



Pyramid Hill College

Respect ● Learn ● Community

Pyramid Hill College is a Child Safe School



Newsletter
February 3rd, 2023

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Principal's News

Welcome Back

Welcome back to all students, staff and parents; and a special welcome to our Foundation students, new students and their families. I hope that everyone has had an enjoyable festive season and a relaxing holiday break.



This year we have one new staff member, Mrs Jess Tuddenham who will be teaching senior Art. We also welcome back Mr Everett who returns from long service leave.

I would like to take this opportunity to also welcome all parents and staff and I look forward to us all working effectively together this year. A huge thank you to Bill Quinn, Judy Perry, Geoff and Wendy Bolch, Myla and Allarah Ceballos who have placed a great deal of time into the buildings and grounds to ensure the place is sparkling for the start of this year. A special thank you to all staff who have spent many hours of their holidays with the organisation and preparation of their classrooms so that all students have a stimulating environment to work in.

Mosquitoes

Last week we had the outside areas of the school sprayed to reduce mosquito issues. We also have some mosquito repellent at school available for use by staff and students. However, if you would like to provide repellent for your child or apply repellent before they come to school, this may help to prevent any potential mosquito-borne infections.

The Department of Education have issued the following message: 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

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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- 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



We are missing these familiar faces as they head off to their new school at Boort.

**Fiona Moon,
Principal.**

Year 7-10 Learning Neighbourhood

Welcome to 2023

It has been an excellent start to the term and we hope everyone has had a restful break. We have an exciting term ahead and look forward to the many activities and events.

Queenscliff Camp Year 7&8

Thank you to the year seven and eight students who have returned their note for the camp. More information was sent out this week regarding the camp. There have been some changes to the itinerary but no impact on any of the activities being completed. Students can still return their notes but need to do this ASAP so we can confirm numbers.

Hands on Learning (HoL)

The HoL program is undergoing some changes for 2023 with Mr Morison and Helen coordinating the program in 2023. Students interested in completing HoL will need to complete an expression of interest form which is available at the office. Students who have previously been in HoL will need to complete an expression of interest form as well. Information regarding the application process for the program will be communicated to students later this week. The starting date of the program will be confirmed shortly.

What is HOL?

Hands on Learning is a practical school program that builds wellbeing and engagement by creating opportunities for students to discover their talents and experience success through significant and authentic hands-on projects. It runs from 11am – 3:20pm on Thursday during the school’s terms.

NCD Swimming

The NCD Swimming Sports will be held in St Arnaud on Monday February 20th. Interested students will need to place their name on the sign up sheet in their homeroom. Please note that trials may need to occur for certain events.

NCD Triathlon

The NCD Triathlon will be held in Boort on Thursday March 9th. 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.



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.

Year F-6 News

Welcome back to school. We had a great start on Tuesday with most students coming in to school to discuss and make their goals for the first few weeks of school. If anyone missed this day, a phone call to the school and your child's teacher, can set up a time to meet and discuss your child's goals.

We welcome three new Foundation students, Amelia, Libby and Amelia who have settled in well on their first day.

Thank you to all those parents who have named their child's books and texts.



Workers of the Week



Sophie Pickles: settling in well to class and always using great manners.

Ruby Mitchell: persisting with her writing and maths.

Foundation students (Year 6 award): a great first week.

Kerenza Archbold: trying extra hard with her handwriting.

Zeb Gould: settling in well to his new class and trying really hard with learning tasks.

Swimming Program 2023

On Monday 6th February we will start our swimming program. This will be on every Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday for the next three weeks, at 2.00pm. We will be travelling by bus to and from the pool. If your child is staying at the pool, a note needs to be in their diary. They must be 10 years old and swim a length of the pool to be unaccompanied. Parents picking their children up from the pool need to be there by 3.15pm otherwise they will come back on bus to school.

Please make sure your child's clothing is named as it makes it easier for them to get dressed after swimming.

Please return the green permission note for swimming by Monday 6th February.

Read to Succeed

During the Swimming Program there will be no set homework other than reading each night and signing it in your diary, spelling words practise and learning the times tables.

Reading each night is an expectation for all grade levels and once again students will participate in "Read to Succeed"

where each night of reading is rewarded throughout the year and at the end of the year it is a book prize.

We challenge each student to better their result from last year.

Breakfast Club

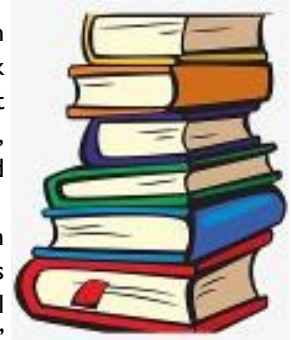
Breakfast club will commence on Monday 6th February and will be on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Camps

Year 5/6 students have been offered the opportunity to attend Canberra in term 4 with East Loddon school. These students will be given a note to express their interest. Please return the note promptly so further planning can happen.

The Year 2-6 students will be given the opportunity to attend a Melbourne Camp in term 4 also. As soon as we know the details we send out a note.

Year F/1 and anyone not going on camp will attend the Zoo in Melbourne later in the year.



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.