



We are a resilient, respectful, community of Learners

NEWSLETTER – 11 February 2021

MOSSFIEL SCHOOL LEADERS

PRINCIPAL	Paul Maisey (Acting)		
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL	Dennis Osborne		
INSTRUCTIONAL LEADER - Foundation	Diane Delapa	INSTRUCTIONAL LEADER - Years 1 & 2	Carmen Morrison
INSTRUCTIONAL LEADER - Years 3 & 4	Andrew Morrison	INSTRUCTIONAL LEADER - Years 5 & 6	Craig O'Donnell

MOSSFIEL SCHOOL COUNCILLORS

Catriona MacLeod – President	Loren Hewitt – Vice President	Jo Brown - Secretary	Dennis Osborne
Holly Brunnbauer	Linda Spencer – Minute Sec	Jane Churchland	Jasmin Quinn Trencavski
Iris Carnat	Chloe Bell	Jacqueline Drew	Louise Price

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to this, our first official newsletter for the 2021 school year. And a special welcome to our Foundation students and families, it has been great to see you at school on time and looking wonderful in school uniform.

Newsletters are released on a Thursday each fortnight – alternating with our school assemblies. We encourage you to keep abreast of the newsletter contents as this is our primary method of communication with the broader school community. *This initial newsletter, particularly, contains a lot of information as we start up a new school year.* Included in this newsletter is also a list of staff names and their respective roles, to assist you in your conversations about school with your child.

Staff List

Principal	Paul Maisey	Library Support	Meagan Widders
Assistant Principal	Dennis Osborne	Integration Aides	Simone Mullens
Team Specialists			Lorna Elliott
Visual Art 3-6	Anastasia Foster Brady (Wed/Thur)		Vivien Hollingsworth
Performing Art F-2	Bree Rapp (Mon/Wed)		Bev Smith
Physical Education	Joanne Maclean (Mon/Wed/Thu/Fri)	MEA	Kaitlin Smith
Italian Tutor	Rick Granato Jenny Wilkins (Tue/Wed/Thu/Fri)	Canteen	Mary Cois
Business Manager	Linda Spencer	Sick Bay	Gabrielle Roberts
Office Support	Shelley Stretton/ Jan Williams	Maintenance	Debra Langton
		ICT Technician	Joe De Rose
		Social Worker	Mary Cois & Kaitlin Smith
			Kaitlin Smith
			Steven Fraser
			David Azzopardi
			Louise Price

Year	Room	Teacher
0A	1	Vanessa Barry
0B	2	Tina Hansen
0C	3	Catherine Foundalis
		Diane Delapa
1/2A	6	Catherine Wojtas / Rick Granato (Mon/Tue/Wed/Thur) (Friday)
1/2B	7	Amy Farnsworth / Di Delapa (Mon/Thur/Fri) (Tue/Wed)
1/2C	8	Zach McAuley
1/2D	10	Carmen Morrison / Kate Anderson (Mon/Tue/Wed) (Thur/Friday)
1/2E	9	Jacqui Drew
		Carmen Morrison
3/4A	12	Nicole Aquilina
3/4B	15	Carisa Patman
3/4C	16	Lauren Maslen
3/4D	14	Meredith White
		Andrew Morrison
5/6A	17	Craig O'Donnell
5/6B	18	Jayson Fry
5/6C	19	Deryal Sonay
5/6D	20	Emily Goegan
5/6E	21	Kym Langfield
		Craig O'Donnell

Foundation students: Wednesday's off for the month of February

A reminder that our youngest students have Wednesdays off for the month of February, although on one of these days they will meet with their teacher who will do some assessment to help establish a personalised learning program for these children. One of these dates falls on the aforementioned curriculum day.

SCHOOL TIMES

There were some changes with our school times due to Covid last year, however we are fortunate to be able to run our normal school times for now. Please see the times below for school breaks and student learning:

8.35 – 8.45	Yard Supervision start
8.45	Students line up
8.50	Student Instruction starts
9.00- 10.00	Specialist programs session 1 Starts, gates locked
10.00 – 11.00	Session 2 learning time
11.00-11.30	Recess break
11.30 – 12-30	Session 3 learning time
12.30-1.30	Session 4 learning time
1.30 – 1.35	Eating time
1.35 – 2.05	Lunch break
2.05 – 3.05	Session 5 learning time
3.05 - 3.15	Yard Supervision

FULL SCHOOL UNIFORM

As we begin another school year it is timely to remind parents that there is an expectation that all students are in full school uniform each and every school day. All students also need a bottle green hat broad brimmed or bucket had for wearing when working or playing outside during terms one and four. It was pleasing to note that almost every child was in full school uniform today. Thank you to our families for their support in this regard.

1/2A MOVING ROOMS

As of Monday the 15th of February the children in ½ A will be changing classrooms. They will no longer be in room 6, they will now be in room 14 (Block C). We understand that no time is an ideal time to move any class. We have had to make this decision to allow the school to revamp room 6 and open the doors for the Out of School Hours Care program.

The school has spoken to the teachers in Grades 1/2 and I personally sat down and talked through the situation with the grade and answered all the children's questions, even taking a tour of the new room. To each child's credit they understood in their own way the situation and I thank them for their enthusiasm and understanding.

The 1/2 PLC leader, Carmen Morrison and the classroom teachers Catherine Wojtas and Rick Granato will monitor the children and ensure a smooth transition, contacting you should they have any concerns. If you have any questions, please feel free to find a time to talk to the teachers or I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

BIG CHILD CARE

Great news for the school community, the school council has enlisted an external Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) provider to reopen our schools program for 2021. The provider is Big Childcare who have a wonderful reputation in the local community and who we look forward to working with. The start date will be the 22nd February and we will be offering before and after school care. A registration form with all the details will be available from the office as of Monday the 15th February.

I would also like to thank the numerous parents, the school council and our beloved Kaitlin and Bev, for their feedback and work in this process, your voice has been invaluable.

PARENTS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

As we move to what is a new COVID normal we remind parents that they are allowed on the school grounds however are not allowed in classrooms. We ask that all parents visiting the office wear a mask and follow the 1 family at at time restrictions.

Beyond that – for example, when parents have attended for a prearranged meeting – visitors MUST sign in at the front office, to allow for contact tracing should it be needed. Our school gates will be locked at 9.00 am, so parents will need to have left the school grounds by this time. Similarly, they are locked at 3.30pm at the end of the day, so we ask that you leave before this time.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

These will be held in the school gym with our staff and students only at the moment, unfortunately due to Covid restrictions, parents will be unable to attend at this time. We will keep you posted when this changes. We are keen to have our whole community onsite to help celebrate the successes of our students however we have to balance this in the current climate. Fingers crossed this can change soon.

Valuable items brought to school

From time to time children are keen to bring personal items to school for their own use, or to share, or play with, with others. This could include electronic equipment, or toys that are valuable to the child, amongst other things. We do not encourage this practice, in fact we would ask children to leave these bits and pieces at home, and remind parents that all possessions are brought to school at the owner's risk – as there is no insurance or coverage for things which are lost or damaged.

Thank you again to the community for making me feel welcome, it has been great to chat in the yard and while on duty and I look forward to continuing to get to know you over the coming term.

Take care,
Paul Maisey
Acting Principal

UNIFORM SHOP

Open on Thursday Mornings from 8:30 until 9:30
or you can place an order at any time at the school office.

CANTEEN SALES

Zooper Dooper icy poles will be on sale Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays at lunchtime.

Cost 50c each.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Class	Student Name	Think Value	Reason
0A	All of Foundation A	EXCELLENCE RESILIENCE	For settling in well to the first 2 weeks of school and for trying their best.
0B	All of Foundation B	EXCELLENCE RESILIENCE	For settling in well to the first 2 weeks of school and for trying their best.
0C	All of Foundation C	EXCELLENCE RESILIENCE	For settling in well to the first 2 weeks of school and for trying their best.
12A	Valley Liam	COMMUNITY COMMUNITY	For settling in well to his new class and following the classroom expectations. For following classroom expectations and working quietly on set tasks.
1/2B	Harper & Marelle	COMMUNITY	For consistently demonstrating whole body listening and being hardworking members of our class.
1/2C	Peyton H	RESPECT	For consistently demonstrating whole body learning during class
1/2C	Azell	COMMUNITY	For contributing wonderful ideas during whole class discussions.
1/2D	Lanei	RESPECT	For being a considerate member of 1/2D who is always willing to help her peers.
1/2E	Addison & Malo	RESPECT	For demonstrating whole body learning during class
3/4A	Your Heh Tha Elina Burrniku	RESPECT EXCELLENCE	For always using fantastic manners when speaking to others. For putting a lot of effort into her work throughout the week.
3/4B	Stephanie & Angelina	RESPECT	Always using their manners in class.
	Ehren, Jarred & Ekam	COMMUNITY	Having a great start to Mossfiel Primary School.
3/4D	Imaan & Ta Eh	EXCELLENCE	For always being organised and prepared to learn in class.
5/6A	Shane Chase	COMMUNITY COMMUNITY	For showing leadership and support to his classmates in the first week of school. For supporting his classmates to be organised in the first week of school.
5/6B	Mayor & Ihaka	COMMUNITY	For being aware of their class mates offering them support and assistance when required.
5/6C	Tayla Nhi	COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE	For being a helpful and cooperative member of our class. For following all classroom expectations and regularly contributing valuable ideas to classroom discussions.
5/6D	Moe Riley & Anna	EXCELLENCE ALL 4 THINKS	For a positive start to grade 5 and trying his best to contribute ideas to our class discussions. For making a great start to the year and following all of our classroom expectations.
5/6E	Ella & James	ALL 4 THINKS	For being fantastic team members of our classroom, as well as working hard at all times.

THINK Excellence

THINK Respect

THINK Resilience

THINK Community

COMPASS

All families should have access to the Compass Portal we use at Mossfiel PS. If you do not have your login details, please contact the school office.

All school correspondence to our Mossfiel Community is uploaded on Compass. You have access to general information, excursion notes, newsletters, booking parent student teacher conferences and school reports. We do not use the attendance or events, consent & payment option at the moment.

Please see the QR code below to take you to the Compass Guide for parent & families.



SCHOOL TRAFFIC

Please obey these very important signs that are around the streets in our school. Our students safety depend on our families driving safely and keeping our children safe.

Ensure you park correctly and that your children are restrained in the appropriate car seats if applicable.



SWIMMING TRIALS

On Wednesday 10th February Year 3-6 swimming trials were held at Aquapulse. **Well done** to the students who participated in the trials. They all did an amazing job considering being 'out of the water' for most of last year. It was wonderful to see the enthusiasm and eagerness of the students. Congratulations to those who 'took the plunge' to try out!

A big Thank you to the parents who assisted at the pool.

Joanne Maclean

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Information for Parents about School Council below & nomination forms went onto Compass today.

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the broad direction of a school, in accordance with Ministerial Order 1280 Constitution of Government School Councils, and the Education and Training Reform Act 2006. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

For most primary school councils, there are several possible categories of membership:

- **A mandated elected parent member category** – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department employees can be parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.
- **A mandated elected school employee member category** – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- **An optional community member category** – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. Department employees are not eligible to be community members.
- A small number of school councils have **nominee members**.

For all schools with a Year 7 and above cohort, there is an additional category of membership:

- **A mandated elected student member category, two positions.**

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills and a range of experiences and knowledge that can help inform and shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

Each member brings their own valuable life skills and knowledge to the role. However, councillors may need to develop skills and acquire knowledge in areas that are unfamiliar to them. It is important to have an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

Code of conduct for school councillors

School councils in Victoria are public entities as defined by the *Public Administration Act 2004*.

School councillors must abide by the Code of Conduct for Directors of Victorian Public Entities issued by the Victorian Public Sector Commission. The Code of Conduct is based on the Victorian public sector values and requires councillors to:

- **act with honesty and integrity** – be truthful, open and clear about their motives and declare any real, potential or perceived conflict of interest and duty
- **act in good faith in the best interests of the school** – work cooperatively with other councillors and the school community, be reasonable, and make all decisions with the best interests of students foremost in their minds
- **act fairly and impartially** – consider all relevant facts of an issue before making a decision, seek to have a balanced view, never give special treatment to a person or group and never act from self-interest
- **use information appropriately** – respect confidentiality and use information for the purpose for which it was made available
- **exercise due care, diligence and skill** – accept responsibility for decisions and do what is best for the school
- **use the position appropriately** – not use the position as a councillor to gain an advantage
- **act in a financially responsible manner** – observe all the above principles when making financial decisions

- **comply with relevant legislation and policies** – know what legislation and policies are relevant for which decisions and obey the law
- **demonstrate leadership and stewardship** – set a good example, encourage a culture of accountability, manage risks effectively, exercise care and responsibility to keep the school strong and sustainable.

Indemnity for school council members

School councillors are indemnified against any liability in respect of any loss or damage suffered by the council or any other person in respect of anything necessarily or reasonably done, or omitted to be done by the councillor in good faith in:

- a. the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a councillor, or
- b. the reasonable belief that the act or omission was in the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a council.

In other words, school councillors are not legally liable for any loss or damage suffered by council or others as a result of reasonable actions taken in good faith.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to participate in and vote in the school council elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider:

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual timeline has been varied by the Minister for Education.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the parent member category.

Department employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work, are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt via post, email or by hand following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

- Consider standing for election to school council.
- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do.
- Be sure to vote if the election goes to ballot.
- Contact the principal for further information.

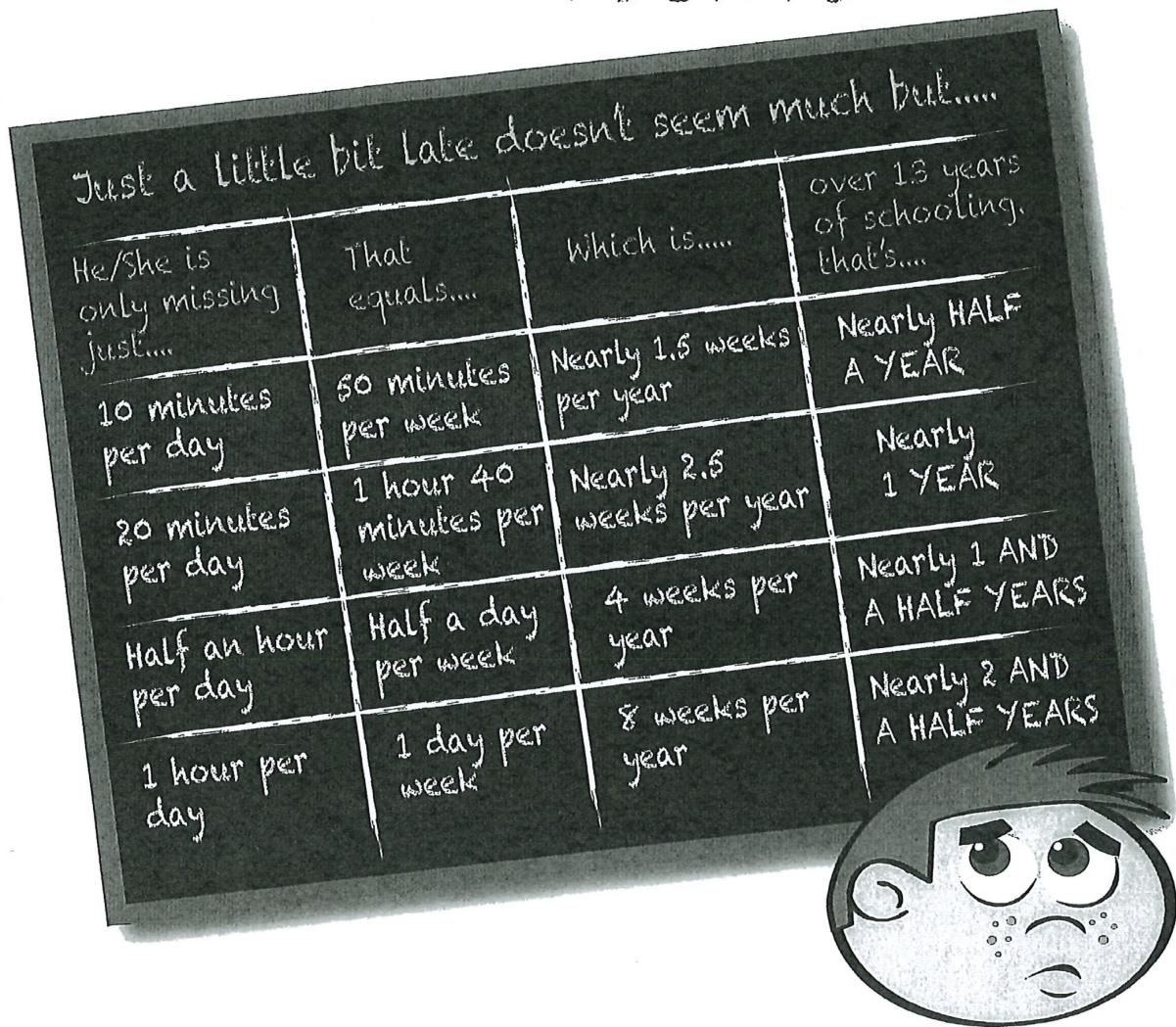
ATTENDANCE

ARRIVE ON TIME



Department of Education and
Early Childhood Development

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS



Did you know your child's best learning time is the start of the school day?



That's when every minute counts the most!

LIBRARY

~ Library Welcome 2021 ~

All students have now had the opportunity to visit the library and borrow for their classroom libraries. From Monday 8 February, all students will have the opportunity to begin their personal borrowing. They will visit the library once a week to borrow a book/s of their choice. Students in F-4 can borrow 1 book, and 2 books for our year 5-6 students. If a student has an overdue book they cannot borrow another book so please encourage your child to return their book/s to school each week, before their next library lesson.

We also have a school rule of;

NO BAG...  NO BORROW...

Please send a suitable library bag to school if your child does not have one. A shopping bag is fine if you don't have a library bag. Please ensure their name is on it. From time to time you may receive an overdue notice. Please search at home for the book and if the book is found return it to school. If you cannot find it please ask your child or child's teacher to also search their classroom. If it is still lost, you may have to pay for the lost book so that your child can begin borrowing again.

Mossfiel is a Premiers Reading Challenge school, please keep an eye on the newsletter for information regarding the PRC later in the year.