Fish Creek & District Primary School

Hoddle Road
Fish Creek 3959

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Fish-Creek-&-District-Primary-School

FISH CREEK & DISTRICT PRIMARY SCHOOL

PARENT INFORMATION 2027

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Welcome to Fish Creek & District Primary School.

Our school is located in the township of Fish Creek in South Gippsland and educates students from the local areas of Fish Creek, Buffalo, Yanakie, Sandy Point, Waratah Bay and Walkerville.

At Fish Creek & District Primary School we are proud to be able to provide a comprehensive curriculum that supports 21st Century learning for all students. We are committed to providing a positive learning environment that caters for each child's social and emotional wellbeing. We encourage and support our students to demonstrate our school values of Respect, Fairness and Commitment.

Our school is part of the Corner Inlet Learning Alliance, a cluster of 6 local schools that work closely together to provide a diverse curriculum for their students. We often come together for sport, camps, special events, cultural programs, excursions and incursions as well as professional development for staff.

We value the contributions of our parents and wider school community. We encourage active participation in a variety of ways to help strengthen the relationship between home and school.

If you have any enquiries or would like a tour of our school, please feel free to contact us.

Dale Banks
Principal

UNIFORM

It is School Council policy that school uniform be worn. Our school uniform colours are navy and gold. Samples of the Uniform are held at the office and uniform orders will be placed regularly. First hats are provided to new preps by our Parents and Friends club. Grade 6 students design their own art work for their polo shirts and bomber jackets.

Polo Shirt	Navy/Gold polo shirt (purchased from school)
Tops	Half-zip fleecy or track-suit top (purchased from school)
Pants/shorts	Navy blue
Dress	Navy and white check
Hat	Navy (purchased from school)
Skirt/skorts	Navy blue

NAMING OF CLOTHING / LOST PROPERTY

Parents are asked to clearly name all items of clothing and footwear and to encourage their children to care for their belongings. Lost property will be returned to the owner or placed on the bench in the assembly area. Any un-named clothing will be washed and placed in our second hand uniform supply. These items can be purchased for $5 each.

EXPENSIVE / PRECIOUS TOYS etc.

Children may bring along toys and games to school, but are asked not to bring along large or expensive items as we cannot assume responsibility for such items. The Education Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property.
MP3 players, mobile phones, iPads and other tablets are not permitted unless permission has been sought and the child needs the device for educational purposes.

BUS TRAVEL

Eligible students are entitled to travel for free on a bus service provided by the DET and PTV (Public Transport Victoria). The practice of non-bus travellers using buses to visit friends is not encouraged.
Anyone who is not normally a bus traveller but wishes to use the school bus service must complete "Form 1: Application for Permission to Travel" which is included in the enrolment pack. The operators/drivers are within their rights to refuse entry to their bus if this procedure has not been followed.
The school is serviced by three bus routes:

1	Sandy Point/Walkerville—Westernport Roadlines
2	Buffalo/Yanakie—Westernport Roadlines
3	Falls Rd/Harding Lawson Rd/Boys Rd– Winterhalter

These arrangements are in place for the safety of your children and efficient use of staff time. If there are any changes to your child's normal arrangements, please let us know by phone, email or note. We cannot rely on the uncertainties of children's verbal messages and will follow the last instructions given by a parent. Please work with us to help ensure the safety of your children. Bus travel is organised through the afternoon bus rolls which are updated daily. Students are marked off the rolls as they depart each afternoon.
If a student lives more than 4.8km from their closest bus stop, they may be eligible for a Conveyance Allowance. Please contact the office for more details.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

Children should have sufficient nutritious food during the day to keep their energy levels high. Please make sure that play lunch, lunch and a suitable drink are sent along each day. Children are permitted to eat fruit and have water in the classroom during lessons. Please do not send drinks that come in glass. Glass bottles around the school are just too dangerous. School Council would also ask that no high sugar drinks be brought to school.

LUNCH ORDERS

We have an arrangement with Evans BP Fish Creek who deliver lunch orders to our school at 1pm. Orders can be made via the school (Please send correct money in a clearly labelled envelope) or privately with Evans BP Fish Creek in which case payment is made directly to Evans BP. Please ensure that orders are placed well before 10am.

SUN SMART POLICY

We are a Sun Smart School, which means students are required to wear a broad brimmed hat when outside from the beginning of September until the end of April. Students who do not have a hat will be restricted to shaded areas during play times.

2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR

TERM DATES 2027

Term 1	27th January teachers only		
Students start:	28th January	-	25th March
Term 2	12th April	-	25th June
Term 3	12th July	-	17th September
Term 4	4th October	-	17th December

SCHOOL HOURS

9:00 - 10:40am	1st Session
10:40 - 11:10am	RECESS
11:10 - 12:50pm	2nd Session
12:50 - 1.40pm	LUNCH
1.40 - 3:20pm	3rd Session

YARD DUTY

Before School: Students are supervised between 8.30am and 9.00am by a teacher on yard duty.

After School: Non bus travellers should leave the school soon after the dismissal bell at 3.20pm. Bus travellers are supervised by the teacher on yard duty until the last bus departs.
Yard supervision is also provided by staff at recess and lunch times.

LATE ARRIVALS & EARLY DEPARTURES

All late arrivals and early departures must be signed in/out of school by parents/guardians. The late arrivals/early departures iPad can be accessed at the school office. Please sign your child in or out before dropping them off or collecting them from their classroom.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

We must always have your current PHONE NUMBERS and EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS. If ANY details regarding your child/ children's address, telephone, medical, emergency contacts and/or family information change, please notify the school in writing IMMEDIATELY.

If there is any other special information we need, for example custody orders or changes in medical conditions, please supply us with the relevant documentation.

NUT FREE SCHOOL

We have students confirmed as anaphylactic to nuts. This has resulted in the need for us to ask all parents to please keep this in mind when packing lunchboxes - both lunches and snacks. The health and wellbeing of all our students is behind this request and if you have any questions in regards to this, please contact the office at anytime.

MEDICATIONS

Students who suffer from asthma or anaphylaxis MUST have an "asthma or anaphylaxis management plan" signed by a doctor and kept on file at the school. If asthmatic, they will also need to complete a separate camp form prior to attending any camps. All medication, together with dosage instructions, must be taken to the office in its original packaging where a "Medication Authority Form" needs to be completed.

AMBULANCE SERVICE: YOUR CHILD'S SAFETY WILL ALWAYS BE PUT FIRST:

The school's position on calling an ambulance is to ring in the case of an emergency either at school or on camps or excursions. To fulfil our 'duty of care' a staff member may deem it necessary to call an ambulance in an emergency to ensure a student's medical needs are met. The cost of this service is to be met by the parents. It would therefore be in all parents' interests to have ambulance subscription in order to be covered for such an occurrence, as the school does not cover ambulance costs.

In an emergency, children will be transported to the nearest medical centre or hospital by ambulance or in extreme cases, where an ambulance is unavailable, by private car.

ACCIDENTS OR ILLNESS:

Where possible, parents will be contacted by phone if their child is seriously injured or becomes ill during the day. Children who have been vomiting must be kept home for 24 hours after the last episode.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

The Education Department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents and guardians of students who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs.

ASSEMBLIES

A whole school assembly is held every Monday morning led by our Grade 6 school leaders and includes the singing of our national anthem; "Advance Australia Fair". We also celebrate achievements from the last week and hand out awards. Having students lead this provides them with an opportunity to develop their public speaking and leadership skills. Parents are invited to attend these Monday morning assemblies.

NEWSLETTER

The Fish Creek & District Primary School Newsletter comes home every Thursday with the oldest child in each family and is available online. This contains important dates and messages, as well as items of general interest, so please remember to ask for it on Thursdays! We also have a Facebook page that you can follow.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

Parents and Friends (PnF) provide valuable assistance to the school in many ways such as fundraising, social events and supporting school programs. Anyone is welcome to attend the meetings which are held at the school and advertised in the newsletter.

PARENT/STUDENT/TEACHER RELATIONSHIPS

It is essential to establish and maintain cooperative parent/teacher relationships. Parents are invited to contact their child's teacher at any time if concerns arise regarding any aspect of schooling. We do appreciate limiting these times to non-teaching times such as before or after school or during recess and lunch breaks.

REPORTING

Parent/Teacher interviews are held at the end of Term 1.
Written reports are provided in June and December.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The School Council currently consists of 11 members; the Principal, 9 parent representatives and 1 DET staff member. School Council represents the school community and meet at 7:00pm on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

STUDENT WELLBEING

Our school has comprehensive strategies and programs in place to help students feel safe, secure and happy so they can achieve in their studies, build strong relationships and feel they belong in our school community.

Achievement Program

Our Achievement Program is a mental health and wellbeing framework for primary schools and is proven to make a positive difference to the lives of Australian children. It provides the proven methods, tools and support to help schools work with parents and carers, health services and the wider community, to nurture happy, balanced kids.

Grade 6 Buddies

Prep students have a Grade 6 Buddy to help their transition into school. The buddies help when needed and participate in fun activities together.

eSmart

We are an accredited eSmart school due to our policies, practices and curriculum to support smart, safe and responsible behaviours online and in the school community.

Lunchtime Activities:

Various staff-run activities are held each lunchtime and students are encouraged to attend. This gives the students the opportunity to experience new things.

ANNUAL REPORT

Our school presents an Annual Report to the School Community each May. This report is uploaded to our School website and is promoted via the newsletter. Hard copies are made available to any family requesting one.

CHILD SAFE SCHOOL

We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. This will be the primary focus of our care and decision-making. Our School has zero tolerance for child abuse.
Fish Creek & District Primary School is committed to providing a child safe environment where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. Particular attention will be paid to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children and children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as the safety of children with a disability.
Every person involved in Fish Creek & District Primary School has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role he/she plays individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make.

HEAD LICE

Head Lice is a common problem at all schools. Checking your child's hair on a regular basis will help prevent this problem from getting out of control. If head lice or eggs are found, your child needs to be treated before returning to school and treated again in 7 days time. Please notify the school if you have treated your child.

PUNCTUALITY

Please help your child to arrive at school on time. Late arrivals disrupt the class as well as disadvantage the child concerned. Time at the beginning of the day is often reserved for essential teaching such as reading, writing and maths. Regular lateness can affect a child's learning progress.

ABSENCE NOTES

The health and welfare of your child will affect his/her ability to learn. A child who is unwell should be kept at home. Parents must notify the school ***every day*** that their child is absent. Additionally, a written note must also be provided if the absence ***is greater than 3 days***. Where possible extended holidays should not be taken during the school term. These require notification in writing and approval from the principal.

MONEY and NOTICES

If paying in cash, money should be sent to school in an envelope labeled with your child's name, grade, excursion and amount. Permission notes are done via a computer program called COMPASS. Payments can also be done on COMPASS or directly deposited into the school account.

Compass

Details regarding COMPASS will be passed on when your child starts at the school.

Our school's bank details are:

Account Name: Fish Creek & District Primary School

BSB:063 093

Account No:1000 1282

BOOK CLUB

Throughout the year children are given a Book Club order form from Scholastic Booksellers. Parents may or may not wish to purchase books, which are offered at competitive prices. Bonus points are earned by the school from the sale of these books and are used for purchases for the library. Book Club orders should be sent to school in a separate envelope from other school money.

SCHOLASTIC Book Clubs

CURRICULUM

At Fish Creek & District Primary School the curriculum is based on The Victorian Curriculum . This sets out what every student should learn during the first 11 years of schooling. It is the common set of knowledge and skills required by students for life long learning, social development and active and informed citizenship. The Victorian Curriculum incorporates the Australian Curriculum and reflects Victorian priorities and standards.

All students are provided with a well-rounded curriculum experience based on the Victorian Curriculum and focuses on comprehensive Maths, English and Integrated Studies programs. The Arts, Thinking Skills and ICT are integrated into the daily program. Our students' learning is further supported by specialist programs in Science, LOTE, P.E and Performing Arts. We offer instrumental lessons on a user pays basis each week. We also host a variety of cultural performances and incursions to support the student's learning, which may include various art forms such as music, dance, song, drama, poetry, storytelling and illustration. Students are encouraged to get involved in extra curricula activities to encourage them to pursue their individual areas of interest and skill.

EXCURSIONS

Excursions are planned to complement classroom curriculum studies or to provide cultural experiences. Parents will be notified using a paperless permission system called COMPASS. Permission and authority to take medical action in case of illness or accident is required for all excursions. For those requiring payment, students will only be permitted to attend if the cost has been paid in advance.

INCURSIONS

Throughout the year there will be a number of incursions held at our school or at one of our cluster schools. Parents will be notified of these through the school newsletter. It is the parents' responsibility to contact the Principal or classroom teacher if they do not want their child to attend.

SPORT

Fish Creek & District Primary School is involved in several sports and athletic fixtures throughout the year. Participation is actively encouraged for all relevant age groups.

- **Learn to Swim Program** - All students are involved in a swimming program each year.
- **District Swimming** - Children in Grades 3 – 6 are invited to compete at the Korumburra pool. Those successful at this competition will be part of the Central District Swim Team for the Interschool Swimming Carnival held at Korumburra Pool in Term 1.
- **Corner Inlet Athletics** - Our school is part of the Corner Inlet Cluster along with Meeniyan, Tarwin Lower Primary, Foster, Toora & Welshpool schools. Each year all children in Grade 3 –6 compete in their age group in the Corner Inlet Cluster Sports Day held at the Foster Secondary College. Younger students have their own Sports Day during 3rd term
- **Division Athletics** - Children 9 years and over who perform well at the Waratah Athletics are invited to compete at the Division Athletics Carnival.
- **Cross Country** - Children 9 years and over compete in a cross country event against children from other schools in our district. They may qualify to compete at the regional cross country against children from all over Gippsland.
- **Winter Sport** - During Term 2, together with Meeniyan & Tarwin Lower, we run a winter sport program for our Grade 5/6 students. Combined teams play a variety of team sports including football & netball.
- **Lightning Premiership** - This day is organised among the schools in our district for children in Grades 5 and 6 at the conclusion of our winter sport program.

CAMPS

The school camping program is as follows:

Grade 2	Sleepover at school.
Grade 3/4	Philip Island & Forest Lodge alternately
Grade 5/6	Woorabinda & Melbourne Camp alternately

Attendance and refunds are subject to School Council policy.