

# Preston West Post

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[www.prestonwest.vic.edu.au](http://www.prestonwest.vic.edu.au)

Preston West Primary School Newsletter

Thursday 23rd February, 2017

## IMPORTANT DATES

### FEBRUARY

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>

Community BBQ 5.30-7pm

### MARCH

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup>

District Swim Sports

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup>

Parent Teacher Interviews 4-7pm

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>

Parent Teacher Interviews 4-7pm

Monday 6<sup>th</sup>

Preps commence full time

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup>**

***Labour Day Public Holiday - No school this day***

## Term Dates

**Term 1 Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March**

**Term 2 Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June**

**Term 3 Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

**Term 4 Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December**

## Principal's Note

### Picnic on the Green

Just a last minute reminder that we are looking forward to seeing families at the Preston West 'Picnic On the Green' at 5.30pm this afternoon. Bring along a picnic basket for your family to snack on and enjoy the informal opportunity to mix with parents, students and staff.

### Parent Teacher Interviews

Thanks to those parents who have already booked into next week's Parent Teacher Interviews. **Parent Teacher Interviews for Term 1 will be held over two nights (Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> and Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March).** The interviews enable parents to not only meet their child's teacher, but to also discuss your child's plan for the year. I would encourage all parents to attend these meetings as they are a valuable part of the partnership between the school and the home. Parent Teacher Interview times can be booked via Compass using your individual user name and password you were provided with. If you have any problems logging in to Compass please contact us at the office.

### School Leaders 2017

Thank you to the following students who enthusiastically volunteered to be school leaders in 2017.

Behaviour Buddies are available to assist children in the school yard with minor issues. Behaviour Buddies for 2017 include Charlise Mizza, Yasmine Katsogiannis, Meera Mansukhani, Madalena Lame, Hannah McMahan, Daksh Kumar, Noah Napolitano, Anastasia Brousalis, Chloe Zuccala and Kaisha Thompson.

The Preston West Environmental Leaders include Blake Ivanov, Nikkita Conadis, Nandun Fernando, Zephyr Renzow, Mac Ware, Will Van Herk, Zac Duffy, Koni Grapsas and Sijan Chhetri.

Our leaders in 2017 who take responsibility of the school's technology include Eddy Kroes, Kyriakos Gelis, Oliver Thomas, Kye Spencer, Ryan Li, Amalia Nalpantidis, Jake Koutsovasilis, Muhammad Ibrahim, Zara Schaper, Darcy Brooks and Alaska Jones.

All the above leaders will be introduced at assembly on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February.

## **School Self Evaluation –Parent forum**

Thank you to the parents/Carers who participated in our self-evaluation forum on Tuesday evening. Your feedback was greatly appreciated. Over the next few weeks the responses will be collated along with those generated from students and staff.

## **School Council Elections**

Over the next few weeks the process of electing a new School Council will commence for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018. We have three parent vacancies and I would like to sincerely thank Dianne Brown, Mick Paskos and Nicola Thomson for all their wonderful work on council in 2016.

Parents/Carers can contribute to the school and their children's education in a range of ways. A place on the Preston West Primary School Council, the governing body of the school and its community, is one way in which you can be a part of this agenda. I encourage you to give this opportunity due consideration. The following information may help you clarify some of the main roles of School Council and the responsibilities of School Councillors.

### **What Is A School Council and What Does It Do?**

All government schools in Victoria have a School Council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides to its students.

### **Who Is On The School Council?**

There are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected parent category. More than one third of the elected members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training employees can now be parent members at their child's school.
- A mandated elected Department of Education and Training employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional community member category. Its members are co-opted by the decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. Department of Education and Training employees are not eligible to be community members. The term of office for members is two years. Normally half the members retire each year and this creates vacancies for the annual school council elections.

### **Why Is Parent Membership So Important?**

Parents/Carers on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

### **How Can You Become Involved?**

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which will be held if required in early March. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider:

- Standing for election as a member of the Preston West Primary School Council.
- Encouraging another person to stand for election.

### **Do I Need Special Experience To Be On A School Council?**

No. What you need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

### **What Do You Need To Do To Stand For Election?**

A notice of the election and a call for nominations accompanies this document. If you decide to stand for election, you will need to arrange for someone to nominate and second you as a candidate in the parent category (use Schedule 5B). Alternatively, you may self-nominate (use Schedule 5A). Once the nomination form is complete, return it to the school within the time stated on the notice of election. (Schedules 5A and 5B are available from the General Office). If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted.

### **Remember The Following:**

- Consider standing for election to the School Council this year.
- Be sure to vote in the election if it goes to ballot.
- Contact the Principal for further information.

## School Council Election Timeline – 2017

Thursday 23rd February: Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

Thursday 2nd March: Nominations Close at 4pm.

If election is required:

Friday 3rd March: Display list of candidates

Thursday 9th March: Distribute ballot papers via Student Communication Folders.

Thursday 16th March: Close of ballot at 4pm. Count of votes after 4pm.

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March: Declare poll.

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March: First Meeting of new council.

## Schedule 4: Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Preston West Primary School

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00 pm on 2 / 03 / 2017

The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on 16 / 03 / 2017

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	TERM OF OFFICE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2019	3
DET employee member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2019	2

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

## EARLY COLLECTION OF STUDENTS

If you wish to take your child to an appointment during school hours you must:

- Complete the 'Early Release Form' and collect an 'Early Release Pass'
- Take the 'Pass' to your child's classroom to collect your child
- Children will not be permitted to leave school unless accompanied by a parent or authorised person
- Please do not take your child during lunch time without completing the 'Early Release Form' from the office as this could cause anxiety when it is found that a child, present in the morning, is absent during the afternoon



The above procedure is in place to minimise disruption to the classrooms. We avoid making phone calls and announcements via the PA where possible as this interrupts valuable learning time in all classrooms.

**Cheryl Bondeson**

## GENERAL OFFICE INFORMATION

**SCHOOL FEES:** The School Fees are due by TOMORROW Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2017.

**UNIFORM SHOP:** The Uniform shop will reopen on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 9:00am – 11:00am.

### CAMPS, SPORTS and EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund help ensure that no student misses out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their achievements.

CSEF will be provided to eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

How to Apply: Contact the school office to collect a CSEF application form or download from the CSEF website

#### Key Dates

- **All applicants must complete and lodge their submission by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017.**

#### Further Information

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information, please see:

[Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund](#)

## eLearning

### Research Into Technology Use by Kids and Teens

Throughout the second half of 2016 the Office for Children's eSafety Commissioner conducted and released research into kids and teens and their use of digital technologies.

Their 'iParent' resource is a great location for a wealth of information and resources to help support yourselves as parents in a world that is dominated by technology and its rapid advancement. You can assess the range of resources at <https://www.esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent>

The links below will take you to a couple of short infographics that present some of the data collected by the research conducted by the commissioner over 2016.

[Research Insights: Connected Kids and Teens](#)

[Research Insights: Young and social online](#)

[Parenting Strategy Research Infographic](#)

If you are unsure of any of the apps passed onto your child through Casper or even have any general questions about some tips for managing devices at home, please feel free to contact me via Compass.

Regards,

Luke Begg  
Acting eLearning Leading Teacher

**FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY**

Volunteers for Fresh Fruit on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February are: Mick Paskos, Jane Piper, Daniela Cagliarini, Sira Sibley and Sarah Bellchambers.



***We are still in need of volunteers for Fresh Fruit Friday. If you would like to volunteer, please complete the attached form and return to the school office with your Working With Children Check.***

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Please print your name clearly.

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Class(es): \_\_\_\_\_

**FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY ROSTER 2017**

Please ✓ tick the appropriate box



I am available to help on the following basis...  Fortnightly  Monthly  Once A Term

I have a current Working With Children Check...  YES and I have provided a copy to the school office  
 NO and I will provide a copy to the school office ASAP

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**MOTHERS/CARERS DAY STALL - May 2017**

Hello to all our new PWPS families and creative people in our community!

My name is Kelly Brooks and I will be coordinating the Mothers/Carers day stall this year. I am seeking volunteers/helpers to share some ideas of what items we can easily make for the stall. There is some fun craft days/evenings planned for early Term 2. " [Great way to meet Preston West Parents /Carers](#)"

I would also welcome any donations of hand-made crafts, home-made gifts or plant saplings etc. to the stall.

Donations can be passed on to myself or to the office in Term 2 between the 18/4/2017 and 5/5/2017

I look forward to hearing from you with your creative/crafty ideas via email: [kpbrooks@alphalink.com.au](mailto:kpbrooks@alphalink.com.au) or mobile: 0409 210 307. Thank you in advance.

**SCHOOL BANKING**

School banking is every Tuesday.

*A penny saved is a penny earned"*  
Quote, Benjamin Franklin

## SCHOOL PANTRY (School Canteen)

Orders and money (written on a paper bag) will be placed in a container in the classroom before 9.15am and delivered to the canteen. To contact Marina you can catch up with her in person at the school kitchen on **Monday, Wednesday and Friday** or email [schoolpantry@icloud.com](mailto:schoolpantry@icloud.com)



### Dogs – Not to be on School Premises

Can parents please ensure that dogs are not brought on to the school premises or tied up on the fence inside the school. Thank you for your anticipated support.

### \*A friendly reminder - Kiss and Go Zone - Parking Safely around Schools



Creating safe conditions for children around schools is something that we are all responsible for. You may have noticed these 'Kiss and Go' signs near our school in the No Parking zone. Drivers are allowed to stay inside or within three metres of their car for up to two minutes for the quick pick up and drop off of students. Disabled Permit holders can park for up to five minutes. When parking elsewhere, please don't encourage children to run across the road to meet you at your vehicle. Cross the road at the crossing and meet them safely. Please be aware that council traffic officers regularly patrol Jessie Street.

## MATHLETICS IS ATHLETICS FOR YOUR BRAIN

**Preston West P.S. has subscribed to Mathletics again for 2017.**



Every student at Preston West P.S. has a unique username and password that they can use at home or school to log in and complete Mathematical problems that assist with developing their knowledge, skills, strategies, speed and accuracy.

The program covers all areas of Mathematics. Your child's teacher can set homework or targeted units of work for your child, to assist and challenge them, in their learning.

Students are rewarded with easy to print certificates of achievement.

*Please email via Compass your child's classroom teacher for usernames and passwords.*

**LOG IN AND TRY MATHLETICS WITH YOUR CHILD.**

**STUDENT OF THE WEEK – Week ending 17/02/2017**

Congratulations to the following students, who were presented with their awards on Monday.

<b>GRADE</b>	<b>“LEARN”</b>	<b>BOUNCE BACK</b>
<b>Prep C</b>	Wednesday McKenzie	Ava Barber
<b>Prep I</b>	Atlas Flynn	Xanthe Bylsma
<b>Prep K</b>	Henrietta McArdle Green	Mia Paschos
<b>Prep L</b>	Ava Tsaousidis	Zackaria Hassan
<b>Prep W</b>	Kevin Lin	Japjyot Singh
<b>1B</b>	Jake Gray	Rosa Montalto
<b>1C</b>	Evan Mesic	Estelle Chatzis
<b>1E</b>	Charlie Gentile	Mona Saoud
<b>1M</b>	Lucas Bonanno	Vivienne Fruci
<b>1W</b>	Juzer Udaipur Wala	Lucinda Smart
<b>2A</b>	Erica Halge	Viraj Sarao
<b>2B</b>	Somdeep Bhattacharyya	Ramona Ware
<b>2J</b>	Shreya Sivakumar	Cassius Brown
<b>2M</b>	Ruby James	Andy Lin
<b>3B</b>	Annalise Pingitore	Yixi Wang
<b>3P</b>	James Ryan	Ishaq Hassan
<b>3W</b>	Andrew Chen	Maggie O’Bree
<b>4F</b>	Cienna Jones-Umina	Lewis Wilson
<b>4K</b>	Lily Sibillin	Lucas Medina
<b>4M</b>	Hannah Fahour	Paul Koutsivos
<b>4W</b>	Aditya Bogati	Abdi Atosh
<b>5H</b>	Olivia Stavrou	Matthew Williams
<b>5I</b>	Ava Castellarin	Roman Napolitano
<b>5J</b>	Lachlan Elford	Sienna Tairi
<b>5O</b>	Charlotte Caddeo	Hao Ning Song
<b>6N</b>	Freya Hoo	Muhammad Ibrahim
<b>6S</b>	George Kaskoutas	Alessia Monteneri
<b>6T</b>	Mountaser Aboueid	Hannah McMahon
<b>ART</b>	Alaska Jones 6T	
<b>MUSIC</b>	Julia Thomson 1B	
<b>PHYS ED</b>	Anton Cindric 3W	
<b>ITALIAN</b>	Claudine Agius 3B	



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## **Preston High School**

We want to hear from you.

What kind of high school do you want for Preston?

Last year the Victorian Government committed to open a new co-educational secondary school for Years 7 to 12 students on the site of the former Preston Girls' Secondary College, Cooma Street, Preston.

We have established an online portal so you can have your say on what kind of school you want

[www.engage.vic.gov.au/PrestonHigh](http://www.engage.vic.gov.au/PrestonHigh).

Your feedback will be provided to the design team to be considered as part of the new school designs. The online engagement portal will be open from Monday 6 February until Tuesday 28 February.

If you have any queries about the Preston High project, please contact:

Victorian School Building Authority

Phone: 1800 896 950

Email: [vsba@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:vsba@edumail.vic.gov.au)

[www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au](http://www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au)

## **Bundoora Secondary College**

*Discovery Open Night*

Wednesday April 26<sup>th</sup>, 5-7pm

[www.bundoorasc.edu.au](http://www.bundoorasc.edu.au)

## **Charles La Trobe College**

(Year 7, 2018)

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2017**

Tours from 5.45pm, Principals address

235 Kingsbury Drive, Macleod West

[www.charleslatobecollege.vic.edu.au](http://www.charleslatobecollege.vic.edu.au) / Ph 9223 1400

## **Thornbury High School**

Open Night

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017 @ 7pm**

238 Collins Street, Thornbury

Ph 9480 4066 / [www.thornburyhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.thornburyhs.vic.gov.au)

## **Lalor North College**

*proudly presents*

**Macedonian Music Extravaganza**

114 Childs Road Epping

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2017 @6.30pm

For free tickets Contact Liz

9401 3888 / 0425 772 976