



Caledonian Primary School Newsletter

Tuesday 21st July, 2020

Calendar

July

Monday 27th- Dental Van visit all week

Monday 27th, Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 29th- Parent Teacher Phone Conferences

August

Monday 3rd, Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th- Parent Teacher Phone Conferences

Monday 3rd- Scholastic Book Club orders close

Wednesday 11th- School Photos

Monday 31st August- Wednesday 2nd September- Grade 3/4 Cave Hill Creek Camp

To the School Community,

2020 is turning out to be a pretty trick year for us all!

In regard to Covid – 19 and schools in Ballarat we are currently in the clear to operate relatively normally. Kids are allowed on site, we are able to teach and safety measures are in place. Our students seem calm and we are not experiencing distress in relation to coronavirus and I hope this continues into the term! We have received no further guidance for term 3 yet this term and so we continue to follow all advice from term 2. We are not in lockdown and many of the measures you may see on TV do not apply outside Melbourne and Mitchell Shire.

I need to thank you again for your patience. Not being able to come into school, see your teacher, carry the bag and find lost property is a challenge for us all. Please remember we are all here to support the children of Caledonian PS and we continue to care for them during the day.

Our teachers this week have had a specific focus on assessment. We approach assessment in two ways, the first being to determine what has been learned. The second is actually more important to us, and that is a formative or diagnostic assessment. Through this we are able to make determinations on what a child needs to learn next. Some kids hate tests, and I actually understand why! At a recent meeting I had to answer 5 NAPLAN questions with a bunch of other principals (we know how to have fun) and was really embarrassed when I got one wrong! Kids feel the same. However, with diagnostic/formative assessment we want to get things wrong so we know what to do next!

Last week our senior students had a lesson from the Sovereign Hill teachers. As we cannot go to school at Sovereign Hill they came to us and to be honest they really intimidated me! One had a massive cane and wacked it on the table so I bolted from the room. It was like being a student all over again, and I definitely have some repressed memories of the wooden spoon. The kids used 1850's toys and got told off a lot!

We have also received communication that the entire Energy Breakthrough Challenge has been cancelled for 2020. We had predicted this at the end of term 2. This doesn't change the fact we are disappointed however our staff will continue to investigate other exciting options for the senior kids.

Our 3-4 camp is proceeding. This is consistent with the advice from the Department of Education and the chief medical officer. If there is any changes due to Covid-19 we will reimburse any costs to parents but we remain hopeful that Ballarat will not require lockdown.

Before and After School Care are operating. If you need to access care please contact Camp Australia. Please do not drop kids off too early, there is limited supervision for our students who catch the bus into school and we cannot hold many students in our office area safely.

Parent Teacher "phone calls"

Our parent teacher conferences are scheduled for the next two weeks. These interviews will be an opportunity to communicate with your class teacher, however they will be by phone! Times will be booked through compass and when your allotted time comes, our teachers will call you. This will be on their own mobile device so be prepared to see "no caller id" or "private number".

Finally this week, sorry about the mud. I have seen kids in shorts with mud so caked on that they will need a pressure washer to get clean. Our upgrades to the areas near the prep building are on the way but there is some mud and kids are drawn to it like flies to dung. We are working on it!

Have a great week!

Ben

Grade 3/4 Cave Hill Creek Camp

Our grade 3/4 students are off to Cave Hill Creek Camp near Beaufort at the end of August. A \$50 deposit is required for students wishing to attend by Friday 24th July.

Brekkie Club

Brekkie club is running this term. Brekkie club operates on Tuesday and Thursday morning in the Multi from 8.20 am. All students are welcome.

School Photos

School photos have been re booked for Wednesday 11th August. More information regarding how to order etc will be sent home with students early in August.

Unwell Students

If students are unwell with cold/flu like symptoms please keep them at home until they are well again. If students become unwell during the school day parents/careers will be called to come and collect them. A doctor's certificate is not required to return to school, however students should not return to school until symptoms have resolved.

Parents/Careers on school grounds

Remind that parents/careers are not permitted on the school grounds. If you need to speak with a teacher please phone the office or contact the teacher via Seesaw to organise a time to have a phone call with them. All other enquiries can be directed to the office.

Bell Times 2020

Bell times will remain the same for 2020

First bell- 8.45 am

Second bell- 8.50 am- class begins

Recess- 11 am – 11.30 am

Lunch Eat- 12.30 pm – 12.45 pm

Afternoon Recess- 1.45 pm – 2.15 pm

Students dismissed- 3.15 pm

Children arriving after 8.50 am must collect a late pass from the office.

Uniform

Caledonian Primary School requires all students to be dressed in our school uniform. A copy of our school uniform policy can be found on the school website or at the school office.

