

Little River Primary School Newsletter

Term 1 – Week 1

Respect, Responsibility, Understanding & Inclusion, High Expectations.

Principal's Report

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! It was so nice to see so many happy and smiling faces walk into our school Tuesday morning. All classes have started brilliantly with no issues at all. Students are settled and have begun learning already.

There is **NO ASSEMBLY** this week, rather a Meet and Greet the teacher BBQ after school.

Congratulations to our Prep students who began their school life this week. Wow, haven't they made an amazing effort. They already have their buddies, they are settled and ready to learn!



Welcome!

Welcome Mr Puddefoot and Miss Snow. Both our new staff members have made an outstanding start with their new school. We wish them all the best, but we already know they both have so much to give our students.

This year we will have some School Council vacancies. Should you wish to consider being on School Council, please either contact myself or our current President, Jacqui Dyson via Jacqui.Dyson@education.vic.gov.au



Upcoming Events

Every Day



Please remember to wear your hat
Hats available to purchase from the office

Friday 2nd February

Meet and Greet your teacher and our staff



This Friday, 2nd February we will be holding a Meet and Greet afternoon so that families can catch up with their child's / children's teachers. The afternoon will commence at 3:30pm and conclude around 4:30pm, BBQ sausages will be available to purchase for \$2.50 each. All monies raised will go straight back into the school and spent on your children.

Friday 2nd February

NO BREAKFAST CLUB or ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK

School parking



A reminder to all families that when you're dropping off and picking up your child / children, please don't ask them to run across the road to your vehicles. We do not have a crossing person and the speed hump outside the school is certainly not a pedestrian walkway.


Attendance at school in 2024

At the beginning of every year, I like to show this attendance visual below. It speaks volumes! We know that 'every day counts' at school for our students. The below graphic spells it out for you in no uncertain terms. If your family are intending on taking a family holiday during school term this year, I encourage you to meet with myself prior to ensure that the time away from school is minimised as best as can be. I appreciate your support!

EVERY DAY COUNTS ...
A day here or there doesn't seem like much but ...

When your child misses just ...	that equals...	which is...	and therefore, from Prep to Year 12, that is ...	This means the best your child can achieve is ...
1 day a fortnight	20 days a year	4 weeks of school	Nearly 1½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 11
1 day a week	40 days a year	8 weeks of school	Over 2½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 10
2 days a week	80 days a year	16 weeks of school	Over 5 years of learning of learning	Equal to finishing Year 7
3 days a week	120 days a year	24 weeks of school	Over 8 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 4

Give your child every chance to succeed ...



Bushfire At – Risk Register and Category 4



Little River Primary School has been identified as being a Category 4 School which is in a high grassfire risk area.

This means that our school will **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating** in the **Central fire district**.

The department will advise our school of the potential for a **Catastrophic fire danger rating** as information becomes available, however the pre-emptive closure will be **confirmed by the department 1pm the day prior to Catastrophic fire danger day**.

Fire danger ratings are forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology up to four days in advance. Should a Catastrophic day be forecast, we will notify you of the potential closure by an email or Sentral message.

Families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan on Catastrophic fire danger rating days. **On such days, children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Catastrophic days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Catastrophic day.



Time to Celebrate

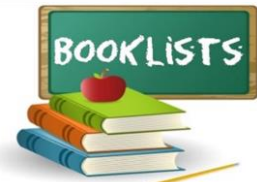
Happy Birthday to these students for their Birthdays in the month of January

Evie R, Ryan S, Harley, Arthur, Winnie, Bryon, Judd Mason R, Wyatt C, Marcus, Evie W.

Happy Birthday to these students for their Birthdays in the month of February

Brax, Jordyn, Iyla, Nash, Braxi, Hamish T.

We hope you enjoy your special day with family. From everyone in the Little River community



2024 Parent Payment arrangements

Are you still considering making a voluntary contribution to the school? It's not too late!

In 2024 we seek the support of our wonderful families in making a voluntary contribution towards the items listed on the booklists.

We would also like to express our sincere thanks all the families that have already made a voluntary contribution to support the school when ordering their child's book pack.

What are voluntary contributions?

Voluntary contributions towards items such as Reading Eggs, Mathletics, Mathseeds, allows the school to continue to provide these subscriptions to our students for use both at school and at home.

Mathseeds, Mathletics \$25.00, Reading Eggs \$30.00.

Voluntary contributions towards ICT devices allows the school to continue to provide 1:1 devices for all students across all year levels as without this support this would not be possible.

Prep-Grade 3 \$50.00 Grade 4-Grade 6 \$100.00

How can I contribute?

If you would like to contribute, you can do so through the office or via Direct deposit into the school's account. If you would like more information, please drop into the office during office hours 8.30am to 4.00pm.



Financial Assistance INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

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

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.

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 for primary school students in 2024 per student is: \$150.00.

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form.

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.

- **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.**

CSEF Forms can be collected from the office during office hours of 8.30 am – 4.00pm or a copy can be emailed to you upon request.

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE

Schools support eligible families to receive financial assistance with the cost of transporting students to and from school where the student:

- lives in rural and regional Victoria and attends their nearest appropriate school/campus or
- attends an eligible specialist school.

The conveyance allowance is a contribution towards transport costs and is not intended to cover the full cost of transporting children to and from school.

ELIGIBILITY

An application on behalf of a student may be submitted if the student is:

- a Victorian resident;
- School aged and enrolled (3) three or more days per week at a school; and
- attending a school/campus located outside the Melbourne metropolitan conveyance boundary.

A student who meets the above requirements may be eligible if they:

- attend their nearest or designated neighbourhood government school/campus appropriate to their year level, at which admission is permissible, and
- **reside 4.8km or more by the shortest practicable route from the campus attended**

If a student changes residential address, a new application must be made and assessed against all criteria.

The allowance is paid each term and can be either paid direct to the family at the end of each term or placed on the family's school account each term and used throughout the year for any school activity.

HOW TO APPLY

All families who meet the eligibility criteria should contact the office to collect a 2024 application form.

Those families that received the allowance in 2023 must also complete a new application form.

Conveyance Allowance application forms can be collected from the office between office hours of 8.30am and 4.00pm or a copy can be emailed to you upon request.

WHAT IF MY CHILD IS FEELING UNWELL?

If your child shows symptoms of COVID-19, please ensure they stay home and get tested. The easiest way to test is to use a rapid antigen test (RAT).

We have RATs available at our school for collection.

Free RATs are available from your local council where you can collect 2 packs of 5 RATs and an extra 2 packs for each person in your household. People with disability and their carers can get 4 packs of 5 RATs. You are not required to have a Medicare card and you can collect RATs as many times as you need. You can also buy RATs at supermarkets, pharmacies and other retailers.

If your child has symptoms but tests negative, please ensure they stay home until they no longer have symptoms.

If the RAT test result is positive, please ensure they stay home for at least 5 days and until there are no more symptoms.

Thank you for your support - these steps will help us all stay well.

ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKES

FEBRUARY 13TH 2024
TUESDAY @ 6PM
CHRIST CHURCH
ROTHWELL RD, LITTLE RIVER

\$10

PER PERSON

\$25

FAMILIES

DELICIOUS FOOD WITH FRIENDS
GLUTEN FREE AVAILABLE