

NEWSLETTER

Skye Primary School

Message from the Principal

Hi Everyone,

I hope this newsletter finds you all well and that you are continuing to stay safe as we move into phase one of returning to what is our normal. Just as we were starting to feel like remote learning was gaining momentum and we were all finding our feet, bang, we are changing direction again.

Transition back to school is not going to be as easy as it sounds and will likely feel just as hazy as when we were thrust into remote learning. We all did a brilliant job adjusting to that and I have full confidence that we will cope just as well as we navigate our return back to onsite learning. Please ensure you keep up to date on **SENTRAL** for full details of our return to school plans.

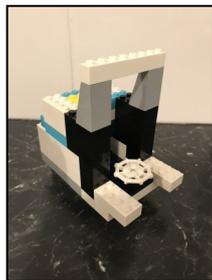
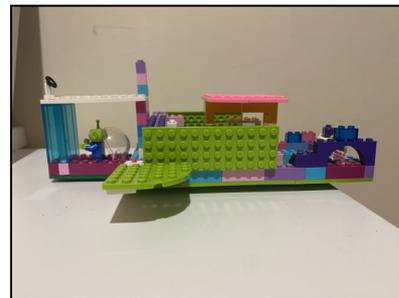
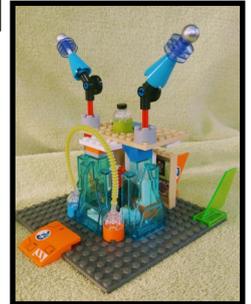
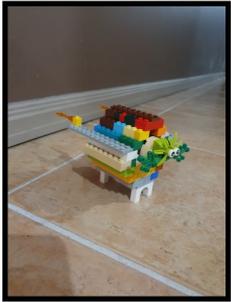
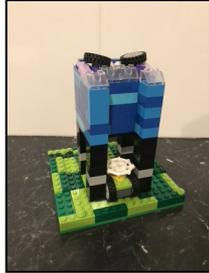
It has been an interesting few weeks and while it is easy to fall into focussing on the challenges, setbacks and issues there have been so many wonderful things to come out of it. Personally, I have loved wearing trackies and runners EVERY day, being there to look after my new puppy and having time to walk my dogs twice a day and having my daughter learning from home even though she is in Yr 11 and wanting absolutely no input from me. As a Principal, however, I am even more inspired and moved as I reflect on what has been. We, as a staff, are feeling more connected with our families. These past weeks have allowed us to get to know you all in a more collaborative and meaningful way. It has been a time where we have become true partners in education and the unconditional support between staff and parents/carers has gone both ways. I believe that this moment in time has forged our sense of community (ie. *the condition of sharing or having certain attitudes and interests in common*) and I hope that this connection continues as we settle back to some normality in the coming months. I also believe that these few weeks have taught our students some lessons of resilience, positivity and responsibility for learning that will empower them to become lifelong learners in the future... and their computer skills have more than doubled, as have all of ours!

I, for one, am delighted at the prospect of us all being back on site. At the end of the day, teaching is about more than just delivering a curriculum. It is about the relationships, fostering a love of learning through the creation of an inspiring environment and finding joy in our daily interactions as a community of learners. The human side of education is what keeps us doing what we do. I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Jane Briffa

LEGO Challenge 1

Thank you for all our wonderful UFO's—video will be posted on Skye P.S. and Parents of Skye Facebook page tomorrow morning—meanwhile here is a sample of some of our amazing alien ships. Challenge 2 out now.



While many of us have settled into the routine of working from home and remote learning, we are surrounded by an ever changing landscape of expectations of what is allowed and what is not. Over the next month the school will transition back to onsite learning. Constant change can be quite unsettling, and while there are some people looking forward to the world forging forward back to some form of “normality” some are more hesitant. I think it is fair to say that constant change and expectations will be the new “normal”. It appears that we are in a time of constant change and the goal posts will be moving and adjusting to what we are and are not allowed to do. It is important to check in with yourself and your children, to see how you are managing the ever evolving situation, and seek help if you need it. Please reach out if you feel you are needing extra supports for yourself or you family members. We are here to help where we can and link you with appropriate supports. Remember, It’s okay to not be okay, and help is always available.

Empathy is when we put ourselves in the shoes of others and feel and see what they do. We can practise empathy through being kind and compassionate towards other people. Over the next two weeks students will be practising showing empathy as part of the Resilience Project @ Home learning.

Some questions and conversation starters to invoke discussion at home around ways to practise showing empathy include:

Who is someone you know who may be experiencing some difficulty currently? What could we do for them as a family?

Remember someone who has done something kind for you recently. What did they do for you?

Say something kind to someone in your house.

Students have also been asked to write thank you cards or letters to people in our community who are helping. I am wanting to collect images of these so I can create a little “Thank you” video for the school Facebook page. Please send through photos of the thank you cards so they can be included.

If you are struggling, it is important to reach out and ask for help. Our school Psychologist, Catherine from DBT is schools is still working, and able to take referrals through a mental health plan. She is able to see students or parents either onsite at School or via an online platform. Please contact the school if you would like further information in relation to this. Other numbers which may be helpful are:

Parentline – 1300 30 1300 (8am-10pm, 7 days a week)

Relationships Australia – 1300 364 277

Beyond Blue – 1300 224 636

Lifeline – 13 11 14 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week)

Kids Helpline – 1800 55 1800 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week)

Please take care,

Until next time

Belinda Hazzledine

Wellbeing Co-Ordinator

From the Kitchen Garden

We are inviting all our families, local businesses, community members and staff to submit their favourite recipes. These will be compiled into a Skye Primary School Cookbook, which we will sell with all proceeds going to our Kitchen Garden Program.

Next week Mrs Furlong will upload an assignment on Teams for families to submit their favourite recipe (or recipes). There will be a template to use, that will make it less time consuming to format the book.

If you know of any business or community members that would like to submit a recipe please email skye.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au to receive the template.



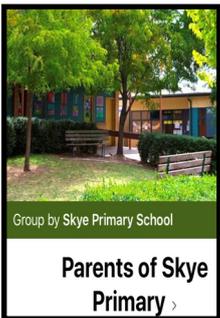
Are you Eligible for Camps, Sports & Excursion ??

Camps, Sports & Excursion fund is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the cost of excursions and camps. To be eligible you must hold a health care card, pension or concession card. The card must be valid on 14th April, start of term 2.

If your circumstances have changed please print an application form off from the school website—<https://skypeps.vic.edu.au/parent-info/> then email the form to the school.

If you require further information please email skye.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au.

Skye Primary School—Facebook Page & Instagram



Keep up to date with some of the wonderful things your child/ren are doing in their school time on facebook and Instagram—

Facebook—Skye Primary School

& - Parents of Skye Primary

Instagram—Skye Primary School



The Parents of Skye Facebook Page is closed group for parents only.

Please note that our school will delete any comments that are deemed inappropriate for public viewing from the Skye Primary School Face Book page. We look forward to you visiting our page regularly.

Premiers' Reading Challenge

The Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge is now open and Skye Primary School is excited to be participating. A new application is being used this year that offers a range of exciting features including:

- access to a library catalogue (including book images and blurbs)
 - a modern user-friendly interface
 - rewarding students with badges as challenge milestones are achieved
- the option for students to mark books as a favourite, give them a star rating or complete a book review

The Challenge is open to all Victorian children from birth to Year 10 in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development. It is not a competition; but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by 4 September 2020.

To read the Premier's letter to parents, view the booklists and for more information about the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge, visit: www.education.vic.gov.au/prc

Preps to Grade 2

Children from Prep to Year 2 are encouraged to read or 'experience' 30 books with their parents and teachers.

All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and former Premiers.

If your child is in year level Prep to Year 2 they will be participating in Premiers Reading Challenge as part of their classroom learning, they will be read 30 books by the staff between now and end of competition. Your child will receive a certificate from the Premier on completion of competition.

As a parent you do not need to log in or list books, this will be done by our librarian Rachel.

Grades 3 - 6

If your child/ren is in Years 3 – 6 and you would like them to participate in the 2020 Victorian Premiers Reading Challenge please request a username and password by emailing the school at skye.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au Once you have received the details your child will need to log in and record books they are reading in order to meet the requirements.

Children from Year 3 to Year 10 are challenged to read 15 books. *As a concession to the current restrictions in place due to Covid 19 and potential limited access to books on the Premiers Reading List, we are given the option to tailor the challenge to an "All Choice book Challenge". This way our students can read whatever they have available in their own home libraries or digital or downloadable books.*

All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and former Premiers.

