

Fishy News

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A message from the Principal

Hi everyone,

In our first newsletter for the year I believe I said, "We have to be flexible and prepared for anything this year." That was certainly the case when we found out the news on Friday afternoon that we would be going into lockdown once again. I would like to thank the whole school community for its support during this time. I was really proud of how resilient and adaptable our students have become. While there is no ideal time for a lockdown, it was particularly disappointing for our 5/6 students who were preparing to head to camp on Monday. In regards to the camp it is a postponement and not a cancellation. I have been in discussions with Woorabinda camp and we are hoping to have an alternative date for camp set soon, but it is likely to be much later in the year. Just a reminder that Wednesday the 24th February is a pupil free day; sorry for the inconvenience around the timing after 3 days remote learning. This planning day was booked last year and will be a great learning opportunity for our teachers.

Our leadership badges have just arrived and we will be presenting them to our student leaders at our Monday morning assembly (22nd of Feb).

Late last year, Miss Ellis, Miss Giliam and I had the pleasure of selecting our school leaders. It was great to see so many applicants for all these positions and knowing that we have so many students who want to see Fish Creek & District Primary School be the best it can be. The standard of the applications was simply amazing and students should be extremely proud of their achievements. It is great to see leadership being demonstrated by so many students. Being a leader is not just wearing a badge, it is about being a good friend, helping others, showing respect and manners to each other and always trying your best in any situation. Here are this year's leaders:

School captains: Isla and Leticia

Vice captains: Ruby and Oscar

Environmental leaders: Abbie and Will

Sports leaders: Tex and Lilly

Arts ambassador: Oakleigh

Our Junior School Council will once again be guided by Mrs Hamlett: Aiya, Marlow, Roxy, Edie, Mabel and Kelly.

I look forward to presenting all students with their badges on Monday.

Well done to those students who participated in the swimming trials last Friday. We have 13 swimmers who will be representing the Waratah cluster (Fish Creek, Tarwin Lower and Tarwin Valley Primary School) on Monday the 22nd of Feb at Toora. Please note that due to COVID 19 restrictions, this must be held as a **closed** event with no parents or spectators allowed. I apologise for this inconvenience. Good luck to all students involved.

It definitely was a busy day at the school today as we welcomed 4 new students to our school community. A big welcome to Shayla, Swae, Abigail and McKenzie who all started with us today. I know you will all love your experience at Fish Creek Primary School and we are delighted to have all of you join our great little school.

Cheers Dale.



Fish Creek & District Primary School

Hoddle Road
 Fish Creek VIC 3959
 03 5683 2271

Important Dates

FEBRUARY

22nd District Swimming
 24th Student Free Day

MARCH

12th Waratah Athletics Sports
 26th District Athletics Sports

Primary Welfare

Phone: 03 9080 1881
 email:

donna.giliam@education.vic.gov.au

Don't Forget Your Water Bottle



Primary Welfare

YOU. ARE. NOT. ALONE.

I am writing this on day 4 of Lockdown number 3, hoping that by the time the newsletter goes to print we are back at school, doing onsite learning again.

Lockdowns ask a lot of our resilience, our flexibility and our creativity. We are not used to being isolated from our friends, family, schools, workplaces and even our beaches and national parks.

Yet, even though this asks so much of us, our little community has exceeded this request - cafes going to take-away at a moment's notice, schools did a remarkable job with remote learning last year, people have modified their wedding and funeral plans and most importantly our community has looked after each other.

This care amongst our community is sincere, genuine and unique. We come from many backgrounds, ideas and beliefs, but it is clear how much people care for each other and jump up to lend each other a hand. I love this!

School is one of the places in our community that can help you find connections. Hopefully, we can have another shot at starting our Breakfast Club next week and hopefully that invite can still be extended to parents and caregivers. A chance to reconnect with people you already know and welcome newer families to our community.

Let's all keep looking after each other and please be in touch with school if your child is struggling, you need a chat or need a meal or two to ease the load.



I can BEE CARING

by showing concern and helping others.

Donna.giliam@education.vic.gov.au

School Council Nominations

We are once again calling for nominations to join our School Council. Councillors have an opportunity to participate in the development and review of school policy, as well as a general oversight into grounds, buildings and the culture of the school. It's a fantastic opportunity to become involved with other parents and staff and have a positive impact on the school community. Council also acts as a great support. When a community becomes involved in the school we can share our challenges, goals and successes. Please feel free to contact me if you'd like to know more.

As a result of the lockdown, we have extended the close date for nominations. Forms can be collected from the school office. **Nominations now close on Thursday 25th February.**

Parents & Friends

Our parents and Friends (PnF) group are back up and running for 2021. Last year it was very difficult for our PnF group to run efficiently with remote learning. In previous years our PnF group has done a power of work raising much needed funds for the school and school community. If you are interested in joining our Parents and Friends group and are looking at ways to support the school please come down to our first PnF meeting for the year on Thursday the 25th of February at 9am at the school.

Head Lice

There have been several cases of head lice reported THIS WEEK. So please check your child tonight.

Please remember that head lice do not discriminate, any family can get them and at some stage probably will.

If you have trouble organising treatment, or would like more information, please contact the office.

CSEF

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund is a program 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. 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 primary aged student is \$125. Please contact the office for an application form.

Prep Sunflower Plant Progress



MARC Van News

Welcome back to 2021!

Our school year started on a positive and visibly happy note. As always, we, as MARC Library teachers, were swept up in this lovely feeling and we anticipate a year of planned teaching and learning opportunities wrapped up and delivered using the many wonderful books we have on the shelves of the MARC Library.

Learning sessions began with 'getting to know each other' either again or, as in the case of 'new' students, saying hello for the first time. Our first sessions also included discussions of expected behaviours during MARC Library lessons. After noting many 'things we must not do' students concluded that sensible behaviour, respect and active learning by all are what we will adhere to during MARC learning sessions.

In weeks 3, 4 and 5 junior grades will focus on books that are songs, such as 'There was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly'. Middle year students will study the author, David Walliams' authorial techniques as he combines humour and imagination to engage his readers. We will read several of his titles including "The World's Worst Children". Senior students will be exposed to the amazingly illustrated and thought provoking books written by the author, Shaun Tan. These books should cause us all to wonder, question and either like or dislike an author's way of viewing through the focus of a planned storyline, seemingly ordinary events and objects.

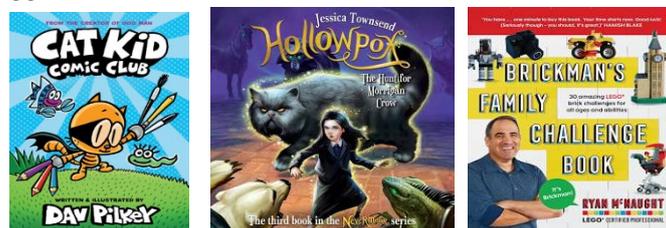
In week 6, in celebration of his birthday, we will, for many students, revisit the quirkiness and accompanying wisdom of Dr Seuss as we explore some of his stories across all grades. Weeks 7 and 9 will provide time to enjoy and delve into new books. Week 8 will encompass a focussed teaching session on parts of a book and revisiting and consolidating an understanding of the Dewey decimal system with the older students. Finally, we will finish off the term in Week 10 with a story and task about Easter.

Yours in reading and learning,
Jeanette Johnson and Sophie Callcott.

New books in the van available to borrow now

We have lots of beautiful new picture books, fiction and non-fiction titles beginning to arrive in the MARC library in 2021. This year we are also planning to continue expanding our collection of graphic novels which are very popular among students.

Students are able to borrow up to two books at a time and can keep books for two weeks, with the option to renew after that. To help students and families locate books to return to school, please note that our books all have the name 'Tarwin Valley MARC' on the front cover, as well as a large green fluoro dot on the spine. We encourage all students to borrow from the van each week.

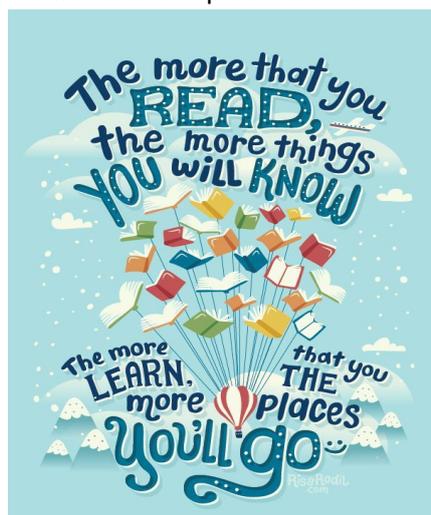


Did you know?

In 2021 the MARC van will be at Fish Creek Primary School on a Friday. Remember to return your books on these days so you can borrow!



Sophie Callcott will be at Fish Creek on Fridays for MARC Van



Lockdown Artwork by Anda



Free come and try for Cheerleading

Ages 5-10 years Thursday 25th February 5:05-6:35pm
 Ages 10-18 years Wednesday 24th February 5:05-6:35pm
 Booking via email to leongathagymclub@hotmail.com
 or Text 0400273658
 Send through child's name and age
 No experience needed



School Clean Up Day (5 March)

Inspire your students to learn about the impact of rubbish on their local environment while playing an active role in their community. Create a school clean up event. Get your students attention on waste, water and energy with these. activities and lesson plans for primary and secondary school students.



Breakfast Club

Due to last week's lockdown, we are going to start our Fish Creek



Breakfast Club on **Wednesday the 3rd March.** Breakfast Club will run for students from **8:30am-9:00am** each **Wednesday.** All students are welcome, and parents and pre-schoolers are, too. Come down for some toast and a chat!

We are looking for donations of jam, honey, and fruit - so if you are a jam maker, a beekeeper or if you have some surplus fruit from your garden please send these treasures this way!!

Please let us know if your child has any dietary requirements.

If you are able to help pop some toast, cut some fruit or wash a dish or two please let Donna Giliam know. Thanks



Prom Coast Soccer Club

Want to Play SOCCER?

Come down and have a kick, and register your interest.

- Who:** All Ages, Abilities & Genders
5yo - Adult
- Where:** Welshpool Recreation Reserve
Port Welshpool Rd, Welshpool
- When:** Wednesdays starting 24th February
- Time:** 5yo - 11yo, 5pm – 6pm
12yo – Adult, 5.30 – 6.30pm
- Bring:** Water Bottle, Shin Guards

Covid Safety Rules Apply
Sign in at Canteen Window Prior to Playing.

More info needed? – Call/text 0419 322 384

