

# Portland North Primary School

## NEWSLETTER

No:1.... Thurs 18 February

... is a child safe school



### Principal

Mrs. Cate Elshaug

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### website

[www.portlandnorthprimary.com.au](http://www.portlandnorthprimary.com.au)

### Principal's Message

Welcome back again! Thank you for supporting your children and our school staff this week. It is lovely to have our students back at school with their friends and teachers today. Children are very resilient and after a walk-through this morning, they all appear to be their usual happy selves, working well in their classrooms. However, the wellbeing of all our students is our priority and our school staff and teachers are here to support you and your family. Information that might be of assistance to you in talking to your child about COVID-19 is available. If you are concerned about your wellbeing or that of your child, please contact the school so we can talk with you about how we can best assist. Other sources of support include: Parent Line 13 22 89 and Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800.

Limited COVID restrictions continue to apply to us at school:

- all adults to wear masks indoors
- good hand hygiene practices continue
- restrict entrance to the school for essential business only
- no adults to visit classrooms
- we encourage you to allow your children to walk into school on their own – 2020 proved that they can all do it and that in fact it helps develop their independence and confidence.
- **A QR Code check-in system has been implemented for anyone who visits the school for longer than 15 minutes.** Codes at all entrances.

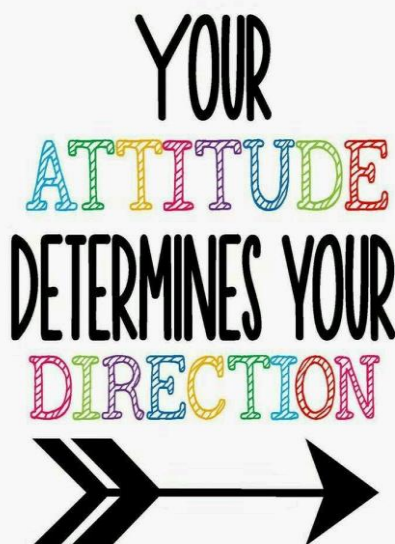
**Information about the Colour Run fundraiser will be sent home tomorrow via Compass and Facebook – please look out for the information and support us in our first fundraiser since 2019!**

**Our School Athletics Day has been changed to best accommodate various other events. It will now be held on March 24<sup>th</sup> at Nelson Park.** Our PE teachers are busy preparing the children and we look forward to having you all there to support your children. More details will be sent home closer to the event.

**Parents Club – we'll try to meet again next Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February at 3:45.** All parents are welcome to join our Parents Club – it is a great way to engage with school and build a connection with other families. We look forward to seeing you there.

Our first **'Class in Focus' assembly** will be held next Wednesday at 3pm. **5/6J** will share their learning, achievements and the highlights of their start to the year. We know that the children will love to see their families in our assembly audience.

**Class Convenors** – we're about to start making phone calls...please contact your child's teacher if you're interested in this class and family liaison role –



## DATES

Curriculum Day change...

**(To be confirmed)**

*no students required at school*

MONDAY 8<sup>th</sup> March

**LABOUR DAY**

*Public holiday*

WEDNESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> March

**Athletics Day**

we would really appreciate your support in further engaging our families with each other and our school.

Given we've just had three days without children at school, we thought it was a timely reminder about **the importance of school attendance**. It is extremely important, particularly with the absence from on-site learning that COVID restrictions have caused, that every child attends school, every day. Missing school has a significant negative impact on a child's learning progress and relationships – both essential elements of wellbeing and flourishing at school. It is a DET requirement that we monitor absences very closely and provide support to families who might require it. Please be in touch if you need support with school attendance.

**School Council Elections: Notice of election and call for nominations.**

Parent membership on our school Council is very important; parents provide diverse viewpoints, have valuable skills, experiences and knowledge that can help inform and shape the direction of our school. Information and nomination forms may be obtained from the school office and must be lodged **by 4:00pm on 12<sup>th</sup> March**.

**Schools' Privacy Policy:** Please follow the link below to remind yourselves of DET's Schools' Privacy Policy, which explains how our school collects and manages personal, and health information, consistent with Victorian privacy law.

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/schoolsprivacypolicy.aspx#link10>

**Positive Education** – our focus at the beginning of the year has been to build positive relationships and establish positive classroom cultures for learning. The children have collaborated to develop their Classroom Agreements, which outline the ways in which they have agreed to approach their learning and interact with each other. The Classroom Agreements will be published and sent home to families in the coming days. All Classroom Agreements should reflect our school vision and values, which focus on the development of positive relationships to ensure that every child flourishes. **Our school values are: Trust, Forgiveness, Integrity, Hope, Kindness and Gratitude.** Perhaps you can have a discussion with your children about those values and what they mean to you as a family – what does it look like and sound like if your family is acting on those values? How does practicing those values help you as a family?

***Well done to the recipients of our appreciations this week – they all reflect our school values and are great role models in the way they act on and live those values! We are very grateful for the contribution they make to helping make our school a wonderful place to learn and grow!***

*Cate*

PNPS STUDENT APPRECIATION AWARD			
TRUST	FORGIVENESS	INTEGRITY	HOPE COMPASSION
Grade	Name	Grade	Name
SAUNDERS	Xander Mills	BROWN	Solly Taunoa
BILL	Jade Brewster	ROLL	Quinn Fleming
JESS	Teigh Flannery Jasmine Roberts	JONES	Leah Goldsworthy
KING	Flynn Brewster	ENGLEZOS	Matthew Ward
Student Leaders	Prep class		



This week I offer my appreciation to  
**Max Medley**  
 ... thank you for helping our school and cleaning up the library every morning.  
 We see you and we appreciate you.

APPRECIATION AWARDS PRESENTED at our Wednesday assembly, 3.10pm

# (CSEF) Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund

The 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 means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent you may be eligible for CSEF. To be eligible, cards need to be current on 27/1/21 in term one and 19/4/21 for term two. The annual CSEF amount for primary school student is \$125.

## How to Apply (by 25/6/2021)

Contact the school office ASAP to obtain a CSEF application form or download from [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef). If you applied for the CSEF at this school in 2020 you do not need to complete an application form in 2021 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** – if your child has started or changed schools in 2021 or you did not apply in 2020.
- **Changed family circumstances** – such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2021

*...please see or call Kerry or Di in the office for all enquiries*

## Healthy Lunch box tips

Packing a healthy lunchbox for all ages



When food shopping, buy fresh fruit and vegetables in season. This ensures good quality and value for money.



Get your kids involved when preparing snacks for their lunchboxes. They are more likely to eat what they have made.



Include foods from each of the five food groups.



Aim for a rainbow of different coloured fruit and vegetables. This gives your child the energy and nutrients they need to grow, learn, play and stay healthy.



Pack foods in reusable containers. They are better for the environment, healthier and easier for kids to handle.



Include a refillable water bottle. No need for sweetened drinks, as they contain too much sugar.



Keep food cold by using a cooler lunch box or ice packs. This keeps food safe.



Try different options, like sushi, salads, pasta and noodles. Different sandwich fillings can keep your child interested too.



Avoid packing sometimes foods like chips, biscuits and chocolate.

**BOOKCLUB DUE  
FRIDAY 19<sup>TH</sup>  
FEBRUARY TO  
THE OFFICE  
PLEASE**

**Outside School  
Hours Care  
Program**

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**

Limited Spots Available

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or call 0419 904 056 for details.

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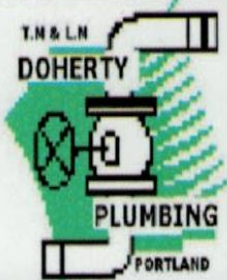
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