

2022 Dates to Remember

- Wednesday February 3rd, 9th, <u>15th, 23rd</u>. Preps rest day at home.
- Friday February 11th Breakfast Club
- Thursday, 24th February
 Whole-school excursion to Bendigo.

Annual privacy reminder for 2022

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the <u>Schools' Privacy Policy</u>.

Please take time to remind yourself of our school's collection notice, found on our website www.strathmertonps.vic.edu.au

For more information about privacy, refer to: <u>Schools' Privacy Policy — information for</u> parents.



For girls

ages

5 to17

Make friends Have fun Learn new skills Leadership Community work

Local Contact:

Meetings are held on **Tuesdays** during school terms from **4:15pm to 6:00pm** at the **Strathmerton Guide Hall, Patrick St, Strathmerton**.

New girls wishing to join Strathmerton Girl Guides can **phone Tanji on 5874 5483** for further information.

Girl Guides Victoria Head Office:

Suite 812, 401 Docklands Drive, Docklands, Vic, 3008 Ph: 8606 3500 or 1800 girl guides E: guides@guidesvic.org.au W: www.guidesvic.org.au



To enable girls and young women to grow into confiden self-respecting, responsible community members. Students grade 1 to 6 will be bringing home some forms today. Please make sure these are filled in and returned to school as soon as possible. Thanks

STRATHMERTON GIRL GUIDES

We're for girls ages 5 to 17.

Courageous, caring, smart, sassy, creative, determined, daring. There are lots of ways to be a girl. And the world needs all of us. If you're a girl who likes to do things the way girls do, Girl Guides is for you.

New girls wishing to join Strathmerton Girl Guides can phone Tanji on 5874 5483 for further information. Meetings are held on Tuesdays during school terms from 4:15pm to 6:00pm at the Strathmerton Guide Hall, Patrick St, Strathmerton.

From the Principal's desk.

Welcome back to the new school year everyone, with a special welcome to all our new Preppies and their families. With the new Department measures to minimise the risk of COVID transmission and the new regulations around close contacts and isolation, we are confident that there will not be any more remote and flexible learning periods at home, unless in extreme circumstances.

COVID INFORMATION

The new measures in place to help manage the threat of COVID and to keep schools open are:

- The installation of **air purifiers** in each classroom space to continuously filter the air.
- Increased ventilation, by opening windows in the classrooms.
- Rapid Antigen Tests given out to all school students, to be administered twice a week at home (Mondays and Wednesdays). Any positive RA Test results should be entered on the Department of Health's COVID-19
 Positive Rapid Antigen Test Self Reporting Form. Positive results must also be reported to school, so that we can alert parents of students who may have been close contacts, so that they can monitor their children for symptoms. (It is not compulsory for RA Tests to be administered, but we hope most parents/carers see the value of the tests).
- Vaccinations. As you are aware, COVID-19 vaccinations are encouraged for all school-aged students, but
 again they are not mandatory and are not a prerequisite for being allowed to attend school. (However, all
 school staff must be fully vaccinated, including having had their booster shot by the 25th February, to enable
 them to be at school).
- **Mask wearing** is still a requirement for all Year 3-6 students, with our younger students also encouraged to wear them. If you are able to provide a re-usable mask for your children, that would be helpful.
- All parents/visitors must be vaccinated to enable them to enter the schoolgrounds and they should also be wearing a mask.

SCHOOL CROSSING

As mentioned on Schoolstream/Facebook, Margaret, the crossing supervisor, has retired and Moira Shire is going through the process of recruiting a new supervisor. In the meantime, our crossing is unsupervised, and so I am asking if any of our parents/carers could volunteer some time to help out to man the crossing (8:15-9:00 mornings and 3:30-4:00 afternoons). If you can help, please let Leanne or I know. Also, if you know of anyone who might like to take on the job permanently, as a paid position, please let them know to contact the school.

SCHOOL REBUILD

The rebuild and modernisation of the school will commence late in Term One or early in Term Two, so that means all classes can run as per normal in the meantime. However, late in Term One, we will need to relocate the P/1 and 2/3 classes to the portable and library, whilst their classrooms are renovated, and a new classroom built on the eastern end of the main building as well. Following that work, those classes can return to their 'new' classrooms, whilst the senior end of the school is renovated, meaning the 4/5 and 5/6 classes will have to relocate. The whole project won't be completed until some time in 2023, so things will be quite chaotic for some time, but as they say, 'There's no gain without pain'.

REST DAY

A reminder to our Prep parents that their children have a rest day at home every Wednesday until the end of February. Attending school fulltime is very tiring for these young students, so the break in the middle of the week helps them to rest and recharge.

ASSEMBLIES

We will hold our Monday afternoon whole-school assemblies outside, as a COVID-safe measure whilst the weather is fine. They will commence at 2:50 and vaccinated parents are welcome to attend.

Geoff Weppner.

WELCOME