

Dates To Remember

TERM ONE 2021

Friday 5th February

School Council - Notice of Election and call for nominations

Monday 8th February

Assembly 2.45pm

Tuesday 9th February

Information Night Years 1 & 2 - 5.30pm
Information Night Years 3 & 4 - 6.15pm

Wednesday 10th February

No School for Preps
Information Night Years 5 & 6 - 5.30pm
Prep welcome BBQ - 6pm-7pm

Friday 12th February

Book Club Due
Nominations for School Council Close

Monday 15th February

Parent Helpers Course 2pm - 2.45pm

Tuesday 16th February

Information Exchange night 2.30pm-7pm
2.30pm start for Year 3 & 4
3.45pm start all other year levels

Wednesday 17th February

No school for Preps

Monday 22nd February

Assembly 2.45pm
List of candidates and nominations posted for School Council

Thursday 4 February, 2021

Principal's Report

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back! We hope the holidays provided you with time to unwind, relax and enjoy your family time. This break seemed to go super quick - maybe because we were able to get out and about! My family and I managed to get away to my mum's holiday house in Newstead (between Castlemaine and Daylesford) for a week. We all enjoyed being in the bush, riding motorbikes and swimming in the dam.

Here is a picture of my children and my niece enjoying their swim.



Harvey (our dog) was particularly proud as he found our resident echidna.



I have visited the classrooms to welcome the children back to school and noted an air of excitement and enthusiasm for new learning, new friendships and new experiences. We welcomed new Prep students (and their families) on Friday. We have 62 new preps who will be excited and a little nervous as they begin their school journey. A warm welcome also to our many new families and students who have started in other year levels - Welcome to Mount Waverley Heights!

There is often lots of information that I convey through the newsletter, so please endeavour to read it each week. If you do have any questions, ideas or queries throughout the year, please see your child's class teacher, the office staff, Carolyn (Assistant Principal) or myself. We are only too happy to clarify or fill you in about your child's learning or other activities around the school. We look forward to working productively with each of you throughout the 2021 school year.

STAFFING OVERVIEW

For your reference....

LEADERSHIP

Principal	Sharon Reiss-Stone
Assistant Principal	Carolyn Datson (M-Fri absent Tues and Thu afternoons)
Learning Specialist	Emma Thomas (T-Thu)

ADMINISTRATION

Business Manager	Louise Berry
Office Assistant	Julie Gifford

CLASSROOM TEACHERS

Prep J	(* Level Leader)
Prep M	Melanie Johnson*
Prep T	Melanie Jones
1 S	Tracy Jom
1G	Elizabeth Spurling*
1M	Alicia Geddes/ Julianne Marshall (Fri)
2D	Luke Morris
2J	Scott DeMarchi*
3/4T	Caitlin Jamieson
3/4K	Lee-Ean Teoh*
3/4M	Sarah Kua
5/6D	Luke Marrone
5/6M	Sandra Douglas*
5/6C	Kiralee Molnar
Tutor	Callum Marini
	Amy Morris

SPECIALIST TEACHERS

Art / Music	Claire Furlong (Mon-Fri)*
Art	Laura Weston (Tue/Wed)
Japanese	Masahiro Yamazaki (Mon, Wed and Thu)
Physical Education	Kate Black (Tue-Fri)

SUPPORT STAFF

Education Support	Marika Rac (Mon & Wed)
Education Support	Linda Longstaff (Mon- Wed)
Education Support	Catherine Loria (Mon,Tue, Thu, Fri)
Education Support	Helen Davies (Mon, Thu, Fri)
Education Support	Jo Lewis (Tues, Wed, Fri)
Education Support	Tania Bennell-Williams (Tues- Thu)
Education Support	Louise Yaxley-Chan (Tue-Fri)

Education Support
Library Technician
Technician

Lisa Penne (Wed-Fri)
Jane Gough (Tues and Thu – 2 hrs each day)
Logan McIntosh (Thu 1:00-4:00pm)

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

Just a quick update in regards to Covid safe practices. They will be the same as our previous arrangements except for after school pickup areas.

- Remain 1.5m apart and carry your face mask with you. If you are unable to manage social distancing please use a face mask.
- Face masks to be worn when indoors.
- Collection points (pickup areas) will be marked out on our ground. Prep parents will have the Dream Space and basketball court area, Year 1 parents will be closer to the PAC, Year 2 parents will have the playground/artificial grass area (the back of admin building), 3-6 parents will have the downball courts and flagpost areas.
- Please do not stand underneath the Pavillion area as this makes it difficult for the students to find/see their parents when they are leaving for the day.

CAR PARK REMINDER

A car park fact sheet will be sent home tomorrow. Please make sure that you read this carefully as there are some slight changes. In particular, as student numbers have increased so have staff numbers. There are no longer available parking spaces for parents past the gates, unless you require the disabled carpark.

MEDICAL NEEDS

If your child has special medical needs – allergies, anaphylaxis, asthma etc. – please ensure the school has an up-to-date record of this. In particular with regard to anaphylaxis, asthma and allergies we require the Action Plan from your family doctor. It is vital that we meet our duty of care requirements and these medical plans are an important way to ensure your child's safety.

Students across the school have a variety of allergies. You may have received a notice earlier this week, if there is a child in your child's/children's class that has a particular allergy, please ensure that you avoid sending these foods to school, so that we can reduce the possibility of a reaction.

REMINDER: NO NUTS AT SCHOOL PLEASE. This includes peanut butter and nutella spreads.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

At this time of year, I am asked to remind parents that the school doesn't have any student accident insurance and therefore parents are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs. We strongly encourage families to purchase ambulance cover, as these expenses can be enormous compared to the initial outlay. Additional accident insurance policies can be purchased from commercial insurers.

Can I also remind parents/guardians that the Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to school and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property. We strongly recommend that students do not bring valuable items to school.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Mount Waverley Heights School Council guides the policy and budgetary decision making in the school. We generally meet on the third (mostly) Wednesday of each month. Please note that our first School Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 24 February where the current (2020) School Councillors will reside. If you are interested in being part of the new 2021 School Council, we **are currently calling for nominations**. While it is an important part of school operations, School Council members do not need any special expertise, experience or skills. The most important thing is that you want to contribute to continually improving learning opportunities for all children at Mount Waverley Heights.

Our Council Constituting Order is: 8 Parent members, 4 DET (Teacher) members, 2 Community members. We have 4 Parent Member positions and 2 DET member positions vacant. Nomination Forms can be **collected as of Friday 5 February and must be returned by 4pm as of Friday 12 February**. On Monday 22 February a list of candidates and nominators will be posted. More information regarding School Council will be distributed tomorrow.

CURRICULUM DAYS

The first two days of the school year, staff were busy undertaking Professional Learning (PL). The focus on the first curriculum day was around our school goals and expectations. The second day was used to plan our inquiry units.

In 2021 we will be...

MAIN FOCUS:

- Continuing to develop a more consistent and differentiated approach to the planning, delivery and assessment of mathematics. Continuing to use Learning Intentions and Success Criteria with the students. This assists them in identifying what they can do and where to next.
- Consolidating the use of our whole school writing approach (6 + 1 Traits)
- Updating our School Wide Positive Behaviour Approach to include more Social/Emotional strategies.
- Incorporating new IT strategies into the curriculum to enhance the teaching and learning across the school but in particular the Year 3-6 classes.

CONTINUING...

- to embed our reading practices
- with our whole school phonemic spelling program

START UP PROGRAM – SETTING UP OUR LEARNING COMMUNITIES

The first few weeks of the year are dedicated to building relationships within the school community. The emphasis of these activities is on getting to know each other, developing good working relationships, developing cooperative skills, and building a thorough understanding of school and class routines and expectations. This program has assisted us in developing proactive whole school systems to define, teach and support students in developing harmonious relationships. Our three school wide behaviour expectations are:

Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be Inclusive

INFORMATION NIGHTS

We will be holding Level Information Nights on the following days:

- Year 1/2 Tue Feb 9 from 5.30-6.15pm - Year 1 in the PAC, Year 2 Library
- Year 3/4 Tue Feb 9 from 6.15-7pm - in the portable
- Year 5/6 Wed Feb 10 from 5.30-6.15pm - in the 5/6 Douglas room
- Prep Wed Feb 10 from 6-7pm Welcome Prep BBQ - Junior school playground area

At these sessions, information regarding Literacy, Numeracy, ICT, Wellbeing and Inquiry will be discussed. Homework, camps and other information will also be shared.

INFORMATION EXCHANGE NIGHT

On **Tuesday February 16** we will be offering parents an opportunity to meet with their child's classroom teacher to share vital information about their child's learning requirements and provide parents with an opportunity to discuss any concerns regarding their child's academic, social and emotional development. In some cases a parent sharing relevant background information such as a child's academic strengths, their social and emotional competencies, their family circumstances or medical/health information, can be invaluable to a teacher catering for a child in their care. **Information regarding the exchange night will be distributed next week.** The online booking system will be used again this year and details regarding how to do this will be sent home next week.

READERS

Readers will be sent home next Monday. Please note that students will be taking home readers from where they left off in 2020. Unfortunately, if students have not been reading over the holiday period, they can drop back a few levels before they regain their confidence. We also know that there will be many students who have progressed and will be reading well beyond their 2020 level. The levels will be modified and adjusted as soon as the assessment has been completed. Please see your child's classroom teacher if you have any questions.

ASSEMBLY – Begins Monday Feb 8

Our first assembly for the school year will be held on Monday February 8 from 2.45-3.30pm. We would like to meet as a whole school for Term 1 assemblies. Due to DET Covid guidelines, we are unable to invite parents along. As such we will set up a meeting invite for parents to join us online. Students will walk back to their classrooms before being dismissed. In the last week of term, a special awards assembly will take place at 9am. This special morning assembly will be held on March 29th at 9am.

SCHOOL SHOES: This is just a reminder that **only black school shoes or black sport shoes are to be worn to school**



Let's celebrate...

- A great start by our 2021 Preps!
- Calm, focussed classes throughout the school.
- Congratulations to Cerise and family on the arrival of her baby brother Hendrix.

Sharon Reiss-Stone

Principal



Assistant Principal's Report

Welcome Back!

I hope everyone has had a wonderful break and is refreshed and excited about starting a new school year. I had a very relaxing time with family and friends, even squeezing in a few trips to Phillip Island. Mrs Reiss-Stone and I visited the classrooms this week and it was great to see lots of smiling faces. We are looking forward to lots of fantastic learning.



Beginning a new year

It's always hard to go from a summer holiday schedule to a school schedule so try to be organised for the day by getting into a school morning routine. For example set an alarm to help everyone get up, making sure you have enough time to get ready and to avoid a stressful morning rush, leave enough time to get to school. Routines will help your family establish a good morning routine and make the school year go a lot smoother.

Hot weather

With such a hot start to the year please ensure your child brings a drink bottle and sunscreen to school and always remembers their hat.

Carolyn Datson

Assistant Principal



Extend is the place for your children to thrive, learn and play, so what are you waiting for? Book and enrol at

www.extend.com.au



Happy New Year everyone and welcome back!

My name is Jayde and i've been working with Extend at Mount Waverley Heights P.S since the summer of 2016. First beginning as an Assistant and since 2019 I filled the big shoes given to me to be the Service Coordinator.

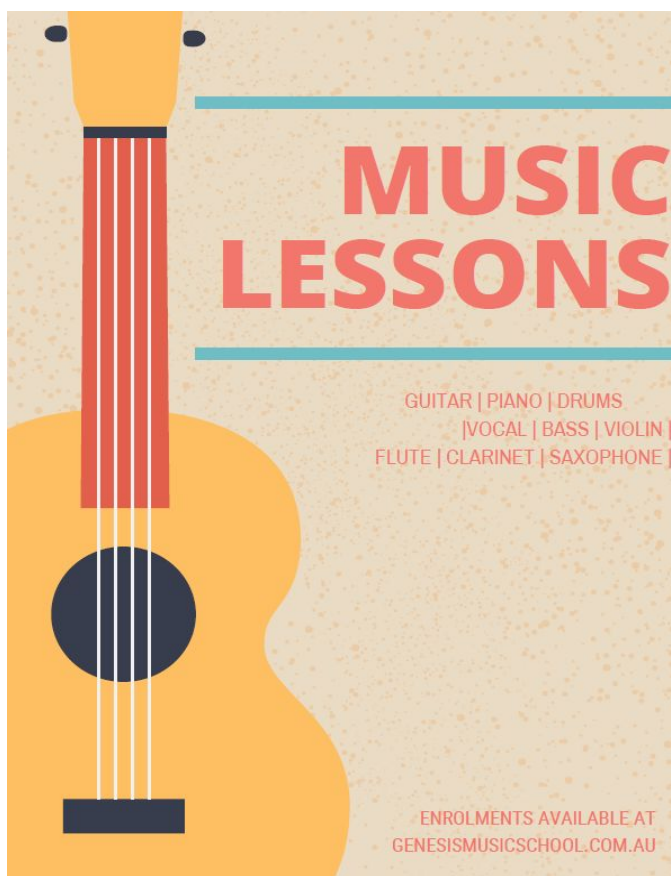
Our philosophy is for all children to have *Fun* in a *Safe*, *Supportive* and *Collaborative* environment. I live and breathe these values and cannot wait to see more families join the Extend Family and for what my little Extenders and I make of 2021!

Jayde Young
Service Coordinator



Come along to Before School Care for a healthy breakfast and a great start to the day. Then join us for After School Care and enjoy a range of different activities and be nourished with yummy, healthy food! Make new friends at Extend! Enrol and book now via extend.com.au.

extend.com.au



MUSIC LESSONS

GUITAR | PIANO | DRUMS
[VOCAL | BASS | VIOLIN]
FLUTE | CLARINET | SAXOPHONE

ENROLMENTS AVAILABLE AT
GENESISMUSICSSCHOOL.COM.AU

Bring out the best in your child with singing.



Enrolments for the Australian Youth Choir are now open to boys and girls from 7 years.

An opportunity to develop singing, build confidence, self esteem and make new friends.

Weekly rehearsals in Burwood during school Term; workshops and concerts included in the year.

TRY OUT NOW
CONTACT US
office2@niypaa.com.au or **9836 2877**
Take your child's singing from the shower to the stage!

Visit our **website** www.niypaa.com.au

 [@niypaaofficial](https://www.facebook.com/niypaaofficial)  [australian_youth_choir](https://www.instagram.com/australian_youth_choir)

The Australian Youth Choir is a division of National Institute of Youth Performing Arts Australian (NIYPAA) ABN 28 007 124 629



Where everyone is a Star

Performing Arts • 3-18 years
ACTING & DRAMA • DANCE • SINGING

Est 1995

Congratulations to all students who are working professionally within the industry.

Branches in Mt Waverley, Doncaster and Box Hill.

ENROL NOW • LIMITED VACANCIES
0408 58 1943 or 9898 1275 • karenmargaretstudios@bigpond.com

www.karenmargaretstudios.com.au

First class FREE



ARTISTRY

AESTHETIC GROUP GYMNASTICS



BRAND NEW UNIQUE KIDS GYMNASTICS PROGRAM

Ph. 0412 504 054
www.artistryagg.com
artistryagg@inet.net.au
BOOK A FREE TRIAL & ASSESSMENT

Artistry
Aesthetic Group Gymnastics
Training PS Workshops Holiday Programs Competitions