Newham Primary School No. 1913
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Newsletter 4 Thursday 27th February 2020

From the Principal's Desk

Hello Everyone!

Thank you to all the families and friends of Newham Primary School who came along to the Welcome BBQ on Tuesday night. Fortunately the weather cleared which made for a damp but pleasant evening of good company and conversation.

P-2 room rugs

Each of the P-2 classes now has a new rug at the front of their room. These exciting new additions have a dual purpose, they are big enough to comfortably seat all the students in many different arrangements and because the design is actually mathematical tens frames they are huge physical maths supports for counting activities. If you haven't yet seen them, please come in and take a look. They are truly hands-on (bottoms-on?) maths!

Assembly

We hope parents are enjoying the new seating format at assembly, we know from conversation that the students are feeling better about their new seating arrangements. We would however like to encourage parents to move around to the back of the year 5/6 class, which can be accessed by coming in through the double outside doors. You will be able to see much better from that vantage point. Coming in the front door of the school will bring you to the standing room area, we will move the yellow tables to ensure there is enough space. This spot is more to the side of the assembly now.

Car Park

It has been reported to the office that there have been a couple of scary moments with kids and cars in the car park recently. I would like to remind all parents that children need to be escorted through the car park by an adult. For students leaving the school grounds and crossing the car park entrance, there is a teacher on duty to escort unaccompanied children, it is expected that parents/carers collecting their children will escort them to their cars themselves. Getting into and out of vehicles has also been an issue with children running around and between cars unseen. Could parents turning into/ leaving the car park please do so at 10kmph as signposted at the front of the school. The safety of all children is of utmost importance.

Classroom door

1/2 A was unlucky enough on the second day of school for their classroom door to break. Of course the repairers arrived and then realised that the part that broke is a tricky one that had to be a special order. Rest assured that the door is still usable in an emergency, just in general use it could trap fingers and therefore is best kept closed for the moment. The repair technician will be here on Friday.

Parents & Friends

This week at school council we recognised the hard work and effort the Parents and Friends group put into raising money for the school over 2019. I would sincerely like to thank them and all the families for supporting them. The money raised by Parents and Friends went toward library books in our new library spaces and the beautiful blue shade sail over the playground. Every amount raised whether big or small, is always appreciated and gets us a little closer to our goal. Please consider supporting Parents and Friends in 2020.

Student Term Dates for 2020
Term 1: 29 January-27 March
Term 2: 14 April-26 June
Term 3: 13 July-18 September
Term 4: 5 October-18 December

Diary Dates

PLEASE NOTE NEWLY ADDED EVENTS ARE BOLD	
28th February	**P&F AGM 9am**
28th February	**Crazy Hat Day, gold coin donation**
28th February	**Empathy Project Performance 2pm, Prep-3**
2nd March	**CDSSA Volleyball**
3rd & 10th March	**Ride Nation Incursion, Years 4/5/6**
9th March	**Labour Day Public Holiday**
12th March	**Whole School Morning Tea**
16th March	**Harmony Week Incursion**
18th March	**Labcoat Learning Incursion: The Sci-**
27th March	**End of Term 1, 2:30pm**

Crazy hat Day

Crazy Hat Day is tomorrow so don't forget to wear your craziest hat and bring a gold coin donation to support the frog bog.

Cubby House

Thank you to local parents who said they would be happy to 'neighbourhood watch' our playground after school and on the weekends. When a school is in the middle of a township, of course the community may use the grounds for four square, basketball or walk through on their way to the multipurpose court etc. The majority of people passing through the school ground out of hours are very respectful of the buildings and grounds, however we are specifically concerned with who may be using our cubby house as a meeting place. I have taken to checking the cubby in the mornings, to ensure it is clean and tidy for student use. Please inform the school if you see the cubby being used out of hours by anyone who may be treating it disrespectfully.

Homework Policy

During our 3 way conversations and through the class newsletters staff have been chatting to parents about homework expectations. The Department of Education has provided schools with a homework policy which is included in this newsletter and available on our school website under Parent Information/Document Library. Staff will be guided by this document to set homework according to the learning currently being undertaken in the classrooms. If at any stage your child requires further support with what is expected, please see your child's teacher.

From the Principal's Desk

School Camps for 2020

This week school council confirmed the dates for our school camps. For the sake of staff and their organisation it is wonderful to have the dates confirmed so early.

This year because the classes are configured differently to what has gone before and there is an emphasis in our learning on the collaboration of the 4/5 and 5/6 class, the camps will mimic the same format. This will ensure that the learning experiences coming from the camp can be better aligned to the follow up learning in the classroom. Therefore the camps will be as follows.

Years 4/5/6 will visit Camp Wyuna (Queenscliff) for a maritime experience on the 18th - 20th May inclusive.

Year 3 will be visiting Sovereign Hill for a night of stepping back into history on 16th – 17th July inclusive.

And lastly P-2 will be having a Dinner (Prep) / Sleepover (1/2s) here at school on 16th October and because this is the experience mostly likely to be rain affected we have also got a back-up date of 30th October should the 16th prove impossible.

Please watch out for messages in uEducateUs and the newsletter as these dates draw nearer.

Sustainability team

As soon as our order of sustainability badges arrive we will present them to our Sustainability team. Please watch the newsletter for further information.

Leadership opportunities

Other student leadership opportunities haven't been forgotten and there are staff currently working on a system.

ICT beyond 2020

This year Newham Primary school staff, school council, parents and students will be invited to participate in surveys and discussions on the way forward with our ICT program. The provision of ICT technologies is one of the biggest and most complex in a school and the organisation around repairs and maintenance absorbs copious amounts of staff time that should be spent on teaching and learning . It is therefore important to gather a full picture of the ICT needs of students and staff at Newham and with input from school families, we wish to develop a suitable ICT program to support teaching and learning. We will draw upon the expertise and experiences of schools within our Network to help us develop our strategy ready for 2021. This is our opportunity for improvement and it does not mean that we will be without computers, rather we hope to make better use of our resources in the delivery of our program. We would appreciate your input so please look out for further information as we get into March.

Notices/Reminders

Help Required Please

We are in need of parent volunteers to put the old shade sail cloth into the school skip so that it can be removed and to take a metal drum and tree branches to the transfer station please. If you are able to assist with either of these tasks please contact the office.

Acknowledgement

Thank you to Liz and Scott for the donation of sandpit toy sets, they are much appreciated.

Volunteer Guidelines

This document was included in last week's newsletter and is available on the school website: http://www.newhamps.vic.edu.au/?page_id=221

Notices/Reminders

School Events

Just a friendly reminder that permission to attend **any** school event must be made through uEducateUs by the due date. All families will be given sufficient time to make payments for excursions and camps, and will be provided with permission forms and excursion information that clearly states payment finalisation dates.

Due to planning purposes, including venues that require numbers of students attending and DET compliance requirements, children whose consent and payment that have not been finalised at least 24 hours prior to the departure date will **not be allowed to attend** unless alternative payment arrangements have been organised with the Principal/Business Manager. Payment on the day of an event can no longer be accepted. For health and safety purposes the school cannot allow students to leave the school grounds without receiving consent.

If you are having trouble using uEducateUs to provide consent, please contact the office before the due date. Thank you for your understanding.

Emergency Management

In the event of a fire or other incident nearby, the school will notify parents via uEducateUs in accordance with our Emergency Management plan. This means that notifications will go out when the weather, risk and fire danger require us to act. Please do not contact the school during such situations unless absolutely necessary as we require phone lines to be free to be in touch with emergency services. It is highly recommended that parents download the Vic Emergency app. The Vic Emergency App clearly shows the location of the incident and it's status.

The Bureau of Meteorology radar is also useful for wind direction displays. Please make yourself familiar with our Bushfire Management Plan and Code Red Procedures which have been in previous school newsletters and are also available on our school website.

On severe fire danger days and in the event of fire activity in the local area, families are to enact their fire plan and decide whether to keep children at home under the supervision of parents, leave children at school in our care or collect them immediately. Enacting this Fire Plan should take place at the earliest possible time.

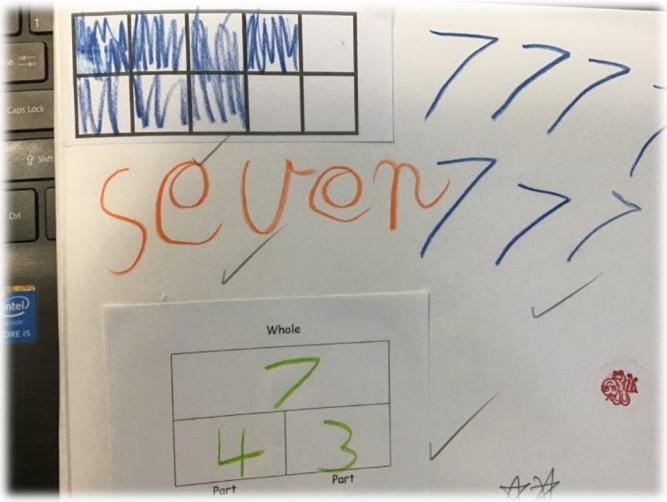
Reusable Lunch Order Bags

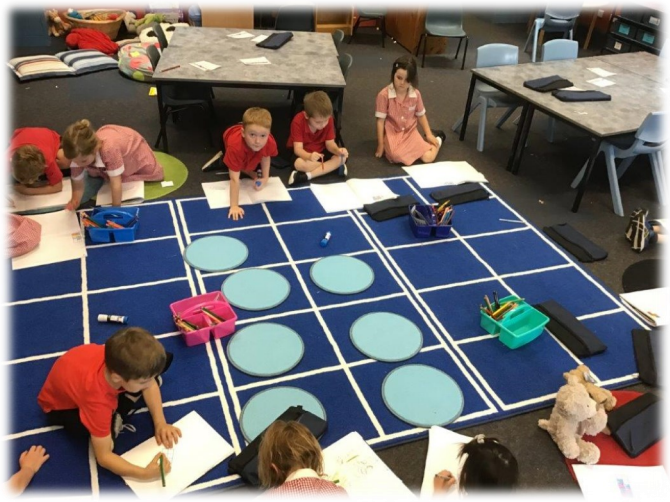
Designed to replace paper lunch bags when ordering from the general store.
Holds more food than paper bags and they don't rip.
Sturdy flat base makes them easy to pack and stack.
Made from non woven polypropylene (like green shopping bags) as it is durable and easy to clean.
Clear pocket with zipper for money & written lunch order to be clearly displayed
Lunch wallets available now with 8 bright binding colours.
Fastens into a wallet when in a closed position
Reduces paper waste.
Extremely easy to wipe clean with a damp cloth.
Hygienic zipper pocket to separate money from contact with food.

Clear pocket to display name & class
Pocket size colours may vary.
Size of lunch wallet is approximately 23cm (H) x 18cm (W) x 10cm (D).
Also come in an insulated version—All Rounders.
To order go to www.stickybeaks.com.au

Junior Unit News

In early Maths, we use a wide range of resources to keep it fun and hands on. We show students different ways they can record their mathematical findings and introduce simplified concepts which later build to become mathematical operations. For example, splitting a tower of blocks into two parts (part, part, whole) is the simplified version of addition and subtraction. The tens frame helps to develop the concept of number which later leads to skip counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and also models number facts to 10, 20 ad 30.





Kitchen Garden News

In Garden, we weeded the fruit trees in the orchard then fertilised, mulched and watered them. After that, we espaliered them by pruning and tying the branches to the wire. This helps them grow in the right shape.
Charlotte & Shakira

Happy Birthday to the following people who are celebrating a birthday:

Lillian

School Wide Positive Behaviours

Over the coming week students will have their say on what they believe are minor and major behaviour issues. Year 3 – 6 will do this through a survey and class discussion. Prep – 2's will complete this through a class discussion and pictures. This information will assist the SWBPS team to develop the next essential feature of the program.

We are using our 'buzz phrases' throughout the school to help students remember our expectations. Below is a puzzle for you to do with your children at home to help them learn ways to show our expectations at home and school.

Link the school expectation with the correct Buzz Phrase and a home expectation with each Buzz Phrase.

At School	Buzz Phrase	At Home
When I go to the office, I always thank Iona or Sharon for helping me.	I'm great, I wait	When I'm asked to put my dish in the sink, I stand up quickly and put my plate on the sink.
At the Blue Slide, I always wait for the person in front of me to slide down before I do.	First time, every time	When I ask for a drink at home, I always say please and thank you.
When the teacher asks the class to start packing up, I stop what I am doing and start to pack up.	Manners matter	At the Newham Park, I quietly wait for someone else to hop off the swing, so I can have a turn.

The Empathy Project (for Prep-Year 3 Students)

Newham Primary School students have been offered an exciting opportunity to take part in a 5 week pilot program by Musical Sprouts that uses music and theatre to explore emotions and self-regulation as a foundation for empathy, respectful relationships and gender equity.

Funded by VicHealth, the program includes a cutting edge musical theatre show developed by professional artists with an eye for education and a resource for teachers that will unpack the show's themes over 4 weeks. One of the artists is Sharni Page, a Newham Primary parent, performer and therapeutic practitioner who employs psychotherapy techniques to engage children in exploring emotions using their bodies, imagination and role play.

She has combined her knowledge of children's developmental processes with her artistry, and together with Bridget a'Beckett, rising Samoan star Michael Logo and directed by Jolyon James (Robot Song, Helpmann Award Winner 2018) has created an experience for children they won't forget. Featuring beatboxing, interactive flowers and 3 part harmony singing, this musical will delight children as well as educate them, and offer parents and teachers a new angle to discuss emotions with their children.

We invite all parents/carers of Prep to Grade 3 students along to this first ever performance on Friday Feb 28th at 2pm at the school.

NEWHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline to students, parents/carers and school staff Newham Primary School's expectations for homework and at-home learning.

SCOPE

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting homework.

POLICY

Newham Primary School acknowledges that homework should be tailored and adapted to suit the personal and developmental needs of students.

Teachers at Newham Primary School are encouraged to exercise their discretion in assigning tasks that are appropriate for their students and most likely to be meaningful. This may comprise of reading, phonics, writing, spelling, numeracy practice exercises or curriculum extension assignments.

Prep to Year 4

In the early years, the objective of homework should be to practise and consolidate the concepts that have been introduced during class time. It is also intended to introduce the concepts of self-discipline and responsibility and prepare them for the upper grades.

Assigned homework tasks will build on concepts explored in the classroom and encourage students to use their initiative by gathering additional information or materials.

Homework will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, or by parents/carer or older siblings.

Students are generally not expected to complete more than 30 minutes of homework per day and no homework tasks will be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

Year 5 to Year 6

In the upper year levels, the objective of homework is to build on the concepts of self-discipline, responsibility and initiative to prepare students for secondary school.

Assigned homework tasks will include daily independent reading and may include extension assignments, class work, essays and research.

Students are generally not expected to spend more than 45 minutes per day on homework and no homework tasks will be assigned over the weekends or during the holidays.

*This policy is written in consultation with DET Guidelines.

NPS Homework Policy

Shared expectations and responsibilities

Homework is a shared responsibility between the school, teachers, students and their parents/carers. In order to get the most out of homework tasks, it is important that everyone understands their obligations and responsibilities.

Newham Primary School will support students by:

- fostering lifelong learning and connecting families with the learning of their children, as part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum within Victorian schools
- ensuring the school's homework policy is relevant to the needs of students
- advising parents/carers of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and providing them with a copy of the homework policy
- encouraging parents/carers of early primary school aged children to read to and with their children for enjoyment
- ensuring that upper primary students use homework diaries to provide a regular communication between parents and the school.

Teachers at Newham Primary School will:

- equip students with the skills to solve problems
- encourage real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination
- set varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs
- give students enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- assess homework and provide timely and practical feedback and support
- help students develop organisational and time-management skills
- ensure parents/carers are aware of the school's homework policy
- develop strategies within the school to support parents and carers becoming active partners in homework
- offer a wide range of opportunities for families to engage in their children.

It is expected that students will take responsibility for their own learning by:

- being aware of the school's homework policy
- discussing with their parents/carers homework expectations
- accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames
- following up on comments made by teachers
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities and part-time employment.

It is expected that parents/carers will support their children by:

- developing a positive and productive approach to homework
- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational activities
- reading to them, talking with them and involving them in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- attending the school events, productions or displays their child is involved in
- ensuring upper primary students keep a homework diary
- discussing homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to previous experiences
- linking homework and other learning activities to the families' culture, history and language, linking with relevant services, clubs, associations and community
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for students to complete their homework tasks.

***This policy is written in consultation with DET Guidelines.**

NPS Homework Policy

Support for students, parents and carers

Teachers at Newham Primary School understand that students have different learning styles and interests, and may approach learning activities and homework differently. If you are concerned that your child may not understand the homework tasks that have been set for him or her, or is spending a long period of time completing their homework, we encourage you to speak to your child's teacher.

Students may be referred to programs by their teacher in consultation with their parents/carers. For more information about these programs, please contact your child's classroom teacher or the Principal.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- School Policy and Advisory Guide:
  - Homework Guidelines
  - Homework Expectations

REVISION HISTORY
School Council approval not required.

Name Policy					
Version	Date Created	Date Ratified at School Council (if required)	Revisions Made	Leader of Policy	Next Policy Review
1	Feb 2020	Feb 2020	Developed in line with DET guidelines	Simone Wood	Feb 2024
2					

*This policy is written in consultation with DET Guidelines.

BACK TO SCHOOL... IS YOUR CHILD ASTHMA READY?

Every year there is a rise in asthma flare-ups when children return to school after the summer break. This results in an increase in Emergency Department visits, hospitalisations and days off school.

MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD IS ASTHMA READY BY FOLLOWING THESE STEPS:

1

UPDATE YOUR CHILD'S ASTHMA ACTION PLAN

See a doctor for a signed Asthma Action Plan. Most schools require an up-to-date plan for each student with asthma at the start of the new school year. Evidence tells us that using an Asthma Action Plan can help to reduce hospitalisations, improve lung function and reduce the number of days off school.

2

GET AN ASTHMA REVIEW

While with the doctor, combine this with a check-up for your child's asthma, including a check on their device technique.

3

CHECK YOUR CHILD'S RELIEVER MEDICATION

Check with the school about their medication policy and work with the staff to find the best way to manage your child's asthma medication, including before physical activity (where applicable).

- Medication and devices are clearly labeled with your child's name
- Medication is in date and with enough medication remaining

4

TALK TO SCHOOL STAFF

Make time to talk with the class teacher and the school nurse (where applicable) about your child's asthma, their Asthma Action Plan and their usual triggers, symptoms and medication.

Also talk to your child's sport coaches and supervisors of other school activities. Don't forget to keep staff up-to-date with any change to your child's asthma management.

For more information
call **1800 ASTHMA** (1800 278 462)
or visit **asthma.org.au/back-to-school** #BTSasthma

PROUDLY PARTNERING WITH Terry White Chemmart

ASTHMA AUSTRALIA

School Uniform Sale

SCHOOL UNIFORM SALE

All current uniform stock on hand must be sold. Please see office staff to purchase.

ALL PRICES HEAVILY REDUCED

Item	Sale Price
School back pack	$32.00
Library/Reader bag	$6.00
Polar fleece half zip jumper (red) – size 4	$12.00
Polar fleece vest (red) – size 4, 12 & 14	$10.00
School windcheater (red) – size 4 x 2	$17.00
Bootleg pants (black) – size 4, 6, 10 & 12	$16.00
Short sleeve polo shirt (red) – size 14	$12.00
Long sleeve polo shirt (red) – size 12 & 14	$14.00
Girls gingham summer dress (red & white) – size 8, 10 & 12	$16.00
Cotton/poly shorts (black) – size 14 x 1	$11.00
Double knee track pants (black) – size 12 x 1	$16.00

Community Notices

NEWHAM MECHANICS INSTITUTE
1903

Community Notices

Macedon Primary School, 67 Smith St, Macedon

Come down and visit some of the finest producers in the state at the Macedon Village Farmers' Market, held below the majestic Mount Macedon on the welcoming grounds of Macedon Primary School. Associated with the Woodend Community Farmers' Market, many of the same stallholders bring their high quality produce to the Macedon and surrounding communities, 4 times per year on the 5th Saturday. You can expect the same focus on sustainability, authenticity and community. Any funds raised will be used to further the Macedon Primary School's landcare project.

MARKET DATES IN 2020:

29th February • 30th May • 29th August • 31st October

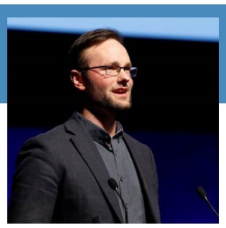
FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK:

facebook.com/macedonvillagefarmersmarket

Please contact MarketManager@mrsgonline.org.au for enquiries about becoming a stall-holder or any other enquiries

Sacred Heart College Kyneton

Parent Engagement Partnership



Embracing Autism

Presented by Chris Varney (I CAN Network)

"A core mission of the I CAN Network is to drive a rethink of Autism, not just with the young people we mentor but for broader society as well."

Chris Varney is Founder and Chief Enabling Officer of the I CAN Network. I CAN Network is driving a rethink of Autism so that young Australians on the spectrum think 'I CAN', not 'I Can't', in response to their challenges and opportunities. Chris was inspired to start I CAN from the support his family, schools and mentors gave him, which he shared in his TEDx *'Autism – How My Unstoppable Mother Proved the Experts Wrong'*.

In the past year alone, I CAN Network has mentored 1,052 Autistic kids, teenagers and adults nationwide through schools, TAFEs, workplaces, camps and online programs. Since inception in 2013, I CAN Network has employed 34 Autistic people to deliver mentoring programs.

Thursday 12 March - 7pm

Mary Moloney Theatre Sacred Heart College

This is a free event but seats must be booked via: www.trybooking.com/BIGIG

A gold coin donation in support of Beyond Blue appreciated.

A Ministry of Mercy Education Limited - ABN 69 154 531 870

SACRED HEART COLLEGE
SEMPER FIDELIS
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