



Pyramid Hill College

Respect ● Learn ● Community

Pyramid Hill College is a Child Safe School



Newsletter

February 9th, 2024

Diary 2024

February

- 12 F-6 Swimming
- 13 F-6 Swimming
- 14 F-6 Swimming
- 19 F-6 Swimming
- NCD Swimming St. Arnaud
- 20 F-6 Swimming
- School Council meeting
- 20 F-6 Swimming
- 23 House Swimming
- 26 F-6 Swimming
- 27 F-6 Swimming
- 28 F-6 Swimming
- Responsible Pet presentation F-6

March

- 1 7-10 Swimming
- 7 NCD Triathlon
- 11 Public Holiday

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. We would like to welcome our new Foundation students and their families, as well as two new families in other year levels. We hope you all have an enjoyable time at PHC.

Student Leadership Positions

This week Year 2-10 students have been given the opportunity to apply for College Captains, Sports Captain and the Student Representative Committee. All positions require a written application, interview and potentially an election if there are more suitable candidates than positions available. I encourage all students to apply for these leadership positions. Being a student leader gives great opportunity to develop valuable personal skills such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and decision making which will enhance their learning.

Resilience Project

This year we are very excited to be continuing to bring the Resilience Project into our school community. The Resilience Project will be taught in TAP, Health classes and Community Connection 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 Friday 23rd February 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. 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.

Reminder

Foundation students do not attend school Wednesdays. Their first full week will be after the long weekend. Wednesday 13th March.

Music Lessons

Thank you to all who have signed up for music lessons. Classes are now full and will commence next week.

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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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

https://studenttravelassistance.educationapps.vic.gov.au/s/?c__tab=home

**Fiona Moon,
Principal.**

Annual privacy reminder for our school community

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' Privacy Policy and the Schools' Privacy Collection Notice.

Our Photographing, Filming and Recording Students Policy, describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn. We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education, please contact the school. For more information about privacy, refer to: Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents. This information is also available in ten community languages:

**Pyramid Hill College
is a "Child Safe" School.**

We are committed to the safety, participation and empowerment of all children.

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund - CSEF

The CSEF provides payments to assist eligible families to cover the costs of camps, sporting activities and excursions.

Payments are made directly to an eligible student's school. Schools must use a CSEF payment only for the eligible student and not for that student's siblings or any other student (except where the eligible student leaves the Victorian education system and there are remaining and unspent funds).

Some common examples of school-organised programs for which a CSEF payment may be used include:

- school camps/trips
- swimming and other school-organised sporting programs
- outdoor education programs
- excursions/incursions
- graduations.

The CSEF payment cannot be used towards:

- books
- stationery
- school uniforms
- before/after school care
- music lessons
- locker hire
- classroom and homework materials
- formals or debutant balls

other expenses unrelated to camps, sports or excursions.

Please see attached page for information.

Application forms can be obtained from the office.

Food Technology - Year 6



Students in Year 6 during their first Food Tech class



**We are a Sunsmart
School.
Hats are compulsory for
all students.
Replacement hats are
available
at the office for \$12**

Year F-6 News

Welcome back to school everyone. We have had a smooth return to school. We would especially like to welcome our 11 new Foundation students and new families who have begun their school life very excited. We would also like to welcome Willow, Ethan, Ivan, Pearl and Jax.



Swimming Program Years F-6

Our swimming program has begun this week and will be every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday for the next three weeks from 1.45 pm to 3.15 pm. We need helpers if anyone has time to come down and help please. Thank you to Robyn Spowart who has already put her hand up to help and who has turned up for many years now.

Students are unable to stay after swimming at the pool, as the pool isn't open until 4.30pm, so they must return to school. If you are picking your child up from the pool at 3.15pm please contact the school or write in their diary so they can take their bag to the pool.

Book Bags

All primary students require a book bag to keep their readers and diaries in. These bags keep our books clean and dry in case drinkers leak in their bags. Book bags can be purchased at the office.

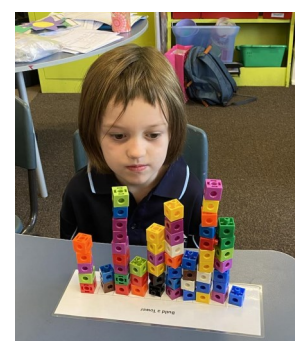
Lunch Orders

Just a reminder we discourage students ordering fried food and soft drinks for lunch. The last day of each term is free food choice when ordering.

Read To Succeed

Once again, this year we will be rewarding students who are reading each night with Hill Climbers and a book if they get 300 nights at the end of the year. Please sign your student's diary if you hear them read or they are reading to themselves.

Foundation Maths



Physical Education

Students developed their water safety awareness by performing Dry Rescue activities using a rope.



Workers of the Week



Willam Pickles: trying hard with all his work and a positive start school.

Mae Stevens: positive start to her school life and trying her best.

Willow Worboyes: well done on your start at PHC.

Jasper Mutugi: being incredibly helpful and using such entertaining and descriptive writing.

Nevaeh Golding: making a great start to 2024 and being an organised student.

Tobias Wiltshire: a super start to Year 3. Great leadership, great work and super buddy.

Ivan Shapland: well done on your start at PHC.

Ruby Roberts: being nice and helpful to Pearl (Yr 6 award).

Year 7-10 Learning Neighbourhood

Interviews

Thank you to the parents/guardians/students who attended the interviews last week. If you were unable to attend an interview and have questions regarding the school year please contact the College.

Homework

Homework plays an important role in developing skills learnt in class, time management and problem solving. This year we are trialling online Maths homework and students have selected to either complete their Maths Mate online or as a hard copy. Homework has been distributed for both Maths and English classes this week and is due on the following days for each year level. The first sheet is due next week.

Year 7	English: Tuesday	Maths: Tues
Year 8	English: Tuesday	Maths: Tues
Year 9	English: Tuesday	Maths: Wed
Year 10	English: Tuesday	Maths: Wed

If your child needs support with their homework they can contact their teacher or can attend the homework nights that will commence shortly.

Camps

The year 7/8 camp will be to 15 Mile Creek from Monday June 3rd to Friday June 7th. It will involve outdoor activities that may include canoeing, bike riding, white water rafting, rock climbing and abseiling. The year 9/10 camp will be to Bogong Outdoor Schools (snow camp at Falls Creek) from Monday July 15th to Friday July 19th. It will involve both downhill and cross country skiing. Further information regarding both camps will come out later in the term.

NCD Swimming

The NCD Swimming Sports will be held in St Arnaud on Monday February 19th. Interested students 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 7th. 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 has been placed 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 them in the nomination jar in their home room.

Loddon Shire Twilight Family Fun Fest

As part of the flood recovery process, the Loddon Shire Flood Recovery team are running the Twilight Family Fun Fest at Mitchell Park, Pyramid Hill.

It would be great if all families could support this event as it is local and has lots of activities for all the family.

PYRAMID HILL COMMUNITY
TWILIGHT FAMILY FUN FEST
MITCHELL PARK, PYRAMID HILL
FOOD! FUN! ACTIVITIES!
FRIDAY 23 FEB
5:00PM - 8:00PM
FEATURING:
DELICIOUS FREE DINNER FROM 6PM,
FRUITY FUN WITH SMOOTHIE BIKES,
FREE KIDS ACTIVITIES INCLUDING CIRCUS AND HOOLA-HOOP
PLAY SPACE FROM SOUL DANCE CIRCUS + KIT VAN,
HUGE CHALK MURAL ACTIVITY WITH ARTIST WES FRANKLIN
+ LIVE MUSIC WITH JAM IN THE VAN
COME AND GET TOGETHER WITH THE
WHOLE PYRAMID HILL COMMUNITY AT THIS GREAT
FLOOD RECOVERY EVENT!
BYO FOLDING CHAIRS/PICNIC RUG
For further information, please contact Loddon Shire Council
Community Recovery Officer: 0474 911 783



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.