



Portland North Primary School

... is a child safe school

NEWSLETTER ... *Thursday 15 December, 2022*



Principal's Message...

Well, here we are at the end of another extraordinary year. We hope you are looking forward to the Christmas break and will enjoy spending time with family and friends over the holidays. We have said a few times, that for an expected COVID-free year, this has been another very disrupted year with more illnesses and absences than in both the previous years combined. However, we have survived again, and the children have achieved success and flourished through the challenges.

We hope you **enjoyed our concert last week** – what an amazing show! Thank you so much to Adam Hardcastle for his wonderful creativity in writing and directing the show; to the teachers who rehearsed and rehearsed until the kids got it right; to Karen Meredith who supported the senior school children with their individual roles; to Catherine Augunas for her extraordinary hat making; to everyone who helped with the technical side of things; and especially to families, who made sure the children were costumed and excited to perform...it was a great night and we were very proud of everyone involved!

The children's **reports are coming home today**. We hope you take the time to read about and celebrate their progress, growth and achievements. We are very proud of their positive attitudes to their learning; the way they have all contributed to creating a strong culture of effort and hard work; the way they have interacted and engaged with each other as learning partners; and the choices they have made throughout the year. It has been a wonderful year in many ways, and we thank all of the children for their contribution to that!

We had a very exciting **Up Day on Tuesday**, with all the children spending time in their new classrooms with their new teachers and classmates. It takes a great deal of very careful thought and consideration to build our classes for the following year; relationships, learning and wellbeing needs are all taken into account to ensure every class is well balanced, inclusive and equitable. We spend several weeks tweaking and adjusting the classes to make sure we are certain that every child's needs are considered and met. While we acknowledge that we are unlikely to achieve a perfect outcome, we ask that families trust our decision-making and encourage their children to see positives and opportunities in their 2023 classes. Thank you to those parents who have engaged so respectfully with us in addressing any last-minute concerns, and the support you give your children in learning the life skills of resilience and positive thinking. Personally, I appreciate your support, and the trust you place in us, more than words can say.

Goodbye & Good Luck Year 6



We also had another **lovely Graduation** ceremony last night. It was such a delight to see the children stand up so proudly and confidently to share their thoughts and reflections of their time here at Portland North – we were all so proud of them. So ... we send the next group of **Year 6 children off into the world** with the hope that we have equipped them with the knowledge, skills, and dispositions they need to thrive in their secondary schools. We wish them the very best as they begin the next phase of their learning journey. We will also sadly farewell families whose last children exit into secondary school. We thank them for the contribution they have made to our school over many years, wish them well and hope their association with school remains positive and successful.

On behalf of our school community, I want to acknowledge and share our **appreciation for the student leaders** who have done a wonderful job this year – **Zahlee Curry, Aurora Elliot, Elkanah Meola and Darcy King**. They should be very proud of the way they have organised and led various events, been outstanding role models and supported me in our leadership of

Principal Mrs. Cate Elshaug **Address** 42 School Road, Portland North, VICTORIA 3305
Telephone (03) 5523 1482 (W) **Direct Deposit** BSB 063536 A/C 10061314
email: portland.north.ps@education.vic.gov.au **website:** www.portlandnorthprimary.com.au

the school. We wish them all the best and hope they take their newly developed skills into their secondary school lives.

And now we can congratulations to our **2023 Student Leaders; Ruby Rudge, Amber Fitzgerald, Harry Askew and Zayne Medina.** I know they will all be great role models who will embrace this opportunity and represent our school with integrity and honour.

We will begin 2023 with our getting to **Know You Conferences.** **Bookings will be open on Compass on January 16th** – please make sure you book in and secure a time that suits you and your family.



*On behalf of our school community, I also want to **acknowledge all the staff at PNPS** for their ongoing commitment to our school. Their hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm continues to make our school an outstanding learning environment which continues to grow and improve. I am very proud to lead this wonderful school on our journey and together, I believe we are making a very positive difference to our students and their families.*

I wish you all a very safe and joyful holidays and look forward to welcoming everyone back for a wonderful 2023!

Cate

OUR 2023 STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS:

Prep

1/2

1/2

3/4

3/4

5/6

5/6



Performing Arts

Visual Arts

STEM

Indigenous Language and Culture

P.E

Sport

Tutor Learning Initiative

Education Support Staff

Stephanie Alexander Kitchen

Garden Program

Hands on Learning

Grounds

Office Staff

Principal

Carly Saunders

Samantha Brown (Pos Ed Leader)

Damien King (Junior Team Leader)

Erin Roll

Julia Adams

Hayley Jones (Senior Team Leader)

Dylan Jennings

Shaun Spencer/Michelle Ford

Michelle Ford

Paul Booth

Erin Roll/Carly Saunders

Tom Englezos

Tom Englezos

Michelle Ford/Rebecca Howard

Jodie Nash, Sharon Speedie,

Rebecca Howard, Karen Meredith,

Vicki Brown & Maddy Sutton

Brooke King /Michelle Ford/Kowen

Goodwin

Brooke King/Kowen Godwin &

volunteers

Mark Hurkmans

Kerry Sharrock & Dianne Robertson

Cate Elshaug

2023

DATES

The office is open from Monday 23rd Jan, but please call and check that someone is here before you come out, as hours vary daily.

LOG INTO COMPASS to make an appointment from Monday 16th January

Staff start...

Friday 27th January

Student Conferences

Monday 30 Jan &

Tuesday 31 Jan

First day of classes

Wednesday 1st Feb

DEAR PARENTS

TAG YOU'RE IT!



LOVE, TEACHERS

THIS IS THE LAST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER FOR 2022

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all. Have a safe & fun filled holiday. See you next year, 2023! ... xox



CONGRATULATIONS 2023 School Captains

Well done..

Ruby Rudge, Harry Askew,
Amber Fitzgerald & Zayne Medina

We look forward to you leading our students next year...



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3-5 PM	12 TO 16

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FREE EVENT



Portland SUFM invites you and your families to....

SUMMER FESTIVAL



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