



NEWSLETTER No. 2

Friday, 17th February, 2023



DIARY DATES

TERM 1

FEBRUARY

Saturday 18th	Heyfield Timber Festival
Sunday 19th	Timber Festival Street Parade 10am
Monday 20th	Swimming Carnival
Tuesday 21st	Pancake Day Big Breakfast
Wednesday 22nd	Ash Wednesday Mass 9.30am Prep Rest Day (last one)
Thursday 23rd	CCS Parent Information Evening
Friday 24th	Hockey Clinics (sports uniform)
Monday 27th	Preps resume full time Sport with Andrew P
Tuesday 28th	HDSSA Swimming Carnival

MARCH

Wednesday 1st	Parent/Teacher Interviews
Thursday 2nd	Timber Mills Tour Years 3-6
Monday 6th	Wellington Swimming Carnival
Wednesday 15th	Naplan Commences
Thursday 16th	Gippsland Region Swimming
Friday 17th	St Patrick's Day
Monday 20th	Final Naplan Session
Tuesday 21st	Harmony Day
Monday 27th	AFL Clinic Session 1
Wednesday 29th	SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Thank you everyone for joining us for the Welcome BBQ. It was a lovely evening and it had a great 'vibe'. I'm also very pleased to say that the adults were very competitive in the Boot Ball Challenge and were the victors by a very narrow margin. I especially liked how the older students helped the younger children—no one asked them to, they just went ahead and organized it themselves. Caring for others is one of the core values that we learn about and promote,

TERM DATES 2023



TERM 1 - 30 January — 6 April

TERM 2 - 24 April — 23 June

TERM 3 - 10 July — 15 September

TERM 4 - 2 October — 21 December

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Labour Day 13 March

Easter Sunday 9 April

Melbourne Cup 7 November

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAYS

not only as good citizens but as a fundamental part of the Catholic Faith. That is why some of the SRC responsibilities are to organise fundraising activities that help other people in our local and global communities. We will be fundraising for Caritas soon through Project Compassion. We hope you get on board with this and support the SRC in their efforts.

SCHOOL CAPTAINS' MESSAGE

It's been a great start to the year. Although the adults won the Boot Ball, the kids will come back next year and our names will be on the trophy. Watch out parents! The Swimming Carnival is on Monday



and we hope everyone has team spirit and supports everyone in their House. We are looking forward to the Timber Festival and representing St Michael's in the street parade.



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.



ON TRACK WITH MARY MAC!

Congratulations to Poppy for receiving the first Mary MacKillop Award for the year. Like Mary MacKillop, Poppy is a deep thinker who uses her initiative and thinks creatively of ways we can make our school and the world a better place. We thank you Poppy for your leadership and for being a great role model to others.



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



"Never see a need without doing something about it"



MORNING SUPERVISION

This is a reminder that there is no yard or student supervision until 8.25am. Staff need to use the time before this to get ready for the school day. Please be aware that once students arrive at school we have a duty of care to supervise them. Please be mindful of this when you drop your children off and monitor the time they leave for school so that they are not arriving before 8.25am.

HOCKEY CLINICS

There will be hockey clinics for all students on Friday, 24th February. Students will need to wear their sports uniform on this day. The clinics are being run by Hockey Victoria.

SRC REPORT

SRC had their first meeting on Monday.

On the agenda for each meeting will be the following areas:



- Student Education
- Social Justice
- School Environment

As part of **Student Education**, SRC will be writing articles for the Newsletter, sharing at assembly and keeping the Student Noticeboard updated.

For **Social Justice**, SRC will plan an activity that will help others or our environment. This term they will be organising a fundraising activity for Project Compassion. Each week everyone will find out about how their support helps other people. SRC would also like to organise something for Harmony Day to promote social inclusion.

For the **School Environment** this week, SRC explained the new school recycling and handed out posters to each classroom showing what goes into each bin.

SRC's Mission is:

To make our school and the world a better place.

They will do this by:

- *Being role models for everyone in our school—respectful, inclusive, fair, responsible and kind.*
- *Representing the views of all students at our school, not just their own views .*
- *Work for social justice—social justice means everyone gets a fair go and is treated respectfully.*
- *Helping to plan whole school activities.*
- *Making our school a better place through their activities, actions and information sharing.*





Truth



10th February

Heath: For being kind and encouraging to other members of our class.

Evie: For her excellent working habits this week. Well done!

Ruby: For asking questions and joining in our class discussions with great information.

Hayden: For displaying excellent listening skills and high levels of participation in swimming.

Molly: For using her initiative and taking active steps to improve her learning.

Poppy: For being an outstanding and mature leader.

17th February

Penny: For working hard to always do her best work.

Olivia: For being organised and ready for each school day. Well done!

Jayden: For being organised and completing his written tasks in allocated time.

Emily: For showing great courage whilst swimming

Chloe: For giving 100% in swimming lessons. She listens & acts on the instructors feedback.

Henry: For working collaboratively in mathematics.

A DATE TO REMEMBER AND REFLECT ON

On **13 February 2008** Prime Minister Kevin Rudd made a formal apology to Australia's Indigenous peoples, particularly to the Stolen Generations whose lives had been blighted by past government policies of forced child removal and Indigenous assimilation.

In this landmark speech, the Government called on all Australians to reflect on the past actions that form an important part of our history. The apology included a resolve to embrace new solutions to enduring problems where old approaches had failed, and a future based on mutual respect and mutual responsibility.

Excerpt from <https://www.niaa.gov.au/>



PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

All families should have received a note about preferred times for the Parent/Teacher interviews. We will send out your allocated times early next week. If you are unable to make it, please contact the office and we will arrange an alternate time. This may be on a different day.

These meetings are a good chance to touch base with your child's teacher to find out how they are settling in and what sort of start they have made to the year.

It is an opportunity to ask any questions you may have about how the class operates and a chance to share your vision of what you would like for your child this year.

The time slot is only 10 minutes so if you have any bigger concerns you may need to make an appointment to talk to your child's classroom teacher.



NINE SQUARE IN THE AIR

We have a new addition to our playground equipment :



After the 5/6 Camp last year, students were talking about this new game they played. Thanks go to Anika Duncan for sourcing the game and getting us a very generous 50% discount off the price. Thank you also to 9 Square in the Air Pty Ltd for your generosity as well! All the students are having a great time playing this game. What has been most impressive is their turn taking skills and patience as they wait to go in. Well done to everyone!

SWIMMING

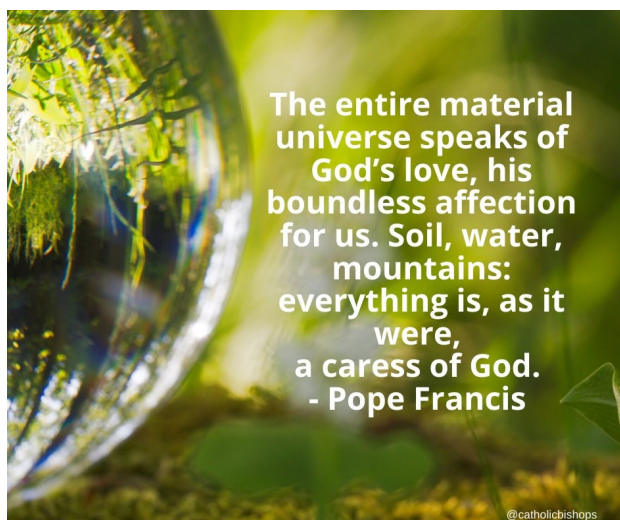
Monday is the whole school Swimming Carnival. Students are encouraged to wear their house colours on the carnival day and show some House Team spirit. They've made a good start—I heard a lot of robust chanting happening as they practised in their house meetings today. The 3-6 students will go to the pool at 11.30am and then the P-2 students will follow on at 12.30pm. Parents are



welcome to join us. We just ask that you don't take photos of other children and adults are asked to use the Accessible Toilet so that students can use the change rooms.

CHOIR

Louise has commenced choir practise again on Thursday lunchtimes. Everyone is welcome to participate. Louise offers a 'come and try' period but students need to commit after this time if they want to be considered for choir. We have been very successful with our choir in the Sale Eisteddfod and are hoping to repeat this success again in 2023. It looks like our numbers are increasing—Louise said she was going to have to make more vests for the choir if the numbers are as high as they were on Thursday!



Go Green!

Our Planet is going through a time where it's important to look after our planet but we should do that no matter what (in my opinion) because as **Mike Berners-Lee** said "There is no planet B" So we should look after what we have.

Here are **10 HOT TIPS** to help the planet and recycle.

1. Keeping your lights off when you don't need to use them is a great way to save energy.
2. Buy less plastic and bring a re-usable shopping bag when shopping.
3. Try to drive less when you have an option to walk or ride, it can also increase your exercise.
4. Try to buy or use less plastic.
5. Look for organic products and ones you can recycle.
6. Support shops that can help the environment.
7. Use containers rather than plastic covers or bags.
8. Buy a bread bag instead of buying bread with a plastic bag.
9. Have a compost bin in your backyard to help our ecosystem grow.
10. Try to reduce the amount of food waste in your household.

Article written by Poppy

NB This will be a regular feature in our newsletter.



BIRTHDAYS

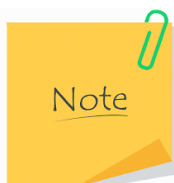
Happy Birthday to the following people who celebrated their birthday in the last fortnight.

Evie	12th February
Justin	14th February
Michael	15th February
Jimmy	17th February



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, Heyfield Pizza and Take Away and the Heyfield Bakery on **Fridays only**. Parents are required to place orders for their children at the shop. Children are not permitted to have fizzy drinks or lollies.

MEDICAL, PHOTO/VIDEO & INTERNET FORMS

Last week various yellow forms were sent home (Medical details, Annual Photograph/Video Permission, Parent/Carer/Student Digital Technologies Agreement & Declaration). These forms enable us to keep our records and school compliance up to date. If you haven't already done so, could you please **return the completed forms to the school as soon as possible**.



TIMBER FESTIVAL

Don't forget, we are meeting in front of Michele Ripper's old dance studio on Sunday at 9.45am for the Street Parade. Students need to be ready to march at this time ie. have their costume on and carrying their props. We had a safety briefing today at school for all the students whose parents sent back the permission note. You are welcome to walk with us as the more adult supervision there is, the better. Otherwise, parents will need to meet us at the Heyfield Bowls Club, which is where we will finish our march.



FINANCIAL CONCESSIONS

Financial concessions are available to eligible families. It is important to note, when concessions are provided, there is no impact on the overall school funding situation.

These concessions may include the Camps Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) of \$125 per child. Concessions are available through the following two categories.

Category 1: Eligible, means-tested Centrelink Concession Card holders:

A family in which the fee payer holds an eligible, means-tested Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) is automatically eligible for a school fee concession. There is a simplified application form and streamlined approval process.

Category 2: Special Consideration:

A family experiencing genuine financial difficulty and not eligible under Category 1, is encouraged to apply for a fee concession. This application requires detailed information in order that an equitable assessment may be made of eligibility for and level of a fee concession.

Application forms are available from the school office and only need to be completed if this is a new application. Current concession holders do not need to reapply.

PANCAKE DAY/SHROVE TUESDAY BIG PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Keep Tuesday, 21st February free and join us on Shrove Tuesday from 8:20am for a big pancake breakfast. Everyone is invited - parents, grandparents, younger siblings. Our plan is to set up tables out on the asphalt and sit together to eat our pancakes.

If you are available to pre-cook pancakes before Tuesday, please pick up a pancake mix from the office. On the day we will heat the pancakes up in the microwave.



ASH WEDNESDAY MASS

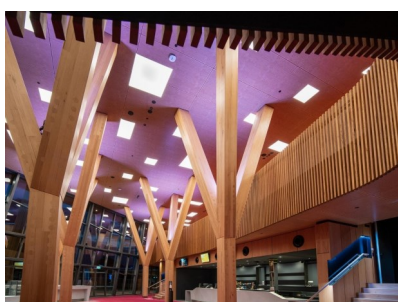
Families are invited to participate in the whole school Mass for Ash Wednesday on 22nd February. The students will be participating in the Parish Mass and will be given readings to practice.

Ash Wednesday marks the first day of Lent. Lent is a time to reflect and think about the things we are sorry for and the things we could do better in the future, especially with our relationships with others and with God.



TIMBER MILLS AND ASH RETAIL CENTRE TOUR

As part of the Timber Festival activities, students in years 3-6 have been invited to participate in a guided tour of the two timber mills and visit the Ash Retail Centre. This will be a fascinating excursion for students as the mills are not usually open to the public. I'm sure the students will get a lot out of it. I'd also like to thank Shane Phillips and ASH Timber for organising this excursion for our students.



Traralgon Arts Centre, made with ASH timber.

DUCK CUP

P & F are busy getting ready for the Duck Cup. If you are available to help, please get in touch with Pip Killeen. The aim is for the Duck Cup to be a family fun day, with a sausage sizzle, sideshow alley and, of course, the Duck Cup Race. Make sure you save the date and come along.



Five tickets per family will be sent home soon. We ask that you try to sell these to your family and friends. The Duck Cup is our major fundraiser for the year and the funds raised support the school in lots of different ways. P & F will also be sending home a roster for Duck Cup sales in front of IGA on a Saturday morning. Families will be allocated a time to sell tickets in a one hour block. We hope you will support the P & F with this as 'many hands make light work'.

STAYING SAFE

In their Digital Technology sessions, students have been learning about how to be safe online. We are sharing some of the posters they made to remind everyone about this.

Cyber safety By Summer.S

- If you have a problem and you don't know, ask a trusted adult.
- Don't use your real name when online.
- Don't meet up in real life if you have not met them.
- Always use a nickname.



Truth

Have You been Feeling Uncomfortable Online **Or** **Feeling Unsure about your Interactions** **Online?**

By POPPY

- **Set your online accounts on private.**
- **Only talk to people you know.**
- **Never give anyone your personal information or passwords.**
- **Make sure you don't send photos of yourself to people you don't know.**
- **Always know how to block mute and report**
- **If you feel you can't trust people online, block them.**
- **If you are having a tough time online always be sure to talk to someone you trust**
- **Never meet someone in real life if you have never met them before even if they ask you to.**



Cyber safety

1. *Don't tell people your address when online.*
2. *Don't talk to people online except for your friends and parents.*
3. *If you are getting bullied online make sure you get a trusted adult to help.*
4. *Don't Tell people your full name or phone number.*
5. *Don't show people your face.*

By Wally.k

How to be safe online



Don't friend people you don't know unless you know they are your friends that you know in real life .

Block people that are being rude or weird or asking you for your location.

Tell an adult or a teacher if someone is asking for your password online or off online.

Don't give clues of where you are or your personal information.

Tell your parents or a trusted adult if you're in trouble or someone is asking to meet up with you .

Don't talk to people you don't know

Don't go on apps that say 13+ if you're not that age .

By Charlotte