school day, classroom teachers do not have time to check and/or respond to Dojo messages as they are too busy teaching. Please ring the office if you have a message to pass on.**

## REMINDER ABOUT THE SCHOOL APP

This is just a reminder to everyone to make sure that you have the school app on your phones. The app is the school's official online communication for messages and calendar dates - Facebook is administered by P & F and doesn't include regular school notifications. The newsletter is also uploaded to the app so you can access it anytime. **In an emergency, the app allows us to send out important information to our whole school community.**

## WELCOME BBQ & BOOTBALL CHALLENGE

We know that the bootball trophy is still hanging there, waiting to be claimed. However, we have decided to postpone the Welcome BBQ and Bootball Challenge until later in the term; hopefully things will have settled down a bit with Covid and the rules about visitors. It might also give me a little bit of extra time to do some more recruiting for the adults team!



## FAREWELL

We say farewell to our four Year 6 students from last year and wish them every success as they start on their Secondary School journey. We hope they have had a great start to Year 7. We're going to miss them.



## BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to the following people who celebrated their birthday during the holidays.

Ruby D	4th January
Shelby	6th January
Tahlia	7th January
Mrs Miller	9th January
Poppy B	13th January
Corbin	19th January
Ged	20th January
Harper	28th January
Mitch	29th January
Eli	30th January
Zac	3rd February



## PARKING ZONE REMINDER

At drop off and pick up times, please make sure not to park in the area between the sign posts at the Davis Street entrance to the School. **This area is reserved for School buses only** and if a car is parked there it makes it difficult for the bus to deliver and pick up the students in a safe manner.



If you park on Davis Street to collect your children, it is also important to park on the school side of the road. Davis Street is far too busy at pick up time and children should not be crossing the road on their own. Children are to remain inside the school grounds until they are collected by a parent/carer.

## TIMBER FESTIVAL

Unfortunately Covid has impacted on the Heyfield Timber Festival plans and, whilst it will be going ahead, we will not be able to do some of the planned activities. The Committee have said that they will try to reschedule the Mill visit and Timberworker Memorial visit until later in the year. We had hoped to be a part of the parade but will have to pass on that for this year (fingers crossed for next

year). Our students will be doing some artwork for the festival so make sure you visit the stadium to see what all the school students love and value about living in and around Heyfield.

## INTERNATIONAL TRAVELLERS

Poppy, Solveig, Morgane and Luke were very lucky to be able to squeeze in a visit to Morgane's family in France before Christmas.



Of course, it wouldn't have been a trip to France without a visit to the Eiffel Tower and the Louvre.





