

Preston West Post

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Preston West Primary School Newsletter

Thursday 8th October 2020

IMPORTANT DATES

October

Friday 23rd

Grand Final Eve Public Holiday

November

Monday 2nd

Pupil Free Day – No school this day

Tuesday 3rd

Melbourne Cup Day - No school this day

December

Friday 11th

Curriculum Day – No school this day

Friday 18th

Last Day Term 4 – 1pm Dismissal

Term Dates

Term 4 Monday 5th October – Friday 18th December

Principal's Note

Welcome Back

I hope families enjoyed some quality time together in the sunshine and fresh air over the holiday break. As we move into Term 4 our key focus areas will be the mental health and wellbeing of our students', learning and transition to 2021. Our key academic priorities in classrooms for Term 4 will be in literacy and numeracy, where high expectations will be placed on differentiated teaching and promoting outcomes for all students. Thank you again to our parent body for your support and enthusiasm as key drivers and supporters to our remote and flexible learning programs. We are looking forward to a fabulous Term 4 where we can reconnect with the students and rebuild the joy and love of learning collaboratively on the school premises.

We enthusiastically welcome all our students (Prep – Grade 6) back on Monday 12th October.

The same procedures/protocols we had in place at Preston West P.S. following our return from the first lockdown will be in place commencing Monday 12th October.

Enhanced hygiene practice and cleaning on school site.

- * We will be strongly supporting the continuation of effective hand hygiene.
- * All staff and students will undertake regular hand hygiene, particularly before and after eating, using the toilet and following recess and lunchtime breaks.
- * Hand soap and water is provided in the bathrooms and hand sanitiser/wipes will be provided in every classroom.
- * All food will be eaten in the classrooms and students will drink out of their own water bottles brought from home as there will be no access to the drinking fountains.
- * There will be no Canteen or Fresh Fruit Friday until further notice.
- * The Department of Education and Training Students Using Mobile Phones policy remains in place. Students are reminded to clean their phone regularly. Phones can be turned on with the COVID SAFE app activated immediately before and after school.
- * Sharing of food is not allowed across the school. This includes for children's birthdays e.g. cakes, lolly bags

In particular, we ask parents/guardians to:

- * Keep children at home if they are unwell.
- * Review and return updated medicals plans and medication for First Aid use at school on the first day of your child's return to school.
- * Do not enter the school grounds. If your child needs to be collected early please call the office and your child will be sent out to you. Also if you need to drop something off during the school day, contact the office and a staff member will come out and meet you at the gate. When the Department of Education and Training deem it safe to lift restriction's, we are looking forward to having our parent community back on the premises. Thank you for your anticipated support.
- * Discuss drop off/pick locations away from the school with children to minimise congestion around the school.
- * Only use identified drop off/pick up zones when dropping off or collecting students in person. Do not exit your vehicle during drop off/pick up in the Kiss and Go Zone.

Exit and entry points and departure information:

The same arrangements will be implemented for entry/exit points and staggered departures as we had in place in Term 2. As at Monday 12th October Prep – Grade 2 students will enter and leave the school premises through a designated gate and students in Grade 3-6 can enter/exit at any of the open gates. Staff will reinforce this again on Monday 12th October. Students will be directed straight into their classrooms at 8.50am and there will be no lining up before school or after recess and lunch breaks. Designated gates for entering and leaving the premises have been relabelled to assist parents and will be:

Zone 1	Jessie Street gate near Kiss and Go Zone - Prep C, 1N & 2A
Zone 2	Jessie Street exit right hand side of main gate - Prep K, 1W & 2J
Zone 3	Jessie Street large double gate - Prep H, 1E, 2V
Zone 4	Jessie Street exit left hand side of main gate - Prep V, 1B & 2D
Zone 5	Jessie Street gate near disable parking bay - Prep D & 2P

We will stagger dismissal times commencing Monday 12th October to reduce the congestion outside the school gates on Jessie Street. Class teachers of students in Prep, Grade 1 and 2 will walk their classes out to their designated gate at the following times:

Preps – dismissed at 3.05pm

Grade 1 – dismissed at 3.15pm

Grade 2 – dismissed 3.25pm

Grade 3-6 – dismissed at 3.30pm (unless they depart with siblings in younger year levels)

If students have an older sibling we will have these children leave at the same time. When staff sight a parent/carer, students will be asked to leave the school grounds. If students in Prep – Grade 2 are going to after school care a member of staff will walk them across prior to 3.30pm.

Whilst at school it will not be practical for students to maintain the social distancing guidelines between students or between students and staff but these must be observed amongst staff.

We fully appreciate parents who elect to keep their children at home. However, we can no longer support their learning from home from October 12th. Please note this has been the direction of the Department of Education and Training and the same approach is being taken by all government schools.

Thank you for your anticipated patience and remember social distances outside our school premises. We look forward to welcoming our students back to the classroom on Monday 12th October.

Whole School and Graduation Photo

As at Sunday 4th October, the Department of Education and Training have stated that school photos are not allowed to proceed due to Covid restrictions in the Melbourne Metropolitan area. Therefore the school photos scheduled for Monday 19th October have been cancelled at this point in time.

Pupil Free Days Term 4

Just forewarning parents that Monday 2nd November (day before Melbourne Cup Day) is a pupil free day. The curriculum day that was postponed on Monday 17th August will now be conducted on Friday 11th December.

Congratulations – Ella Van Meeuven

Special congratulations to Ella Van Meeuven on the birth of her first child. Max was born on Sunday 4th October. When restrictions ease, we are looking forward to a visit from Ella and Max.

Sun Smart

All children are reminded that as part of the Sun Smart Policy from September to the end of April they need to wear their school hat when outside. Owing to children's allergies the school does not supply sunscreen and teachers are not allowed to apply sunscreen to children. All children are encouraged to apply sunscreen before they come to school and reapply it prior to going outside for the lunch time break. Please ensure your child's sunscreen is labelled and kept in their school bag.

Library

We are asking for all borrowed library books to be returned to the library ASAP so we can run a stocktake.

Cheryl Bondeson



School Photography

Dear Parents,

It's great to see that we now have a more positive plan for students to return to school in the coming weeks. We wanted to reassure you that we are working very closely with your school under guidelines that have been set out by the Department of Education to reschedule your 2020 school photography. Our priority remains the well-being of students, educators, staff and the overall community.

Once government restrictions are lifted we will confirm a photo date. We understand how important it is for your family to have a lasting memory of the 2020 school year.

Kind Regards,

The *advancedlife* team

Commitment to Child Safety

Preston West Primary School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. This will be the primary focus of our care and decision-making. Preston West Primary School has zero tolerance for child abuse.

Preston West Primary School is committed to providing a child safe environment where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. Particular attention will be paid to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children and children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as the safety of children with a disability.

The schools approach to creating and maintaining a child safe school environment is guided by our philosophy and values. Our vision is 'Preston West Primary School is committed to providing a learning environment and educational programs which will motivate, challenge and support students to become life long learners. The school aims to maximise student potential in a safe and caring community in which academic achievement, positive self-esteem, cultural diversity and the rights of all are highly valued and respected'. Our mission is 'Preston West Primary School aims to provide a safe, stimulating and supportive environment that develops all students to their full potential – academically, socially and personally. We instil in children a lifelong love of learning'. We know children can struggle to achieve their personal best if they are not safe from abuse.

At this school our values guide the decisions and behaviours of all members of our school community.

The school values we promote at Preston West Primary School are:

L	Leadership in our actions and behaviour. As exemplary leaders we demonstrate responsibility fairness, kindness, honesty, loyalty and cooperation with other students, teachers and parents within our school environment and in our community.
E	Excellence in our learning and interactions with other people. We strive to achieve high expectations in our daily learning endeavours and celebrate our successes. We demonstrate fair play and encourage the achievements of others.
A	Acceptance of others. We understand and celebrate the array of abilities, backgrounds, beliefs and opinions of other people. We value our rich multicultural community and acknowledge our diversity is our strength.
R	Respect for ourselves, other students, teachers, our parents and the wider community. We value and acknowledge every person as an individual who deserves to be treated with appreciation and dignity. We respect the work, ideas and belongings of others.
N	Never giving up on ourselves or others. We demonstrate persistence and resilience in the pursuits of higher learning and to become well rounded individuals socially and emotionally. We also show support, helpfulness and care for others and to assist them in the attainment of their goals.

If there are any concerns or questions regarding Child Safety procedures, please see the Cheryl Bondeson (Principal) or Mark Ross (Assistant Principal).

Acknowledgement of Land

Preston West Primary School acknowledges the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which our school is situated. We pay our respects to their Elders both past and present.

