



# Caledonian Primary School Newsletter

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2022

## Calendar

February-

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> – Preps do not attend school

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Preps do not attend school

March-

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Curriculum Day- students are not required at school

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> – House Colours Day

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> – Athletics Day

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> – Labour Day Holiday

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> – School Photos

*We would like to acknowledge the Wadawurrung People, the Traditional Owners of the land on which we are gathered and pay our respects to their Elders both past and present and emerging.*

Dear Families,

My youngest daughter is a challenge. She has a well-developed approach to trying to get a day off school that includes dramatically lying on the floor, complaining of headache, and “pretending” to need the bathroom for extended periods of time.

So, this morning as she made her usual attempts, I told her to stop being a “sooky pants” gave her some Panadol and told her to get dressed for school. About 10 minutes before heading off I decided to prove she was ok for school by doing a RAT test. This backfired as the test showed the dreaded double lines...

My initial reaction was denial. This can't be! She is fine! Someone has broken the test! It's a dud! However, as I am well aware, the double line, even if faint, means a positive result. The worst thing is admitting I was wrong... forevermore she will say, “I'm sick” and I'll say, “No you are not” and she will say “Remember the time I tested positive, and you didn't believe me”!

Over the past few weeks, I have become an expert on what the rules are and what the process is, yet I went completely blank. I believe I went into the “parent freak-out” stage. Testing positive has all sorts of implications for my work, my wife's work, my children's schooling and any social engagements we might have. Definitely won't be surfing this weekend – and there is a fantastic bit of swell coming through.

So, I won't be about for a week, maybe longer if I test positive as well. This is deeply frustrating as our team is off to a fabulous start this year. Children have been getting right into learning, our new Structured English approaches in P-2 are exciting and our school is looking fabulous.

Please keep close watch of your children's health. I certainly didn't want to see a positive result this morning and I am sure no parent does. I am presenting my experience to share with all of you that this can happen to any of us. I spent the entire school break isolating and being super careful. I wear my mask; I sanitise all the time and my children have been living in a “bubble”.

There is no failure on anyone's part if they are sick or have a household contact who is. The most important thing is we all follow the guidance from the Department of Health, that we all look after our own health and that we love and care for our children.

Stay safe and I look forward to getting free next week.

Ben

### **House Colours Day- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March**

In the lead up to our Athletics Carnival we would like to see students get into their team spirit. On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March, students and teachers are asked to come to school dressed in their School House Colours. Every student wearing their house colours with pride on the day, will earn their house a point to help kick 2022 off on the right foot.

For new families, this means that on this day, your child will wear a coloured T-shirt of the house they have been allocated to, shorts/track suit pants, coloured hair, ribbons, etc.

Red House- Eureka

Gold House-Brownbill

Green House-Sturt

Blue House-Victoria

### **No Hat No Play**

As we are a Sun Smart School students must wear a hat whenever they are outside at school during term 4 and Term 1. Students must have a **school wide brimmed hat**; please do not send along peak caps. Hats are available from Lowes or Beleza.

### **Breakfast Club**

Breakfast Club will be commencing on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022. It will operate on Thursday mornings from 8.20 until 8.45, when the first bell goes.

We are asking for parent volunteers to assist with the running of breakfast club. If we can get enough parent helpers, you may be rostered on for only 2 mornings per term.

Breakfast Club serves cereals, toast and fruit.

For families new to our school, Breakfast Club provides breakfast to students, at no cost.

If you can assist with this program, please let myself or the office staff know by Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February by emailing your name, your child/ren name at school or by phoning the office.

[caledonian.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:caledonian.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

Please note all volunteers must be double vaccinated.

Thank you,  
Geoff Dickson

### **CSEF-Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund**

Parents/Careers with a means tested government healthcare/pension card are eligible to receive the CSEF payments. Application forms are available from the office. We must have a CSEF application to put apply for the funding on your behalf.

### **Chromebook Lease**

Reminder to families with students in grade 3-6 that payment for the lease of a Chromebook is \$100 for the year and is now payable at the office.

### **Athletics Day**

School Athletics Day will be on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March. In the past parents have been able to attend, we will confirm this information closer to the date once we have more guidelines around sporting events. All students attend athletics sports day at Llanberris Reserve. Parents are required to drop off and collect students from Llanberris on the day. More information will be provided closer to the date.

### **Grade 6 Jumpers 2022**

Order forms for Grade 6 Jumpers have been sent home and are due back by Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

### **School Phone Number**

Please be aware that when we are trying to contact you from school our number displays as **Private Number**.

### **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. Our school uniform suppliers are Crocker's and Beleza.

### **Bell Times 2021**

First bell- 8.45 am

Second bell- 8.50 am

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.

## Before and After School Care

Camp Australia run the before and after school care program at CPS. Parents interested in before and after school care should visit Camp Australia's website and follow the prompts to register and book.

## Absences

If your child is not going to be attending school due to sickness, please phone our office on 53326955 so that we can enter the details of the absence or you can enter the absence details on Compass. When using Compass to enter the absence details please leave a brief comment as to why your child is unwell.

<b>Every Day Counts!</b>	
<b>At Caledonian PS we have set ourselves the task of supporting families to achieve and part of this is making sure children attend school every day. The table below clearly shows what is "normal attendance" right through to the worst-case scenario, that of more than 40 days per year. We hope this makes things clearer to our community.</b>	
0 - 10	This is within the normal range. A child with this attendance rate is able to take full advantage of the teaching and learning opportunities to them.
10 - 20	This attendance rate is below average. A child with this attendance rate could miss over one year of learning between prep and year 10.
21- 40	This is a poor attendance rate. A child with this attendance rate could miss out on up to two years of learning between prep and year 10,
40+	This is a very poor attendance rate. A child with this attendance rate could miss over two and a half years of learning between prep and year 10.

## Prep Enrolments 2023

We are now accepting enrolments for preps in 2023. Enrolment packs can be collected from the office. Prep Interviews can be organised through the office.

## New Staff Profile

Hello, I am so excited to be here at Caledonian Primary School and I'm looking forward to getting to know as many students and families as I can over the next little while. Over the past 'few' years, I have had experience as a teacher in a range of settings across Melbourne, Geelong and Ballarat. I look forward to using this experience to support the community at Caledonian as the school's new 'Leading Teacher Inclusion'. I believe that all children are capable of learning and thriving and am excited to be part of the team that offers high quality education to the Brown Hill community. In my spare time I love exploring nature with my family and I have a great deal of love for all types of animals. I look forward to meeting you soon!

Natalie Karlake





## **Brown Hill Playgroup @ Caledonian Primary School**

All babies and preschool age children welcome!

Held every Wednesday morning 9am-11am, we are currently meeting at Russell Square Playground, as covid restrictions mean we cannot utilise the space at CPS (Excluding school and public holidays).

Find us on Facebook.

Any questions? Contact Caledonian Primary School on 5332 6955.