

BULLETIN



East Bentleigh
Primary School

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Phone 9570 3525

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Term 2/ Week 6 : 2 Jun 2022

SCHOOL VISION: East Bentleigh Primary School provides a rich, inviting, child-focused environment ensuring that all students feel safe and stimulated. Our students are able to achieve their full academic, creative and social potential, equipped for the challenges of lifelong learning. Students develop into healthy and confident individuals, actively contributing to the world in which they live.

At East Bentleigh Primary School we are committed to child safety.

Hello everyone,

Prep Pick Up time Change

As our first taste of real winter weather hit us this week, I realised that parents of preppies who have older siblings were waiting huddled under umbrellas waiting till 3.30 pm for their older child to be dismissed.

As of Monday next week ALL students will be dismissed at 3.30pm to avoid any unnecessary waiting for parents.

Staff Absences

Over the past two weeks, the 'perfect storm' of COVID and flu transmission has meant a larger than usual number of teachers and ES staff have been forced to stay home. This is a scenario that is being replicated across the 1500 odd government schools throughout Victoria, meaning that our usual sources of replacement staff is also very stretched to the point of having none available. Your child may come home saying that their class was 'split' or they were taught by a different teacher to their own over some days. Whilst I acknowledge that this is a far from perfect situation, I hope that parents understand that we are doing the best we can to minimise disruption to our children.

Illness Management

For the health of our school community, it is vital that we keep illnesses contained. Influenza and other viruses can spread quickly among students and staff, especially as we head into winter.

It is vital that sick children are not sent to school.

What do we mean by sick? If your child:

- * is suffering from a persistent runny nose (for more than one hour);
- * has an upset tummy – with pains and complaining or showing signs of being uncomfortable;
- * complains of a sore throat (a throat that is red on examination of the back of the throat);
- * has a fever higher than 37.9;
- * has vomited at home, please keep your child home from school for a full 24 hours from the last vomit;
- * has had diarrhoea within the last 24 hours;
- * requires Panadol or Nurofen before attending school for a headache, sore throat, body aches and pains or fever; they are sick and should NOT be at school.



If your child needs to go home due to illness, please make sure you have someone on call if you yourself cannot leave work to pick up them. All unwell students need to be collected from school within a reasonable timeframe (within an hour of being called). If this is impractical, please make arrangements with family or friends to be on call for the school to contact.

Please take the time to discuss personal hygiene with your child. Remind children to cover their mouth and nose in their elbow when they cough or sneeze, dispose of any tissues in the bin and wash their hands with soap properly and regularly. With your diligence, we can contain illnesses. More information about the full return to school and Coronavirus (COVID-19) can be found on the Department's website, which will continue to be updated: <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/education-information-about-coronavirus-covid-19>

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Mid Winter Festival

A reminder that this wonderful annual festival held as close to the winter solstice as possible ie the shortest day of the year, will be held on **Tuesday 21st June, starting at 5.00pm.**

It is a simple festival during which the children from Grades P-3 all carry a simple lantern with a lighted candle to symbolise the returning of the light as the days grow longer and warmer once again. The children love walking around the grounds with their parents and classmates, singing songs together and then drinking a cup of soup. As I said it is a very simple festival but one which the children really enjoy.

All the children and teachers from Prep to Year 3 across the school are invited to attend. This year warming soup will need to be supplied by each family and enjoyed 'picnic style' outside (or in the hall if extremely inclement) in order to comply with physical distancing requirements.

This is a delightful community event and it is always enjoyed by all who take part. Even if it is raining, most people still turn up rugged up in their winter coats, hats, gloves and sturdy shoes. I encourage our families to attend.



Mid Year Reports/ Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher interviews for all classes will be held on Monday 20th June, via Webex beginning at 2:00pm. Children will be at school during this time and will be involved in a tabloid sports type activity.

Teachers have been working hard on finalising the children's reports and administration staff members have been busy grappling with the ongoing technical elements involved. I hope that all parents read carefully the information provided in these documents as it will be useful to children and parents alike in setting realistic and challenging goals for the future. The children's individual written reports will be coming home on Wednesday 15th June.

Sibling Enrolments for Prep 2023

Can you believe that we are well into our planning for enrolments for 2023? We know that there are a number of siblings due to begin their primary journey with us next year. *If this applies to you, please come into the office to collect an enrolment form as soon as possible, or download it from our school website.*

Until next time.....Maria Shearn - Principal



East Bentleigh Primary School acknowledges Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognises the continuing connection to lands, waters and communities. We pay our respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and to Elders both past and present.

