



Mildura South Primary School Newsletter

A Positive Education School

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Friday 18th March, 2022 Newsletter No. 7

"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"



FOR YOUR DIARY

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

TERM DATES (Mon 31st Jan to 5th April)

TERM 1

March

Fri 18th Boys Cricket

Mon 21st Harmony Day

Tues 22nd Girls Cricket

Mon 28th

– Fri 1st April Grade 3/4 Swimming

CHILD SAFETY

- Please use the pedestrian crossing when crossing Deakin Avenue
- When dropping students off or picking students up in Albert Street please observe ONE WAY (from Deakin Avenue to the Wetlands)
- When driving in Albert Street before and after school please travel at 20km/per hour

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US IN KEEPING OUR STUDENTS SAFE

Principal's News

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

HARMONY DAY – MONDAY 21st

‘Alone we are each unique, but together we are a masterpiece’ Author Unknown

Students are invited to wear clothes that represent their families’ culture or the colour orange. Orange is the colour of Harmony Day.

At Mildura South Primary we celebrate diversity and on Harmony Day we will learn more about each other, our cultures and our stories.

NAPLAN 2022

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

NAPLAN is a nationwide measure through which parents, teachers, schools, education authorities, governments and the broader community can determine whether or not young Australians are developing the literacy and numeracy skills that provide the critical foundation for other learning and for their productive and rewarding participation in the community.

NAPLAN results allow parents/carers and educators to see how students are progressing in literacy and numeracy over time – individually, as part of their school community, and against national standards.

The assessments are undertaken nationwide in 2022, between May 10 and May 20. Week 1 of Term 2 is planned for an Online NAPLAN practise. A Test schedule will come out at the end of Term 1.

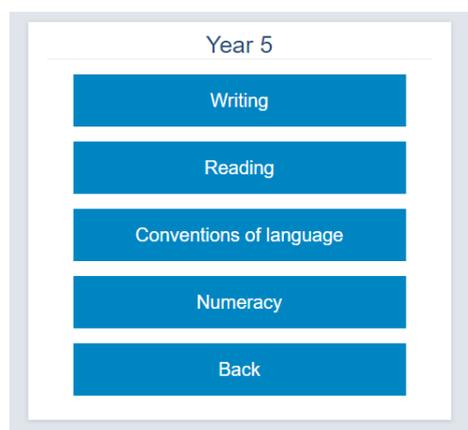
NAPLAN is made up of tests in the four areas (or 'domains') of:

- Writing
- Reading
- Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation)
- Numeracy

Families can access the Naplan Demonstration Site by clicking the link -

<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>

Select a year level and a sample test to look at and allow students some practise.



SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Our School Assembly takes place every Monday at 2.40pm as a WebEx Event. The Grade 6 students will continue to lead the School Assembly each week. A link for our School Assembly will be posted on Compass each week for you to access.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

The school is supported by Cowards Cake to supply lunches for students on Wednesdays and Fridays. Orders are required to be submitted on the Flexischools App by 2pm the day before the lunch order.

SCHOOL OPERATION GUIDELINES FOR COVID 19

In order to keep our students, staff and families well and limit the spread of the Covid 19 virus, the following procedures will be in place at Mildura South Primary School for Term 1.

The school will notify the school community of positive Covid 19 cases using Compass as a communication tool. Year level and last day of attendance will be communicated. No names will be identified.

Please make sure that you can access Compass as our main form of communication.

If your child is unwell, please keep them home.

Any child presenting at school with Covid 19 symptoms will be isolated and sent home immediately.

- Parents are asked to only be on school grounds when necessary.
- Parents must be double vaccinated to be inside school buildings.
- Students will enter and exit school grounds through their House Gate.
- Students who arrive before 8.45am will enter the school through the front gate, where Principal Class staff will be supervising.
- Students in Grades Prep, One and Two, along with their older siblings will finish school at 3.15pm.
- Students in Grades 3 – 6 will finish school at 3.30pm.

EXPLAINING SCARY WORLD EVENTS TO OUR CHILDREN by Dr Justin Coulson

Almost exactly two years ago our world changed in incomprehensible ways. It was supposed to be a couple of weeks. A month at most. We just had to isolate at home. Flatten the curve. Protect the vulnerable.

It meant working from home unless we were essential workers. It also meant school was at home. But it was an adventure. A reset. A chance to change things up and focus on what matters most; to help make a difference for our communities.

But despite a few bright patches where it really was good and our hope was high, it was also often difficult. Our two most populous states endured the world's longest lockdowns. The borders stayed closed keeping loved ones separated.

It was a year of stuttering Zoom calls and classes, quarantine, mask mandates, vaccinations, protests, and for many parents and families, a number of challenges to balance all that family, work, and government restrictions required.

As 2022 commenced, QLD held students back from school for two extra weeks to encourage vaccinations. NSW and VIC required all students to be tested for COVID using at-home testing kits twice per week. It felt like COVID parenting was about to become more overwhelming than we could manage.

Now, barely into March, our lives are bombarded with stories – and for some, the reality – of flood waters inundating homes and lives being lost. Along with the conflict in Eastern Europe that is on our daily news.

It's enough to leave parents reeling. Except that many parents are already stressed out, burned out, and tired out. Parents have done all they can to hold things together. The difficulty – the unfairness of it all – is that we must keep on keeping on. Our children are relying on us.

What our children need right now

Our children *need* the world to feel safe and secure. The more they feel this, the more they can explore life with confidence, look to the future with hope, and find a meaningful way forward. And whether we are feeling it or not, it's up to us to provide them that safety and security. If not, the unpredictable nature of life can consume them with anxiety, fear, apprehension, and worry.

More information is not reassuring

Ever notice that getting more information does not reduce your worries and fears? Scrolling your news feeds doesn't offer reassurance. It's the same with your children. They don't need lots of information. They need to feel safe. And what we do makes a difference.

Children are anxious. Here are 5 ways to help

Tune off media

Social media algorithms are designed to push more and more of what we see in our direction. The more you and your children watch these events occur online, the more they'll appear. Keep bad news away from your children – especially younger children – as much as possible.

Remember that emotions are contagious

If you are feeling emotional or overwhelmed, your child will sense it – and catch it. Taking a deep breath and keeping level and stable will help you respond gently and patiently to your child.

If it's mentionable, it's manageable

Rather than asking your child "Are you ok?", say what you see. "Gee, you look pretty worried about things. What's on your mind?" Perhaps you could say, "I noticed you were pretty affected by that horrible news. It's hard to hear isn't it."

Side by side conversations

Rather than sitting face-to-face, talk with your children about their questions and concerns while side-by-side. Perhaps it's a car ride, beside their bed at night, or while you're doing an activity together. Side-by-side conversations feel less threatening.

Don't turn on the fire hose

When someone is thirsty, we don't put their face in front of the fire hose. We give them a glass of water. It's the same with our kids. Most of the time they don't want to (or can't) understand the magnitude of the bad news or even why it happened (if there's a reason at all). When you answer their questions, keep it simple, invite more questions, and answer the best you can. Kindness and gentle reassurance that you "get it" is typically enough.

In closing

Most of the time the world is a fabulous, beautiful place, but scary things happen from time to time. When they do, remind your child that this is unusual which is why it's in the news. As Rebecca Solnit eloquently described in her book, *A Paradise Built in Hell*, "Horrible in itself, disaster is sometimes a door back into paradise, the paradise at least in which we are who we hope to be, do the work we desire, and are each our sister's and brother's keeper.

As this latest bad news strikes, let's notice that there are usually more people moving towards the disaster areas to help than there are leaving it due to stress and duress. Let's see the good, be part of it, and give our children hope for a better world.

Marie-Therese Milani
Principal

REMINDERS FROM THE OFFICE

GRADE 3/4 SWIMMING DATES – MONDAY MARCH 28TH TO FRIDAY APRIL 1ST

Swimming notes are going home with students Thursday March 10th and are due back by Wednesday March 23rd. There is no cost to families for the program this year as the school has received government funding. Just a further reminder that students will need 2 towels - one will be used for the bus travel back to school.

LATE ARRIVALS AND EARLY DEPARTURES

Our school day begins at 9.00am and finishes at 3.15pm (Prep-Gr2) and 3.30pm (Gr3-6). We understand that sometimes school time appointments are unavoidable but ask that these be kept to a minimum. It is compulsory for all students to sign in or out at the front office.

Each and every occasion requires a parent/guardian to come into the office to collect or drop off their student and to be signed in or out via the COMPASS Kiosk. In 2022 we will be asking that parents who are FULLY VACCINATED to come into the office if you need to collect your child. The office staff will then call your child and they will come to the office to meet you. If you are UNVACCINATED please call the office and the office staff will arrange for child to be brought to the front of the school.

It is our Duty of Care to know the whereabouts of a student at all times.

ABSENCES

If your child is absent it is a requirement that a parent or guardian informs the school via email to the classroom teacher, message on COMPASS or a phone call. If your child will be absent for an extended period please inform the class teacher or school before they leave.

MEDICATION

If your child requires medication whilst they are at school, the medication needs to be taken to the office by a parent or guardian. The school can only administer medication if we receive it from an adult and have a written authority to do so. Dosage and times need to be clearly labelled on the medication. **Children should not have medication in their bag.**

DROP BOX

A reminder for students and parents that any money or notes that come to the office should be placed in the Drop Box in the foyer. The Drop Box is locked and will be checked daily by the office staff.

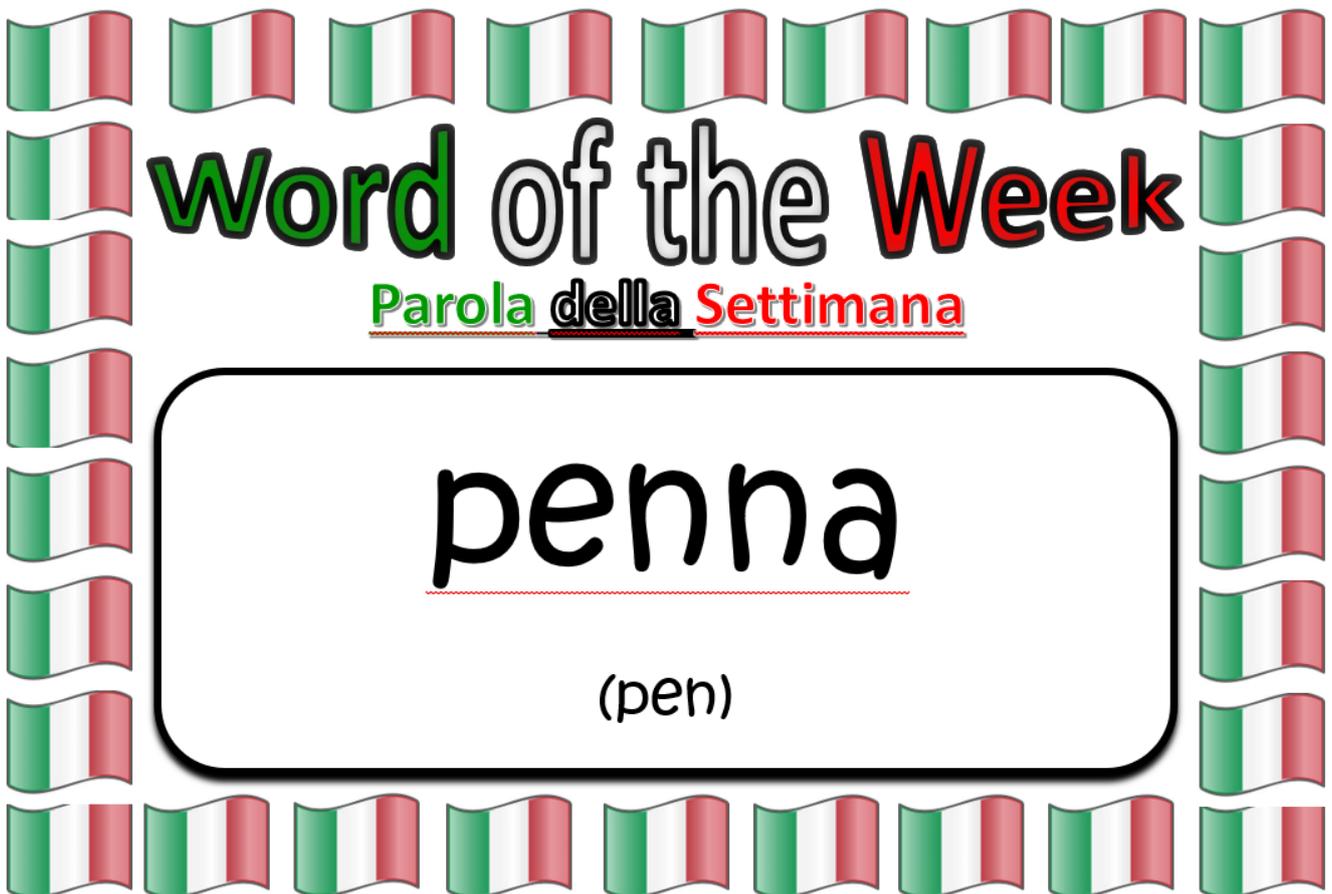
COMPASS

Our School uses Compass for all communications to parents and staff. Please speak to the office staff if you don't have Compass Log In details.

CHANGE OF DETAILS

If you have changed your address or phone number it is important that you notify the school. We must be able to contact parents at all times (particularly in the case of an emergency).

ITALIAN WORD OF THE WEEK



Word of the Week
Parola della Settimana

penna
(pen)



CELEBRATION OF STRENGTHS

PH	Marcus Weston	3/4B	Avaneeth Jeyakanthan	<u>Art</u>
PK	Arya Tupou	3/4M	Amelia Israel	Tare Taikakara 2B
PR	Omer Kaya	3/4P	Hudson Iogha	<u>Italian</u>
1C	Fletcher Godfrey	3/4S	Emma Stephens	Jye Deckert 5/6L
1H	Hugo Chin	3/4W	Jewel Bonza	<u>Sport</u>
1S	Isabella Laurie	5/6B	Jaxon Sherwell	Airlie Moylan 2R
2B	Ava Vo	5/6J	Kilala Williams	<u>Performing Arts</u>
2R	Summer Stewart	5/6K	Bonnie Fox	Keith Edwards Prep K
2T	Kruze McVeigh-Myers	5/6L	Noah Warner	<u>STEM</u>
		5/6P	Milla Williams	Vaama Thaapa 5/6L
				<u>BAND</u>
				Phoebe Englefield 5/6L

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE

The Out of school hours care program (OSHC) operates from the school gymnasium with three programs available, as listed below. The OSHC staff are qualified in Early Childhood Education or working towards an approved qualification as well being trained in First Aid, asthma and anaphylaxis. Children attending the program require a hat for outdoor play (a spare hat from home which can be left at the service for convenience). All families using the service are required to complete a 2022 OSHC enrolment form. These forms can be found on the school website or can be collected from the OSHC office in the gym. Children are to be signed in and out of the program using the OSHC ipad by a person listed on the enrolment form.

Before School Care: \$20.00 per session - 6.45am - 8.45am each school morning. Breakfast is provided upon arrival with a range of supervised activities throughout the morning.

After School Care: \$30.00 per session - 3.30pm-6.00pm each school day. A light snack with fruit is provided upon arrival. We have a variety of fun supervised indoor and outdoor activities throughout the afternoon.

Vacation Care/ Curriculum Day: \$65.00 per session plus any excursion costs - 8.00am-6.00pm during school holidays and scheduled Pupil free days. Children are to provide their own food each session. We have planned activities each day, with outings on some days.

Fees can be reduced by claiming Child Care Subsidy. This is determined on your household income and your working/studying hours.

You can start booking in to the Vacation Care program for the April school holidays. To make a booking, please tick the days you require on the booking form and return the form to the OSHC office or email the information to oshc.mildura.south.ps@education.vic.gov.au Bookings will be taken until all places are filled with a waiting list if necessary. The program plan and booking form is available on the school website and school facebook page. If you would like a hard copy, please call in to see us in the gym. We have some amazing things planned – an outing to the Chook Farm, Ten Pin Bowling, crazy hair day, art and craft as well as a beatbox workshop and a visit from the guys at the Wow program.

To know more about our service, please contact us on the OSHC mobile 0408 232 143 or by calling the school number on 5023 2148 (option 3).



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is 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. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. 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 student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.





CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name

School REF ID

Parent/carer details

Surname _____

First name _____

Address _____

Town/suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Contact number _____

Centrelink pensioner concession **OR** Health care card number (CRN)

- - - **OR**

Foster parent under a temporary care order* **OR** Veterans affairs pensioner (Gold Card)**

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH).

**Applicants must provide a copy of the Veteran Affairs Gold card

Is this an application for special consideration (no CRN needed)? Yes No

Student details

Student's surname	Student's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DFFH will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances details from DFFH and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
- information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the DFFH and/or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant _____ Date ____/____/____



CSEF ELIGIBILITY

Below are the criteria used to determine a student's eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

Criteria 1 – General eligibility

To be eligible for the fund, a parent or carer of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one
- on the first day of Term two

- a) be a holder of one or more of the eligible financially-means tested cards **OR** be a temporary foster parent, and;
- b) submit an application to the school by the due date.

For the list of eligible financially-means tested cards refer to the CSEF Policy:
<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund/policy>

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with the above.

Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooled, or TAFE.

Special Consideration

A special consideration category exists for

- Families on a bridging visa, temporary protection visa, in community detention or are asylum seeker families
- Students in temporary out of home care arrangements, including statutory kinship care

For more information, see <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund/guidance/eligibility>

Eligibility Date

For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/carer concession card being validated successfully with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (31 January 2022) or term two (26 April 2022).

PAYMENT AMOUNTS

CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

- Primary school student rate: \$125 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: \$225 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to your child's school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student's date of birth. For more information, see: www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx

Year 7 government school students who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Secondary schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents/carers so please register your interest at the school.

HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

NOTE: ALL SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

1. Complete the PARENT/CARER DETAILS section.

Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.

If you are claiming as a temporary Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.

If you are seeking special consideration, mark this in the form and provide a copy of the relevant documentation.

2. Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.
3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible. The CSEF program for 2022 closes on the 24 June 2022.

COMMUNITY NOTICES



Junior Tennis

The Sunraysia District Tennis Association is calling all new and existing juniors to play in its upcoming winter season running from May – September (Saturday mornings 9am – 11.00am)

Tennis is a great sport for kids.

- ✓ A very safe sport
- ✓ Great exercise – tennis keeps you fit and builds hand eye coordination
- ✓ Play tennis now and your child will have a sport for life
- ✓ Tennis is a sport that can be played all year round
- ✓ A great social sport for young players
- ✓ Great sport for the whole family to enjoy

All levels are catered for from D Grade beginners through to A Grade. Contact one of the club delegates below for more information and to register your child.

Louise Olofsson – Alcheringa (Gol Gol)	louiseswenolofsson@gmail.com
Tena Williams – Red Cliffs	tenajoy@bigpond.com
Carole DeMaria – Sacred Heart (Aeros)	sacredheartjuniors@gmail.com
Joel Hamilton – Sarnia (Lawn Tennis)	joelhamilton10@bigpond.com
Robyn Herberte – St Andrews (Aeros)	robyn@gibsonfencing.com.au
Cheryl Vines - Wentworth	cheryl.vines@bigpond.com



Merbein Football Netball Club is inviting any boys or girls to come out and have a try at AFL Football. We have room in all age groups from Auskick to Under 18's, age groups are Under 10's, 12's, 13, 14's, 16's and 18's. Auskick starts on Thursday 21st April and minimum age requirements to play are 5 years and older. The club has fantastic new facilities, schnitzel nights, accredited AFL Coaches and an inclusive "every gets a go attitude" to sport. Training nights are Tuesday from 4.30-5.30pm for Under 10, 12, 13, 14's. Training is on Tuesdays and Thursdays 4.30-6pm or Under 16 and U18's, get there as early as you can. Come out and get the kids exercising, having fun and socialising. Love to see you there, find us on facebook. Merbein Football Netball Club



INFORMATION & REGISTRATION DAY

SUNDAY 27 MARCH 2022

11am—1pm

Pitch 10

Old Aerodrome Ovals

FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE!



FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT

LUCY 0439 302 090

55 Pine Ave
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Vic

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