



Mildura South Primary School Newsletter

A Positive Education School

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Monday 4th October, 2021 Newsletter No. 29

“Mildura South Primary School acknowledges the traditional owners of the land as we choose to bring our best selves to school and love the work that we do”

PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

CHILD SAFETY

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US IN KEEPING OUR STUDENTS SAFE

TERM 4

It was wonderful being at the gates this morning welcoming our Prep, 1 and 2 students back to school after the holidays.

The staggered return to school for our students will be:

Week 1, October 4 – October 8

- Prep, 1 and 2 students will continue to attend school onsite
- Teachers and Students will continue Remote and Flexible Learning for Grades: 3, 4, 5 and 6

Week 2, October 11 – October 15

- Prep, 1 and 2 students will continue to attend school onsite each day of the week
- Students in Grades 3 and 4 will attend school on Tuesday and Wednesday. Students in Grades 5 and 6 will continue Remote and Flexible Learning.
- Students in in Grades 5 and 6 will attend school on Thursday and Friday. Students in Grades 3 and 4 will continue with Remote and Flexible Learning.

Week 3, October 18 – October 22

Same as week 2

Week 4

All students in Regional Victorian schools return to school on Tuesday, October 26

Minimum community congestion and cross-over of age groups

The Department of Education have asked that we keep cross over of student age groups and community congestion at a minimum.

In order to do this, the following has been put in place as of Thursday July 29,2021

- Parents asked to remain off site
- Students asked to use their House Gate to enter and exit the school grounds

Murray Gate – Albert Street

Darling Gate – Crossing Gate

Mungo and Kulkyne Gate – Front Gate

- There is no play in the yard before school

Students to go straight to their classroom when they arrive at school

- Students are being dropped at school after 8.45am
- At 3.15pm Grades Prep, One and Two Teachers escort students to their House Gate where Parents pick them up. Students who are in Grades 3 - 6 who have younger siblings leave the school at 3.20pm using their House Gate. Any students who are booked into After School Care go there at 3.30pm.
- The remainder of our students leave the school through their House Gate at 3.30pm

Thank you for your support and co-operation in keeping our school community safe.

Adults are still required to remain outside of the school gates.

HATS

As a Sun Smart School, we ask all students to wear a hat in Term 4. Please ensure your child has a broad brimmed hat to wear when outside. Thank you.

PREP ENROLMENTS

We continue to take enrolments for 2022 Prep Students

If any of our families have Preps starting next year, please contact the office for an enrolment form. If you know families that live in our neighbourhood and they have a Prep for 2022, please encourage them to make contact with the school.

VIRTUAL ASSEMBLY

Please join us for our School Virtual Assembly each Wednesday at 2.55pm. Our leaders do an outstanding job facilitating the Celebration of Strengths that our students demonstrate. The link can be found each week on Compass.

SUCCESSFULLY TRANSITIONING STUDENTS BACK TO SCHOOL by Michael Grose

For children, going back to school may bring a mixed bag of feelings. Eager anticipation about reconnecting with friends and teachers will probably be accompanied by a level of anxiety about what school may be like upon return.

School undoubtedly will be a different experience for students post COVID-19. For a start they've just experienced a prolonged period of remote learning and an absence from their friends, which will take time to process when they return to school.

With organised extra-curricular activities put on hold most children have had a great deal of free time, which has placed the locus of control firmly in their hands. I suspect many children will grieve their lack of freedom, as they've had a glorious glimpse of what an unstructured life is like. It may take some time for them to get back into the swing of school life.

With the return to school upon us, here are some sensible strategies to make adjustment easier for students.

Get ready for a return

Worriers and anxious types in particular like to know what's ahead so your approach will make a difference. Prepare your child for a return by discussing the safety procedures the school will be implementing. Let young children know that an adult won't be accompanying them past the school gate. Ask your child what they are looking forward to and check in with how they are feeling about a return. Validate any fears and apprehensions and correct any misconceptions.

Go slowly

Adjusting to change takes a great deal of personal energy, so your child or young person may become tired, grumpy, even moody at home. Make allowances for these personal changes and make sure they have plenty of free time to unwind after school.

Focus on reconnection

Make reconnection the theme for your child's return to school. He or she will have to reconnect with friends, teachers and learning, which takes time. Your child's teachers will use many strategies to help your child connect with their friends, reflect on their time at home and move them back into full-time learning mode. Support these activities and keep your learning expectations for your child in check.

Stay calm

Anxiety is very contagious, so it's easy for us as parents to take on our children's worries and fears. The reverse is true, and children can pick up our worries, taking them on as their own. As a buffer against anxiety ensure you do something each day that brings you some joy, whether it's listening to music, going for a walk or having a coffee with a friend.

Look after yourself

In recent months parents and teachers have been doing significant emotional labour. The learning and adjustment curves have been massive, with little time to relax and take a break. Consider your own emotional resources and make your wellbeing a priority, which will make it easier for you to stay calm if your child experiences difficulties.

Communicate confidence

It's a fine line that many parents walk between being flippant ('you'll be right') and showing confidence ('you'll do okay') when children struggle to adjust to change. Research into childhood anxiety reveals that children and young people want parents and teachers to understand their fears and anxieties, and to coach them to negotiate difficulties including adjusting to change. You can support your child through sharing stories of resilience, focusing on the positives and letting them know that will eventually adjust.

The COVID-19 pandemic has thrown up many difficulties requiring us all to quickly adapt to new situations. Flexibility is a prime characteristic of resilient people, so if nothing else, getting through these challenging times will make us all more resilient.

Marie-Therese Milani
Principal

FROM THE OFFICE

We are catching up on all our paperwork. If you have recently changed your TELEPHONE NUMBER, EMPLOYMENT, EMAIL or ADDRESS, please advise the School Office. It is important that we are able to contact you 😊

OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Vacation Care

We had a great two weeks of school holiday activities, a lot quieter than usual but still a lot of fun. We have quite a few items leftover from the holidays. Drink bottles, lunch boxes, jacket and jumpers. Please let us know if anything belongs to you and we will keep them aside for you. These will be going to the Op Shop next week if they have not been collected.

Our next vacation care will be from Tuesday 4th January through until Friday 28th January (closed for one day for Australia day public holiday).

Before and After School Care

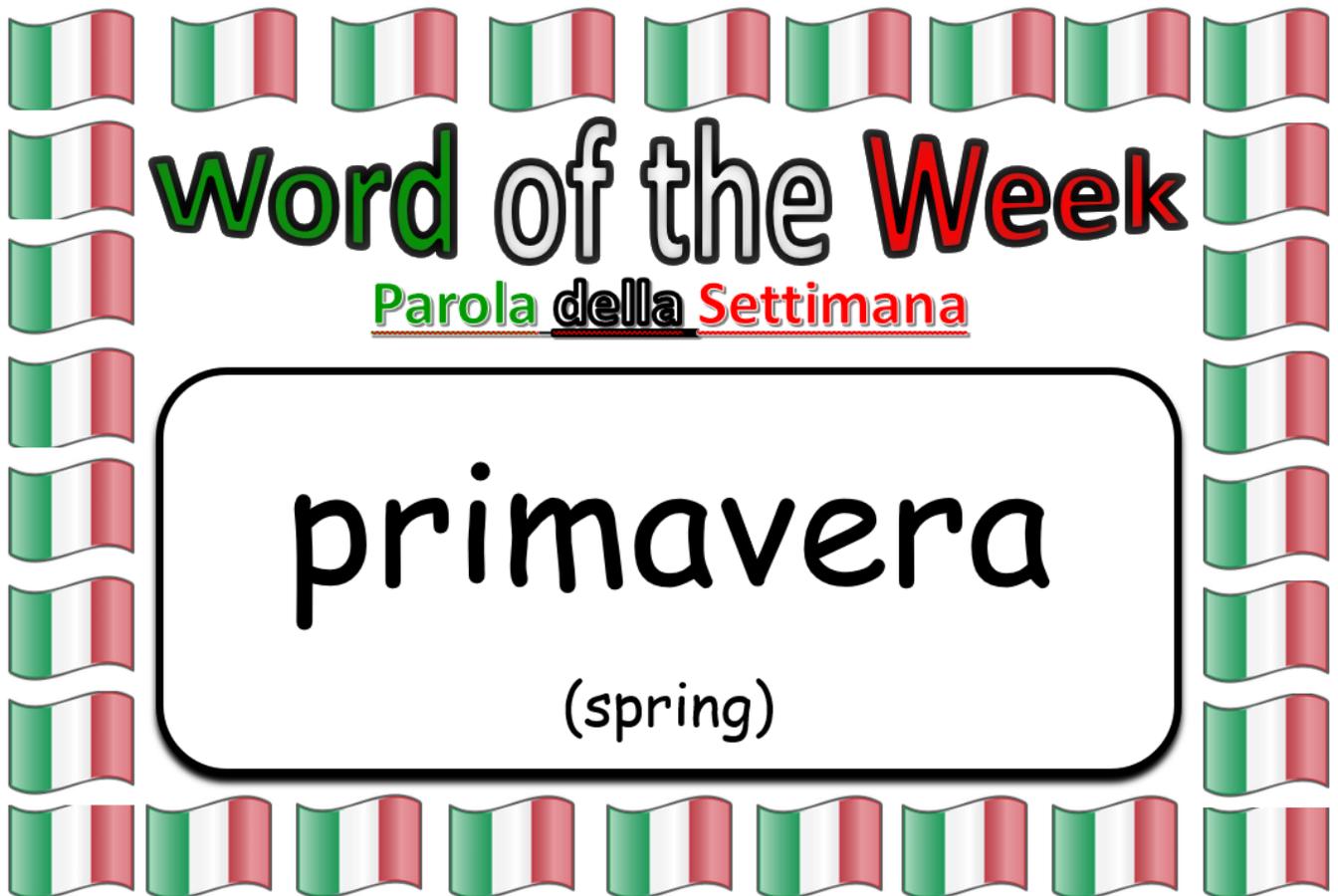
We have places available for each program, please let us know if you would like to book in on any day.

The last day of term will be Friday 17th December, please note the OSHC service will be closed from the end of term until Tuesday 4th January. Term 1 2022 will commence for all students on Monday 31st January.

Hats

A reminder that all children attending After School Care require a hat for outside play. Please pack a spare hat in your child's bag.

ITALIAN WORD OF THE WEEK



Word of the Week
Parola della Settimana

primavera
(spring)



CELEBRATION OF STRENGTHS

PH Wyndarra Kelly

PK Archie Scherger

PP Iliah Blair

PR Aaliyah Sharman

1B Sahar Zahidi

1P Caius Stiff

1T Claire Shaw

2H Umul Banien Zahidi

2R Elle Coverdale

2S Christopher Lane

3/4B Makenzie Crump

3/4S Oscar Bitmead

3/4W Joshua Sparrow

5/6B Mia Mottram

5/6J Sami Ross

5/6K Ruby Pegasus

5/6L Xavier Erskine

5/6O Ashwell Moore

Art
Cayla Chaplin 5/6B

Italian
James Avery 2H

Sport
Lanie Nelson 5/6K

Performing Arts
Muhammad Mahmud Prep R

STEM
Alessandra Scherger 5/6K



DATES TO REMEMBER

***** ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO COVID GUIDELINES*****

TERM 4 (4th OCTOBER to 17th DECEMBER)

OCTOBER

Wed 13 th Oct	Division Volleyball and Tennis
Thur 14 th Oct	Division Basketball and Softball
Tues 19 th to Fri 22 nd Oct	Grade 6 Outdoor Camp
Wed 20 th	Grade 1 Fun Night

NOVEMBER

Tues 2 nd Nov	Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday
Thurs 4 th Nov	T20 Cricket (Grade 5 & 6)
Fri 5 th Nov	Grandparents Day (Preps) T20 Cricket (Grade 3 & 4)
Fri 19 th Nov	Colour Fun Run
Wed 24 th to Fri 26 th Nov	Grade 4 Camp to Lake Cullulleraine
Thurs 25 th	Prep Orientation

DECEMBER

Tues 7 th Dec	Grade 6 and Prep Orientation
Fri 17 th Dec	Last day of Term 4 (2.30pm Finish)

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