

Melton Primary School Newsletter

P: 9743 5335

E: melton.ps@education.vic.gov.au

W: <http://www.meltonps.vic.edu.au>

Monday 1st February, 2021

WE ARE MELTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

WE ARE ACTIVE LEARNERS

- ✓ We will have a go and try our best.
- ✓ We reflect on our learning and seek to improve.
- ✓ We ask questions to clarify our understanding.
- ✓ We are persistent and determined to succeed.
- ✓ We are punctual and prepared.
- ✓ We take pride in our work.
- ✓ We listen attentively.
- ✓ We are resilient and use a range of strategies to solve problems.

WE RESPECT OTHERS

- ✓ We are polite.
- ✓ We are friendly, honest and caring.
- ✓ We are accepting and inclusive.
- ✓ We have self-control.
- ✓ We listen to others and use words that show respect.
- ✓ We follow rules and accept outcomes for our behaviour.
- ✓ We are grateful.

WE ARE SAFE

- ✓ We make safe choices.
- ✓ We listen and follow instructions.
- ✓ We are cyber safe.
- ✓ We walk within the classroom.
- ✓ We use equipment appropriately.
- ✓ We follow road safety rules.
- ✓ We are sun smart.

WE ARE SUPPORTIVE

- ✓ We are understanding and encourage others to do their best.
- ✓ We give feedback and positive reinforcement.
- ✓ We listen, collaborate and work well in teams.
- ✓ We aim to build positive relationships.
- ✓ We are sympathetic to the needs of others.

From the Principal's desk

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome Our New Students

Welcome to the 2021 School Year, it is great to see all of our students returned refreshed ready for the new school year. We trust all of our families had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday break. We would like to **welcome to Melton Primary School our new Foundation students and all new students from Grades 1 - 6**. We hope that all of the existing Melton PS families will introduce themselves and make the new families to Melton feel very welcome.

Book Packs

All students should have come to school with their book packs. If you have not done so, please ensure you arrange for your child's books as soon as possible. Book packs can still be ordered from Office Max, however they do incur a delivery fee. As a part of the Office Max book pack price, the school will order in bulk shared items (like glitter and coloured paper). If you purchase your child's books from an alternative supplier, please ensure that the equipment is the correct sort. If you are unsure please see your child's classroom teacher.

COVID Restrictions

It is Government regulations that anyone onsite for longer than 15 minutes is required to sign in. **If you are onsite at anytime, we require you to sign in** rather than watching the clock for 15 minutes. Please proceed to the office to sign in. We encourage our families to wait for your child at the gate rather than onsite.

Prevent Lost Property

To help us return any lost property, we ask that you clearly label your child's lunch box, school uniform, art smock and library bag. The lost property tub is located in the foyer of the office. This is where we place all unlabeled items. Each classroom also has their own lost property tub, so it is important that you check there also if your child loses an item.

From the Principal's desk

Tutor Program

In response to the education challenges of 2020 due to COVID 19, all schools are providing a tutor program designed for learning catch up and extension. A number of different programs operate throughout our school based on student learning needs.

To determine students who are participating in the programs, staff look at assessment results, work effort and student attendance. In order for the programs to be fluid and sequential it is imperative that students participating in these programs are at school as often as possible.

In 2021 we will be operating the following programs:

Literacy - MiniLit (catch up), LLI (catch up and extension), tutor Literacy (catch up and extension)

Maths - tutor Numeracy (catch up and extension)

Students will participate in these programs for different periods of time. For some of these programs there is an expectation that students complete additional homework. It is vital that families work with the school to ensure that this is done.

Our team of staff operating these programs are:

Mrs Ward - tutor Literacy

Mr Gallagher - tutor Numeracy

Mr Wheelahan - tutor Numeracy

Mrs Collins - tutor Numeracy

LLI - Mrs McMahon

MiniLit - Mrs Bowden and Mrs McIntosh

If your child has been identified to commence one of these programs this term, you will be contacted shortly by the teacher. Thank you for working with us to catch up and extend students.

From the Principal's desk

Meet the teacher

Available on Compass are the meet the teacher interview schedules. We encourage all families to make an appointment with your child's teacher. This meeting provides a vital opportunity for parents to inform your child's teacher about your child and to discuss any concerns that you may have. Interviews are scheduled for 8th to 10th of February. If you require any assistance booking an interview time, please see our friendly office staff for assistance. All bookings are made through Compass.

Photo Privacy

It is great that people want to share photos of their child/ren on social media like Facebook and Instagram, but it is vital that you seek permission from other parent's if you wish to share a photo/movie clip of other people's children. Please consider others and show courtesy by asking permission before you share. As a school we have sought publishing permission from each family so that we can publish photos and student work on our website, Facebook page and brochures.

Teachers are available from 8:30am

Should you need to speak to your child's teacher before school, teachers are available from 8:30am. Prior to 8:30am, teachers are preparing for their day so I ask that you do not interrupt them, please contact the office who can pass a message onto your child's teacher.

Mutually Agreeable Appointment

Please be advised that on Monday and Tuesday afternoons, the staff participate in meetings commencing at 3:20pm. If you need to see a teacher for an extended period of time, please make an appointment with them at a mutually agreeable time. If you are running late to pick your child up, please ensure that you contact the school so that we can inform your child. This often relieves any stress or anxiety that they may feel with you not being there at 3:00pm.

Students should not be onsite prior to 8:15am unsupervised

Teachers officially start at 8:18am with the first teacher on yard duty from 8:30am. Students should not be in the school yard prior to 8:15am unsupervised. Parents needing to have their child on site prior to 8:15am are required to utilise the Out of School Hours Care service. If students are on site prior to 8:15am unsupervised, parents will be contacted to collect them.

From the Principal's desk

Attendance Officer

Ally Morrissey is our attendance officer. Each day she will make contact with families of students who are absent where the school has not been notified in relation to a reason for their absence. She will also work with families whose children have an excessive number of absences. **School attendance is important.** If your child/ren are not at school we are unable to teach them.

How many days is regular attendance, below average attendance and poor attendance in a semester (over 2 terms)?

0-6 days - This is within the normal range. A child with this attendance is able to take full advantage of the teaching and learning programs available to them.

7-10 days - This attendance rate is below average. A child with this attendance rate could miss over one year of schooling between Foundation and Year 10.

11 – 20 days – This is a poor attendance rate. A child with this attendance rate could miss over two and a half years of schooling between Foundation and Year 10

School Newsletter

Our school newsletter is a fortnightly electronic publication. If you are wishing to have an item included in the newsletter, please do not hesitate to email the school email address on the front page.

Late Arrival and Early Pick Up

If your child arrives late to school or needs to be collected before the end of the school day, we ask that you ensure that you come to the office where your child will be signed in or signed out using the Compass kiosk. It is vital that this is kept up to date, in the event of an emergency this is where we locate all of attendance information. **If you are in the school grounds at any time we ask that you sign in using the Compass kiosk located in the foyer near the office.**

Change of details

It is vital that if you have changed your mobile phone number or address that you ensure that you notify the school of your change of details. It is the **responsibility of all families to ensure that the school has current and up to date contact details for parents and emergency contacts.** Please ensure that you inform the office of your current details.

From the Principal's desk

School Assembly

Our School Captains will be hosting our whole school assembly each fortnight. Assembly will be streamed to the classrooms via the internet. Our School Captains will host the assembly each fortnight and parents are welcome to come into their child's classroom to view assembly. We will send out the electronic link to families via Class Dojo and Compass so that parents who are working can watch it at work.

40km Speed Limit Around Schools

A reminder that the speed limit around the school is 40 km per hour and that this is routinely monitored by the law enforcement throughout the year.

Parking Around the School

Parking around the school can be an issue at the start of the day and at the end of the school day. A number of families were fined by the local council last year for parking on the grass area next to the gravel car park opposite the school on Raleigh's Road. Please be advised, if you don't want to be fined, please do not park here. **We encourage our families to part drive and part walk. Park your car a couple of streets away and walk with your child to school. A defined carpark has been created behind the scout hall to provide additional parking.**

Sunsmart

Until the end of April, all students are required to wear a school hat at recess and lunchtime. If your child has misplaced their hat and you wish to purchase a new one, please come to the office to do so.

House Teams

Each student across the school is assigned to a house team. Melton Primary has four houses – Acacia, Grevillea, Blue Gums and Callistemon. Students are able to wear their sports team colour in the form of a plain t-shirt on the day in which their class has physical education. If you do not know which house your child is in, please see your child's classroom teacher.

From the Principal's desk

Compass App

We encourage all of our families to download the Melton Primary School Compass App. Via the Compass app you are able to notify the school of your child's absence, book parent teacher interviews, make payments, electronically sign permission forms and view your child's progress report and reports (some of these items you need to open the browser in order to complete). For further instructions on how to access the application, please contact the office for your individual login details.

If you require assistance navigating Compass or help logging in, Mrs Gilbert is available and can be contacted via the office.

Private Music Lessons

Genesis Music will provide guitar, keyboard and vocal lessons for the students who have opted for them in 2020. If you are interested in your child participating in privately funded lessons please contact Genesis Music directly. **P:** 0421 426 674,
E: info@genesismusicschool.com.au

Homework

The MPS homework expectations are:

- *Nightly reading
- *MIOOW sight words practise
- *Spelling words practise
- *Practise of number chart or times tables chart relevant to child's point of learning
- *Teams will provide a suitable project when needed.

Headlice

We encourage all of our families to check their child's hair on a weekly basis. If live lice are found, students are not to come to school until they have been treated. If eggs are found, families will need to comb their child's hair, to ensure all eggs are removed. Already we have been notified of students who have had live lice.

3 Keys to your child's educational success

- 1. Reading daily (share a book)**
- 2. Attending school daily**
- 3. Talk with your child (build their vocabulary)**

From the Principal's desk

Mobile Phones

The Department of Education Policy is that any students with a mobile phone are to hand it into the office at the start of the school. At the end of the day, students can collect their phone from the office. Students are not permitted to have mobile phones in the classroom. If a student is found to have a mobile phone in the classroom, it will be retained and held in the office until a parent can come in and collect it.

School Council

The Melton Primary School, School Council is made up of a range of staff, parents and community members who work together to set and work towards the key goals and targets of the school.

Thank you to the members of School Council whose term of office (2019-2020) concludes in March. **We appreciate the dedication and support of the following parents School Council Vice President Laura Rees, Justin Rees, Anoop Anoop and Peta Brincat. We appreciate the dedication and support of staff members Ann Ward, Georgia Magnano and Melanie Gilbert whose term concludes also. Thank you to Lisa Pederson, our community representative whose term also concludes.** Please find further on in the newsletter a call for nominations for the School Council terms of office for 2021 & 2022.

PRIVACY INFORMATION for parents and carers

During the ordinary course of your child's attendance at our school, school staff will collect your child's personal and health information when necessary to educate your child, or to support your child's social and emotional wellbeing or health in the school context. Such information will also be collected when required to fulfil a legal obligation, including duty of care, anti-discrimination law and occupational health and safety law. If that information is not collected, the school may be unable to provide optimal education or support to your child, or fulfil those legal obligations.

For example, health information may be collected through the school nurse, primary welfare officer or wellbeing staff member. If your child is referred to a specific health service at school, such as a Student Support Services officer, the required consent will be obtained. Our school also collects information provided by parents and carers through the School Entrance Health Questionnaire (SEHQ) and the Early Childhood Intervention Service (ECIS) Transition Form.

From the Principal's desk

PRIVACY INFORMATION for parents and carers continued...

Our school may use online tools, such as apps and other software, to effectively collect and manage information about your child for teaching and learning purposes, parent communication and engagement; student administration; and school management purposes. When our school uses these online tools, we take steps to ensure that your child's information is secure. If you have any concerns about the use of these online tools, please contact us.

School staff will only share your child's personal or health information with other staff who need to know to enable the school to educate or support your child, or fulfil a legal obligation.

When our students transfer to another Victorian government school, personal and health information about that student will be transferred to that next school. Transferring this information is in the best interests of our students and assists that next school to provide optimal education and support to students.

In some limited circumstances, information may be disclosed outside of the school (and outside of the Department of Education and Training). The school will seek your consent for such disclosures unless the disclosure is allowed or mandated by law.

Our school values the privacy of every person. When collecting and managing personal and health information, all school staff must comply with Victorian privacy law. For more information about privacy including about how to access personal and health information held by the school about you or your child, see our school's privacy policy: <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/schoolsprivacypolicy.aspx>

Throughout this notice, 'staff' includes principals, teachers, Student Support Service officers, youth workers, social workers, nurses and any other allied health practitioners and all other staff at our school. This includes employees, agents and service providers (contractors) of the Department, whether paid or unpaid.

Vanessa Harrison
Principal

Key Dates for Term 1, 2021

February

- 3rd Foundation students not required at school
- 8th Meet the Teacher interviews 3:20pm - 4:40pm
- 9th Gr 6 Health and Human Relationships
Meet the Teacher interviews 3:20pm - 4:40pm
- 10th Foundation students not required at school
Meet the Teacher interviews 3:20pm - 6:30pm
- 16th Gr 6 Health and Human Relationships
- 17th Foundation students not required at school
District Swimming Carnival for selected students
- 19th School Photos
Gr 6 Interschool Sport - round 1
- 23rd Gr 6 Health and Human Relationships
- 24th Foundation students not required at school
- 26th Gr 6 Interschool Sport - round 2

School Photos
Friday 19th
February



March

- 2nd Gr 6 Health and Human Relationships
- 5th Gr 6 Interschool Sport - round 3
- 8th **Labour Day Holiday - No School**
- 9th **Curriculum Day - No School**
- 10th Divisional Swimming Carnival for selected students
- 12th Gr 6 - Summer Lightning Cup
- 19th Bullying No Way Day
- 24th Divisional Tennis for selected students
- 30th Regional Swimming - selected students only
Local High Schools Information Evenings

April

- 1st Last day of term 1, 2:30pm dismissal.



2021

2021 Term Dates

Term 1: 27th January (teachers start)

Students commence on Thursday 28th Jan.

Term 1 concludes on Thursday 1st April

Term 2: 19th April to 25th June

Term 3: 12th July to 17th September

Term 4: 4th October to 17th December

Public Holidays 2021

Monday 8th March - Labour Day

Friday 2nd April - Good Friday

Monday 5th April - Easter Monday

Monday 14th June - Queen's Birthday

TBA - AFL Grand Final Friday

Tuesday 2nd November - Melbourne Cup Holiday

Working with Children check

If you are wanting to volunteer at Melton Primary School it is essential that you have a current **Working With Children Check**. Please provide a copy of this to the office. If you need assistance obtaining a WWCC please come into the office for support. Applications can be processed online at

<http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/home/applications/>

No one will be allowed to work in classrooms or volunteer on excursions unless they have a current working with children check.



From the Principal's desk

School Council

We will shortly be sending home calls for nominations for School Council.

What is a school council and what does it do?

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

Who is on the school council?

For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

A mandated elected Parent category - more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.

A mandated elected DET 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 - members are co opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

From the Principal's desk

School Council Notice of an Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Melton Primary School.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school office and **must be lodged by 4:00pm on Monday 8th February 2021.**

The ballot will close at 4:00pm on 22nd February 2021.

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 2021 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2023.	4
DET Employee Member		3
Community Member		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.

Vanessa Harrison - Principal

Pop past the office if you need assistance paying



ELITE SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHY

PO Box 332 East Bentleigh VIC 3165 • 03 9570 9311 • www.eliteschoolphotography.com.au

MELTON PRIMARY SCHOOL PHOTO DAY IS COMING

Dear Parents,

<https://www.eliteschoolphotography.com.au/order/>

The official School Photos will be taken by Elite School Photography on Friday 19th February 2021

All orders are to be completed online, via the Elite School Photography website.

You can order your Child's School Photos by using the login code ESP202515 and follow the easy to use steps to order. Please ensure all relevant details are filled out correctly.

Family Discount - If you have more than two children attending this School, please list all their First Names and all their Classes and select 2 as the quantity, for the Deluxe and Standard packs. Your third and subsequent Child will receive their packs free of charge, but you must list all your children's names though. This family discount will only apply to the Deluxe & Standard Packs.

If you have any queries regarding School Photos, please contact our friendly staff at ESP directly on (03) 9570 9311

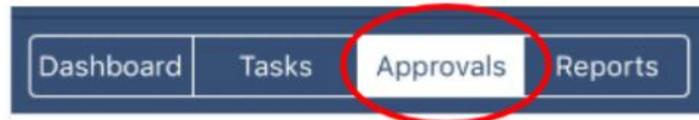
**Full school
uniform
required on
school photo
day 19th
February.**



*S*IMPLE, *S*MART & *S*ENSIBLY *P*RICED

Reporting your child absent on the Compass app

1. Click on HOME
2. Click on YOUR CHILD
3. Click on APPROVALS
4. Click on the + symbol in the bottom right corner.
5. Complete the screen that appears



5.1 Select a reason for your child's absence.

5.2 Add further details

5.3 Add in the start and end dates that your child will be absent.

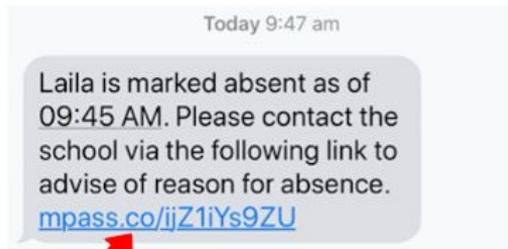
5.4 Click Add Approval

A screenshot of the 'Add Approval' form in the Compass app. The form has a dark blue header with 'Cancel' and 'Add Approval' buttons. Below the header, there is a 'Reason' field with a dropdown menu currently showing 'None'. Underneath is a 'Details / Comments' section with a large white text area. Further down are 'Start Date' and 'End Date' fields, both showing '10/04/2018'. At the bottom, there is a 'Missed' section with a blue link 'Activites missed by this approval' and an information icon. A blue 'Add Approval' button is at the very bottom of the form.A screenshot of the 'Add Approval' reason selection screen in the Compass app. It has a dark blue header with a back arrow and the text 'Add Approval'. Below the header is a list of reasons: 'Illness/Medical', 'Dentist', 'Bereavement', 'Truancy', 'Parent Choice', 'Family Holiday', and 'Religious/Cultural Observance'. Each reason is on a separate line with a light gray background.

Responding to the absence text message from Compass

New department guidelines require the school to contact the parents/carers of all students marked as not present on the first day of an absence. All parents/carers will receive a text message at 9.45am on the first day of the absence with a link that will allow you to provide consent for the absence directly through Compass. Please refer to the process below:

Step 1: click on the link in the text message that you receive.



Step 2: enter the reason for the absence and any details that are necessary.

A screenshot of the Compass app's absence reporting form. The form is titled "Mrs Ann WARD & Mr Warren WARD" and includes the following fields: "Absent Child" (Laila WARD), "Reason" (Illness/Medical), "Details / Comments" (empty text box), "Start Date" (10 Oct 2018 at 8:00 am), and "End Date" (10 Oct 2018 at 8:00 am). At the bottom, there is a "Done" button and a list of reasons: Illness/Medical, Dentist, Bereavement, and Truancy.

Step 3: click add approval. The details will be updated in Compass.

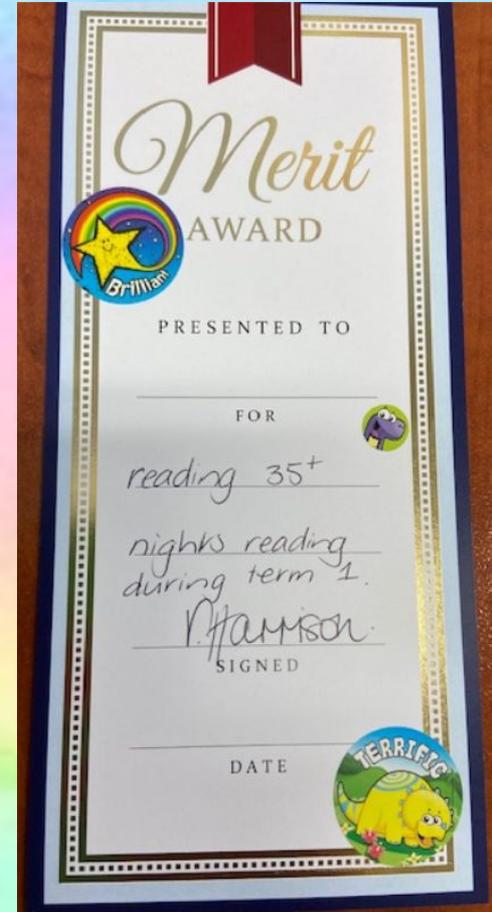
A screenshot of the Compass app's absence reporting form, showing the "Add Approval" button. The form is titled "Laila WARD" and includes the following fields: "Reason" (Illness/Medical), "Details / Comments" (Doctors appointment), "Start Date" (10 Oct 2018 at 8:00 am), "End Date" (10 Oct 2018 at 5:00 pm), and "Missed" (empty). At the bottom, there is a blue "Add Approval" button.

35 nights reading is the goal!

All students should have received their take home readers by today.

Our goal is for every child in the school to read 35+ nights during term !! Reading each night and on weekends counts!

It is simple, listen to your child read, sign their reading diary/school diary and that is one night completed! Repeat 34 more times during the term and your child will receive a merit award from one of our Principal Class team!

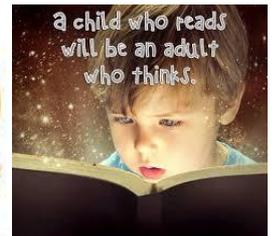


Breakfast Club, Early Bird Readers & Homework Club

The Melton Primary School breakfast club operates every morning in the STEAM (Science) room at the end of the BER building. Breakfast Club commences at 8:20am. Breakfast is FREE with the students having access to Weetbix, Cheerios, canned fruit and on special occasions toast and milo.

Do you need support with reading with your child. Come along to our Early Bird Readers program that also operates in the STEAM (Science) room at the end of the BER building. **Students are welcome Monday - Thursday from 8:20am.** They will be paired up with a buddy to assist them in reading their take home reader and using a range of reading strategies.

Does your child need support with homework? Everyday from 8:20am students are invited to the STEAM (Science) room to access support by one of our teachers.



Headlice

We have recently had a couple of reported cases of Headlice to the Office. We advise that all families please check your child's hair and treat if necessary.

How to conquer HEAD LICE
in 6 easy steps

1. Hitting them strong and hitting them hard
There are a number of strong chemical products on the market. These seem to appeal and revolt parents in equal numbers. While some don't like the idea of strong chemicals in such close contact with their child's skin, others find it reassuring for the very same reason – if there's chemicals involved, they must be doing a thorough job.

2. Going the touchy-feely route
Also available are natural products based on essential oils and pyrethrin, which smell a lot better than the chemical-based products. Because these products aren't as strong as the chemical-based ones, they usually need to be left in the hair longer to take effect.

3. Cooking up some homebrew
Like all good homebrew recipes, everyone has a different one that they swear by. Mostly though, they are made up of things that you could find in the kitchen or bathroom. Almost all are bulked out with thick conditioner. Popular recipes usually include: tea-tree oil, eucalyptus oil, vinegar, olive oil, orange oil, lavender oil.

4. Using hair spray/ hair gel
During an infestation of nits, spray your child's hair with hairspray, or comb through hair gel to make it more difficult for the lice to attach to their hair shafts.

5. Trying the white conditioner treatment
Regular combing is the key to keeping lice under control. Apply a thick, white conditioner (it makes it easier to see the nits and lice against white) and using a nit comb, section the hair and carefully comb, wiping each comb-full of conditioner, nits and lice onto a paper towel. Keep combing until you can't see any more eggs or lice in the conditioner. Repeat after seven days.

6. Applying vinegar
Thoroughly douse your child's hair with vinegar and leave for 15 minutes to allow the vinegar to kill the lice. Apply the white conditioner treatment.

kidspot

Announcement

Camps, Sports, Excursion Fund (CSEF) \$\$\$\$

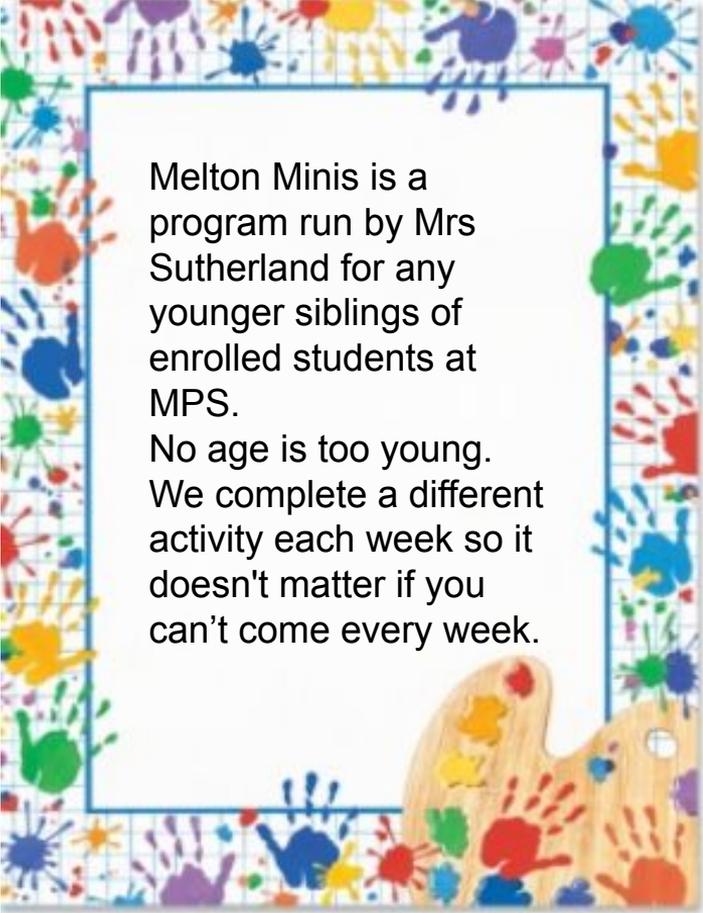
Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. There are two categories that must be met 1. Eligibility and 2. Be of school age and attend a Victorian School. \$125 per year is paid for eligible primary school students. Payments are made directly to the school and are tied to the student. Victorian Government Prep students (in 2021) who are CSEF recipients are also automatically eligible for uniform support through State Schools Relief. To be eligible for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government Victorian primary school must:

- on the first day of Term one, or;
- on the first day of Term two;
- a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be the holder of a Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR
- b) Be a temporary foster parent, and
- c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Families who received CSEF funds in 2020 do not need to apply again unless your circumstances have changed or you have moved schools. **New students to Melton Primary must apply.** Application forms are available from the office. **Application forms should be completed and lodged with schools by 1st April 2021**, as payments are made from March. However schools will be able to accept and process applications up until the end of term two each year. If you have not yet received a form and believe that you are eligible for this benefit, please contact the office.

Melton Minis



Melton Minis is a program run by Mrs Sutherland for any younger siblings of enrolled students at MPS.

No age is too young. We complete a different activity each week so it doesn't matter if you can't come every week.



Melton Minis will run on a Friday afternoon 2:00-2:50pm in the Art room.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Term 1 dates:

Fri: 12th Feb, 26th Feb, 12th March, 26th March

Meet the 2021 Foundation Teachers



Mrs Brewis
Room 9
Foundation A



Mrs Dandy
Room 8
Foundation B



Mrs Morgan
Room 5
Foundation C



Mrs Shirtcliffe
Room 6
Foundation D

Foundation

A big congratulations to all of our 2021 Foundation students for a great start to the year!

Shortly we will be sending home 'Magic M100W Words'. These are the most frequent words the students will encounter in their home readers. Practising these words nightly should help set up your child for success.

Our home reading program will start shortly too. The school expects that students read each night and merit awards from the Principal are awarded each term. We will be sending home strategies for your child to practise at home.

REMINDERS...

- For the month of February there is no school for Foundation students on Wednesdays. Please make sure you have booked a literacy and numeracy assessment with your child's teacher via Compass. If you are having difficulty with the Compass app you can get some assistance at the office.
- Stay connected with us... Make sure you are connected to Class Dojo. This is where we post photos of the students and their work and share important reminders. You can also see how many dojo points your child has and they can even customise their monster avatar!
- If you have your resource pack at home, please send that in to school.
- School Photos - 19th February. Wear your full school uniform and your big smile!

Grade 2

Meet the Teaching Staff



Mr McCabe



Mrs Strods



Mrs Stokes



Mrs Oates



Mrs Jordan



Ms Hamilton



Mrs Stanley



Ms Blain



Ms Blundell



Mrs Short

What a tremendous start to the year we have had! The students have all settled into the routines incredibly well and we have enjoyed setting up our classroom expectations and beginning our learning journey. There is so much to look forward to this year!

Have a sneak peek at our focuses for the term:

Reading: making connections, predicting, inferring, finding the main idea, questioning, making comparisons

Writing: memoirs, friendly letters, fractured fairy tales

Maths: place value, counting patterns

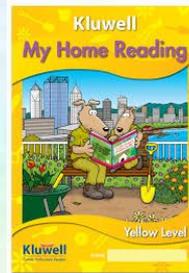
Science: physical sciences (forces of push and pull)

Health: making safe choices and recognising health messages

Reminders:



Hats must be worn every day.



Home readers are now up and running. Aim for 35 nights this term! Don't forget to sign your yellow book.

MEET
the
TEACHER

Book a time to meet with your child's teacher through Compass.

Welcome back to a new school year!

The grade 4 team have been busy planning a very **exciting** and **fun-filled** year. During the first days of school, our students have been working really hard to help their teachers set up their new classrooms and develop our expectations for 2021. Recently we sent out our **welcome note** which details what we will be covering this term and what you can expect to occur. Please make sure that you have a read of this information and also share this with your child.



Read every night!



Bring a water bottle to school.



Don't forget to bring your school hat.



Ask someone at home to sign your green reader diary.

Put your name on all of your belongings ..



Check Compass and Dojo for reminders, or to contact the teacher.



Grade 4

Writer's Notebook!

In the coming weeks, students will be given the opportunity to **decorate the front covers** of their **Writer's Notebook**. We would like the students to **personalise** their Writer's Notebook to make them unique and **individualised** for our students. We are encouraging students to **bring in any artifacts** they might like to use as a stimulus for their writing, which they would like to include on the front cover. This might be a **photograph, magazine clipping, a movie ticket** or anything that your child would be excited to write about.



6A - Miss Allan



6B - Mrs Thomas



6C - Mr Trewavis



Mrs Phelan



Mrs Quinlan

Grade 6

Welcome back to another school year at Melton Primary, and for some of you, your child's final year of primary school. We are very excited for the upcoming year and we look forward to working with your child.

The students have been focusing on the first days of school. This has involved setting up the classroom ready for the year ahead, setting up workbooks and revising the Agreed Behaviours and classroom expectations. The grade 6 students are to be congratulated for a great start to the year.

Inter-school Sports!
One of the benefits of being in grade 6 is we have the opportunity to participate in inter-school sports. This commences week 4. We encourage all students to try out for one of the following sports, cricket, Hot Shots tennis and volleyball. We will travel to various schools and participate in a lightning premiership tournament later in the term.



TAKE HOME READING:

As part of your child's weekly homework, they will be required to read each night. The students will be provided with a bag to protect books and they will use their diary as a reading record. This will need to be signed by a parent at least 4 times a week.

35 Nights is the Reading Goal.

It is expected that your child will bring their diary to school with them each day as they will be using them in the classroom.

Welcome to STEAM 2021

In Science we will be exploring the 4 science areas of Biological Science (animals and plants), Physical Science (physics), Earth and Space Science and Chemical Science.



Science



Technology

In Technology we will be learning to use different apps and software on the laptops and ipads. We will also learn how to code and program different robots.

In Engineering we will be using the Engineering Design Process to design and build solutions to everyday and future problems.



Engineering



Art

In Art we will be exploring the elements of Art and looking at different famous artists.

In Maths we will be exploring how we use Maths skills in everyday activities and through science, technology, engineering and art.



Maths

WELFARE - 7 WAYS TO MAKE A SENSATIONAL START TO THE SCHOOL YEAR.

BY MICHAEL GROSE – parenting advisor.

A new school year means a fresh start for students. Regardless of your child's performance last year, they start school with a clean slate. A break offers students the chance to begin new habits and adopt new behaviours. Here are seven ideas to help you make the most of the fresh start and make this year your child's best year ever year at school:

- 1. Commit to your child going to school every day on time.** One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she goes to school every day – and gets there on time. Kids spend more time asleep than at school, so we need to maximise every day to get full value.
- 2. Help kids start each day well.** A good night's sleep, a healthy breakfast and some words of encouragement from you will help set a positive tone for a day of learning. This may mean that you adjust your morning routine so that kids have plenty of time to get up, eat and get ready for the day. Consider taking a leaf out of the book of a friend of mine who gets her children to make their beds each morning which sets the tone for a productive day ahead.
- 3. Establish work & study habits.** The most successful students are those that develop regular study habits that suit their lifestyle, their study style and their school's expectations. Find out the work expectations from your child's or young person's school and help them establish a work routine that matches their personality, lifestyle and family style. Be flexible here as one size doesn't fit all when it comes to study routines.

4. Make sure your child gets enough sleep. I encourage you to make a big focus as this year as many children and young people are sleep-deprived, which impacts on their well-being and their learning. A good night's sleep consolidates learning, as well as assisting future learning. Children need between 10-12 hours of sleep each day, while teens need a minimum of nine hours. Help kids get sufficient sleep by having a regular bed-time and get-up time each day. Have 45 minute wind-down time each night, and remove screens and mobile phones from bedrooms.

5. Get your kids outside more for good physical and mental health. Kids today get less exercise than those of past generations, which is an impediment to learning and mental health. Health professionals recommend a minimum of 60 minutes of exercise per day for kids of all ages. Encourage kids to play sport; promote free and active play and look for ways to make moving part of their daily lives. Consider increasing your child's green time and decreasing screen time for good physical and mental health.

6. Focus on being friendly. Schools are very social places requiring kids to negotiate many different social situations each day. Encourage kids to be open and tolerant; to be friendly; to be involved in plenty of activities and to be social risk-takers. Some kids close down their friendship opportunities through self-centredness, poor attitude and unwillingness to take social risks.

7. Develop self-help skills. Successful students are often well-organised, self-directed and self-motivated. You can foster organisational skills and self-direction by developing simple, age-appropriate self-help skills related to their everyday lives. Also use visual parenting techniques (outlined in [Spoonfed Generation](#)) to aid organisation and encourage independence. Such skills as making lunches, packing school bags, and organising after school schedules can be great lessons that impact on how kids perform at school.

At the start of the school year kids are likely to adopt changes than at any other time. Make the most of the opportunity by focusing on two or three areas to really target and you'll find that the rest may well fall into place.

Instrumental Lessons at School



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