



# Pyramid Hill College

Respect ● Learn ● Community

Pyramid Hill College is a Child Safe School



**Newsletter**  
February 10th, 2023

## Diary 2023

### February

- 13 F-6 Swimming
- 14 F-6 Swimming
- Yr 7/8 Queenscliff Camp
- 15 F-6 Swimming
- Yr 7/8 Queenscliff Camp
- 16 Yr 7/8 Queenscliff Camp
- 17 Yr 7/8 Queenscliff Camp
- 20 F-6 Swimming
- NCD Swimming St Arnaud
- 21 F-6 Swimming
- 22 F-6 Swimming
- School Council Meeting



**Hats are now compulsory for all students.**

**Replacement hats are available at the office for \$12**

**Pyramid Hill College is a "Child Safe" School. We are committed to the safety, participation and empowerment of all children.**

## Pyramid Hill College Values

### Respect:

We are respectful of self, others and the environment. (we are thoughtful of our words and actions.)

### Learn:

We are learners who strive for excellence. (We challenge ourselves to do our best.)

### Community:

We are community minded and embrace diversity. (We foster a sense of community and belonging for all.)

### Pyramid Hill College

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## Principal's News

We have certainly all settled back into the routines that school brings. It has been very pleasing to see the positive and motivated approach most students are showing towards their learning. School uniform is looking very smart and we are a Sunsmart school, therefore it is important that all students wear their school hat at recess and lunchtime.

### Student Leadership Team



Today the Year 10 students inspired the student and staff body by confidently and passionately presenting their speeches as to why they should be elected a student leader at Pyramid Hill College. The Year 2-10 students and staff then had the difficult decision to make as they filled out their voting forms. I am very proud of all the efforts of all students that presented and am extremely confident that they will be tremendous leaders and ambassadors for our school this year. The following students will be inducted at the term one assembly on Friday 24th March.

**School Captains:** Mia Farrar and Maria Umali

**Community Leaders:** Rose Bone, Allarah Ceballos, Zac Manton and Jasmine Twigg.

### House Captains

**Terrick:** Blake Gibson and James Hercott

**Loddon:** James Bojo and Ellesha Fergusson

Today we were also fortunate to have our 2022 School Captain Jacob Clough-Fidler return to the College. Jacob made an impromptu presentation reflecting on his year as a School Captain and his transition to Boort Secondary College. I must admit it always warms my heart when we have ex students return and demonstrate a sense of belonging to Pyramid Hill College #onceaphckidalwaysaphckid

### Playground Progress

Such an exciting week as we have had the unofficial launch of the new playground. The primary students are really giving it a work out and the feedback is very positive. The next stage is the erection of some shade sails and then the final stage will be the landscaping of the area.



### **Resilience Project**

This year we are very excited to be bringing the Resilience Project into our school community. The Resilience Project will be taught in TAP and Health classes; and will be integrated into all learning within the College. The program is committed to teaching positive mental health strategies to prevent mental ill-health and build young people's capacity to deal with adversity. Please see the attachment to this newsletter for more details.

### **Swimming Sports**

The school swimming sports will be held at the Pyramid Hill Pool on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March unless there is a weather event.

### **Birthday Parties**

We all love to celebrate a birthday party and it is such a special event for those involved. However, it also can be a time of absolute distress for that child who may be the only one or two in a class that is not invited. We understand that it may not be possible to invite the entire class due to a number of very valid reasons and that is a private matter. However, on the occasion where not all students in the year level are invited we insist that birthday party invitations are delivered out of school hours and that the school bus is not used to ferry the students to the party destination.

### **Staying safe from mosquitoes**

Recent wet and warm weather has increased mosquito breeding. Mosquitoes can carry diseases that may be passed on to people through mosquito bites. A range of mosquito-borne diseases have recently been detected in mosquitoes in northern Victoria. Mosquito-borne diseases can cause serious illness, including infections of the brain, with children particularly at risk. The best way to prevent mosquito-borne diseases is to avoid mosquito bites. In line with community health advice, families can protect against mosquito bites by:

- using insect repellent that contains picaridin or DEET on all exposed skin if outdoors when mosquitoes are observed, from October to March
- wearing long, loose-fitting clothing outdoors if possible if mosquitoes are around and covering exposed skin as much as possible. Summer school uniforms, including polos and shorts, can continue to be worn, but students should use insect repellent on exposed skin if mosquitoes are active
- limiting outdoor activity when mosquitoes are active.

Further information:

Better Health Channel information about preventing mosquito-borne diseases.

### **School Bus Management System**

It is important that all bus travellers are registered online with the School Bus Management System. Any families who have not registered can you please do so immediately by using the website: [www.schoolbusapplication.ptv.vic.gov.au](http://www.schoolbusapplication.ptv.vic.gov.au)

**Fiona Moon,  
Principal.**

## **Year 7-10 Learning Neighbourhood**

### **Queenscliff Camp Year 7 & 8**

The Queenscliff camp is under a week away, thank you to students and parents who have been diligent in completing and returning forms. The bus will leave the College at 7:50am (sharp) on Tuesday morning. The equipment list and itinerary have been distributed and will also be available on Compass. Please note that students will need closed in shoes (runners etc) for the rock pool discovery on Tuesday. Students are also reminded to bring any medication they require. Thank you to Mr McCann, Bu Gould and Mrs Rogers who will be the staff attending the camp. Students will be able to call home if required and parents/guardians can contact staff on camp to speak to students. If students or parents have any questions regarding the camp please contact Mr Roberts.

### **Hands on Learning (HoL)**

Thank you to the students who have completed expression of interest forms for Hands on Learning. Interviews have commenced this week and the starting date of the program will be confirmed shortly.

### **NCD Swimming**

The NCD Swimming Sports will be held in St Arnaud on Monday February 20<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to the students who have signed up; permission notes will be distributed shortly.

### **NCD Triathlon**

The NCD Triathlon will be held in Boort on Thursday March 9<sup>th</sup>. Students may elect to complete the triathlon individually or as part of a team. Students completing the bike leg will need a road bike, students requiring a road bike should contact Mr Roberts. The sign-up sheet for the triathlon can be found in homerooms.

### **Student of the Fortnight**

Student of the fortnight will continue this year. This is a peer nominated award where students nominate others students who are meeting criteria from the expected behaviours matrix. Nomination forms are in each homeroom and students can either hand these to their TAP teachers or place in the box in the year 8 room.



## **Music Lessons**

**Music lessons will be available again this year for guitar, keyboard and drums. Lessons will be \$50 per term with limited places available. Students are not guaranteed a place until payment is received. Forms will be distributed next week.**

## Year F-6 News

### Workers of the Week



**Athena Wiltshire:** listening carefully in swimming time and swimming beautifully.

**Matt Policarpio:** settling in well to his new class and being a positive and encouraging member.

**Jett Mitchell:** helping with our Foundation students and working very hard in school.

**Brady Gilmore, Year 6:** leadership and kindness and showing Samer around.

**Tia Gould:** fantastic start to home reading. Great effort.

**Zeb Gould:** staying in the cold water when he was cold.

**Kyle Roberts:** great start with home reading.

### New Playground

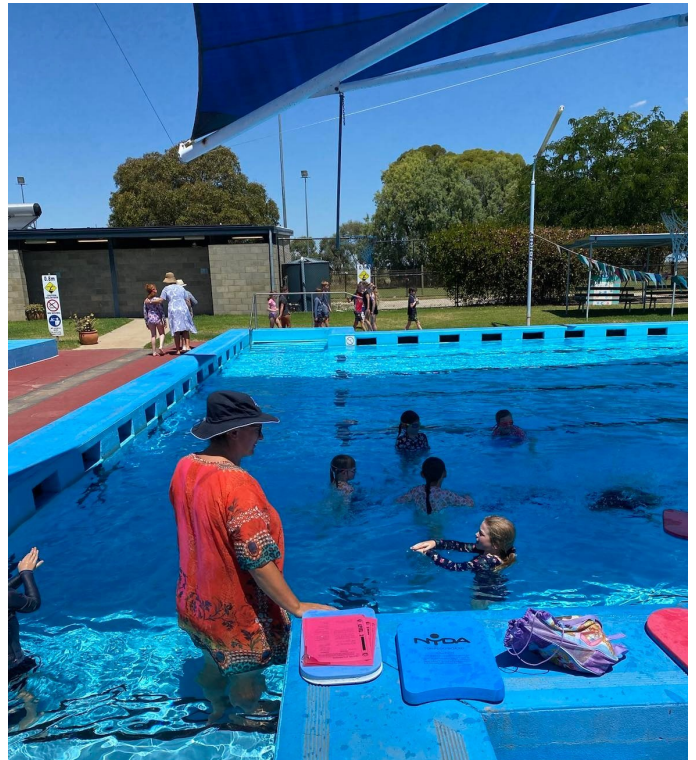
After more months than we wanted to count, we had some extremely excited students and teachers on Thursday morning, as the gates had come down on the playground equipment and we were allowed on it finally!!!! The students climbed all over it, went down the slide, hung from the monkey bars, went up and down the climbing wall and ran down to the back of the playground to try out the big slide on the hill.

Everyone is extremely grateful for our new playground.



### Swimming Program

The swimming program has started well, even though the water was a bit chilly on Monday. Thank you to Robyn Spowart and Annie Gibson for helping. We are still looking for parents to help out if you have some time. Swimming will be on again next week on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb, Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> Feb and Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> Feb. Please make sure all clothes are named as it makes it easier when students are getting dressed.



### Camps & Excursions

This year the Years 5 & 6 students have the opportunity to go to Canberra with East Loddon. An expression of interest note has been sent out and needs to be returned by next week for further planning to occur. We are also in the process of finalising a beach camp to Melbourne and Queenscliff in October. Students in Year 2-6 have the opportunity to go on this camp and St Pat's will join us also. When we have finalised the camp an expression of interest will be sent out. Year 5/6 students are able to go on both camps, if parents are happy to send them on both. Year F/1 will attend a day trip to Melbourne to the Zoo.

## School Vision Statement

The Pyramid Hill College community is committed to providing an inclusive, caring and rigorous learning environment that engages our students and challenges them to reach their full potential; academically, socially, emotionally, physically and creatively.

Students are empowered to demonstrate and value knowledge and skills that will support them, as life-long learners, to participate in and contribute to a wider community.

We promote a positive school culture that ensures staff, students and parents feel valued, have meaningful opportunities to contribute to the school and can effectively engage in the learning journey.