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Newsletter



Great Art work in the foyer to "sail" into first term.

Budding young artists at work

Portland Bay School's Cadbury Chocolate 10kg Easter Raffle School Fundraiser



\$2-00 per ticket
or 3 for \$5-00.

Tickets available from families, staff or the school office. Please contact, 03 5523 2218 in need.

*Money raised will be allocated to our
Michael Ward Memorial Fund.*

Raffle drawn Wednesday 27th March 2024 at our last School Assembly.

Good luck and get your tickets quick.



Next week events

Term 1

Friday 1st Mar.

Week

Monday 4th Mar.
Surfing S2 and P4

Tuesday 5th Mar.
Surfing S3 and S1

Wednesday 6th Mar.
Swimming

Thursday 7th Mar.

Friday 8th Mar.

From the Acting Principals Desk:

How hard it is to believe that we are already at the mid-way mark of the first term. It won't be long, and we will be thinking about the lead into Easter. This week we held our first **Student Support Group Meetings**. It was great to see so many families able to accommodate a face-to-face meeting which allowed for some great conversations and planning around student learning goals. If you have not yet had an SSG for your child, please contact their classroom teacher asap. It is mandated that all students receiving funding have at least one SSG meeting a term.

If you have been into the school building of late you may have noticed a **giant block of Cadbury's chocolate**. This delicious offering is part of a **raffle to raise funds for the Michael Ward Memorial Fund**. Michael was a past student who attended Portland Bay School. Every year two students are chosen through a process of nominations and voting to receive an award and prize in Michael's name. I am doing my best to ensure the staff don't nibble at the edges of this incredible prize but suggest you get in fast if you want to take part and have a chance to win.

This past Friday the **Student Representative Council** met again. It was wonderful to hear about the learning that has been taking place across the school, particularly the feedback around the Little Learners Love Literacy program.

"The work was pretty hard, but I got used to it." – Oscar P1

"I liked reading books." – Aiden P3

"I liked hearing stories." – Jacon P4

"I liked meeting new people in the groups." – Mikybie P4

The primary school members of the SRC have also been learning a lot in maths; from counting and number recognition in the lower primary grades, through to skip counting in the senior primary classes. The secondary school have been busy attending work placements and learning about the dangers of smoking and vaping. Over the coming weeks we will showcase one of our SRC representatives in more detail. Meet Ashley Turley in today's newsletter.



Many students at Portland Bay School are required to take **medication** for a range of purposes. It is important that medication coming to school is clearly labelled with the correct name and dosage requirements. Families are asked to complete a medication permission form for each medication that a student takes. Medications being transported to school should not be placed into student's school bags, they should be either handed to the classroom teacher directly, the office or the bus chaperone where appropriate. Obviously when a child is moving onto a new medication there is a risk of adverse side effects. For this reason, we recommend that the first dose of any medication be administered at home. It is also vital that medical plans such as those for asthma or epilepsy are regularly updated and current.

Just a reminder that **School Council nominations close on Friday March the 1st**. There is still time to get a nomination form in. School Council meets around 8 times a year and being a member provides an opportunity to have your say on a range of school-based decisions. The nomination forms for School Council were attached to last weeks newsletters or can be collected from the front office.

Have a marvellous weekend, Rebecca Jones - Acting Principal.

PHOTOGRAPHING, FILMING AND RECORDING STUDENTS AT PORTLAND BAY SCHOOL - CONSENT FORM

There are many occasions during the school year when staff photograph, film or record students participating in school activities or events. We do this for many reasons including to celebrate student participation and achievement, showcase learning programs, document a student's learning journey/camps/excursions/sports events etc, communicate with our parents and school community in newsletters, etc].

Our **Photographing, Filming and Recording Students Policy** describes how we will collect and use photographs, video and recordings (images) of students. The policy also explains when parent/carer consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn.

Please note there are uses of images that do not require consent. These include curriculum-based activities (i.e. class work), identity management, managing behavioural and safety incidents, to support a student's health and wellbeing, and to provide individual feedback or communication to a student, their parents/carers and/or school staff. If you have any concerns about the use of photographs in our school, for example, due to safety or cultural reasons, please contact the school office or School Principal on 0355232218 or via email at portland.bay.sch@education.vic.gov.au

The new 2024 forms have been sent home with students, please complete the forms at your earliest convenience and return signed to the school. Thank you in advance.

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday to the following student who celebrates his birthday over the next week.

Locky Boyd-Townley - 4th Mar.

And the following staff

D'arne Morabito - 26th Feb

Rod Phillips - 7th Mar.

We hope you all enjoy your days

OUR SCHOOL STANDS UP FOR INCLUSION + DIVERSITY

SAFE SCHOOLS

THE EDUCATION STATE

VICTORIA Education and Training

Don't forget to be Sun Smart this season. Portland Bay School is a SunSmart school.

Slip Slop Slap Seek Slide



Code Red Fire Danger Season.

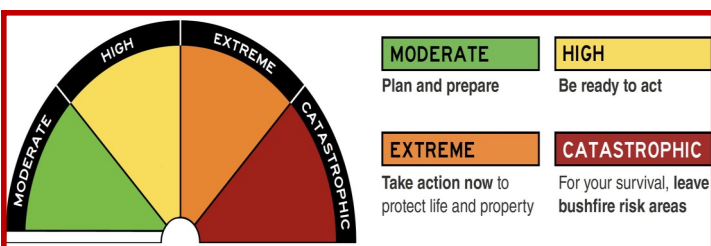
Portland Bay School is classified as a high-risk school on Code Red days.

Code Red days are the highest risk days and are fairly rare.

This means that the school will be closed when Code Red days are called in the South West Fire District.

Usually we will be notified the day before this happens so we will be able to notify parents, carers, students and staff in a timely way.

Parents will be notified either by newsletter, email, text message or via our Facebook page depending on the timing of the authorities calling a Code Red Day.



Upcoming calendar events

2024 Term 1

Monday 11th March

Labour Day Public Holiday

Friday 29th March to Friday 12th April

Good Friday public holiday and 1st day of school holidays. 2 weeks.

Term 2

Monday 15th April

1st day of Term 2

Thursday 18th April

Interschool Cross Country—Warrnambool

Wednesday 24th April

Fruit Fun Run 2pm, more information will follow closer to date.

Thursday 25th April

ANZAC Day Public Holiday

Tuesday 30th April

School Photos

Wednesday 1st May

GRIP Leadership Mt Gambier (selected students)

Friday 7th June

Curriculum Day - No students to attend school

Monday 10th June March

Kings Birthday Public Holiday

Friday 28th June

Last day of Term 2.

Monday 1st July to Friday 12th July

School Holidays 2 weeks.

Term 3

Monday 15th July

1st Day of School

Friday 26th July

Winter Series Sports—Warrnambool

Friday 9th August

Curriculum Day - No students to attend school



Community Announcements



FREE ONLINE WORKSHOP
PARENTING 101: BRINGING BACK THE FUN
 PRESENTED BY ANDY MCNEILLY

Where has all the fun gone? Through our life journeys, we enjoy having fun.

Spending time together telling stories, playing, and laughing, are some of the joys of being alive. It is through these fun times together as a family that we form strong, connected, and loving relationships. But the busyness of life can often get in the way.

As adults, we can find ourselves distracted with all those so-called important tasks we need to do. This fun-filled online workshop will leave parents and carers with simple strategies and reminders to take home and use immediately, needing little resources. We'll talk about the importance of building strong, connected relationships, and some of the challenges our children are facing. This online workshop will offer suggestions to help us to remove some of the barriers that get in the way and to create some time to spend with our loved ones.

MONDAY 4 MARCH

Online workshop
 7.30pm-9.00pm

BOOKINGS

Scan the QR code or visit
geelongcity.vic.gov.au/232888095304052

This is a free event but bookings are essential.



Do you feel safe at home? Did you know our staff at school can help you make discreet contact with services? Always ready to help.

Emma House

SINCE 1979

Domestic & Family Violence Service

Emma House is a not-for-profit organisation providing free services to victim survivors in South West Victoria.

Interpreter and National Hearing Services are Available

WARRNAMBOOL • PORTLAND • HAMILTON
 TERANG • CAMPERDOWN

Emergency Numbers

Police 000

24 Hours Statewide 1800 015 188

Response Service

A state wide 24/7 service providing women and their children with information, advocacy, referral and emergency accommodation.

Sexual Assault Crisis Line 1800 806 292

Respect 1800 737 732

1800 366 238

131-133 Kepler Street Warrnambool, VIC 3280

Phone: (03) 5561 1934

Open: Monday - Friday, 9am to 5pm

emmahouse.org.au

Find us on our Facebook "Portland Bay School".



ONLINE SAFETY

(Adapted from www.thinkyouknow.org.au)

What you can do to help keep your kids safe online...

- Always supervise your child when they are online
- Encourage your child to identify trusted adults who can help.

It's never too early to start teaching young children about technology and online safety. The early learning resource Playing IT Safe can help you do this.

Playing IT Safe is a free resource developed for young children. It includes a series of play-based activities that children can play at home with parents and carers to help learn about safety online. You can access Playing IT Safe at <http://www.playingitsafe.org.au>

Portland Bike and Skate

Come along to Libraries After Dark at the Portland Library on Thursday 14 March at 6pm to learn about:

- Parts of a bike
- the ABC's of basic bike maintenance - Air/Brakes/Chain
- Types of bikes and suitability
- Sizing a bike for you

Perfect timing to help you get your bike ready for Beats Cycle for Hope on Sunday 17 March at 9am