

# Melton Primary School Newsletter

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Monday 6th March, 2023

## 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.

Photos of  
our students being sun  
smart and using the  
equipment appropriately!  
Great work!



# From the Principal's desk

Dear Parents/Guardians,

## **Swimming Carnival**

With grit and determination, a number of our students represented our school in the District Swimming Carnival on 28th February. Congratulations to all of our students who tried their best, we are super proud of you! Melton Primary School were rewarded the district champions! A special thank you to Nikki Thorp for training our swim squad. Congratulations to all students who were placed in 1st, 2nd or 3rd and will now represent us in the regional swimming competition. Thanks to Mr CC and Mrs Coward for your coordination on the day.

## **35 nights Reading is the goal for term 1**

As previously advertised 35 nights reading is the goal for term 1. How is your child tracking? We are now at ½ way through the term.

## **School Arrival Time**

A friendly reminder that if you need your child to arrive at school prior to 8:15am, they must be enrolled in Before School Care. The office is not able to supervise students in the morning. Parents will be contacted and asked to collect their child if they are at school before 8:15 am.

## **Naplan**

Students in Years 3 & 5 will participate in The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) online tests on 15th - 20th March. As the tests are conducted in a strict time format, **it is essential that students are at school on time** on these days. We will be conducting catch up tests between 20th - 24th March. We know that students have a range of skills and talents and unfortunately the tests do not assess all of these. Whatever the results are of the tests, remember we know our students and what makes them exceptional. The results indicate how well students performed on one day in literacy and numeracy tests only. If you have concerns about your child and the Naplan tests, please contact your child's classroom teacher. Year 3 & 5 students you are extraordinary so please do not forget how great you are!

# From the Principal's desk

## Annual Implementation Plan - Attendance

One of the goals of our Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) is to ensure that we increase student attendance and reduce student lateness. Students who are absent for 20 or more days in a year are assessed with chronic absenteeism. **Research shows that there is a direct link between success later on in life and student attendance.** If students are not at school, they can not be taught. If students are not being taught, then their physical and academic skills and knowledge are not being expanded. **We need your support!** Here are some strategies that you can implement to help us increase student attendance and reduce lateness to school:

- **Ensure that your child goes to bed at a decent time on a school night** - Primary aged students should be in bed asleep by 8:30pm and not be going to bed any later than 9:30pm.
- **Ensure that you have a structured morning routine** - 7am wake up, 7:15am breakfast, 7:40am get dressed, 7:50 brush teeth/brush hair/wash face, 8:00am pack lunch, 8:15am pack bag, 8:20am leave for school.
- **Ensure your child only stays home if they are sick** - only keep your child home when they are sick, students should not get a day off school for their birthday or to go shopping.
- **Take family holidays during school holidays** - if you take holidays during school days, these count towards your child's absenteeism assessment.
- **If your child has separation anxiety** - please notify our office so we can arrange support.
- **If you have separation anxiety** - you need to go to your GP to get support, as your health is sabotaging your child's future.
- **If your family requires support** - there are a number of support agencies that can assist families - Child First, MacKillop Family Services.

Thank you to all of our families that do ensure that they send their child/ren to school as often as possible and get them to school on time. We appreciate your support! If you have friends in our Melton Primary community whose children have significant (4 or more days a term) absences, please remind them of the importance of school attendance. Students with less than 85% attendance are ineligible to be considered for our end of year awards. Grade 6 students will only receive an invitation to Graduation if they have above 80% attendance.

# From the Principal's desk

## Attendance

The Department of Education is contacting me on a weekly basis to discuss and monitor students who are already at risk of chronic absenteeism. I am required to contact families and provide a report back to the Government. **Student attendance is essential.** If your child is on the list, please expect a call from me. Students may also find that they may be required to be involved in learning catch up sessions at school instead of attending camps, excursions, interschool sports and graduation.

## Foundation Students now attend 5 school days

From the month of March, Foundation students will attend school full time, Monday - Friday.



## Mental Health in Schools Program

This year Ms Tamara Jordan is again leading up our Mental Health in Primary Schools program. Please keep an eye out in the newsletter for regular updates and support.

## Swimming Program Term 2 & 3

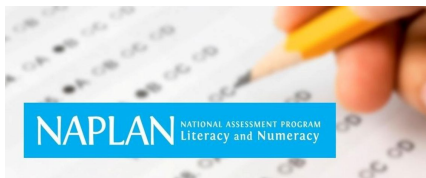
Please be advised that parents/guardians will this week be able to start to pay and provide permission for our term 2 and 3 swimming program via Compass. If you are wishing to utilise your CSEF funds towards the cost of swimming, please ensure that you contact the office. To ensure that we have the right number of instructors for the number of students, **it is essential that permission and payment is received by Thursday 6th April.**

## End of term

The end of term is approaching fast. **Students will finish term 1 on Thursday 6th April at 2:30pm.** If you are unable to collect your child/ren at this time, please ensure that you make alternate arrangements for their care.

Vanessa Harrison  
Principal





# NAPLAN 2023

This year the official NAPLAN testing window for all schools around Australia is **Wednesday 15 March** (Week 8) and concludes on **Monday 27 March** (Week 10).

During this time our Year 3 and Year 5 students will be completing the following NAPLAN tests:

- Writing
- Reading
- Conventions of Language (spelling, grammar & punctuation)
- Numeracy

If families would like to familiarise themselves with the online version of NAPLAN, there is an online practice test available for anyone to

explore at any time:

<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public>

[c-demonstration-site](#)

## How can I help my child prepare for NAPLAN?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular classroom activities. As such excessive preparation or coaching is not required. You can help your child prepare for NAPLAN by reassuring them that the tests are just one part of their school program, and by reminding them on the day to simply try their best. NAPLAN is not about passing or failing, but about assessing learning progress. See the [NAPLAN website](#) for examples of the test.

## Participation in NAPLAN

All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to participate in the annual NAPLAN tests. If your child regularly utilises adjustments in their classroom, it may be possible for these to be used. Where applicable you are encouraged to discuss the use of disability adjustments for your child with your child's teacher.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student with significant intellectual disability and/or significant coexisting conditions, or for a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-english speaking background. Your school can give you more information on disability adjustments or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

## What if my child is absent from school on test days?

Where possible, schools are encouraged to arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the testing week. The 2023 test timetable can be found on the NAPLAN Test Timetable page.

Please note the facilitation of catch up test for individual student are up to schools' discretion.

## How is my child's performance measured?

A NAPLAN report will be issued by your school in term 3. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your school.

Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each test.

# Key Dates for Term 1, 2023

## March

- 6th Teeth on Wheels
- 7th Divisional Swimming Carnival - selected kids
- 8th Teeth on Wheels
- 10th Teeth on Wheels
- 10th Gr6 Lightning Premiership
- 10th Melton Minis 2pm
- 13th Labour Day Holiday - No School**
- 15th - 27th Naplan Gr 3 & Gr 5**
- 24th F-6 Cross Country
- 24th Melton Minis 2pm
- 28th Regional swimming - selected students

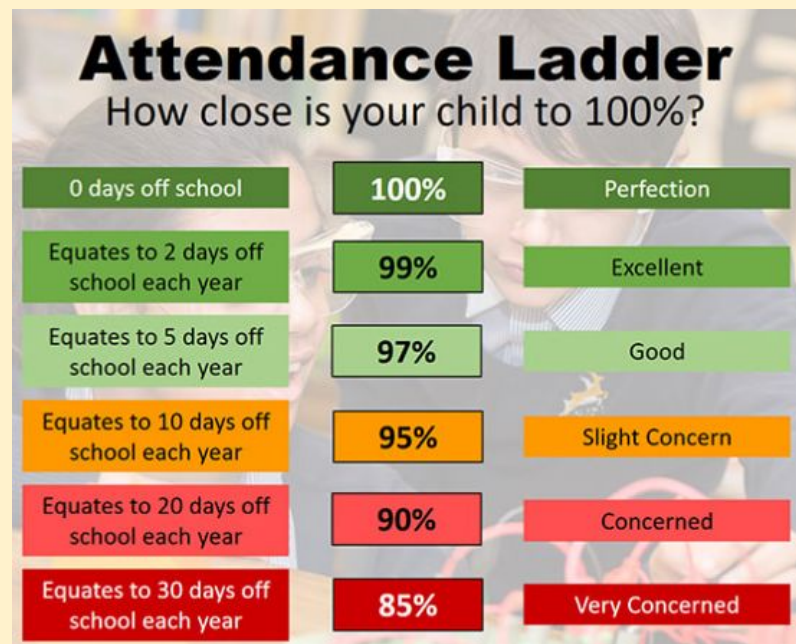
## April

- 3rd - 4th Grade 5 Camp
- 6th - Last day of term 1, 2:30pm dismissal.



**Don't forget to provide permission and make payment for our school swimming program which commences in term 2.**

## Where is your child on the ladder?



# Term Dates

- Term 1 - 30th January -  
6th April
- Term 2 - 24th April -  
23rd June
- Term 3 - 10th July -  
15th September
- Term 4 - 2nd October -  
20th December



# Curriculum Days

- Term 2 - Tuesday the 13th June
- Term 3 - Friday 11th August
- Term 4 - Monday 6th November  
Wednesday 20th December

## Teacher Professional Practice Days

Thursday 1st June  
Wednesday 22nd November

# 35 nights reading is the goal!

All students should have receive their take home readers this week.

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 ribbon from the members of our Principal Class team!



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

**Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss 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 outcomes.**

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist 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

## **HOW TO APPLY**

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, **you do not need to complete an application form this year** unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments**; your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances**; such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

**Applications should be lodged as soon as possible, with schools accepting them until 23<sup>rd</sup> June**





# Attendance



## Why do I need to notify the school if my child is absent?

Schools need to know when and why a child is absent and you need to know if your child isn't at school.

All Victorian government schools are required to contact parents/carers as soon as practicable on the same day of an unexplained student absence. If your child is absent on a particular day and you have not contacted the school to explain why, the absence will be marked as unexplained.

Daily school attendance is important. Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education, they learn new things every day – missing school puts them behind.

## What is your responsibility?

You are legally required to ensure your child attends school every day or you must provide an explanation for their absence. You should let the school know in advance of any upcoming absences or let them know in the morning if your child won't be at school. In order for schools to implement the same day notification requirement, it's essential that you provide the school with your most up-to-date contact details.

Generally one notification will be sent per family. Should there be circumstances that require both parents and carers to be notified, please contact the school to make the necessary arrangements.

**It is extremely important if your child is going to be away you enter their absence via the Compass app or telephone 9753 5335, select option 1, and leave a message.**

# Rugby Blitz





# Foundation



This year the Foundation students will be working with our Grade 5 students as part of our buddy program. The purpose of a buddy program is to support a smooth transition for children starting school. The program helps promote social and support networks for children beginning Foundation and promotes a sense of community and belonging in the school.

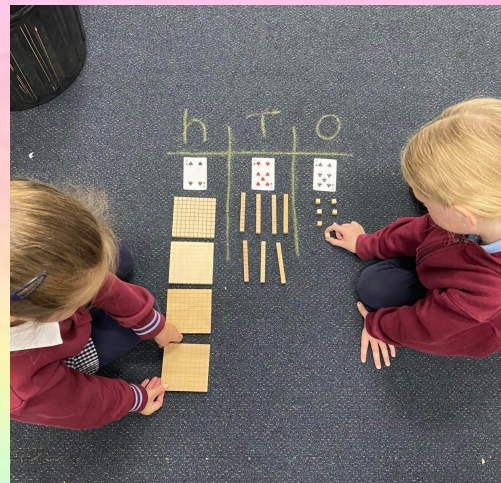
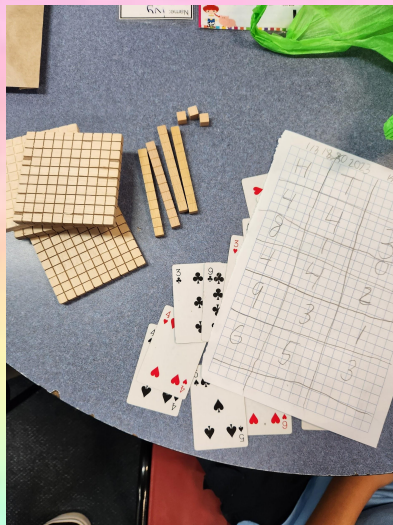




# Grade 2

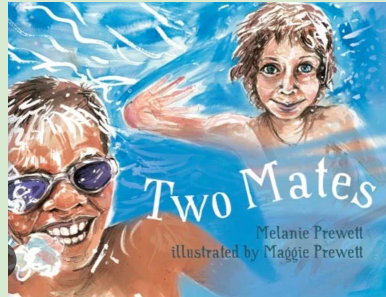
This week in maths we have been learning all about 3 digit numbers. We have been reading, writing and making 3 digit numbers using materials in our classroom.

Have a look at some of our amazing work!



# Grade 4

This term in Inquiry, we have been learning about the history of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and what life was like for them before the arrival of the Europeans. Our focuses have been on the significance of Country and Place to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who belong to a local area and the significant ways Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are connected to Country and Place.



Log into compass  
where you can  
provide permission  
for our community  
walk this week.



# Grade 6

What a week in Grade 6!

With the arrival of our Grade 6 tops,  
Rugby incursion (thanks Mr CC) and  
the Fun Run (thanks MS Timpani), we  
still managed to get some work  
done!





# Agreed Behaviours!

## WE ARE **SAFE**



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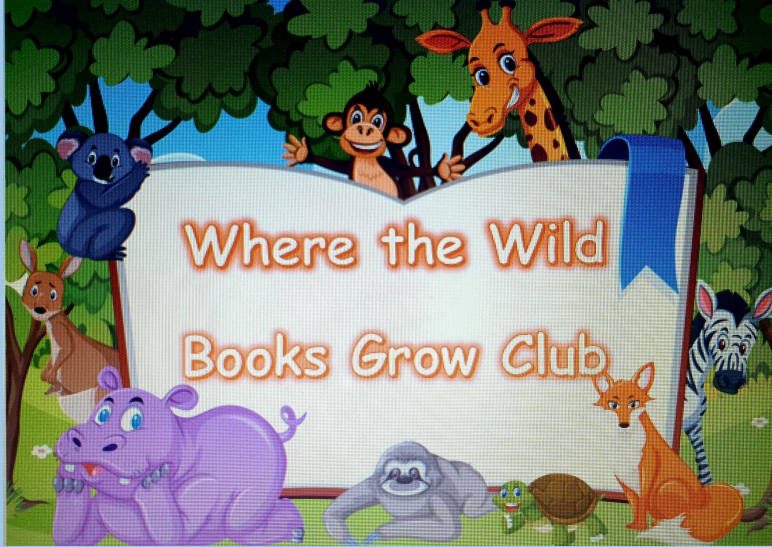
We use our art materials in a safe way. This keeps ourselves, our friends and our equipment safe.



We listen and follow instructions.



We are cyber safe!



# Where the Wild Books Grow Club

Welcome to our lunchtime reading club!! This club will replace early bird readers in the mornings.

Students will be invited to attend "Where the Wild Books Grow" in the library during the first or second lunch break. During this time students will be able to read a leveled book/take home reader and practise their M100W words in the comfort of the Library. This is a great opportunity for those students who don't read at home to get their reading diary signed off.



## Mental Health in Primary Schools

Hopefully by now you have seen on Class Dojo or Compass the exciting news that Melton Primary School will be a 2023 Resilience Project Partner School.

The staff have been busy learning all about the program.

The program is based on the concepts of Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness and Emotional Literacy.

We as a staff have learnt about the Gratitude component and your children will begin to complete lessons based on the concept of gratitude in the coming weeks.



Keep an eye out for information for how to access the parent portal for more information for our community. For more information at this stage see the below link:

<https://theresilienceproject.com.au/at-home/home-2023/>



# TRP@HOME



2023



# Australian Art

The last few weeks all the students have been super busy decorating a feather for our collaborative wings project. We had so many feathers we made two pairs of wings. The students are very proud of how they have turned out. So during drop offs and school pick ups, come along and take a photo.








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 2:05-2:55 pm in room 7.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Term 1 dates:

Fri: ~~10th Feb, 24th Feb, 3rd March~~  
(fun run 2:30pm on the oval) 17th March, 31st March



## Tap into the digital resource for all ages and abilities - Britannica School

All teachers and students at Melton Primary School now have access to the award-winning Britannica School.

**Britannica School** is an all-in-one digital resource for all ages. Balanced, curated and rigorously fact-checked by the experts at Britannica, it's the go-to source of information for over 500 million students and teachers worldwide.

Britannica School is great for general reference, homework help, projects or learning at home. Find the right answers fast with thousands of articles, images, videos, news feeds and biographies across all subject areas. Student are welcome to access Britannica at home any time.

The graphic is a promotional poster for Britannica School. It has a dark blue header with the Britannica School logo. Below this is a light blue section with the text "Get Access to Britannica School". Underneath is a yellow section titled "Access Steps:" which provides instructions on how to access the resource, including a URL, access ID, and passcode. The bottom section is blue and features a central image of a desktop monitor, a tablet, and a smartphone, all displaying the Britannica School interface. Surrounding this central image are various feature labels with arrows pointing to specific parts of the interface: "Differentiated Learning Levels", "Auto Generate Citations", "Curriculum Aligned", "Updated Content", "EAL/D Support", "Customize & Share Resource Packs", "Videos", "Read-Aloud", "Safe Student Research", and "Compare Countries". At the very bottom, there is a dark blue footer with contact information for training and support.

**Britannica<sup>®</sup> School**

# Get Access to Britannica<sup>®</sup> School

**Access Steps:**

To go to Britannica School Britannica by clicking the link below and entering the school access id school passcode (for the student and staff)

<https://school.eb.com.au>

**Access ID:** meltonps  
**Passcode:** us3337

**Features:**

- Differentiated Learning Levels
- Auto Generate Citations
- Curriculum Aligned
- Updated Content
- EAL/D Support
- Customize & Share Resource Packs
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- Safe Student Research
- Compare Countries

For ongoing free training and support, contact us on:  
**Web:** [learn.eb.com](http://learn.eb.com) | **Email:** [contact@eb.com.au](mailto:contact@eb.com.au) | **Phone:** +61 2 9915 8800