



Portland North Primary School

... is a child safe school

NEWSLETTER ... *Thursday 30 March 2023*



Principal's Message...

Thank you all so much for your enthusiastic support for our Senior school children at their Athletics Day on Monday. Despite the rain, we managed to get almost all the events completed and select our team for the interschool sports today. We congratulate everyone on their fine sportsmanship and appreciate their commitment to helping their teams do well. We are planning to hold the Junior School Sports on Tuesday afternoon so we'd love you to join us if you can. The winning teams and individual champions will also be celebrated then.

On **Monday morning at assembly**, we are very excited to have Braydon Saunders, representing our Gunditjmara community, offering us a **welcome to country and a smoking ceremony**. You are all very welcome to join us in celebrating our connection to country and sharing in our acknowledgement of this welcome.

We really appreciate all the parents and carers who accompanied the Year1 and 2 children on their excursion last week, and we are loving having so many parent and community helpers in the school – we couldn't manage without you. However, we just need to remind everyone that all adults helping in the school and at school events, are required under our Child Safe policies, to have a current Working With Children Check. Please contact us in the office if you would like support in obtaining a WWCC.



Our Hands on Learning team are very keen to acknowledge **Purple Day next Thursday April 6th**. Purple Day is the biggest international fundraising and awareness day in the epilepsy calendar. The children have been very busy making blueberry (or purple) muffins for everyone (which are now safely in the freezer) and we'll raise funds through **gold coin donations**. **Thank you to Brooke and all her wonderful helpers for putting such effort into making the day special...** please see flyer on page 3.



Each year we celebrate Easter with the very traditional **Easter Bonnet Parade on Thursday April 6th** – let your creative ideas flow and we'll look forward to seeing you all at the Parade at 9:05.

The **Department of Education** are once again monitoring our student absence data very closely. While we understand that we have had quite a bit of illness, and some family holidays that were delayed by COVID, we are a little concerned by the number of students who have already been absent for 5 days or more this year. Last

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year 49% of our students had more than 20 days absent for the year, which is a lot of school and learning missed. I encourage all of you to prioritise school attendance and contact us if we can support your child's attendance at school in any way.

Thank you so much to the families who have been in to pay their annual school fees – we really appreciate your support and contribution. However, only 17% of families have paid their contribution so far, which leaves quite a hole in our budgets to start the year. So, if you can, we'd really appreciate your financial contribution – it makes a huge difference to programs and resources we can provide and enhances our work exponentially. If you need support in paying fees or would like to develop a payment plan, please come in and see me – we are very happy to support you in any way we can.



Thank you again to the Parents Club for their Easter Hot Cross Bun fundraiser. The buns will be delivered on Tuesday and given to the children to take home at the end of the day. I for one am looking forward some delicious buns to start the Easter holiday!

While it has been a very busy term to start the year, it has also been very settled (on the whole) and the children are making great progress. We are proud of the way the children are approaching their learning and relationships, and the way they are interacting respectfully with each other. However, as they are children, and still learning how to behave well in the world, we continue to help them resolve conflict, repair any harm they have caused and learn from their mistakes. Thank you for your ongoing support of both your children and us; we really appreciate your partnership in educating your children for a successful future.

We wish you a very safe and relaxing holiday and a break from the routines of school. ... Cate

... DATES ...

School arrival time: 8:40
(earlier by arrangement with Cate)

- **Thursday 6th April**
 1. Last day Term 1
 2. PURPLE day (gold coin donation)
 3. Easter Bonnet Parade @ 9.05am
 4. DISSMISSED at 2.30pm

- **TERM 2 Starts**

Monday 24th April

- **Tuesday 25th April**
ANZAC Day, no school for staff and students

Lest we forget...

- **Wednesday**
10th May
SCHOOL PHOTOS



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS

Sunday 2nd April

Clocks back one hour

and time to change your **smoke alarm** batteries



PNPS STUDENT APPRECIATION AWARD

TRUST FORGIVENESS INTEGRITY HOPE COMPASSION



Grade	Name	Grade	Name
Prep Carly	Abby Van Heugten & Mia Sims	3/4 Julia	Jai Barker & Eva Robinson
1/2 Damien	Violet McCabe & Henry Taylor	3/4 Erin	Hollie Vincec & Eli Hill
1/2 Sam	Whole class	5/6 Dylan	Ava Kent & Connor Desmoulin
other		5/6 Hayley	Brianna Phillips & Dayna Beyer



This week I offer my appreciation to
Prep Saunders '23 class

...well done to all our preps for being at school a whole term! We have loved having you here and watching you grow and learn. We are sure you love being here and we are so proud of you all...



PURPLE DAY!

Thursday 6 April 2023 (final day of term)

An estimated 65 million people worldwide have epilepsy.

To create awareness, show our support and raise funds for research our Hands on Learning has organised a dress in purple day!

WEAR PURPLE & BRING A GOLD COIN DONATION

ALL STUDENTS WILL RECEIVE A FREE BLUEBERRY MUFFIN BAKED BY PNPS SAKG STUDENTS.

Ingredients generously donated by Woolworths.



FOR MORE INFORMATION
www.epilepsy.org.au 1300 37 45 37



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FRIDAY 7- SUNDAY 23 APRIL, SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Spent your school holidays in an enchanting maritime village that is alive with lots activities, farm animals, yummy food, fresh air and ocean views. PLUS follow the Bunny Trail through the village and claim your share of over 10,000 Chocolate Easter Eggs!

www.flagstaffhill.com
 To book and for full event details

goodFriday appeal THE ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

belgravia foundation

CASH ONLY

JOIN OUR GIANT **EASTER FUNDRAISER**

SUNDAY 9TH APRIL 12PM TILL 6PM AT PLACE 22 BENTINCK ST

GOLD COIN ENTRY

Easter Egg Hunt
 Raffle Prizes
 Sausage Sizzle
 Group Fitness on the grass
 Pool Inflatables & more

RAISING FUNDS FOR THE GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL & THE BELGRAVIA FOUNDATION



CREatE & Taste! A Kitchen Masterclass for Kids

In association with the Arts April Festival and the Healthy Kids Advisors initiative, join us for a fun, hands-on cooking session to make delicious apple & quinoa salad using new season Gorae Organic Apples. Participants will learn how to prepare family-friendly snacks using delicious, fresh, local, and seasonal produce.

Event Details
 Easter Saturday Markets, 8 April 2023
 13 Richmond Street, McIntyre Arcade, Portland.

9.00 am - 12.00 pm.

Free event, suitable for all ages

No bookings required.

For all enquiries, contact Jane Killmister on 0422 693 618
jane.killmister@kitchengardenfoundation.org.au



Presented by the Healthy Kids Advisors Initiative in partnership with the Committee for Portland, Arts April, Creators, Makers & Growers Market and Gorae Organics.



Healthy Kids Advisors

Delivered by the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation

Healthy Kids Advisors is delivered by the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation and supports the Vic Kids Eat Well movement.

Follow us
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 Enquiries to

@sakgf #HealthyKidsAdvisors
kitchengardenfoundation.org.au/healthy-kids-advisors
hka@kitchengardenfoundation.org.au

TERM 2 'HEADS UP' DATES

- Mon 1 – Tues 2 May – Author in Residence
- Wed 10 May – School Photos
- Fri 12 May – Mothers' Day breakfast
- Fri 19 May – Grade 2 PJ Party
- Fri 26 May – Grade 6 HDSC Maths Day
- Mon 29 – Fri 2 June – Reconciliation Week
- Tues 30 May – Cultural Performance
- Tues 30 – Wed 7 June – Sommers Camp
- Wed 7 – Fri 9 June G3/4 Warrnambool Camp
- Monday 12 June – Kings Birthday Public Holiday
- Tues 13 June – Curriculum Day – no students at school
- Fri 23 June – last day Term 2
- NAIDOC – 2-9 July (during holidays)



The Fish That Wanted to Fly

Did you ever dream of doing something that seemed impossible?

School Holiday Special:
 \$15 each | \$12 each families of four or more
 \$10 each Portland Arts Centre Members

Portland Arts Centre
 Monday 17 April, 10:30am

Heywood Community Hall
 Monday 17 April 2:30pm

Casterton Town Hall
 Tuesday 18 April 11am

PAC to go

BOOK NOW!
www.portlandartscentre.com.au
 03 5522 2263 or scan:

STEM - This fortnight the children in the junior grades have been creating models of the Budj Bim landscape. They have been designing natural features and investigating how to fold and secure card and paper to realise their designs. **Well done**



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