

Little Bendigo P.S. Newsletter



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01/02/2019
Term 1, Week 1

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I would like to welcome everyone to the 2019 school year and hope you managed to relax over the holidays. Our Prep students have a fantastic start to school and I would like to thank our older students who are taking great care of them, as they settle into our school. Also welcome to Brody and Eden who have commenced school with us this year.

There are a number of important updates in this newsletter regarding the Skool Loop App, Printed Newsletter Opt-In and the Bushfire At Risk Register.

Anthony Tait
Principal

SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Congratulations to Sam and Imogene (Captains) and Chris Greenwood (Vice-Captain), who received their badges at yesterday's assembly. I am sure they will represent our school well, both within the school and broader community in 2019.



BUSHFIRE AT RISK REGISTER

Due to our school's location, we are listed on the Department of Education & Training's "Bushfire At Risk Register".

We are classed as a Category 2 school and respond to CFA Fire Ratings in the following manner:

Extreme Fire Danger Days:

On these days our school will operate from Ballarat Secondary College (Woodmans Hill Campus) in Fussell Street, Ballarat East. On these days parents are to drop off and collect their child from the Recreation Centre (just down from the main entrance) at Woodmans Hill.

Club 1878 will not operate on Extreme Fire Danger Days.

Code Red Days:

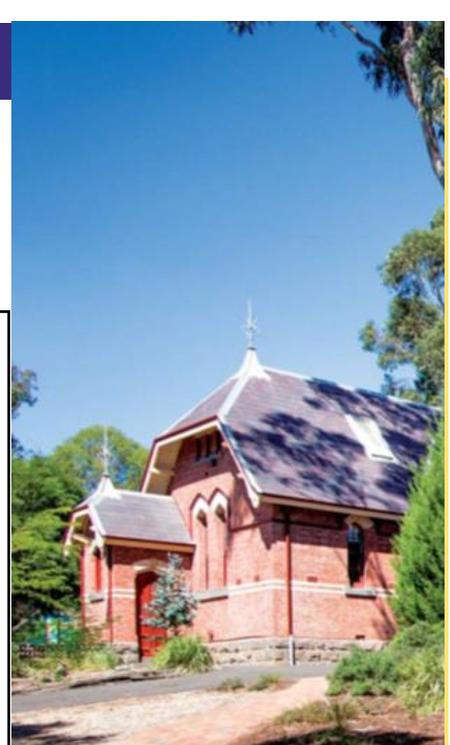
On these days, our school will be closed.
Club 1878 will not operate on Code Red Days.

Communication:

When the school has prior knowledge of a day of Extreme Fire Danger or Code Red Day, a notice will be sent home with all students and it will be posted on the Skool Loop App.

If we receive late notification (e.g. the night before), parents will be notified using the Skool Loop App.

Therefore it is vital that all parents have the Skool Loop App on their phone.



2019 Term Dates

Term 1:
30 Jan – 05 Apr
Term 2:
23 Apr – 28 Jun
Term 3:
15 Jul – 20 Sep
Term 4:
7 Oct – 20 Dec

Important Dates:

Wednesdays in February:

Prep students are not required to attend school on these days.

Mon 11th Feb

Fundraising Meeting

Mon 25th Feb

School Council Meeting

Mon 11th March

Labor Day Public Holiday

Tues 12th March

Curriculum Day

SKOOL LOOP APP

It is vital that parents download this app on their mobile phones, to access the newsletter and important updates.

Please download the App (Apple or Android) and select "Little Bendigo Primary School".

Please contact the school office if you have any questions regarding the app.



FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday 11th February at 2:45pm at the school office. It would be great to see current members there and also any parents who may be interested.

Our fundraising committee is an important part of the school, as they raise funds throughout the year to support student engagement and learning. I encourage parents to consider joining this committee which meets a couple of times per term.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our first School Council Meeting will be held on Monday 25th February at 7:00pm.

PRINTED NEWSLETTER OPT-IN

Our newsletter is distributed every Friday via the Skool Loop App, School Website and by email. Traditionally a printed copy has been sent home with all students as well. In an effort to reduce our environmental impact we are introducing an "opt-in" model for the printed newsletter, commencing in Week 3.

If you would still like a printed newsletter to be sent home with your child, please complete the "Newsletter Opt-In Form" (below) and return it to your child's teacher or the school office, by Monday 11th February.

PRINTED NEWSLETTER OPT-IN FORM

I would like to receive a printed newsletter in 2019.

Child's Name:

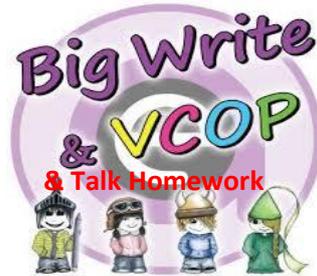
Grade:

Parent Name:



The Lemons Scented Gums Studio is off to a flying start. We have already begun to settle into routine. I am really looking forward to a fabulous year. Reader records have been sent home. Students are asked to read for 10-15 minutes each night if possible otherwise at least 3 nights a week. I encourage students to read what they enjoy, however as explained to the students a variety of genres is encouraged from both fiction and non-fiction texts.

I recently sent home a student information surveys and parent helper forms. I ask parent to please take some to time complete these and return back to myself as soon as possible. I am hoping to have parent helper Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings for reading. Thursday mornings will be our Big Write session and Friday mornings will be our school specialist day, therefore no parent helpers are require on these days.



An important part of the Literacy curriculum in our Lemon Scented Gums studio is 'Big Write.'

'Big Write' is an exciting and effective way of encouraging children to think about four key areas for developing both their spoken and written language: Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers and Punctuation.

Children take part in a variety of oral and written activities and games to develop their skills in these areas. Children are extremely positive about Big Write.

As part of this work children in the Lemon Scented Gums will complete a piece of writing once a fortnight on a Thursday morning.

Research shows that children need to develop confidence in using language verbally before they can use it in their writing. In order for children to produce their best writing they are encouraged to discuss the topic in advance. Discussion work always forms a key part of our 'Big Write' sessions.

A couple of days before their writing, children will be given information about the Thursday's task. We ask that children discuss the topic with an adult/family member at home, in preparation for their writing. **This homework involves discussion only! Children who complete their 'Talk Homework' regularly feel more confident in tackling their written tasks.**

You will find below some hints to help with Talk Homework. If you have any questions at all regarding Big Write or Talk Homework, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely
Mrs Tuaine

TALKING HOMEWORK

SOME HINTS FOR A TALKING HOMEWORK CONVERSATION:

- Encourage as many family members as possible to be involved in the Talking Homework.
- Make it an enjoyable activity.
- Switch off the television to try to ensure that this is dedicated talking and listening time.
- Begin a conversation by modelling... "I think that... because ..."
- Ask other family members to give their ideas, opinions and reasons why.
- Encourage thinking about exciting words to use to make their writing more interesting.



I just wanted to say a big warm welcome to the foundation students and families, it has been wonderful meeting you all over the past few days and we are off to flying start.

The foundation students have settled in beautifully and we have been busy establishing new routines. Children have been enjoying our activities in our literacy and numeracy rotations. We have been focusing on the letter I (impy ink) and T (Ticking Tess) in our writing sessions. Our numeracy sessions we have been building on our number awareness through interactive number games.

Reader books have started going home and we encourage you to read with your children every night. Throughout next coming weeks some golden words will be send home with your children, if you could practice reading these words with your children it will help support their learning at school.

Foundation students have Wednesdays for the month of February as a rest day. Notes went home yesterday regarding a date and time for your child's Literacy and numeracy interviews and as stated in the note, if there is a concern with the time at all please don't hesitate to come and see me.

Have a great weekend, see you Monday. Ms D



Wow what a fantastic start to the year with all students eager to learn and approaching tasks with a positive "I Can attitude".

On Wednesday all students were given a yellow reader log book. This log book is to be filled out each day your child reads at home. It is requested that all students read at least four nights per week and that your child brings their yellow reader log book to school daily. We are still waiting for their reader bags to arrive.

Next week homework will begin. Although homework is not compulsory is would be fantastic if students try to complete set homework. Homework will consist of reading and writing M100 and M200 spelling words. This will take approximately 15 minutes per week and will help reinforce what they are learning in the classroom.

If there are any parents who would like to help out with reading in the classroom on Monday or Tuesday mornings from 9:00-10:00 please see Tammy.

Yesterday Prep students were sent home with a letter stating their time and date for the English Online Interview. If you did not receive this letter, please see Tammy.

Also, can all Prep students please bring a change of clothes in their bag, to cover any little accidents.