

NEWSLETTER

Skye Primary School

Message from the Principal

Dear Families,

It has been so lovely having a relatively normal start to the new school year. All feels right in the world with the yard buzzing with parents and children at the start and end of each day. Our Preps have settled in beautifully and are looking forward to the construction of their new Playground at the end of this month.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

We are calling for anyone interested in joining our new Building & Grounds committee to contact the office.

Tomorrow will officially mark the beginning of our new build with the 'turning of the sod'. Officials will be met by our School Captains for a brief ceremony and work will begin onsite on Monday.

We are currently obtaining quotes to have our new 'avenue' installed to link the back gate to the path near the BER building (Grade 3 area). This will result in a pathway that is lined with trees and garden which will also include drainage to prevent the soggy ground we experience during the winter months. If anyone knows of landscapers who do gravel paths and drainage we would love their contact details. It is roughly 100m of pathway.

We are also developing the area around the gaga pit to assist with water runoff and erosion near the amphitheatre steps. Our gardener will be beginning this work on Friday to ensure that the 'rockpit' becomes a beautiful dry rock bed that is landscaped with indigenous plants and natives. Anyone who loves gardening is welcome to assist us with ideas. You may even like to get your hands dirty!

PTF

Our first PTF meeting is next Tuesday 16th February at 9am.

PTF meets twice a term. Many of our longstanding PTF members have moved on to their Secondary Schools this year and so now more than ever we are looking for parents, grandparents and carers who have time and are interested in supporting our students

The PTF meet to discuss ideas, share in the organisation of events, coordinate helpers, shop for food days etc. It is difficult with most parents & carers needing to work during school hours so the PTF really relies on anyone who has some spare time during the day. Members of the PTF are not always available to attend special events so luckily we have parents/carers/grandparents who love to assist once or twice a year when they can. The PTF love to run fun initiatives for our children however this only happens when we have enough parents/carers who can assist to make it happen.

During the holidays we were shocked to receive the tragic news of the loss of one of our much loved PTF members John Bell. John was our quiet achiever who worked like a Trojan behind the scenes to BBQ hundreds of sausages, pick up deliveries, set up events and put up with all out chatter at meetings. John will be sorely missed by all of us here at Skye. Our sincere condolences to Ann, Emmy and family.

Calendar

2021

Wednesday 3rd March—School Photos

Thursday 1st April—School Holidays
—2.30pm finish

Monday 19th April—Term 2 Starts

Monday 26th to Wednesday 28th
April—Grade 6 Camp—Waratah Bay

PARKING

A huge thank you to everyone for making pick up and drop off work so smoothly. Unfortunately we have fielded a number of complaints from the neighbours regarding parents/carers who are parking across driveways and have been quite abusive when asked to move. Please be aware that some neighbours have their own children to collect from other schools and they need to be able to get in and out of their own drive. It is a difficult situation however the end result will be well worth it. Patience, kindness and courtesy are virtues that we can hopefully model for our children.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Nominations are now open for School Council. We have a number of vacancies to fill and look forward to welcoming new members onto the council. School Council plays a key role in Government Schools and provides the opportunity for the council to support the Principal to enhance the educational opportunities for students. School Council establishes the broad direction and vision of the school. You do not need experience or an understanding of the council to join. Every member brings their own life skills and we learn together along the way. We meet on average 8 times a year on a Monday at 6:30pm. Please contact the office for a nomination form. We need at least 3 more parents/carers to fill the vacancies on council to ensure that we have the correct parent/staff ratio for our size school.

SCHOOL CAPTAINS ASSEMBLY

We were fortunate enough to have a lovely morning for our assembly under the trees on Monday. Our school captains were presented with their badges, which were pinned on by their proud parents and Sonya Kilkenny joined us to present them with her leadership certificates. I am already impressed with the leadership qualities that our captains are displaying and I know they will do us all proud as they represent us as a school. Their first official engagement will be greeting the Members of Parliament at the "Turning of the Sod" tomorrow.

Assembly will be difficult this year due to the lack of space for us all to come together. I am therefore keen to get SKYE TV up and running. We will film assembly each week and grades will be able to watch it in their classroom. We will also post it on Microsoft Teams for families to watch together. We will be teaching the students how to film and edit and will be calling on 'reporters' each week to present segments for our news sections. Eventually we will have a proper studio set up so that our 'TV station' is fully equipped with a green screen and the appropriate technology (when I find out what exactly that is!). If any parents have expertise in this area, we would love your input.

Have a great fortnight everyone!



- School Photos -



Wednesday 3rd March 2021



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

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.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

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

\$225 for secondary school students

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:
<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>

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.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.



Kitchen Garden

Words cannot express the gratitude that I have for three very special people. Belinda Schodde, Sam and Gary Mitchell who gave up their own time over the holidays to build an amazing greenhouse for our students.

We were incredibly lucky to have both financial and material donations—a huge thank you to Bunnings Carrum Downs, EC Mowing, Spectrum Fluid Power, Belinda Schodde, Christine and Matt Ferguson and Claire and Damien Cullinane

We are very lucky to have such wonderful people at Skye!



Thank You for Watering Over the Holidays!

It was lovely to come back after getting away with my family for a few weeks and seeing how much the garden had grown. I would like to personally thank Claire Cullinane, Narelle Broderick, Caroline Shears, Niki Whitfield-Hart, Megan Temby, Kelly Mudge and Sharra Anderton for putting their hand to assist.



Kitchen Garden Volunteer Wanted

The Kitchen Garden Program relies on many people for it to work to its full potential and the volunteer body is one of the most important facets of the program. In 2019 and the beginning of 2020 we had many volunteers who came in whenever they were available. I personally loved getting to know members of our community and I know the students did too. It is a wonderful way to get involved in our school.



If you would like to volunteer in the kitchen or garden I would love to hear from you (please leave your name and contact details at the office). If you know of anyone in our community that might like to assist please let myself or the office staff know.

Kind regards,

Inger Furlong

Kitchen Garden Specialist

Term One 2021 – Kitchen Garden Timetable

Week	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	Curriculum Day	Curriculum Day	29 th of Jan 4A KG - 8:55-10:55 3B KG - 11:25-1:25
Week 2	3 rd of Feb 6B KG - 8:55-10:55	4 th of Feb 2B KG - 8:55-10:55	5 th of Feb 4B KG - 8:55-10:55 3A KG - 11:25-1:25
Week 3	10 th of Feb 6C KG - 8:55-10:55 5B KG - 11:25-1:25-	11 th of Feb 2C KG - 8:55-10:55	12 th of Feb 3C KG - 11:25-1:25
Week 4	17 th of Feb 6A KG - 8:55-10:55 5A KG - 11:25-1:25	18 th of Feb 2A KG - 8:55-10:55	19 th of Feb 4A KG - 8:55-10:55 3A KG - 11:25-1:25
Week 5	24 th of Feb 6B KG - 8:55-10:55	25 th of Feb 2B KG - 8:55-10:55	26 th of Feb 4B KG - 8:55-10:55 3B KG - 11:25-1:25
Week 6	3 rd of March 6C KG - 8:55-10:55 5B KG - 11:25-1:25-	4 th of March 2C KG - 8:55-10:55	5 th of March 3C KG - 11:25-1:25
Week 7	10 th of March 6A KG - 8:55-10:55 5A KG - 11:25-1:25	11 th of March 2A KG - 8:55-10:55	12 th of March 4A KG - 8:55-10:55 3A KG - 11:25-1:25
Week 8	17 th of March 6B KG - 8:55-10:55	18 th of March 2B KG - 8:55-10:55	19 th of March 4B KG - 8:55-10:55 3B KG - 11:25-1:25
Week 9	24 th of March 6C KG - 8:55-10:55 5B KG - 11:25-1:25-	25 th of March 2C KG - 8:55-10:55	26 th of March 3C KG - 11:25-1:25
Week 10	31 st of March 6A KG - 8:55-10:55 5A KG - 11:25-1:25		

Calling all Dads and Father figures!

We are in the process of forming a Fathering Project Dads Group at Skye Primary School. Research has shown the critical role dads and father-figures play in a child's wellbeing so the aim of the group is to connect, equip and inspire fathers and father-figures in our school community as another way to be engaged and effective in the lives of their children.

Our Dads Group aims to run one activity each term, including fun events for dads and kids. We'd love you to **sign-up to be a part of this group** – use this link to search for our school and click 'join dads group':

<https://thefatheringproject.org/in-schools/join-a-group/>

Getting Involved -

The group is run by dads, for dads, so we are looking for a small group of dads or father figures who would be willing to **become Dads Group Leaders**. You will be assisted by our **Fathering Project In-School Coordinator** Belinda Hazzledine.

The Fathering Project provides ongoing support, training and leader resources including presenters and guides to help plan activities, ensuring the role of a Dads Group leader is simple yet rewarding.

[This video will tell you](#) more about the Dads Group we are growing and how you can get involved as a member or leader!

To express interest in becoming a leader, please contact: Belinda Hazzledine on 9786 1555.

[Check out this clip](#) to see a dads group in action!

You can find more about The Fathering Project here www.thefatheringproject.org

We hope all our fathers and father-figures will get behind this worthwhile initiative.



Skye P.S—Privacy Policy

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#).

Please take time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our website—<https://skypeps.vic.edu.au/> under Our School, Policies.

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents](#).

Breakfast Club — Starting Next Week

Breakfast club resumes next week all students from Prep to Grade 6 are welcome to attend.

When—Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday mornings from 8.30am - 8.50am

Where—3A, 3B, 3C end of the BER building at rear of the school

- Breakfast club is **free** however, **if** your child suffers with any food allergies please send a note with them
- Students can attend as often as they like
- Breakfast club is intended to be a fun and social time for children to enjoy each other's company

What's on the menu?

Muesli, Vitabrits and Cheerios with Milk, Tinned fruit, Baked Beans, spaghetti, Porridge / Oats

Toast and a variety of spreads, Water / Milk and a selection of fresh fruit (seasonal)



PTF – PARENTS, TEACHERS AND FRIENDS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DATE: Tuesday 16th February 2021

TIME: 9am

LOCATION: Skye Primary School Staffroom

Toddlers Welcome

A Simple Formula for Parenting by Michael Gross

With the internet awash with child-rearing advice and theories it can feel totally overwhelming being a parent.

At Parenting Ideas, we help parents focus on the things that matter when raising kids. Below is the link -

<https://www.parentingideas.com.au/blog/a-simple-formula-for-parenting?goal>