



Principal's News

Purpose

At White Hills Primary School we provide students with skills to be lifelong learners. We are a community which caters for academic, physical, social and emotional needs, preparing our students to contribute productively to an increasingly globalised world.

Calendar of Events

Term 4 2021: Monday 4 October – Friday 17 December

Week 4 Wednesday 27 October	Bendigo Cup Day Holiday
Week 5 Monday 1 November	Mini Beasts Incursion – Preps Donut Day
Week 6 Monday, 8 November	Grade 4 Excursion (Scienceworks) PFG Meeting Curriculum Day
Wednesday 10 November	
Week 7 Monday 15 November – Friday 19 November	Prep Swimming
Monday 15 November – Thursday 18 November – Friday 19 November	School Council Meeting Grade 2 Sleepover
Week 8 Monday 22 November – Friday 26 November	Grade 1/2 Swimming
Wednesday 24 November – Friday 26 November	Grade 6 Camp
Thursday 25 November	Prep Tea
Week 9 Wednesday 1 December – Friday 3 December	Grade 5 Camp
Week 10 Tuesday 7 December	Orientation Day
Week 11 Monday 13 December – Thursday 16 December – Friday 17 December	School Council Meeting Grade 6 Graduation End Term 4

Curriculum (Pupil Free) Day Reminder

A reminder that **Wednesday 10th November is a pupil free day**. Staff will be completing day 2 of the Berry Street training program online with staff from Strathfieldsaye PS and Lightning Reef PS. Camp Australia are providing care for students on this day.

Cancelled Incursion

The Alpha Production due to visit the school on 3rd November has been cancelled. Refunds will be credited to your child's account.

Staffing News

Following on from the news last week about our chaplain Ricky Cawley's new position, we have some good news to share. The position Ricky has secured at Anglicare is a school-based family worker placed here at White Hills! He replaces Pam who recently left this role. We have also interviewed and appointed a new Chaplain for Wednesdays for the remainder of this year and for 3 days a week next year. Her name is Rose Ryan. Rose has extensive experience as a chaplain and working with young people and will supplement our already strong Wellbeing team.

Hi everyone,

Great news that they have brought forward the day for all students to be back onsite to tomorrow, Friday 22nd October. We look forward to seeing all students back at school and face to face teaching.

Good news on the building front also, concreting and the deck around the Grade 5/6 relocatable classrooms is progressing steadily this week and two classes are planning to move back into tomorrow. The surrounding garden beds and creek side toilets will be next on the agenda.

Vaccination Requirements

All school staff are now required to be vaccinated to work in a school.

Schools must now also collect, record and hold vaccination information for all other visitors and volunteers working on school sites who will or may be in close proximity to children, students or staff.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- volunteers performing volunteer work at the school (for example, parent helpers in classrooms, on camps and excursions, Parent's & Friends volunteers, etc.)

Presently parents are not permitted to perform volunteer duties in schools. When the guidelines for this change, further details about how parents performing volunteer duties presenting vaccination records will be provided.

New rules for students wearing masks at school

One of the most important and effective things we can do to help keep students in the classroom is to wear masks to help minimise COVID-19 transmission risk.

When worn properly, masks can play an important role in reducing the transmission risks of Covid-19 that could happen from common activities in school.

Students in Grade 3 and above:

- Face masks will be required for all school students in Grade 3 and above indoors including at Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) programs unless a lawful exception applies. Face masks can be removed while outdoors at school for primary students.
- Face masks are strongly recommended for Prep to Year 2 students.
- For students with a disability, parents and carers should speak to the child's doctor or regular health professional about the best methods to encourage mask wearing. Students and parents can also contact the Disability Liaison Officer program for more information.
- Students with a medical condition or disability that make wearing a face covering unsuitable are not required to wear a mask. Parent/carers of a student/s who meet the criteria for an exception must provide their approval in writing for their child/ren to not wear a mask to the school.

We encourage you to discuss wearing masks with your children to keep kids safe and minimise COVID-19 transmission risk.

Thank you for your ongoing support in the implementation of these important steps that enable us to return to onsite learning.

Please ensure your child brings their own mask to school to use.

Let Us Know If You Are Moving

If your child / children will not be attending White Hills PS in 2022, please let us know now, as this information is crucial for planning.

Donut Day

Donut Day has been moved to Monday 1st November when all students will be back onsite.

Thanks for your patience for this day to go ahead. Thankyou also to Elmore Bakery, for their flexibility in being able to reschedule Donut Day again.

Uniforms

As most families will be aware, the school is outsourcing uniforms in 2022 and beyond to Bob Stewart's. The plan is that this will happen sometime this term to enable families to purchase items for next year from their store before the end of Term 4.

October School Council Meeting

On Monday the October meeting was held online. The following items were discussed and/or endorsed:

- Grades 2, 5, and 6 camps and sleepover
- Retainer works approved for the space around the 'Hat Tree' (paid for by Parents & Friends fundraising) and Prep playgrounds. This will all be carried out over to the January holiday period.
- Updated anaphylaxis policy, Student Safe policy and student dress code (all available on the school website)
- Approval of additional works to the older relocatable that forms part of the new Grade 5/6 neighbourhood. New carpet, ceiling, skirting and lighting will be included in the schedule
- Cleaning contractor walkthrough this Thursday after school.
- Parent Payment Policy and associated documentation for 2022 discussed and approved. This will be sent out to families in the coming weeks.
- Student Reporting for Semester 2, 2021 will focus on what progress has been made and what has been achieved by each student. Requirements have been adjusted to reflect COVID-19 disruptions. Schools will provide a short description of what was taught in English and Mathematics including the reporting of achievement by making a teacher judgement against the Victorian Curriculum standards. School will report progress since the last time the curriculum area was reported on including an age-related 5-point scale.
- Great news for all Government schools, the Tutor Learning Initiative will continue for 2022 with the school receiving similar funding to this year. Currently the school has four tutors working with students in Grades 3-6 in Literacy and Maths bolstering P-2 intervention support paid by the school.
- The school submitted an application for additional shaded outdoor learning spaces in the eating area and near the new Grade 5/6 relocatable area.

REPEAT NOTICES

Register for the 2021 Parents Victoria Online Conference

Parents Victoria Online Conference details focusing on the theme 'Recipes for great schools', the upcoming Parents Victoria Online Conference on Monday 11 October will explore what is needed to create a safe and healthy school environment.

Parents, school leaders and staff are invited to attend online, to hear from Deputy Premier and Minister for Education and Mental Health, James Merlino, and Dr Elspeth Stephenson, a Lecturer in Education and Professional Learning at the University of Tasmania, as part of the opening and keynote addresses.

The conference will also include a collective conversation on consent and the role it plays in creating a safe culture for children.

Attendees will have the opportunity to submit questions and comments throughout the conference.

To learn more about the conference schedule and guest speakers, refer to Parents Victoria.

Event details

Date: Monday 11 October

Time: 10 am – 2 pm

Platform: Zoom (online)

Cost: free.

Registrations are essential. To register, visit Parents Victoria.

Registrations close Sunday 10 October.

COVID Safe Behaviours

A reminder that we go back to the same COVID safe behaviours we set up prior to this short lockdown.

I would also like to reiterate the following to keep our school safe and reduce the impact of COVID:

- Adults are required to wear a mask
- Where possible, we are encouraging parents/guardians to pick up and drop off children from the school gates
- Avoid congregating around entrances and exits and observe physical distancing rules of 1.5 metres
- We ask that parents/guardians do not enter classrooms at this time
- Parents/Guardians can enter the office if it is absolutely essential and must register using our QR code

QR Codes and Record Keeping

The use of Service Victoria QR codes for electronic record keeping is now mandatory in all schools to enable the effective contact tracing of any COVID-19 cases. This requirement will continue into Term 3 until further notice.

QR code check ins are required to be used by:

- all visitors on school site (including contractors, external Department staff and building and maintenance staff)
- **all parents who enter school buildings when on school site**

QR code check ins are not required to be used by:

- staff
- students
- **parents who come onto school grounds for drop off or pick up, but do not enter buildings.**

COVID-19 Safe Behaviours

One of the most important things we can do to slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) in our community is to stay at home when we are unwell, even when we have the mildest of symptoms.

If a child has any of the symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) outlined below, however mild, they should get tested and they must remain at home until they receive their results:

- fever
- chills or sweats
- cough
- sore throat
- shortness of breath
- runny nose
- loss of sense of smell or taste.

In certain circumstances headache, muscle soreness, stuffy nose, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea may also be considered symptoms.

A child must stay at home until they are symptom free, even if their coronavirus (COVID-19) test is negative.

If a person has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or been identified as a close contact they must isolate/quarantine until they receive clearance from DHHS.

Stay home when unwell

The most important action school communities can take to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19, is to ensure that any unwell students remain at home and get tested, even with the mildest of symptoms.

Students with underlying conditions (such as hay fever or asthma)

If a student has persistent symptoms due to an underlying condition such as hay fever or asthma, the student should still be tested for COVID-19 if they develop symptoms that are different to or worse than their usual symptoms.

Parents/carers should also consider getting a medical certificate from their treating GP to confirm that it is safe for them to attend school with persistent symptoms that may overlap with some of the symptoms of COVID-19 such as cough or runny nose.

Young children with persistent mild symptoms

Younger children (**Prep to Grade 2**) may have prolonged post-viral symptoms such as a runny nose or cough and may return to school following a negative COVID-19 test even if they are not completely free of symptoms. They will need a medical certificate from their GP to confirm they are otherwise well or have recovered from their acute illness.

Any worsening of symptoms will require review and repeat COVID-19 testing, if considered appropriate by the doctor.

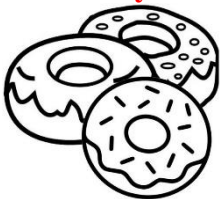
Students with a negative COVID-19 test whose symptoms have completely resolved do not need a medical certificate to return to the school.

Please let us know if there's anything further that we can do to support you here at WHPS.

*Andrew Schaeche,
Principal*

PFG News

Donut Day on Monday 1st November



Donut Day has been rescheduled for Monday 1st November. We thank you for your patience for this day to go ahead. Thankyou also to Elmore Bakery for their flexibility in being able to reschedule Donut Day with us.

Our Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be Monday November 8th at 2.15pm. At this stage, we do not know whether it will be via Webex, or in person – please look out for further information in the weeks ahead.

Thankyou from all PFG members

Your
OSHC.

Tailored before and after school
experiences that children love.

Newsletter

Pupil Free Day



Date: November 10th, 2021



Time: 6:45AM – 6:00PM



Fees: \$56.85



Location: White Hills Primary School
16, Plumridge Street, White Hills, Vic, 3550.



Register for Your OSHC

Once registered, you'll be able to easily make and manage your bookings online via our Parent Portal.

[Register now](#)

Child Care Subsidy (CCS)

The Child Care Subsidy can provide up to 85% off your fees. Your eligibility is determined by your family's annual adjusted taxable income, the type of childcare you use, and your activity level. To find out if you're eligible, contact Centrelink on 13 61 50.

Register free and book now at www.campastralia.com.au

by  Camp
Australia



**It's time to
celebrate,
we're back!**



**Your
OSHC.**

A message from your Coordinator

Dear Families,

Just letting families know that bookings are open for our Pupil Free Day on Wednesday November 10th.

OPEN: 6:45AM until 6pm.

Activities coming up

- Mask Making
- UNO Comp
Animal scratch Art

What's on the menu

- Cookies & Milk
- Rice Cakes
- Fruit Platters

It's free to register

To attend our program, you must register your child. You can register an account with us at pp.campastralia.com.au or by downloading our Camp Australia smartphone app from the Apple App Store or on Google Play. Once registered, it's easy to make bookings and manage your account.



Visit our blog

New articles are added each week for parents and cover various topics to help families.

[Visit our blog](#)

COMMUNITY NEWS



TWILIGHT MOVIE IN THE GARDEN

Celebrate Children's Week 2021 under the stars at a special twilight screening of the movie *Think Like a Dog* (PG) starring Gabriel Bateman, Megan Fox and Josh Duhamel

Date: Friday October 29, 2021

Venue: Garden for the Future, Bendigo Botanic Gardens, White Hills

Time: 6pm - 8:30pm (movie will commence at 6.30pm)

FREE Ticketed Event

Please note: Due to COVID-19, numbers are restricted and free ticket bookings are required. For more information and to book your free ticket please visit www.bendigoregion.com.au/explore-bendigo/childrens-week-twilight-movie

This year's Children's Week theme is about friendships and connecting with others which is nicely reflected in this movie.

So, bring along a picnic dinner and enjoy a great family evening in the gardens!



EAGLEHAWK CRICKET SEASON 21/22



REGISTRATION OPEN

REGISTER AT [PLAYCRICKET.COM.AU](https://playcricket.com.au)

UNDER 11-18

GIRLS

JUNIOR & MASTER BLASTER



Junior Coordinator

Renae Boucher 0403 233 232

Junior Golf Clinics

I am a Certified PGA Professional, new to the area and just took up the role of Golf Professional at Bendigo Golf Club. In Term 4 I am offering Primary school aged children golf clinics through the Golf Australia program MyGolf.

To register use <https://www.golf.org.au/mygolf/facility/Bendigo+Golf+Club> or visit [Golf.org.au](https://www.golf.org.au) and follow the prompts.

Harley Williams

Golf Professional
Bendigo Golf Academy
0404 423 310
hwilliams@pgamember.org.au





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