



Portland North Primary School

... is a child safe school

NEWSLETTER ... *Thursday 14 July, 2022*



WELCOME BACK!

Principal's Message...

We wish you all a very warm welcome back to Term 3; I feel like I say this repeatedly, but I can't believe we're half-way through the year already! We hope you all enjoyed a break in the busy routine of 'doing' school and had some time to replenish your (and the children's) batteries. We ended Term 2 with a lot of very unwell children, however it seems that everyone has returned much healthier...so far! Like everyone else, we remain concerned about the extent and spread of COVID cases in the community and will continue to make our school environment as hygienic as we can. RATs will continue to be sent home regularly, hand hygiene expectations remain in place, and children who are unwell will be sent home to prevent widespread outbreaks of either COVID or the flu. We continue to appreciate your support in keeping sick children at home and keeping us informed of COVID cases as they arise. We have our fingers crossed that Term 3 will be much healthier and far less disrupted than the first half of the year.

Our Positive Education focus for the start of the term is **Positive accomplishment and decision making**. This area aims to create a positively charged approach to change and improving decision making by using our character strengths. This area also focuses on embracing change with hope, grit and openness - and to learn from our experiences. We will explore reasons for acting in particular ways and how decision making can affect ourselves and those around us.

We hope you enjoyed reading your child's mid-year progress report. Given the disruption and ongoing challenges related to COVID, flu and gastro absences, we are pleased with the progress most children have made, and we continue to support those children who need it. We began our **Student Progress Conferences** on Wednesday evening, and they continue tonight and tomorrow. **It is expected that all children attend the conference with their parent/carers; they have put effort into preparing to share their achievements and learning goals with you and are excited to celebrate their successes with you.**

You might have noticed that the front garden around the Music Room is undergoing a significant transformation. Late last term we were successful at being awarded a **Project 70 grant**, which is intended to raise awareness and celebrate the historical links of the **Queens Jubilee and Portland North PS 150th anniversary in 2023**. We aim to have 150 students' plant 70 trees at the entrance of our school creating a meeting place for assemblies and community activities: honouring her Majesty and her 70 years of service to the Commonwealth.

Project 70 will embed a rich understanding of the Queen and her importance to our region complementing our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program, Hands on Learning and inquiry learning into Australian History. The children will be involved in the planning, development, and maintenance of the area, along with providing research into commemorative signage to educate future generations. It will be a rather ambitious project and we'd really appreciate the support of our school community in helping to complete it. **We propose two working bees – August 12th and October 21st – please put those dates in your calendar and we'll send out more information prior to the events.**

Last term School Council approved the proposal to engage a playground 'master planner' who will consult with all members of our school community to develop a cohesive master plan for ongoing playground development. We are very appreciative of the hard work that Parents Club has done in raising funds to support playground improvements, and want to make sure that the funds are well used to provide the best playground environment we can. We will keep you posted on progress and let you know when consultations sessions will be held. We are very excited about the creation of a 'grand plan' and the guidance it will provide for ongoing improvements.

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In the last newsletter, I asked parents/carers to consider becoming involved in our **Parents Club** and I thank the parents who have already expressed their interest in joining and making a positive contribution to our school. The last couple of years has made it very challenging for us to engage as a community, and we would love to see our **Parents Club return to its once vibrant and vital place**. I would also love to see **every classroom represented in Parents Club**, to enhance its work and make a difference to how we engage with each other. Our first **meeting this term will be on July 27th from 2:45 – 3:30 pm**. We would love to see you there!

So you can plan ahead, the **Term 3 Curriculum Day is scheduled for Monday September 12th**. We will be hosting a Portland school-wide professional learning day with Peter Sullivan, a renowned and highly regarded expert in maths learning and teaching from Monash University. We are very excited to have Peter working with us and very pleased to host teachers from across our school network. Stay tuned for more exciting news about our maths learning and teaching as the term progresses.

DONATIONS WANTED PLEASE

- **ART ROOM** - next term in art, students will be doing limestone carving. We Need lots of **chisels, hammers and files**
- **MUSIC** - **PVC plumbers pipe** - any off cuts would be great. So if you have any of these spare in your sheds to donate, it would be greatly appreciated. Please drop off to the music room or the art room. Thank you in advance ...x



2022 STAFF

... **DATES** ...

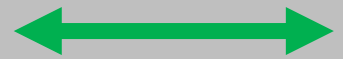
SWIMMING
all **TERM**

Every **MONDAY**

Brown, Nash, King & Saunders

Every **TUESDAY**

Ford, Jones, Roll & Englezos



TOMORROW

Friday 15th July

All day

Parent/Teacher/student conferences.

No classes today, students to attend their conference



PNPS STUDENT APPRECIATION AWARD

TRUST FORGIVENESS INTEGRITY HOPE COMPASSION



Grade	Name	Grade	Name
SAUNDERS	Andre Chequer & Amarli Devries	BROWN	Molly King & Tex Rowe
JESS	Jesse Keiller, Ava Lindsey & Phoebe G	ROLL	Lucy Scott & Hugo Kent
MICHELLE	Levi Milton	ENGLEZOS	Zac Thornton
KING	Bianka Coss-Mills & Eli Hill	JONES	Quinn Fleming & Paige Spencer
other			



This week I offer my appreciation to

XANDER MILLS

... thank you for being so helpful, kind and thoughtful to your new classmate in making him feel so welcomed. We are very proud of you.

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